Collaborative Approach
Memorandum of Understanding
Between
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF CHELAN COUNTY
and
WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Statement of Purpose
This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan PUD), and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), each a “Party” and collectively “the Parties”. It is intended to establish a common understanding of the Parties and suggests a process to improve collaboration on the implementation of Chelan PUD’s Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licenses (Rocky Reach, Rock Island and Lake Chelan), various permits and mutual agreements and WDFW’s stewardship responsibilities as provided through legislative actions (i.e. Revised Code of Washington, Washington Administrative Code), and documented in the related internal policies, management plans and related programs.

This MOU reflects the Parties’ understanding that Chelan PUD and WDFW share many common conservation and stewardship values and responsibilities as well as differing objectives in other situations (i.e. easements and permits issued by WDFW). This broad range of interactions spans many departments and over the course of time, many staff within Chelan PUD and WDFW. Both parties recognize their ongoing obligation to efficiently conduct business on behalf of their stakeholders and the public. The Parties agree that it is in the interest of all stakeholders and the public, as well as Chelan PUD and WDFW, to take actions that promote and enhance communication and collaboration for the purpose of becoming more effective and efficient as we meet our respective obligations.

To this end, the Parties agree that whenever practical they will use a “Collaborative Approach” to improve their future interactions. The Parties anticipate that this Collaborative Approach will result in a spirit of teamwork and collaboration that will facilitate a transparent relationship between the Parties. The Collaborative Approach is intended to provide:

• An open and risk-free exchange of ideas and effective problem solving;
• An environment of collaboration and coordination;
• Early, timely and effective communication within and among both Parties;
• Recognition of the Parties respective objectives;
• Joint development of priorities and alignment of mutual priorities;
• An environment where the Parties work together to improve operations and end-product quality;
• An environment where problems are addressed early and effectively at the ground level minimizing disputes and requiring the least amount of Manager or Director involvement;
• Science and outcome based decision-making;
• Identification and promotion of mutually beneficial opportunities;
• Respectful working relationships and accountability; and
• Recognition of ecosystem principles.
Mission of the WDFW and Chelan PUD Collaborative Approach:
To work collaboratively and respectfully to meet the Parties obligations and responsibilities in an efficient and effective manner.

Vision of the WDFW and Chelan PUD Collaborative Approach:
To demonstrate how organizations with common conservation and stewardship values and responsibilities as well as differing objectives can effectively work together.

Responsibilities

The Parties agree to support this MOU, whenever practical, by committing to the following:

1. Conduct regular meetings between the Parties’ program managers and staff for updates and coordination regarding respective fish and wildlife programs and issues. These meetings will focus on Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) implementation, FERC license implementation, permits, and other issues relevant to the Parties.
2. Communicate respectfully and effectively while:
   a. respecting organizational differences;
   b. supporting, within legal and policy limits, each other’s objectives;
   c. communicating openly and constructively with each other (note what is and isn’t working);
   d. communicating collaboratively with other entities (including the public);
   e. promoting clear definitions of roles and responsibilities of the Parties; and
   f. respecting requests in the manner and timeline agreed upon.
3. Wherever relevant, the Parties agree to use the HCPs and FERC Settlement Agreements and other agreements to guide program outcomes.
4. The Parties will coordinate state and federal ESA consultations and permit actions to ensure the preservation of listed species.
5. Where opportunities exist, the Parties will publicly acknowledge and credit support provided by the other Party.
6. When feasible, the Parties will provide early notification of issues that may be sensitive to the other party.
7. The Parties will identify and notify the other Party of opportunities that are mutually beneficial.
8. Conduct an annual meeting between the Parties at the upper management level (i.e., WDFW Regional Director, Chelan PUD Natural Resource Director) to review the implementation of the MOU and identify areas for improvement and recognition.
9. The Parties will collaborate on proposed relevant actions that have the potential to impact Priority Habitats and Species, (including habitat protection, connectivity and restorations).
10. Agree to be respectful of each Parties’ policies and procedures relevant to interactions and to seek clarifications if necessary.
It is mutually agreed and understood by the Parties that:

a. This MOU does not obligate either Party to commitments or actions which are inconsistent with or interfere with their respective legal authority, policy directives or other obligations;
b. This MOU is neither a fiscal obligation nor an obligation to provide funds;
c. This MOU does not restrict either Party from participating with other entities to meet their respective obligations, including, without limitation, the District’s HCPs and Settlement Agreements and permits;
d. This MOU may be modified as necessary, by mutual agreement of both Parties, with a written amendment signed and dated by an authorized representative of each Party; and

e. This MOU may be terminated by either party with 90 days notice.

Opportunities presented by this Collaborative Approach include:

- Hatchery systems using best practices to produce high quality hatchery fish at the optimum cost;
- Development of Hatchery Genetic and Management Plans (HGMPs) that meet mutual objectives and the attainment and compliant implementation of associated permits;
- Support recovery of threatened and endangered species;
- Maintain ecosystem function by protection and potential enhancement of aquatic and terrestrial animals and plant species and their habitats;
- Support of recreational opportunities in the Upper Columbia Region;
- Achievement of the Rocky Reach and Lake Chelan Wildlife Program objectives that benefit WDFW as defined in the respective FERC approved plans;
- Mutually beneficial public relations resulting in better public perceptions of good government;
- An understanding and acknowledgement of the Parties respective priorities and alignment of mutual priorities; and
- Coordinated implementation of WDFW’s Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy.

Effective Date

This MOU is effective as of the last date of signature below.

Date 3/28/2012

John Janney
General Manager
Chelan County PUD

Date April 9, 2012

Phil Anderson
Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife