

3-16-11 Meeting Summary ** Approved 4-20-11 **
RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)
NORTH UMPQUA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT- FERC #1927-008

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Also Present

Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)
Chris Stine (ODEQ)
Pam Sichting (USDA-FS)
Ed Meyer (NMFS)
Dave Harris (ODFW)

Beth Bendickson (PacifiCorp Energy)

Absent

Ariel Hiller (BLM)
Rob Burns (USFWS) – proxy given to Dave Harris
Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)

INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESS

Member Updates

USDA-FS: With Bill Gamble on detail over in eastern Oregon, Cheryl Caplan is acting Diamond Lake District Ranger through June. Chris Iverson will come from Washington at the end of May to serve as acting Forest Supervisor while Cliff Dils is on detail in the Southwest.

PacifiCorp Energy: Scott Schevenius is now the project manager on the Lemolo 2 Reroute Project.

RCC Action: Approve the 2011 Annual Planning Meeting Summary **Approved 3-16-11**

Public Information Opportunities - *none at this time.*

Monte reported that the next phase of the North Umpqua video will be the final version and will be composed of “snippets” of past projects, right on up to the present. At the end of the process, it will show the kind of benefits we realized on the ground since implementation began. Mark Brown will be taking more footage this year and finish up in 2012.

Craig Kohanek suggested we send a copy of the video to the Oregon Public Broadcasting station, in hopes it might help their decision to perhaps do a segment on the project.

Settlement Agreement - 10th Year Anniversary (June 13, 2011)

Monte talked to PacifiCorp's external communication group and also had a few internal meetings on how it should be set up, and whether or not Governor Kitzhaber may attend.

Monte suggested that holding an event on site may not be feasible, considering the level of construction activity, and thinks the Steamboat Inn could be a possibility. He will talk to Jim Van Loan and Pat Lee to see if there's room at the Inn, with assurance that it would be a positive event. Monte asked for RCC thoughts on this location. The general consensus was that it would be a good place, would hold about 50 people, and they have a separate outside area for weddings, etc. in an adjacent area across the river. While showing a video outside might be difficult, it could possibly be set up in one of the buildings and people could circulate in and out.

The group agreed that we'd like to make it attractive for Governor Kitzhaber to attend. The suggested time is an early Friday afternoon to make it part of one's day job to be there. A cookout afterwards was suggested. It was discussed that a date should be chosen soon, perhaps in June, so everyone could get it on their calendars before summer vacations start to get planned. Monte suggested that the RCC start thinking about who they feel should be invited and to also check with their respective executive policy members.

Craig mentioned that as a Plan B, if Governor Kitzhaber wasn't available to attend, he suggested Richard Whitman, who is the Natural Resources Advisor in the Governor's office. Monte said PacifiCorp would like at least a representative of the Governor there if at all possible, to garner public attention for the project.

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

Soda Springs Fish Passage

At 9:00 am on March 16, we started spilling water through the dam spillways for the first time since mid-January, due to high natural flows. Construction has stopped in the hole. However, work is continuing in several areas separated from and above the ordinary high water mark (OHW) such as the fish screen and fish ladder exit areas which are coffered off. The evaluation facility is above the OHW and thus, work can continue during prolonged spill. We are now getting into snowmelt and runoff, where prolonged spill is likely at least during May and sporadically after that time. If there is an opportunity to close the spillgate and dewater and salvage fish below the OHW, do we want to do it again? The rationale in the past has been to try and prevent, to the extent possible, fish coming into the area and spawning because it is more practical to salvage small numbers of adults than thousands of eggs, alevins, and fry. In addition, the more work completed in the winter will help make up for lost time in 2010 due to the unexpected geotechnical issues and facility redesigns. However, it may not be cost effective to return to work below the OHW at this time of year.

