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

Date & Time: Wednesday, May 14, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** Woodland Police Station

200 E Scott Avenue Woodland, WA

Contacts: Kirk Naylor: (503) 813-6619; cell (503) 866-8750

Time	Discussion Item					
9:00 a.m.	Welcome					
	➤ Review Agenda & 4/9/14 Meeting Notes					
	➤ Comment & accept Agenda & 4/9/14 Meeting Notes					
9:15 a.m.	Project Updates					
9: 45 a.m.	Next Meeting's Agenda					
	Public Comment Opportunity					
	Note: all meeting notes and the meeting schedule can be located at:					
	http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro.html					
10:00 a.m.	Safety <sup>1</sup> orientation for tour					
10:15 a.m.	➤ Depart for tour of Units 10 & 35 and plan to return to HCC by 3:00 p.m.					
3:00 p.m.	Adjourn					

Please bring rain gear and sturdy walking shoes for hiking in the forest – PacifiCorp will have 2 vehicles for transportation of up to 6 additional passengers

Join by Phone

+1 (503) 813-5252 [Portland, Ore.]

+1 (855) 499-5252 [Toll Free]

**Conference ID: 25166794** 

Please bring your lunch

## **Final Meeting Notes**

# Lewis River License Implementation Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting May 14, 2014 Woodland Police Station Woodland, WA

# **TCC Participants Present: (10)**

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

Note: Conference call capabilities were not available during this meeting.

## Calendar:

June 11, 2014	TCC Meeting	HCC
July 9, 2014	TCC Meeting	HCC

Assignments from May 14, 2014	Status
Miller: Email her Cowlitz PUD Devil's Backbone Timber calculations to the	Complete –
TCC for their review and consideration.	6/5/14
McCune: Add discussion on Cowlitz PUD Devil's Backbone Timber	Complete –
Management to the June meeting agenda.	5/29/14
Emmerson: Add goshawk features to the spreadsheet that are a priority in a	Complete –
specific region.	5/19/14

Assignments from April 9, 2014	Status
Miller: Attempt to find out the latest on WDFW issuing a scientific	Complete –
collection permit for the Larch Mountain Salamander surveys.	5/14/14
Gritten-MacDonald: Distribute the December 2013 request for quote (RFQ),	Complete –
which includes the exact count and size of trees in the Devil's Backbone	4/9/14
patch cuts as well as a rough stand summary which includes the number and	
size of trees per acre.	

Assignments from March 12, 2014	Status
Emmerson: Provide TCC additional data on the number of Osprey nests	In Progress
destroyed and unrepaired as reported in the 2013 WHMP Annual Report.	

Assignments from June 13, 2012	Status
Naylor: Review the SA/WHMP budget(s) as well as determine status and	In Progress
opportunity for coordination with John Cook (NCASI) and Lisa Shipley	
(Washington State University) doing the black-tail study and report back to	
the TCC.	

# **Review of Agenda and Finalize Meeting Notes**

Kirk Naylor (PacifiCorp Energy) called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Naylor reviewed the agenda and asked the TCC if there were any changes/additions. Peggy Miller (WDFW) would like to add comment/discussion regarding the Cowlitz PUD Devils Backbone Timber Management project.

Naylor would like to add discussion around future timber removal and buffers on properties being considered for acquisition.

Naylor reviewed the April 9, 2014 meeting notes and assignments. The meeting notes were approved at 9:25 am without change.

## 2014 Harvesting Plans on Option Properties:

Naylor informed the TCC attendees that a timber harvest has been proposed this summer by current landowners on property the TCC is considering for future options.

The TCC conversation is considered confidential regarding future options.

The TCC agreed to continue discussions between the TCC representative and the landowner and to make available the funds currently in the Lewis River Swift Land and Habitat Protection Fund as necessary to preserve certain options. The TCC will be updated in a timely fashion regarding any new information if necessary.

#### **Devil's Backbone Timber Management Next Step:**

Miller communicated to the TCC that after review of the PUD Devil's Backbone Timber Management statistics she believes that certain options can work. If patch cuts are done, then we can meet the 20 trailer loads of logs needed by the pole buyer.

Miller will e-mail her calculations to the TCC for their consideration and this topic will be included on the TCC June meeting agenda.

