

**North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project
(FERC No. P-1927)****Resource Coordination Committee (RCC)
January 20, 2021 Meeting Summary****FINAL (3/11/2021)**RCC Members or Alternates Present

Steve Albertelli (PacifiCorp)
Rich Grost (PacifiCorp)
Pam Sighting (USDA-FS)
Mike Korn (USDI-BLM)
Frank Weaver (USFWS)
Jim Muck (NOAA Fisheries)
Logan Negherbon (NOAA Fisheries)
Jason Brandt (ODFW)
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)
Chris Stine (ODEQ)

Other Attendees

Beth Bendickson (PacifiCorp)
Scott Schevenius (PacifiCorp)
Pete Sukraw (PacifiCorp)
Josh Boyd (PacifiCorp)
Jeffrey Brown (PacifiCorp)
Audrey Squires (National Forest Foundation)
Travis Mackie (Cow Creek)

INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESSIntroductions/Member Updates/Organization News

USDA-FS: Employees are being zoned (i.e., covering multiple ranger districts). Summer Cross is the new zone wildlife biologist. She replaced Jeff Bohler. Jennifer Christie is the Assistant District Ranger stationed at Diamond Lake Ranger Station, and Sherry Chambers is the District Ranger for Diamond Lake and North Umpqua Ranger Districts stationed at North Umpqua Ranger Station. Jake Winn is the new Deputy Forest Supervisor, and John Szuic is the new fire staff officer, replacing Riva Duncan, who recently retired.

NOAA: Jim has a new supervisor. Ed Meyer retired December 31, 2020. Logan Negherbon is the fisheries engineer replacing Ed – he has been with NOAA-Fisheries for a year.

USFWS: Pauly Bridges retired in November 2020. Frank Weaver is on board. No other staff changes at this time.

ODFW: Anna Pakenham-Stevenson, water program manager, has left the agency. Adrienne Averett is currently backfilling her position until a new person is hired. Ken Homolka may retire in April 2021.

OWRD: No layoffs. They have received applications for instream water rights in the Umpqua Basin from ODFW. They are now out for a 30-day public comment period. Craig said he will be the one receiving the comments, wearing both his hydroelectric hat and instream water right analyst hat.

Steve asked about locations and whether they are upstream of the hydro project. Craig said there are sixty locations throughout Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine counties. Fish Creek is mentioned but he isn't sure how many Fish Creeks are in the basin. Jason said he would check it out and let Steve know. The OWRD website will give a synopsis of all locations.

ODEQ: No staff changes. Chris said there is one internal adjustment. He will be working fifty percent outside of the hydro program, as they are doing temporary workload sharing exercises.

PacifiCorp: Jeffrey Brown is now the North Umpqua production manager. He grew up in the Toketee/Glide area and has worked at Pacific Power for 11½ years. It's the stewardship of the beautiful river that he enjoys and also making improvements on the operations side to make the fish happy and the environment healthy. Rich said he really appreciates having both Josh Boyd and Jeffrey Brown in their new management positions, as they bring many years of direct operational and maintenance experience with the fish protection and passage facilities.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

A Source One Serenity tour is tentatively scheduled for March 19, 2021, pending COVID-19 restrictions.

FACILITY AND PROJECT UPDATES

Archie Creek Fire Rehabilitation Update

Line 46 is up and running. They are still pulling line for Line 39. A transmission line outage is scheduled for February 1-7 to finish the project. It will be the final rehabilitation of the line. They are busy removing thousands of hazard trees. Of the trees on USDA-FS property, 700 trees are left of those identified as Priority 1. There are thousands more trees on BLM land. There are also lots of green trees with destabilized roots that are coming down in wet weather, so more removals will come.

Pam said over 8,000 trees have already been felled. The work has been pretty impressive. She gets daily updates and said that PacifiCorp has done a great job. There was a \$1.7M danger tree contract for getting downed trees off roads for safety reasons. Not all the work got done and thus will roll over into a categorical exclusion contract for future auctions.

Steve explained that the transmission line right-of-ways (T-Line ROWs) within the FERC hydro project boundary are different from other T-Line ROW agreements and authorizations. There have been significant efforts made to educate the wires and vegetation management groups on regulatory compliance within the FERC boundary as a part of the fire rehabilitation effort.

BLM is also looking at categorical exclusions for safety, etc. The salvage/hazard tree removal project is pretty expansive. This summer they hope to be cleared for larger pieces.

Jim said it's difficult on NOAA because they are still not allowed in the field because of COVID, however, they sometimes go into the field on personal time to watch how things are progressing. ODOT and PacifiCorp have been dropping a lot of trees. NOAA hopes many big trees are placed in streams or saved for future stream habitat work. On the North Umpqua, Jim acknowledged that river navigation and recreation complicates the issue of large wood in-stream due to safety concerns, but

he hopes that there is room for habitat enhancement with large wood as well. Steve said it's worth noting that while Pacific Power went in with urgency to put trees down for weather related reasons, a lot will remain on the ground and not removed until spring and drier weather. If anyone wants to coordinate with USDA-FS, BLM or private properties, they should contact the respective land owner regarding use of downed trees for habitat enhancement. Trees are coming down fast but aren't moving off property that fast. Jim said things looked a lot worse during the fire, but they look better now. BLM has been doing a lot of tagging at Rock Creek, saving trees for fish. He complimented coordination by all agencies and added we're all just trying to work through a devastating fire.

Fish Protection and Passage Facilities

Rich reported the tailrace barriers are working well. The Slide Creek crane will be back in service by the end of the month. The Slide Creek powerhouse is currently down for annual maintenance. All fish ladders are working fine. The same applies to the Fish Creek and the Soda Springs fish screens, which were inspected during their outages last fall. At Soda Springs, the North Intake was opened during high flow debris events several times this winter. Inventory was taken of all things that needed future repair (e.g. upgrading the secondary and finishing screen cleaning systems, and de-sedimentation system). Josh said his goal is to make fish passage maintenance more predictive and less reactive. Pacific Power intends to reduce forced outages and shorten the planned outages. In 2021, Pacific Power plans to perform maintenance and upgrades on those systems to increase reliability.

Toketee Dam Rehabilitation

Scott reported that we are still awaiting FERC comments for the final design to go ahead. The projected 2022-2024 construction window depends on FERC's final comments. It takes about a year to develop the rock for the project, so we need to start the quarry development as soon as possible. The quarry development DOGAMI permit application was submitted to USDA-FS for review and signature, but Scott hasn't received it back yet. Scott will send the Beckley-Thomas Quarry Development Plan to Pam for review when it is ready.

Steve asked Pam if their staff is on board to continue the spotted owl surveys in the vicinity of the two quarries. Pam said she would speak to Justin Hadwen. She thinks it may be required every year. Steve said that was his understanding too.

Projects Requiring NTPs or Other Coordination

Project	Status
<i>DOGAMI Permit Application</i>	Awaiting review and Signature
<i>Hazard Tree Decking Locations Request</i>	Pending
<i>Clearwater 1 Intake Access Walkway (concrete replacement)</i>	Pending
<i>ROW Vegetation Management</i>	Pending

Rich said he is developing the permitting for removal of sediment from Clearwater 2 diversion impoundment. When the application is finalized, he will send it to Pam for review and signature as well as the Notice to Proceed. He said it is pretty straight-forward.

RAP Meetings and Signatures

Steve is still working to finalize the cost sharing spreadsheets for the TMP RAP, but several of the other RAPs are ready for signature. Beth will research sending them out for signature via Adobe Sign.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) UPDATES AND ISSUES

Fish Habitat Studies (FHS): Monitoring and Maintenance Schedules

SA 4.3 Soda Springs O&M Annual Report: This report requires review by NMFS, USFWS, ODFW, and USDA-FS prior to submission to the FERC by February 1, 2021. All have approved the report except for USDA-FS. Pam said she will remind Bob Nichols and get a response to Rich by the end of day today.

