## **Attachment 1:**

Presentation by Patrick Verhey Regarding Pacific Lamprey Assessments and Recovery Actions in the Mid-Columbia River.

# Pacific Lamprey Assessments and Recovery Actions in the Mid-Columbia River

**Envisioning 2020** 

# **Premises**

- Forward looking planning is central towards certainty and steady progress.
- A coordinated approach in understanding critical uncertainties is more cost efficient and biologically effective than a patch-work approach.
- We have a responsibility to optimize, if not maximize, the amount of information we can obtain from each tagged fish.
- The Settlement Agreements obligate the <u>Parties</u> to move forward with reasonable progress towards reasonable actions.
- PUD contributions to NNI and / or Regional Participation is anticipated in the Settlement Agreements and is part of the Settlement Agreements intent to Protect, Mitigate and Enhance.
- Future technical discussions are intended to refine Objectives, Tasks, Costs and responsibilities – so information included in this presentation is DRAFT and for discussion purposes only.

7

# **Premises**

- Hydro-electric projects do have a negative, albeit undefined, effect on local populations of lamprey abundance and spatial distribution.
  - Passage is less than 100%,
  - Substantial numbers of adults not accounted for in reservoirs,
  - Turbine boil environment likely enhancement for predation.
- Translocation is the basic means for acquiring adults for needed evaluations concerning passage and losses in reservoirs.
- Translocation is a short-term and cost effective way to protect, mitigate and enhance (re-introduce) local populations.
- Translocation is a regional effort, requiring regional participation and also requires appropriate level of monitoring.
- Settlement Agreements understood all Project Effects not known and through Adaptive Management – Settlements obligate investigation where there is probable cause.

# Primary Objectives - 7 Years

#### Mainstem Adults

- 1. Mainstem Fishway Entrance, Passage and Exit Efficiency
- 2. Proportion of Adults Ascending Tributaries
- 3. Fate of Adults in Reservoirs

#### Mainstem Juveniles

- 4. Predation on Juveniles in Tailrace
- 5. Juvenile Occupancy and Use of Reservoir Habitat

#### Tributary

- 6. Establish Regional Baseline / Status and Trend Information
- 7. Adult Passage in Tributary Streams
- 8. Juvenile Entrainment: Dryden Ditch / Other Irrigation Structures

#### Supplementation

- 9. Adult Translocation Research (Wenatchee & Methow)
- 10. Artificial Propagation Research (YN-CTUIR facilities & Wenatchee)

4

# Focal Objectives 2014 - 2016

#### Mainstem Adults

- 1. Mainstem Fishway Entrance, Passage and Exit Efficiency
- 2. Proportion of Adults Ascending Tributaries
- 3. Fate of Adults in Reservoirs

#### **Mainstem Juveniles**

- 4. Predation on Juveniles in Tailrace
- 5. Juvenile Occupancy and Use of Reservoir Habitat

#### Tributary

- 6. Regional Establishment Baseline / Status and Trend Information
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# Focal Objectives 2017 - 2020

#### Mainstem Adults

- 1. Mainstem Fishway Entrance, Passage and Exit Efficiency
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#### **Mainstem Juveniles**

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- 6. Regional Establishment Baseline / Status and Trend Information
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0

#### What's the Deal?

Translocation: Objective 9 Supports Objective 1

## Dams delay, discourage and/or deter lamprey passage. Mitigation is warranted.

- · Translocation of adults.
  - Intended to be short term for now (7 years) but may be a longer term solution as a surrogate for passage.
  - Cost effective. Cost sharing with Yakama Nation.
  - YN will provide expertise, equipment, administrative support in obtaining, maintaining and distributing eels.

\$XXX per year for each PUD to support YN collection from lower river (2014 – 2017).

#### What's the Deal?

Translocation Monitoring – Objective 9
Supports Objectives 2, 3 and 7

# Cannot call translocation "mitigation" unless we know it works. Need appropriate level of monitoring:

- Requires radio-telemetry to understand potential passage impediments, migration behavior and spawning locations.
- Focus on Wenatchee and Methow, 50 tags per basin for three years.
- Approximately 16 20 receivers and 6 air surveys over three years.

\$XX each year for three years from each PUD to support USFWS in carrying out tributary telemetry studies.

8

#### What's the Deal?

Mainstem Passage Studies Objective 1 Supports Objectives 2, 3, and 9

Existing information for entrance efficiency, in-ladder passage efficiency and (generally) fall back is not yet sufficient. "Losses" between dams is disturbing. More samples will help our understanding, sooner.

- Use translocated fish with various transmitters (HDPIT plus RT and/or FDPIT) to enhance data set at the dams – three years.
- Primary focus:
  - Entrance efficiency,
  - "Fate" of adults in the reservoir (% that enter tributaries),
  - · Enhance in-ladder passage dataset.

PUDs fully fund passage studies – working in a coordinated fashion.

