

FINAL - Approved 1/15/14
11-13-13 Meeting Summary
RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)
North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-1927)

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)
Pam Sichting (USDA-FS)
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)
Rob Burns (USFWS)
Dave Harris (ODFW)
Chris Stine (ODEQ)
Anne Shirley (BLM)
Max Yager (BLM)
Viva Worthington (USDA-FS)

Also Present

Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)
Mike Blum (PacifiCorp Energy)
Scott Schevenius (PacifiCorp Energy)
Pete Sukraw (PacifiCorp Energy)
Kelly Coates (Cow Creek Tribe)
Sierra Lewis (Cow Creek Tribe)
Lucero Hernandez (USDA-FS)
Michelle Woods (USDA-FS)
Mark Brown (Intermountain Digital)

INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESS

Introductions, Member/Organizational Updates, Upcoming Meetings/Presentations

USDA-FS: Carol Cushing (North Umpqua District Ranger) has retired. Ron McMullin is the Acting District Ranger for 60 days and then Tedd Huffman will follow as Acting District Ranger for 60 days. Deb Barner has retired. Angie Snyder will complete cultural environmental clearances. Jennifer Taylor is the new recreation person. Mike Kinney has also retired. Viva Worthington should be contacted regarding purchases of mineral materials.

BLM: Abbie Jossie is the new Roseburg District Manager.

Public Presentations: Monte will give a presentation to the Douglas Timber Operators on Thursday, November 14, 2013, at Elmers, 7:30 AM. There was group discussion about the RCC Ground Rules, specifically that two RCC members should be present at public presentations. It was noted that no other members were available to attend on this day.

The **Rolling Action Plan (RAP) meetings** are scheduled for the first couple of weeks in December.

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

Soda Springs Fish Passage

Screen Repair Status/Schedule: The expected completion date is now January 15, 2014. Contractors are currently off-site and awaiting delivery of screen material to resume fabrication

and installation. The screen area is submerged so that it can be used as a spillway if necessary, but no water is flowing into it and only four screens are in place. Rich said he saw two post-spawn brown trout in the screen area yesterday.

Pam mentioned that they are getting public pressure to reopen the road as soon as possible. PacifiCorp and USDA-FS agreed that it is better to extend the existing road closure through the end of construction than to open the road temporarily and then re-close it.

During October surveys by ODFW, Stillwater Sciences, and PacifiCorp, documentation was made of more than 200 Chinook redds above Soda Springs dam, mostly in the North Umpqua, but some in Fish Creek too.

Hydraulic and Biological Evaluations Update: Hydraulic evaluations are still planned for spring 2014. Biological evaluations may not occur until 2015 as hydraulic evaluation must occur first. The ODFW is currently viewing the fish window videos.

Slide Creek Tailrace Barrier

Hydraulic Evaluation Update (Prototype Testing): Overall, the tailrace is functioning as designed. To address NMFS concerns regarding water jets and vertical velocity gradients, PacifiCorp is planning a conceptual “intermediate baffle” design process for this winter, followed by a field test and second-phase hydraulic evaluation in spring 2014. Cleaning the picket panels, which have been frequently obstructed by leaves this fall, has required considerable effort. No Coho have been seen yet in the area.

Fish Creek

Fiber and Power Upgrade: Installation of fiber optic cable and power line for improved communications and control of the fish screen and canal shutoff and drainage system facilities is planned for completion in 2014. Once installed, we should be able to conduct a demonstration test of the canal shutoff and drainage system for interested RCC members.

Wetlands

Fire Swamp Wetland: The delay in obtaining environmental clearances necessary for the Notice to Proceed has resulted in construction being rescheduled to 2015.

Pothole Wetland: This wetland will be constructed in 2014.

Steve Albertelli will coordinate with the Wetland TWG on both of these wetlands.

Aquatic Reconnects

The more challenging of these projects involves operational outages in order to construct aquatic reconnections underneath project flume structures. Construction of the first such site (Lemolo 1 site) was completed this year. The remaining sites will be completed over the next three years.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) UPDATES

FPD TWG: A meeting will be scheduled sometime this winter to discuss conceptual intermediate baffle designs once they are developed by Alden Labs.

Fish Habitat and Studies TWG: Stillwater Sciences completed their technical memorandum describing fall 2013 spring chinook redd surveys for the 19.2 long term monitoring program. The TWG should meet this winter to discuss plans and staffing for any SA 19.2 monitoring work contemplated in 2014 and/or 2015.

OTHER ITEMS

Operational Updates

Powerhouse/Canal Outages: Lemolo 1 maintenance is nearly finished and is scheduled to be online November 15, 2013. There are no further planned outages until Toketee goes offline January 6, 2014. (Note: The Toketee outage has since been postponed to February 24, 2014, to provide more time for start-up of the Soda Springs fish screen.)

SA 19.1 Tributary Enhancement Program

Project Updates: Stillwater Sciences is busy analyzing data from the 10-years of Effectiveness Monitoring of East Fork Rock Creek, and should have a final report out early in 2014. Sam Moyers and Kirk Haskett are finishing the monitoring of projects in the East Fork Rock Creek and mainstem Rock Creek. The projects are being monitored for gravel and wood deposition and they are conducting spring chinook spawning ground surveys. They will be monitoring Harrington Creek in 2014.

Brook Trout Control: A question was asked if this bucket of funds will be still be used for brook trout or will it be used for other things. ODFW has a completed report which consists of three years of data collection. The report was distributed to PacifiCorp and ODFW staffs for review. ODFW and PacifiCorp staff will eventually meet to discuss report conclusions and decide on how remaining funds will be allocated. ODFW hopes to have a meeting in January 2014.

SA 19.3 Federal Mitigation Fund Project Updates

Pam said they are continuing work on a Strategic Restoration Plan for spending the mitigation funds. The Forest has requested comments on a draft listing of "impacts," which is out for public and RCC review. Comments are due by December 18th. They are also looking at having a public open house sometime during the first week in February to showcase previously implemented mitigation fund projects and discuss the development of the Strategic Restoration Plan.

Public Comments – *none at this time.*

The next RCC meeting will be a conference call on December 18, 10AM - Noon.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00AM, as the public started arriving for the 10:30AM tour.