SA 6.2 Slide Creek Full-Flow Reach: This subject was discussed at the August and October RCC meetings. The monitoring plan for addressing fish use, flow improvements, and ramping impacts was finalized in 2010. Rich sent a review draft report to the TWG on December 28, 2020. FERC requires the report to have a 30-day agency review prior to submission by March 1, 2021. Rich said he'd be happy to arrange a separate meeting if useful following today's discussion.

As described in the report, the fish monitoring and flow improvement projects have been completed, but the targeted monitoring of load following generation regimes hasn't been possible because the project has not been operated for load following since 2013 for a number of reasons including the lower operating reservoir level at Toketee ahead of the rehabilitation project. Jason reported that monitoring demonstrated anadromous fish use the Full-Flow Reach (FFR) for spawning, and therefore, the SA 6.2 language now requires flow regulation to protect them, unless further study shows there is no impact. Thus, ODFW's primary concerns are to not consider the report 'final' because future monitoring may still occur, and to define the flow regulation that will be followed to protect spawning fish in the FFR if daily ramping is resumed and unless or until further study is resumed. SA 6.2.2 states, *Flow Regulation. If the Parties determine, based on the results of the monitoring plan and applying criteria established in accordance with Section 6.2.1 above, that (1) anadromous salmonids use the Slide Creek full-flow reach for spawning (unless PacifiCorp demonstrates that such spawning is not adversely affected by ramping) or (2) migratory movement of anadromous salmonids in this reach is adversely affected by the existing ramping regime, PacifiCorp shall commence operating the Toketee powerhouse to ensure that generation units are brought into operation individually, in one-hour intervals, to protect against rapid flow fluctuations. This operational regime is based on the current configuration of Toketee powerhouse as it exists upon the Effective Date.* As Jason reads it, because of documented anadromous spawning in the FFR, Toketee generation units may only be brought into operation one at a time at one-hour increments. Rich explained that details on ramping limits are already captured in the draft monitoring plan. The "one unit at a time" requirement is being reasonably interpreted as a 510 cfs per hour (e.g. one-third of the full water right representing one of the three Toketee generating units at a time) ramping limit. Steve mentioned 6.2.2 (1) and said if either of those are met, that the identified ramping limits must be adhered to. If PacifiCorp desires to ramp beyond these limits in the future, it

would have to conduct additional study of the impacts of such ramping in the FFR. Steve noted that we could simply call the current monitoring plan an “interim” plan to allow for potential additional monitoring if and when a load following operation resumes and there is a desire to ramp faster than the specified limits.

After this discussion, it was agreed the report should be revised to have ‘interim’ in the title, clarify the intent of flow regulation, and better define how flow regulation would be implemented at the Toketee powerhouse. NOAA-Fisheries and USFWS signaled approval of the report with such revision, while ODEQ, ODFW, and USDA-FS requested additional time to review. To facilitate further review, Rich will schedule a TWG meeting on January 27, from 9-11 AM, which was the best time for all involved agencies.

SA 7.2 Gravel Augmentation/SA 8.3 Soda Springs Habitat Maintenance Project: Rich reported that the SA 8.3 features are still intact and are getting lots of spawning use. No maintenance is currently needed. Rich said the annual report for the SA 8.3 project is in progress and will soon go out for TWG review. He said that this fall, Chinook salmon, coho salmon, and brown trout have used the spawning habitat improvements and gravel additions we implemented last summer. A comment was made: “Don’t let the brown trout enjoy it too much.”

The SA 7.2 fund has been depleted, signifying completion of this SA requirement. Future gravel augmentation will be completed with federal mitigation fund dollars.