#### What's the Deal?

# Proportion of Adults Ascending Tributaries: Objective 2 Supports Objectives 7 and 9

A high proportion of migrating adults are not accounted for from one dam to the next. Albeit difficult, we have to begin understanding why.

- PRD RIS = 75% not accounted for
- RIS RRH = 30% not accounted for
- RRH WEL = 99.9% not accounted for
- Does not get to the "Fate" question, but an important start.
- Tagged eels from passage and translocated assessments used.
- Receivers established near river mouths to verify ascent.

PUDs support USFWS with existing receivers and financially to operate telemetry equipment, analysis and reporting. Cost rolled in with Objective 9.

10

#### What's the Deal?

Adult Passage in Tributary Streams: Objective 7
Supports Objective 9 and 6 (Baseline)

Passage is an issue with mainstem dams. Evaluating potential passage issues in tributaries is a legitimate offsite – in kind NNI mitigation measure.

- A "seamless" Objective consistent with Translocation. Simply a matter of receiver placement.
- Focus on Dryden, Tumwater, Foghorn, Chewuch.
- 2-Year Assessment period.

PUDs support USFWS with existing receivers and financially to operate telemetry equipment, analysis and reporting. Cost rolled in with Objective 9.

#### What's the Deal?

# Artificial Propagation: Objective 10 Supports Objective 4, 5, 6, 8 Juvenile Passage and Recovery

Understanding potential juvenile impacts is a Settlement requirement and will require eels. CCPUD Settlement has language (Section 4.2.3) directing specified funds to "provide sufficient numbers of juvenile lamprey for these evaluations".

- The RRFF has spent \$80,000 for the development of "Pacific Lamprey Artificial Propagation and Rearing Investigations: Rocky Reach Pacific Lamprey Management Plan, June, 2011".
- The RRFF also funded (\$?) for a workshop and resulting paper from Wade and Beamish "Pacific Lamprey Breeding and Rearing Methodologies – Recommendations for Chelan County PUD."
- Why would we do this if we weren't thinking about propagation??

CCPUD supports, along with RRFF, making approximately \$XX available to the USFWS (Abernathy Lab) YN and CTUIR for advancements in propagation over the next 3-Years, upon RRFF approval of study plans consistent with above document findings.

12

#### What's the Deal?

Regional Baseline – Status and Trend: Objective 6
Supports Objective 9 and Recovery

Both NNI and Regional Coordination Settlement Agreement language is consistent in establishing baseline information for species.

- Baseline = (1) adult counts at mainstem count windows, (2) juvenile relative abundance in Index Sites and (3) distribution of spawning and rearing locations.
- YN already identifying index sites and proceeding with research planning (in review).
- Baseline coincides with translocation / propagation success objectives and will be cost-shared with ongoing YN Accords and USFWS research funding.
- Electro-shocking surveys and genetic analysis are main tools.

Upon approval of RME design from Mid-C Forums, Support YN – USFWS field investigations / monitoring for 7 years. \$XX Total.

# 2017 - 2020

### **Primary Objectives**

Objective 3: Fate of Adults in Reservoirs

Objective 4: Predation of Juveniles in Tailrace

Objective 5: Juvenile Occupancy and Use of Reservoir

Habitats.

Objective 8: Juvenile Entrainment: Dryden / Other

Irrigation Structures

## Ongoing Objectives

Objective 6: Baseline - Status and Trend

Objective 9: Translocation

Objective 10: Artificial Propagation

14

#### 2017-2020

# **Primary Objectives**

## Objective 3: Fate of Adults in Reservoirs

- Do not know how to proceed at this time.
- Sturgeon predation? Spawning / success? Entry into tributaries? How do we evaluate? What would be a management action?

# Objective 4: Predation of Juveniles in Tailrace

- "Hypothesis" about effect is speculation but with probable cause.
- Reduction of predators in turbine boils is likely best / only solution.
- Need juveniles and tags before methods tested and employed.

## 2017 - 2020

## **Primary Objectives**

# Objective 5: Juvenile Occupancy and Use of Reservoir Habitats.

- Initial yet very inconclusive work has been implemented.
- Focus is understanding if/how juveniles use reservoirs successfully, and if reservoir elevation changes are related to mortality.
- Recommend letting USACE take the lead in figuring out basic science – methods.

## Objective 8: Juvenile Entrainment: Dryden / Other Irrigation Structures

- Entrainment exists but solution is not available.
- Recommend waiting for USGS / YN-CTUIR-BOR work to advance, then recommend solution options.

16

# Conclusion

The Yakama Nation, Umatilla Tribes, Colville Tribes, WDFW and USFWS believes the framework provided represents a reasonable and feasible plan that moves lamprey mitigation and recovery forward with regional cost-sharing and in a cost effective manner.

These measures provide all Parties of the Forums a higher level of direction in process and certainty in costs and outcomes.

The elements in this framework are consistent with each of the Mid-C License Agreements and during the next 7-years, meet the intent of No Net Impact and Regional Coordination / Cooperation.