

**Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects Settlement Agreement
Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC)
Meeting Agenda**

Date & Time: **Wednesday, March 14, 2012**
 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Place: **Merwin Hydro Facility**
 105 Merwin Village Court
 Ariel, WA 98603

Contacts: **Kirk Naylor: (503) 813-6619; cell (503) 866-8750**
 Lore Boles (HCC): (360) 225-4412

Time	Discussion Item
9:00 a.m.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preview Agenda ➤ Review, comment and adopt notes of 02/08/12 meeting ➤ Next Meeting’s Agenda
9:15 a.m.	➤ Review the Cowlitz PUD 2012 Annual Plan ¹
9:45 a.m.	➤ Review the PacifiCorp 2012 Annual Plan ¹
10:15 a.m.	➤ BPA I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project
10:30 a.m.	➤ Land transaction status
11:00 a.m.	➤ Safety ² orientation for tour of 2012 proposed timber harvest areas
11:30 a.m.	➤ Head out for tour and plan to return to HCC by 4:30
5:00 p.m.	<i>Adjourn</i>

1. The Annual reports and Plans will be distributed electronically to the TCC by March 10, 2012
2. Please bring rain gear and sturdy walking shoes for hiking in the forest – PacifiCorp will have 2 vehicles for transportation of up to 7 additional passengers.

To attend a Voice Conference:

Call (morning discussion only): 503-813-5600 (toll free #800-503-3360), follow the instructions provided and enter Meeting ID: **101101** and password: **101101** when prompted.

Date & Time: **Thursday, March 15, 2012**
 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Time	Discussion Item
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Safety Orientation for tour of property units
5:00 p.m.	<i>Adjourn</i>

Please bring your lunch for both days.

DRAFT Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting
March 14, 2012
Hydro Control Center, Ariel, WA

TCC Participants Present: (12)

Diana MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD
 Bob Nelson, RMEF
 Bill Richardson, RMEF
 Ray Croswell, RMEF
 Peggy Miller, WDFW
 Eric Holman, WDFW
 Nathan Reynolds, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
 Erik White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
 Kirk Naylor, PacifiCorp Energy
 Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy
 Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy (via conference)
 LouEllyn Jones, USFWS

Calendar:

April 11, 2012	TCC Meeting at Merwin HCC	HCC
May 9, 2012	TCC Meeting at Merwin HCC	HCC

Parking lot items from April 13, 2011 Meeting	Status
Naylor: Provide TCC with Riparian Management Plan for review.	Pending

Assignments from October 12, 2011 Meeting:	Status
Naylor and Richardson will inquire as to the cost of acquiring the mineral rights in conjunction with the land purchase and report back to the TCC	In Progress

Review of Agenda and Finalize Meeting Notes

Kirk Naylor (PacifiCorp Energy) called the meeting to order at 9:20am. Naylor reviewed the agenda and the February 8, 2012 meeting notes and asked the TCC if there were any changes. Kim McCune (PacifiCorp Energy) pointed out that an adjournment time was missing on the February 8, 2012 meeting notes. The TCC agreed that the approximate adjournment time was 2:00 p.m. McCune will update the notes to reflect this time. Eric Holman (WDFW) requested that a discussion regarding research and the black tailed deer / herbicide study be added to the agenda. It was added and the February 8, 2012 meeting notes were approved at 9:30 a.m.

Review the Cowlitz PUD 2012 Annual Plan

Diana MacDonald (Cowlitz PUD) informed the TCC attendees that the comment period for the Cowlitz PUD 2012 Annual Plan ends on **April 1, 2012**. MacDonald provided a cursory review of the 2012 budget, public access, surveys and the need to barricade the road north of Devil's Backbone. The 2012 budget

depends largely on the cost of the barricade and at this time there is a deficit of \$3,594.00. Consideration is being given to a permanent barrier with the use of Ecology blocks. The remainder of the 2012 Annual Plan is boiler plate.

Peggy Miller (WDFW) suggested a reduction of invasive weed control by the above deficit amount (\$3,594.00). She further asked if there is a cycle to conduct weed control surveys in the future. MacDonald responded that some sites are not accessible during certain parts of the year. MacDonald asked Miller to submit her comments about the 2012 Annual Plan and weed control survey in writing prior to the close of the comment period and she will respond.

Review the PacifiCorp 2012 Annual Plan

Naylor provided hard copies of the 2012 Annual Plan and 2011 Annual Report. Comments are due on each by **April 6, 2012**.

Kendel Emmerson (PacifiCorp) informed the TCC that the Report and Plan are in two separate documents for ease of use but both will be incorporated as an appendix in the ACC/TCC 2011 Annual Report.

Emmerson reviewed the overall 2012 budget and pointed out that past interest had not been correctly included in fund tracking in the TCC/ACC annual report... An interest column has been added into the funding tables in the ACC/TCC Annual Report so the TCC can clearly see that interest to funds have been added into the 2012 WHMP Annual Plan budget. She also reviewed the 2011 proposed and actual vs. 2012 proposed. Emmerson noted that funds not expended in 2011 went into forestry this year. Naylor also pointed out that funds were added relating to the property encroachment payment (\$2,000).

Emmerson also reviewed 9.0 Farmland, Idle Areas and Meadows, 10.0 Orchard Management (there were additional expenses in 2012 because of the January 2012 storm), 12.0 Unique Area (the 2011 tasks were not completed but PacifiCorp has placed a priority on completing this year) and 14.0 Invasive Plant Species. Naylor reviewed 16.0 Public Access specifically calling out three sites which will require unauthorized motor vehicle access to be controlled in 2012.

BPA I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project

*******CONFIDENTIAL SECTION BEGIN*******

<Break 10:30am>

<Reconvene 10:40am>

Land Transaction Status

*******CONFIDENTIAL SECTION END*******

Black-tail Deer Monitoring

Discussion took place regarding a specific black-tail deer monitoring proposal presented earlier by the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) an independent, non-profit research institute that focuses on environmental topics of interest to the forest products industry. Naylor pointed out that there are funds (\$3,000) in the WHMP 2012 budget for monitoring and these funds could be used if desired by the TCC. The TCC can decide to take funds from other areas also to get up to the \$10 - \$15,000 requested for the black-tail deer monitoring in the 2013 budget year. Naylor also noted that the funding under 10.3.3 of the Lewis River Settlement Agreement is not intended for research but for Interests in Land for

acquisitions or to identify habitat enhancement projects to be funded with matching funds. The mechanism for funding a study such as this would be through the WHMP monitoring task. Eric Holman (WDFW) expressed that he supports the TCC chipping money into the broader effort. LouEllyn Jones (USFWS) said that the TCC may find this study helpful as the group considers future enhancement measures. Naylor agreed to get in touch with NCASI and tell them that the TCC is interested. The next steps would include the TCC dedicating \$3 - \$5,000 to facilitate the initial study plan. A good question to ask, as a committee, is if this type of study plan/monitoring is a vehicle to further good science as the TCC implements the WHMP. Naylor will also confirm with NCASI if their intent is to create a study plan that introduces more elements that support efforts of the WHMP.

Miscellaneous

Bill Richardson (RMEF) announced that RMEF Professional's Day, is on June 22, 2012 at Starkey Experimental Forest near La Grande, OR and passed out information for sign-up, which is due by June 12, 2012.

Safety Orientation for Tour of 2012 Proposed Timber Harvest Areas

Naylor conducted a safety orientation prior to the tour of proposed timber harvest areas. The TCC tour attendees were informed that other contractors will be present in Unit 25 to include other motorized vehicles, equipment and contractor staging areas. They were instructed to be very aware of these hazards. In addition, they were informed that the tour areas will be very wet, windy, and snow in the area. The biggest risk is hypothermia and downed tree limbs so proper rain gear and sturdy walking shoes are required.

Attendees for today's tour include:

Bob Nelson, RMEF	Ray Crosswell, RMEF
Peggy Miller, WDFW	Eric Holman, WDFW
Nathan Reynolds, Cowlitz Indian Tribe	Erik White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Kirk Naylor, PacifiCorp Energy	Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy

Public Comment Opportunity

No public comment was provided.