SA 8.2 Slide Creek Bypass Reach Habitat Monitoring: *Nothing new to report.*

SA 19.2 Long-term Monitoring/Predator Control Study: Rich mentioned it was time to approve the annual budget for 2021. The TWG previously settled on \$116,000 for an overall interim funding amount through the interim period. He said that budget worked well in 2020. Jason agreed, but said ODFW’s costs have risen. The TWG will review budget issues on the January 27 call and propose same to the RCC by email.

Monitoring is continuing as planned. The 2019 report is nearing finalization and will provide a clearer template for the 2020 and future reports. The goal is to make them more professional (brief and more readable) with a more concise executive summary while yet retaining the pertinent detail and comparisons. Rich is working with Sam and Chris on the details of the content.

The predator control part of the program didn’t work too well in 2020 with the COVID situation and inability to use the electrofishing boat. Nevertheless, about one hundred brown trout were removed from Soda Springs reservoir and moved to Lemolo Lake. We will plan for additional efforts this year as COVID restrictions allow. Logan said he would like to be included.

Flows & Ramping (F&R): Flows, Ramping, Gaging, Monitoring, Plan & Reports

Rich said the WY18 report was distributed to the relevant agencies, and we are working on the WY19 report. A mid-year distribution is expected, but this is pending submission of gage data by USGS.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE UPDATES

Powerhouse/Canal Outages

Jeff reported that the Lemolo 1 outage is scheduled for June 2021. It will involve dewatering. Fish will be salvaged June 7-8 and liberated to Lemolo Lake. Slide Creek is currently in outage. The canal is watered up and will stay that way through the outage duration. Toketee 2 is also in an outage, but no dewatering is involved. Rich emailed the revised schedule of planned outages to the agencies yesterday. It was revised to include Line 46 which will be an all-unit outage the first week of February.

Reservoir Management

Lemolo Reservoir: Rich will soon send out the annual report to USDA-FS and ODFW. The fall drawdown went according to plan except for interruptions due to the Archie Creek fire and related evacuation and project shutdown, which slowed the drawdown rate and caused flow at the Copeland Gage to drop below the target minimum for a few days. As planned, Lemolo Lake is near minimum operating level to absorb high flow from snow melt. Steve asked about snowpack. Rich said based on Diamond Lake, it has dropped a little below average due to rain at high elevations. It melted off some snow and compacted the rest. A little snow is predicted next week.

Steve said the Lemolo Reservoir drawdown allowed us to complete the Low Poole refuse trench capping project. It was completed towards the end of last year.

Toketee Reservoir: Pacific Power continues to manage Toketee Reservoir at the lowest end of the water level range due to rehabilitation needs, and it rarely fluctuates more than a couple tenths of a foot daily.

Soda Springs: Soda Springs Reservoir operations have not changed recently; it rarely fluctuates more than two feet daily.

SA 19.1 TRIBUTARY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Archie Creek Fire Impacts

Jason reported the hydro crew has been busy with surveys and effectiveness monitoring when it is safe to do so. They are completing some spawning surveys. There are Spring Chinook in the mainstem and East Fork Rock Creek (EFRC) with decent numbers of redds and dead/live fish observed in the mainstem. The daily high for observed redds was 13. He will get the total Spring Chinook numbers from Kirk Haskett to report at the next RCC meeting. A few holding summer steelhead were also noted. Coho spawning ground surveys in mainstem Rock Creek, EFRC, and smaller mainstem tributaries were initiated in November 2020, and we have seen promising spawning activity. So far we have observed a peak count of 17 redds in the mainstem and 15 redds in EFRC. That is pretty good considering the general fire impacts. Surveyors have found a few live and dead fish in the smaller tributaries. As usual, Kirk is doing effectiveness monitoring, etc. for the work accomplished in Harrington Creek. He should have something final in the near future.

