

Rocky Reach Fish Forum (RRFF) Meeting Minutes

Date: July 30, 2009

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: Chelan PUD Headquarters, Wenatchee, WA
PUD Auditorium

Call in number: (509)661-4844, Password is 4000.

Meeting called by: Keith Truscott
Chelan PUD

Type of meeting: RRFF Meeting

Note taker: Debby Bitterman

Representatives

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Lewis, Steve	USFWS	(509) 665-3508 x14	stephen_lewis@fws.gov
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Viola, Art	WDFW	(509) 665-3337	violaaev@dfw.wa.gov
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Participants

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Meeting Purpose: Meeting of the Rocky Reach Fish Forum to continue Rocky Reach license implementation

Minutes

Keith Truscott welcomed everyone to the second Rocky Reach Fish Forum (RRFF) meeting. After introductions of attendees, the Forum reviewed the previous meeting minutes. Bob Huber requested that “Alcoa” be recognized as “Alcoa” or “Alcoa Power Generating, Inc.” The group agreed that Alcoa Power Generating, Inc. (APGI) would be appropriate. With that update, the Forum approved the minutes.

RRFF representatives and participants reviewed and provided comments on the first draft Operating Protocols.

Action Item:

- ✓ Pat Irle will draft language regarding neutral facilitation and send to Jeff for incorporation into final draft Operating Protocols.
- ✓ Jeff Osborn will revise and submit to the RRFF representatives and participants a final draft Operating Protocols for their final comments.
- ✓ Forum will discuss the final draft Operating Protocols at the next forum meeting that will be held in August.

Joe Miller explained that in accordance with the Rocky Reach License, Chelan PUD has one year from the effective date of the license to develop a White Sturgeon Broodstock Collection Plan. Joe reviewed a list of potential brood stock options. A White Sturgeon Broodstock Collection Plan will be developed by the White Sturgeon subcommittee and submitted to RRF representatives and participants for review and approval.

Action Item:

- ✓ Joe Miller will send out an email to RRF representatives and participants requesting White Sturgeon subcommittee volunteers.
- ✓ Joe requested that RRF representatives and participants evaluate the brood stock (provided in handout) options and develop recommendations to the White Sturgeon subcommittee.

RRF representatives and participants reviewed and provided comments on the first draft Rocky Reach Fish Forum Facilitator Considerations. Attending representatives and participants recommended that the additional forum comments and revisions be added to the first draft.

Action Item:

- ✓ Jeff Osborn will revise the Facilitator Considerations document and submit a second draft to RRF representatives and participants.
- ✓ Forum will discuss the second draft Facilitator Consideration at the next forum meeting that will be held in August.

Forum discussed potential facilitators:

- Mike Schiewe – Anchor Environmental
- Tracy Hillman/ Kevin Malone – BioAnalysts
- Boa Le – Longview Associates
- Chris Perry – USFWS/Cramer Associates
- Jeremy Pratt – ENTRIX

Action Item:

- ✓ RRF representatives and participants send to Keith Truscott and Jeff Osborn additional names of potential facilitators for consideration.
- ✓ Jeff will send an email to RRF representatives and participants containing the current long list of potential RRF facilitators for review.
- ✓ Forum will discuss the long list and approve a short list at the next forum meeting that will be held in August.

Jeff discussed Pacific Lamprey upstream passage literature review. Molly Hallock recommended that the literature review, review of the existing telemetry study results, and development of potential passage enhancement measures be performed concurrently as a means to efficiently manage progress; recognizing and the trend this year of low adult return numbers. A Rocky Reach site visit was recommended to view the fish ladder during the winter maintenance period when the fishway is de-watered. This may help the development of potential passage improvement measures and proposed design process.

Action Item:

- ✓ Jeff will send an email request for recommendations to assemble a long list containing consultants to be considered to conduct Pacific lamprey upstream passage literature review
- ✓ Jeff will send out an email to RRF representatives and participants requesting Pacific lamprey subcommittee volunteers.

Jeff discussed with the Forum the question raised at the previous meeting regarding “initiation” of the recreational fishing resident fish studies: Does FERC define “initiation” as developing study plans or “gear in the water?” Jeff raised this question with FERC relicensing and compliance staff during a conference call on July 15. FERC staff’s response to “initiation” was gear in the water. Under that definition, study plans for both studies must be prepared and approved by the RRF no later than

the October 29, 2009 meeting. If Art does not feel that he will have sufficient time to prepare the study plans for approval by that date, then the RRF must draft and approve an extension letter to FERC by the October 29 meeting, and submit it immediately thereafter. Extension letters must be filed no later than 90 days prior to the due date of the compliance action, the compliance action due date in this case being February 1, 2010.

Action Item:

- ✓ Jeff will discuss the timing of study plans and extension letter with Art Viola and send a recommendation to the RRF

Additional Action Items:

- ✓ Agencies were reminded to submit a confirmation letter to Chelan PUD naming their RRF voting Representative, Core Policy Member (individual more senior within their organization than representatives on forums), Alternate Policy Member (individual shall not be a member of a forum) and Senior Executive (individual more senior within organization than the Core Policy Member).

Next RRF meeting will be held August 27, 2009.

Handouts: agenda; draft protocols; draft facilitator job description