<11:40 a.m. meeting adjourned >

Agenda items for April 11, 2012

- Review March 14, 2012 Meeting Notes
- Shrubland Report
- Land Transaction Status

Next Scheduled Meetings

April 11, 2012	May 9, 2012
TCC Meeting	TCC Meeting
Merwin Hydro Control Center	Merwin Hydro Control Center
Ariel, WA	Ariel, WA
9:00am – 3:00pm	9:00am – 3:00pm

Attachments:

- March 14, 2012 Meeting Agenda
- February 8, 2012 Meeting Notes

TCC Meeting Notes
Field Review of Proposed Timber Harvest Areas
March 14 & 15, 2012

3/14/12

Attendees:

Bob Nelson, RMEF
Ray Croswell, RMEF
Peggy Miller, WDFW
Eric Holman, WDFW
Nathan Reynolds, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Bill Richardson, RMEF
Erik White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Kirk Naylor, PacifiCorp Energy
Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy
LouEllyn Jones, USFWS

Management Unit 25; 2012 THA site visit

- Maps of the proposed Timber Harvest Areas (THAs) were distributed to the TCC. These are the same maps previously distributed and within the 2012 Annual Plan. The two harvest areas are approximately 9.8 and 6.7 acres respectively (assuming no buffer along the eastern creek – see discussion below).
- Naylor explained to the TCC the origin of Rhododendron Meadow as the former location of hydro-operator housing that was removed in approximately 1990. The area was grass seeded to form the meadow as it is today. The surrounding area north and south of the meadow is proposed for timber harvest in 2012. There are artifacts of the former housing area within the proposed logging area including a fire hydrant, cistern, lamp posts, etc. These will be evaluated as part of the cultural and historic site review schedule before May 2012.
- The understory of the proposed THA was discussed as consisting of trailing blackberry that was heavily browsed by elk and little other forage. While the intent of the forest practice is to remove the hardwood over-story and replant with conifer, the short term (15 years) will allow us to have significantly improved forage for elk when a grass/legume seed mix is applied to the scarified site. This area is heavily used by elk, partially due to the area being closed to the public because of the operating facilities for Swift No. 1 Dam (maintenance buildings etc.).
- The entire management unit is managed according to Objective ‘i’ in the WHMP which requires managing at least 50% of the WHMP lands within 2-miles of the Siouxon SOSEA to provide/develop high quality nesting spotted owl habitat. There are a total of approximately 1,400 acres in the 2-mile buffer to the SOSEA, therefore approximately

700 acres should meet high quality nesting habitat. The management unit is 145 acres and currently contains only 1.3 acres of mid-successional conifer; the other acres are all hardwoods. The objective of this harvest is to develop conifer to meet NSO nesting criteria on 16.5 acres which is the only manageable habitat in Unit 25. Due to stream/wetland buffers or areas are too steep to manage.

- There was some discussion by USFWS regarding whether clear-cutting to develop old-growth habitat was appropriate. The WHMP however clearly identifies this area to be managed to meet suitable nesting habitat and the current alder forest does not meet those criteria. The need for diversity as part of the management intent requires that 8 trees per acre be retained and this will likely require leaving some big-leaf maples and cottonwoods with the few Douglas-fir that are mixed in with the alder. The TCC agreed with this and particularly noted some of the larger maples in the stand as desirable to retain. This will leave large gaps in the developing conifer canopy.
- The remainder of the discussion for this harvest area focused on a stream at the east end of the timber harvest that parallels a road and drains a man-made wetland to the north into Swift Canal. The stream contains eastern brook trout which are non-native. Naylor discussed his understanding that the aquatics committee has talked about using rotenone to remove the brook trout because these waters are tributaries to bull trout waters (via the Swift No. 2 canal). Naylor described the WHMP buffer criteria for fish bearing streams as 300-feet. Because his understanding is that the fish would be removed from this ditch (stream) he was proposing that the harvest area not include a 300-foot buffer. Naylor proposed to the TCC that no buffer be retained because of the adjacent access road that parallels the streams and the trees within the buffer consist of decadent cottonwoods and alders with various signs of decay that are a hazard to the road. Several decayed trees that had fallen were noted.
- After some discussion, the TCC concluded that the stream should have a 150-foot buffer but decadent alder and cottonwood could be removed. Particular attention should be made to retain the maple in this area and under-plant the buffer to develop additional conifer.
- The TCC would also like to see some of the larger maples retained throughout the harvest areas as part of the 8-tree/acre retention. Naylor stated that this would make conifer reestablishment difficult due to the shade and the intent to develop a mature conifer forest. The TCC suggested that these gaps were OK and shade tolerant trees (hemlock or cedar) should be planted in the proximity of the maple.
- Naylor requested that the USFWS should weigh-in on the determination of removing the eastern brook trout. Under Washington Forest Practice regulations and Road Maintenance and Abandonment Planning (RMAP) there are two culverts associated with these fish bearing streams that drain to the Swift No. 2 canal. Theoretically these culverts would have to be replaced to allow fish passage. Naylor was requesting that the USFWS may be requested to write a letter to support the removal of fish from these streams and justification for not modifying the culverts as related to bull trout being present in the canal. This will require further discussion when the Forest Practice Application is submitted.

