

**3-21-12 Meeting Summary \* \* *Approved 4-25-12* \* \***  
**RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)**  
**North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-1927)**

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Also Present

Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)  
Rob Burns (USFWS)  
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)  
Ed Meyer (NMFS)  
Dave Harris (ODFW)  
Pam Sichtung (USDA-FS)

Beth Bendickson (PacifiCorp Energy)  
Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)  
Mike Blum (PacifiCorp Energy)

Absent

Chris Stine (ODEQ) – proxy given to Dave Harris  
Anne Shirley (BLM)

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**INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESS**

Member Updates

PacifiCorp - Mark Sturtevant is now the Managing Director for Hydro Resources. He replaced Randy Landolt, who recently retired.

OWRD – Their hiring freeze has been lifted. John Unger is no longer in Hydro; his position will be refilled.

Notice-to-Proceed Process – Per Pam, this process is on standby due to the weather. They will need a new Collection Agreement for funding.

Public Information Opportunities - *None at this time*

**RCC Action:** Review and approve February 22, 2012 Meeting Summary – *Approved 3-21-12.*

**CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES**

Soda Springs Fish Passage

This project is making great strides. The right abutment protection work is almost complete. The new penstock is being tied in to the old penstock. The fish ladder exit has been formed-up

and the bays are in place. It should be structurally complete by June. The fish screens should be installed around the first part of June. FERC approval has been received to relocate the control equipment on top of the dam. This will happen in the latter part of this year. The fish evaluation building still doesn't have a roof, but is staged by the ODFW ponds. The fish return pipe is in place and the portion from the evaluation building to the river has been installed.

Aquatic Connectivity Sites (2012 Status) – *Nothing new to report from last month.*

Slide Creek Tailrace Barrier (Status and Hydraulic Balancing)

This project is essentially complete. The details are being worked on: fitting the screens on the tailrace barrier bays, jib crane functionality, and gravel rearrangement in front of the structure. The hydraulic balancing will happen later on in the spring and summer.

Rich noted that in the interim period, before anadromous fish arrival, we will be periodically removing the diffuser panels and pickets for facility modifications, gravel removal, and cleaning.

Fish Creek Communication Upgrade – The fiber optic cable will be installed in May. This should greatly improve the communication between the Canal Shut-off and Drainage (CSD) monitoring stations and the diversion dam. After an internal test, we will talk about an external demonstration of the CSD system.

Fish Creek Hydraulic Improvements – Modifications to the airburst system, screen gallery, and excavation of the settling pond are all planned for this summer and fall. Draft designs of proposed screen gallery modifications will be available soon for review by NMFS and ODFW.

L1 Forebay Operations – Plans are progressing to reduce pH, including reducing plant growth by increasing the circulation of cold water within the forebay and by increasing the volume of water flushed and refilled on a daily basis. Increased flushing will occur during summer 2012 in conjunction with continued monitoring of pH, and in consultation with ODEQ. In addition, the forebay will be dewatered during a planned maintenance shutdown of Lemolo 1 canal in mid-July.

## **TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) UPDATES**

NU Lake Management Group

This group meets annually. Rich reported that this year's meeting, held on March 16, was to update everyone on monitoring efforts and plans for lakes and reservoirs within the North Umpqua Basin, focusing especially on Diamond and Lemolo lakes. The USDA-FS is planning to use some mitigation funds to continue tui chub trapping and water quality monitoring on Lemolo Lake. Laura Jackson (ODFW) gave an update on fish regulations, which may soon change above Soda Springs' dam. ODFW is in midst of 5-year process review. This precedes introduction of anadromous fish into these waters. Leading proposals for above Soda Springs'

dam would be to close the area between the dam and the Slide Creek dam to fishing. In Fish Creek the regulation would be catch and release with artificial lures and flies only. Regulations within the rest of the hydro project area would remain unchanged. There will be a public meeting on May 15. Prior to that, ODFW will draft proposals for public comment.

SA 7.2 – Stillwater’s technical memorandum concluding the monitoring of the gravel augmentation pulse experiment was sent to the TWG on February 22. Rich said he received comments back from Sam Moyers (ODFW). He asked that if anyone else had comments, please forward them to him by March 31 as he is in the process of using the memorandum to revise the implementation and monitoring plans for the long-term.

SA 8.3 – Rich took last year’s draft plan for maintenance of the lower log weirs and revised it to reflect TWG comments and a more substantial gravel addition, and e-mailed it to the TWG on March 15. He asked for any TWG comments and emails of support by the end of March. He is drafting the joint permit application to send to DSL and ACOE to acquire permits in time for August construction. At this time, he is estimating the work will cost about \$80,000. Once he gets a confirmed scope, then he can start getting cost estimates. PacifiCorp will contribute \$15,000, as agreed in July 2011, as an offset for the lower-than-planned instream flows during summer and fall 2011.

#### FHS TWG – Flume 12 Remediation Plan

Monte received an e-mail from Chris that consolidated all agency comments. He will need to make some modifications to make sure everyone is on the same page. He will follow up with USDA-FS, ODEQ, and ODFW to talk it through. He thinks if it can get finalized soon, implementation (data collection portion) can proceed this year.

#### Operational Updates

PacifiCorp is currently in the middle of the Soda Springs’ penstock tie-in; it will be ongoing through the end of April. As it is really busy down there, Rich encouraged folks to not to drive down into the area, but if they must then be prepared for a one-half hour wait (each direction). Currently, flow in the bypass reach is over 2,000 cfs. Rich noted that the National Weather Service is predicting a higher flow at Steamboat than occurred last week. This is due to lots of rain and warm temperatures.

The next planned shutdown is of the Clearwater 2 canal and powerhouse during most of April. The planned shutdown of Lemolo 1 canal has been moved to July 8-26.

Clay Sasser (North Umpqua communications technician) informed Rich that the new Toketee bypass reach gage station is now fully installed, and the USGS should be transmitting data from it soon. . Rich mentioned when viewing the USGS website, you might see the new site described as an auxiliary gage showing up in the Toketee bypass until they are comfortable abandoning the old site and switching over to the new one.

Emergency Action Plan Meeting

Pam summarized this recent meeting. Several agencies were in attendance, including: the Sheriff's department, state police, ODOT, USDA-FS, Weather Service, and PacifiCorp. Attendees went over the EAP. It was updated with current telephone numbers. There are three levels: high water and notification, imminent threat, and actual dam breakage. The maps show different river miles, height of water, etc. The notification process was the focus of the meeting. She thought it was very informative. There was a mock drill the night before.

Afterward the meeting, PacifiCorp and the USDA-FS talked about the dispersed camp site immediately downstream of Stump Lake; a potential closure area, as it could be inundated upon dam failure. The USDA-FS prefers to keep the dispersed site open but signed to the effect: "In the event of flood conditions, you are advised to leave immediately." Monte said PacifiCorp needs a statement from the USDA-FS saying they do not want campground closure, but preferring closure signs instead, as PacifiCorp will need to submit it to FERC.

19.3 Funding – Pam reported there have been three meetings and that the Board of Directors finally got through all of the projects. They will now go to the Forest Supervisor on Friday, March 23.

Public Comments – *none at this time.*

The next RCC meeting will be a face-to-face meeting (at Toketee) with a project tour on April 25. Monte reminded everyone to bring their own lunch and safety gear.

Meeting adjourned.