Eric Holman (WDFW) informed the TCC that he heard back from Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding the use of inmate crews. DNR confirmed that the inmates can work on PUD ground; they can be hired for one day at a time or longer periods. Likely they will not be able to fell tress of this size but they can groom out slash, buck and plant if needed. They are well suited for this forestry work. Ten inmates per day is approximately \$600. As funds are available we can continue to use inmates.

# **Public Comment Opportunity**

No public comment was provided.

## <10:45 a.m. meeting adjourned>

Conducted safety orientation and departed for the field tour at 11:00am.

Depart for tour of Unit 35 and plan to return to HCC by 3:00 p.m. Time does not allow to visit Unit 10 but it will be rescheduled on another date as approved by the TCC.

Naylor conducted the tour to view the proposed timber harvest (between 3,000' to 3,200' elevation) in Unit 35 which was purchased in 2012 (photos attached). In 2012 and 2013, PacifiCorp immediately addressed the need to open existing access roads to conduct culvert maintenance, placement and ditch work. Rock sources from other PacifiCorp property were used for bedding on roads and culverts but haul distances, costs and type of rock was an issue. This identified a need to develop a nearby rock source for multiple uses in this area.

This past April 2014 PacifiCorp began stream inventories, mapping and typing of waters as perennial or seasonal streams.

The stand in Unit 35 is approximately 42 years of age, site class 3 with an average diameter at breast height (dbh) of 12.8". 50% percent is Douglas-fir, 20% western hemlock and approximately 30% silver fir. The primary purpose of a proposed harvest is to provide light to the forest floor for developing early successional shrubs, grass/legume forage and promote diversity in the understory. Opening the stand up with a combination of thinning and small openings also would allow some replanting of trees for further age class diversity (lacking from entire Management Unit; all of Unit 35 is roughly 40 years of age). The stand has a considerable amount of defect (primarily frost cracks in the true fir), root rot in some of the Douglas-fir and bear damage is common in localized areas. From a wildlife management perspective, a few of the trees may make good snags but the root rot would have to be felled for LWD. Holman asked about the frost cracks and if they would make good snags. Naylor doesn't have any experience with the frost cracked true firs to know if they make good snags; some will be retained however for that purpose.

Discussion took place regarding the ability to thin within the stream buffers as needed. It will be selective to what extent but Kirk estimated between 40-60% within the buffer and to keep the 50 feet nearest the stream as no machinery access.

## Goshawk Home Range Habitat Characteristics in Western Washington

Kendel Emmerson (PacifiCorp) provided a \*handout that addresses goshawk habitat features in Unit 35 (Attachment A), such as description, area size, canopy closure and average dbh needed to determine if this Unit is considered suitable habitat for goshawk use. In its present state, Unit 35 is prohibitive for goshawk flight as virtually the entire harvest area is pole habitat. Average stand age is a critical consideration for a goshawk survey and should be a minimum of 50 years old. If there were any stands in Unit 35 that met the age requirement then Emmerson thinks a survey would be warranted, but considering the only habitat in the management area and adjacent lands is marginal then surveys are not required. An appropriate goshawk nest area is mature to old forest habitat with stand characteristics beginning at year 50 in western Washington. Unit 35 is currently 42 years of age. Miller asked Emmerson to add features to the handout that are a priority in a specific region.

<sup>\*</sup>areas in red = a match for suitable goshawk habitat.

# Agenda items for June 11, 2014

- ➤ Review May 14, 2014 Meeting Notes
- ➤ Devils Backbone Forestry Pole Buyer & Inmate Crews Discussion
- Osprey Data Review
- > Farmland Report
- ➤ Land Acquisition Update
- Field Tour (Optional); Unit 38 and/or Unit 20 (last year's forest management area)

# **Next Scheduled Meetings**

June 11, 2014	July 9, 2014
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:**

- May 9, 2014 Meeting Agenda
- ➤ Attachment A Goshawk Home Range Habitat Characteristics in Western Washington, May 12, 2014



Figure 1. Property line in Unit 35 showing adjacent landowners current clear-cut harvest and past ATV access.



Figure 2. TCC on road to be re-built as part of new management plans.



Figure 3. TCC in Unit 35



Figure 4. Unit 35 showing limited width of riparian influenced habitat adjacent stream. This stream is likely seasonal.