Management Unit 6: 2012 THA site visit.

- The TCC was shown the 23.5 acre proposed harvest area located below the transmission ROW in Management Unit 6. This is one of two similar harvest sites located here with the intent to provide better distribution and additional forage in the management unit.
- Both harvest sites have been previously logged (commercial thinning), but significant understory development did not occur because greater than 60% crown-canopy was retained.
- In order to leave the required 8-trees/acre they will be aggregated in islands. The 23.5 acre harvest area would have 188 trees retained and at approximately 90 trees per acre in the current stand, there will be the equivalent of over 2 acres retained in clusters. The retention areas will be selected based on location on the slope, understory shrubs or areas where LWD currently exists.
- Naylor described that there are a few rock out-crops on the western edge of the harvest area that contain Oregon white oaks. Removal of conifer surrounding these areas will remove shade.
- The TCC approved of the proposal.

3/15/12

Attendees:

Bob Nelson, RMEF

Ray Crosswell, RMEF

Peggy Miller, WDFW

Eric Holman, WDFW

Nathan Reynolds, Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Erik White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Kirk Naylor, PacifiCorp Energy

Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy

Management Unit 15: 2012 THA site visit.

- The proposed 18.2 acre clear-cut consists of all alder. An additional commercial-thin of a 27-year old harvest area is also proposed.
- A non-fish seasonal stream exists on both east and west sides of the THAs. Per the WHMP these streams require a 100-foot riparian buffer. The TCC discussed both stream buffer areas and approved removing the alder adjacent to the clear-cut and road to establish conifer but re-aligning the road entrance off the county road to stay further away from the stream.

- The TCC approved cutting trees along the western boundary of the commercial thin to increase shrub development along the seasonal stream. The TCC recommended leaving some of the felled trees to add to organic material in the riparian zone.
- The TCC would like to see alder replanted in the clear-cut rather than conifer in order to develop a more diverse understory for deer. Conifer will be planted adjacent to the county road for a visual screen but alder will be managed through the rest of the THA.
- A meadow that was developed in 1985 was visited on the SE boundary of the proposed clear-cut. Additional alders will be removed from within and around the meadow to expand and renovate the site. The meadow will be reseeded to improve the cover crop.
- The Buncombe Hollow Orchard was visited as it is adjacent the other management sites and a history of the orchard was described. The 2012 plan calls for replacing storm damaged orchard trees, invasive weed treatments and mowing between the orchard trees.

On 4/11/2012, PacifiCorp identified to the TCC that the proposed commercial – thin that was visited in Management Unit 15 only included 10.8 acres of approximately 28 acres that is all the same age class. PacifiCorp only recently determined that there are 3 areas of the same age class that would benefit from the same commercial thin treatment. The TCC agreed to add the additional area providing that variable thinning density be prescribed and to thin along the streams were appropriate and general follow the same prescription discussed during the field meeting. Kirk will also contact Eric Holman (WDFW) whom wasn't in attendance at the 4/11/12 and ask if he would request further field review.