



Wallowa Falls Project Relicensing
April 25, 2013

Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM)
Agency Meeting Summary

Start Time: 9:00 a.m.	End Time: 3:00 p.m.
Subject: Review IFIM study results and discuss recommendations (see Agenda at the conclusion of this summary)	Attendees: See attendance list at the conclusion of this summary

Assignments

ODFW, USFWS and Forest Service will provide joint comments to PacifiCorp by May 16, 2013 on the following three points:

- A response to PacifiCorp's recommended minimum instream flows (3 – 4 cfs).
- A position on the tailrace re-route and if putting all powerhouse flow back into the East Fork is desirable.
- A statement regarding the level of concern agencies have with potential bull trout stranding in the tailrace.

Technical comments on Foster's draft IFIM technical report are due to PacifiCorp on or before May 23, 2013.

Introduction

Following introductions, Russ Howison (PacifiCorp) provided opening remarks that included a statement that the purpose of the meeting was to review study results and discuss PacifiCorp's recommendation for instream flows, not to reach final agreement or decision on instream flows.

Kaylea Foster (PacifiCorp) presented a detailed summary of the Wallowa Falls Habitat Modeling Preliminary Results, which can be viewed in its entirety on the Wallowa Falls website at the following link:

http://www.pacificorp.com/content/dam/pacificorp/doc/Energy_Sources/Hydro/Hydro_Licensing/Wallowa%20Falls/04252013_WF_IFIM_Mod_Results.pdf

Foster reviewed the study results and bypass flow recommendations. She further explained that PacifiCorp did not model for rainbow trout because we do not believe there is a self-sustaining rainbow trout population.

Foster recommended that the focus should be on juvenile bull trout curves because most documented bull trout in the bypass are juvenile size. In the periodicity discussion, Tim Hardin (ODFW) suggested we present both weighted-usable-area and wetted perimeter during winter (low flow) months of November 1 – May 1st. Usually only wetland perimeter of riffles is

considered in IFIM but there are very few riffles in study reach and they only occur in the lowest 100 meters.

PacifiCorp will investigate the potential to adjust minimum Instream flow several times per year at dam low-level-outlet.

Conversation then shifted to potential for bull trout stranding to occur in the bypass reach. Howison explained how unit trips occur and that tailrace may be dewatered several times per year. Bull trout have been documented in the tailrace.

Dan Gonzalez (USFS) suggested PacifiCorp consider a small pool or pond in the tailrace that bull trout could use as a refuge during unit trips. Howison laid out the possibility of rerouting the powerhouse tailrace over to the bypass reach (tailrace re-route).

The attendees then discussed the implications of bull trout stranding in the tailrace and ways that it may be addressed. A tailrace re-route is one possible solution as that would eliminate the possibility for bull trout to be stranded in the tailrace.

The attendees agreed on the following steps.

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An on-site meeting will be scheduled for late May or early June to review conditions in the tailrace, the possible design of a tailrace barrier, and to assess habitat conditions in the bypass reach during higher flows (spill conditions) that may be similar to full powerhouse flow in the bypass.



AGENDA

Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project Relicensing FERC Project No. P-308

Instream Flow Incremental methodology (IFIM) Agency Meeting **Thursday, April 25, 2013**

LaGrande, Oregon

- Introduction – Russ Howison, PacifiCorp 9:00 am – 9:15 am
- Review HSC criteria & Target Species 9:15 am – 9:30 am
 - Bull Trout applicable life stages
 - Kokanee applicable life stages
- Review Weighted Useable Area (WUA) 9:30 am – 10:00 am
 - Tables of WUA vs. Q for each life stage
 - WUA expressed as a percentage of maximum
- Time periods and Life Stages 10:00 am – 11:00 am
 - All year: bull trout juvenile; bull trout adult
 - November-April: Incubation
 - May-July: upstream passage for bull trout
 - August: Kokanee spawning
 - Sept-October: Bull trout spawning, kokanee spawning
- Bypass Flow Scenarios 11:00 am – 12:00 noon
 - Hydrograph development
 - Synthesized Alternatives & Assumptions
- Lunch 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
- Habitat Suitability Curves & Habitat Duration 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
 - Habitat Time Series Development
 - Habitat Duration Curve Development
 - Recommended Options
- Other ESA-Bull Trout Considerations 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm
- Wrap Up and Next Steps – Russ Howison, PacifiCorp 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Dam Relicensing
Instream Flow Incremental Methodology Agency Meeting
April 25, 2013 – 9:00 am –3:00 pm

Meeting Room - Pacific Northwest Forest (PNF) and Range Sciences– USFS
1401 Gekeler Lane
La Grande, OR 97850

Participant Name	Agency/Company
Russ Howison	PacifiCorp Energy
Kaylea Foster	PacifiCorp Energy
Daniel Gonzalez	USFS
Gretchen Sausen	USFWS
Elizabeth Moats	ODFW
Tim Hardin	ODFW
John Dadoly	ODEQ
Jim Harbeck	Nez Perce