Northern Goshawk Home Range Habitat Characteristics in the Western Washington (Desimone and Hays 2004)						
Habitat	Breeding Home Range				Management	2014 Management
Features	Nest Area	Nest Area Cluster (NAC)	Post-Fledgling Family Area (PFA)	Foraging Area	Unit 35 (Section 13)	Unit 35 THAs
Description	Boundaries are defined by movement and behavior of the adults and newly fledged young and the locations of prey plucking posts surrounding the nest tree.	Includes all stands that contain active and alternate nest sites	Contains the NAC and is an area of concentrated use by adult females and developing juveniles after fledgling and prior to natal dispersal.	Home range during the breeding season	NA	NA
Area Size	30 acres in size	Estimated 178 acres = should include at least 3 suitable nest sites (including active site) and 3 replacement nest areas per home range all within 0.5 miles of active nest site	420 ac centered on active and alternate nest areas and include as much mature and old forests as possible	Foraging area= 5998 acres= 5,400 ac+ 420 (PFA) ac+ 178 (NAC) ac= 6,032ac	617.8	Proposed = 36+16.5+35=87.5 acres
Tree Species	Douglas-fir, less amounts of Western hemlock. Deciduous tree species are uncommon and typically found in mixed stands	Varies	Varies	Varies	NA	57 % Doug fir (Df) 28% Silver fir (Sf) 14% Noble fir (Nf)
Average dbh*	>21 in. dbh.	Average dominant and co dominate trees are 17-19 in. dbh and >89 ft. in height	70% of the trees are >21 in dbh	Minimum 10-14 in QMD	8.9=QMD =[(148/343) / {0.005454}] 0.5	QMD= 13 DF avg 12.0" dbh SF avg 13.2" dbh NF avg 12.6" dbh
Density (TPA)	195 trees/acres	195 trees/acres	Dense Forests	25 trees/acre= 20 in dbh.	343 TPA 148 basal area	250 TPA 211.8 basal area
Average Stand Age*	Mature to old forest habitat. Stand characteristics begin at year 50 in western Washington.	Mature to old forest habitat. Stand characteristics begin at year 50 in western Washington.	PFA should include as much mature and old forests as possible	> 30 years of age and mix of 20% mid-successional, 20% mature, and 20% old-growth with a preferred of 60% in mature to old-growth	Average age for section 39 years	Age is 42
Structure*	Typically live trees, large (2-3 ft. diameter) bulky stick nest built close to bole of the tree and in the lower third of the canopy.	More snags and down wood then surrounding areas.	Abundant number of snags and down logs	≥2 snags ≥ 18 in dbh/acre , ≥ 3 logs ≥12 in. diameter ≥7 ft. in length/acre	Lacks snags, large trees, and large down wood	Lacks snags, large trees, and large down wood
Canopy closure	>50%	60-65%	No Information	>60%	>60%	>60%

	Northern Goshawk Home Range in Western of the Cascades (Desimone and Hays 2004)						
Habitat Features	Nest Area (Site)	Nest Area Cluster (NAC)	Post-Fledgling Family Area (PFA)	Foraging Area	Management Unit (Section 13)	2014 Unit 35 THAs	
Canopy structure	2 or more canopy layers, gaps with abundance of large diameter crown, and shade tolerant trees	1-3 layers with poor developed understory vegetation	No Information	Adequate space for flying 31 snags/acre=5 in. dbh	Single layer and lacks adequate openings for flying	Single layer and lacks adequate openings for flying	
Nest tree spacing	Average 1759 ft. and pluck post typically within 100 ft. of nest tree	No Information	No Information	No Information	NA	NA	
	FORAGING AREA 2300 hs  PFA 170 hs  Nest Area CLUSTER FORAGING AREA CLUSTER FORAGING 1-121a						

<sup>\*</sup>These Habitat Features are priority indicators for northern goshawk habitat on WHMP lands.

**Species Status**: Federal Species of Concern and State Candidate Species. Priority Species Criterion 1. State-Listed and Candidate Species: State-listed species are native fish and wildlife species legally designated as Endangered (WAC 232-12-014), Threatened (WAC 232-12-011), or Sensitive (WAC 232-12-011). State Candidate species are fish and wildlife species that will be reviewed by the department (POL-M-6001) for possible listing as Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive according to the process and criteria defined in WAC-232-12-297.

Desimone, S.M., and David W. Hays. 2004. Northern Goshawk. Pages 6-1 through 6-16 in: Larsen, Eric M.; Jeffrey M. Azerrad and Noelle Nordstrom, Technical Editors. Management Recommendations for Washington's Priority Species: Volume IV: Birds. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. ix + 267 pp.