Pam asked where we are in the fish life cycle and are there going to be redds in there? Dave said there could be late winter steelhead that might spawn if they could get into the area; other than that, nothing else would spawn until the fall, but he would lean toward another salvaging. He also mentioned ODFW will continue to monitor at Winchester. If possible, it would be nice to keep large spring chinook out of there, but if we have to spill, we have to spill. Monte mentioned that until the next

dewatering, PacifiCorp would maintain a spill of at least 25 CFS from the log sluice or spill gate to maintain water quality in the pool at the base of the dam, while minimizing fish attraction. If it gets cold and the snow melt curtains, we may then have the opportunity to shut down spill and dewater for a reasonable period of additional work, to justify the cost of a fish salvage. If this happens, Monte and/or Rich will contact the RCC for approval to go back to work. PacifiCorp feels that the longer we can work below the OHW, the better. The expected project completion date is now April/May 2012.

Slide Creek

Currently, we have, ACoE, and FERC PRO approvals and the DSL permit is undergoing minor modifications. The procurement process is coming to a close, but not yet finalized. The only thing we have not received is FERC PRO approval of the coffer dam and the FERC DC concurrence that the consultation is completed. Monte has calls into them and it's "on their desk." We're on schedule to get it substantially complete by November 2011. (*Update: PacifiCorp received FERC DC approval on March 17.*)

Monte reported that the high water incident that occurred in January has all been repaired. The major plant overhaul will happen simultaneously while the tailrace barrier is being constructed.

Aquatic Connectivity - no change from last month.

Procurement of the contract is underway, for up to 14 sites this year. Construction should begin this summer.

Fish Creek CSD Performance Test and Obermeyer Weir Test

The Obermeyer Weir will be tested on April 18-19. During the test, the Toketee powerhouse will be shut off and turned on several times to make sure the weir works with varying pool levels behind the Slide Creek dam.

The internal test of the Fish Creek Canal Shutoff & Drainage system is scheduled for April 20 and the RCC picked April 21 for the date of the agency demonstration. Monte mentioned that RCC approval may be needed in case of a ramping variance for those tests. We don't expect much, but it might exceed 0.2 ft/hr. Rich Grost will send an e-mail requesting approval when and if it is needed.

Stinkhole Wetland Design

This project is near the 90% design phase. Both the ODFW and USDA-FS provided good input. Procurement will send out the Request for Proposals soon. The project will be completed at the same time as the Lemolo 2 Reroute project, and is scheduled to be complete by late fall.

Lemolo 2 Reroute

Construction has just commenced on the Toketee Lake outfall structure. Following that, excavation work for the pipe will start on April 24. The project is expected to be substantially complete by the end of October.

While six trees have already been removed, two more have been identified (one snag and one live Douglas fir) as potential safety risks for workers.

ADA-Accessible Fishing Pier at Toketee Lake

This project is part of the requirements of the Recreation Resource Management Plan. The costs are higher than anticipated. After edits to the design, it will have to go out for bid. If bids come back in line with the budget, it will be constructed this year. If not, it may be pushed to 2012.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) UPDATES

Aquatic Connectivity/Wetlands – *Discussed above in Current Project Updates.*

The TWG is currently working on the more complex site designs for the aquatic reconnects to be constructed 2014-2016. Draft designs have been completed and will be sent to the USDA-FS and ODFW for review.

In addition, one more wetland site will be identified this year for design next year (for 2014 construction). Steve Albertelli will organize a site visit with possible locations.

FHS (Fish Habitat Studies)

19.2: Stillwater is in the process of compiling data for the pre-fish passage baseline report. It will be completed this year.

7.2: Stillwater and some RCC members will take part in the planned gravel surveys. They are being done on PacifiCorp dollars and not out of 7.2 budget. The surveys are tentatively planned for March 24.

The steelhead redd count is tentatively planned for April 29.

Dave mentioned that Sam Moyers is updating the ODFW 2010 annual report.

F&R (Flows & Ramping)

There was some damage to the gage sites during the January high flow event. In particular, the Toketee bypass reach – will be relocated 400 ft. upstream of current location. Repairs/relocation will be completed over next few months.

North Umpqua Lake Management Group

The next North Umpqua Lake Management Group meeting is scheduled for March 29 at the ODFW Roseburg Office. Dave assumed that one topic would at least be Joe Eilers' recent analysis of 2010 Lemolo Lake Water Quality Report.

Public Comments – *none at this time.*

The meeting schedule was reviewed.

The next RCC meeting will be a conference call on April 20, 10:00 AM – Noon.

Meeting adjourned.