The hydro crew is monitoring during high water events to see how existing instream restoration structures are handling greater flows. There have been a number of highwater events that have

allowed us to examine how fire damage impacted the ability of the structures to handle higher flows and debris loads. For the most part, the structures are holding up well but a few mainstem and EFRC structures that had larger ballast wood pieces that sustained fire damage will need to be repaired. A number of structures that had smaller wood pieces that burned will need to be reinforced, but some natural accrual of logs is already taking place from mobilization of downed trees in high water events. Kirk has done an inventory of what needs repair or modification, and ODFW will use that to prioritize the work this summer as well as future year's work. Existing boulder structures are operating ok, as are the emergency post-fire log jams that were placed in EFRC to help slow potential large debris flows. There has been some turbidity in EFRC and Harrington Creek, but muddy water is to be expected post fire. Those are two streams that were tagged to see significant turbidity due to the fires. We have observed substantial movement of debris, but so far we haven't noticed any significant landslides or new large deposits of sediment in the stream reaches we have been surveying. Hopefully that bodes well for fish survival this year. We will note any potential changes during the rainy season.

Regarding future restoration, we continue to acquire restoration materials. We procured some trees from the Rock Creek hatchery during post fire clean-up. We have the trees stock piled but are not exactly sure how we'll go about potentially using them this summer, as we will primarily be looking at monitoring and repairing existing structures. It is unlikely that we will be looking at constructing any new structures this year. We are trying to get some new water quality monitoring equipment purchased before summer.

Fish passage at the Rock Creek fish ladder still looks good, per yesterday's Operations Report. There are some debris issues, but we are working to keep the ladder clean and fish moving through it.

SA 19.3 FEDERAL MITIGATION FUND PROGRAM UPDATE

Gravel Augmentation Update

The USDA-FS currently has spawning gravel stockpiled in the Soda Springs area for addition to the river when it is needed.

Schedule for Next Round of Projects

Applications are due by the March 29 deadline. If anyone is looking to apply, they should contact Audrey and she will connect them to the correct agency project representative. Forest Supervisor sign-off is at end of April.

Strategic Planning

Audrey said she has been talking to a lot of partners to get their input and also to get to know them and their interests. There will be a broad watershed restoration strategy developed to guide the mitigation fund strategy. She is working on a draft strategy to share with partners in the future and is also working on developing a plan to also share.

Pam said Audrey is working on a new application format for proposals (request for proposal form), to make it less cumbersome. They want to make sure they are effectively requesting all the needed information.

OTHER

SA 19.4 Oversight Costs

The Settlement Agreement requires that in Year 15, PacifiCorp and ODFW review the necessity and funding for oversight and monitoring. Steve reported that he met with Jason and the plan is that PacifiCorp will continue to provide the same amount of annual funding (\$162,000 escalated for 2001 dollars). If there are any questions, either Jason or Steve can answer them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *None at this time.*

Lastly, Pam mentioned that the USDA-FS sent a letter to PacifiCorp's president regarding four cultural resource sites that have been impacted in four years by PacifiCorp's Transmission and Distribution department. Brian King, Steve Albertelli, and Russ Howison know about this. The letter compliments the hydro side of operations. It requests a response on how the company plans to address the adverse effects.

Steve said that right-of-way agreements are subject to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement. Pam said it's worth noting that a similar letter was also received from Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde. There are intricacies between different departments, but we are all one company. Steve and Russ have been doing their best to maintain relationships between tribes, agencies, etc. They appreciate the letters sent to the president. Pam said 85 new sites have been discovered in the Archie Creek fire boundary due to increased visibility of cultural resources, and increased attention needed to be brought to these resources. Steve said there are a lot of moving parts. There are historic districts in certain parts of the transmission line system. We need to refocus efforts where there have been deficiencies. Pam said one of the sites wasn't on hydroelectric power lands. She also said she appreciated both Russ and Steve's efforts, and Steve said likewise of USDA-FS and BLM cooperation.

NEXT RCC Meeting: May 19, 2021 (conference call)

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.