

Rocky Reach Fish Forum (RRFF) Meeting Minutes

Date: June 16, 2009
Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Location: Chelan PUD Headquarters, Wenatchee, WA
PUD Auditorium

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

Meeting called by: Jeff Osborn,
Chelan PUD

Type of meeting: RRFF Meeting

Note taker: Debby Bitterman

RRFF Representatives

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
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Rose, Bob	YN	(509) 865-5121	brose@yakama.com
Viola, Art	WDFW	(509) 665-3337	violaaev@dfw.wa.gov
Vradenburg, Keith	City of Entiat	(509) 784-1500	kvradenburg.city@entiat.org

RRFF Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
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Truscott, Keith	Chelan PUD	(509) 661-4831	keith.truscott@chelanpud.org

ATTENDEES IN BOLD

Meeting Purpose: First meeting of the Rocky Reach Fish Forum to initiate Rocky Reach license implementation

Minutes

Keith Truscott welcomed everyone to the first Rocky Reach Fish Forum (RRFF) meeting. After introductions of attendees, Keith explained that he would facilitate the RRFF 2009 meetings. Funding will be available in 2010 for a RRFF facilitator.

Michelle Smith highlighted several key points contained in the Settlement Agreement.

- Rocky Reach Fish Forum is a decision-making body that will make decisions through consensus, as defined in the Settlement Agreement. A member's abstention or non-participation regarding the decision or recommendation shall not preclude consensus.

- Signatories to the Settlement Agreement are the RRFF representatives for their respective agencies and will be voting members: Chelan PUD, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. National Park Service, the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Washington State Department of Ecology, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the City of Entiat, Alcoa Power Generating Inc, and the Yakama Nation.
- The RRFF include the public and additional agency participants.
- The list of voting members, RRFF Representatives, and the public and additional agency members, RRFF Participants, are posted on the agenda and the meeting minutes.

Action Item:

- ✓ Each agency will submit a confirmation letter to Chelan PUD naming their RRFF voting Representative.

Attendees received a hard copy entitled, “Meeting Etiquette/Ground Rules.”

The pros and cons were discussed regarding potential use of Sub-Committees to address specific management plan issues i.e., Pacific lamprey and white sturgeon. Time and work efficiencies were noted.

Action Item:

- ✓ Sub-committees will need to submit plans/recommendations to the RRFF for a final decision regarding the subject matter.

Keith Truscott suggested that the forum agree on an operating protocol procedure.

Action Item:

- ✓ Jeff Osborn will draft “RRFF Operating Protocols,” submit to forum for comments, merge forum comments, and send final draft to forum for their review before the next meeting. Jeff will BOLD the inserted text from the Settlement Agreement, so that the forum will be aware of text that may not be revised.
- ✓ Jeff will include subcommittee protocol and include subcommittee lead communication protocol
- ✓ Forum will review the final DRAFT “RRFF Operating Protocol” for conducting RRFF business for approval at the next meeting.
- ✓ Jeff Osborn will provide to forum a copy of Priest Rapids Fish Forum and HCP’s “Operating Protocol” for reference.

Keith Truscott discussed the selection process for the RRFF facilitator.

Action Item:

- ✓ RRFF representatives and participants will review and provide comments to Jeff Osborn on the DRAFT facilitator document. Additionally, forum will provide names of potential candidates for RRFF Facilitator consideration
- ✓ Jeff Osborn will review/revise job description and include language from the Settlement Agreement 15.2.2. A list of potential facilitators for consideration will also be included.
- ✓ DRAFT will be posted on web site for forum to comment.

Steve Hays gave an overview of Rocky Reach license water quality requirements. Steve noted that implementing water quality requirements is primarily Department of Ecology and Chelan PUD communication, but the RRFF would be included because of the effect on fish. Water quality study plans will be open for comments and review from forum representatives and participants. Chelan PUD will present TDG Study Plan to the forum for review and comments.

Steve confirmed that a Water Quality in Macrophyte Beds Study Plan would need to be developed. The forum will need to review the study methodologies.

Waikele Hampton reported that the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Plan would be ready for internal and Department of Ecology review at the end of August, and the final draft will be submitted to forum for 30-day review/comment period.

Waikele explained that the draft Operations Plan was sent to forum for a 10-day review for a quick return, and then will be submitted for 30-day review at the end of July. She also noted that review by RRFF was not required by FERC.

Joe Miller discussed development of the White Sturgeon broodstock collection plan. White sturgeon sub-committee, Brad James and Bob Rose, with Joe Miller as lead, will research augmentation strategies and develop broodstock collection recommendations.

Jeff Osborn discussed Pacific Lamprey upstream passage literature review. Jeff suggested that a consultant be hired to review the literature. A Pacific lamprey sub-committee will be formed, with Jeff as lead, to compile a list of consultants to be considered to conduct Pacific lamprey upstream passage review.

Art Viola gave a brief summary of developing plans for evaluating a new recreational fishery and conducting a resident fish evaluation focusing on predatory fish in Rocky Reach Reservoir. The forum discussed the options to increase the time schedule; e.g., include in the plan a multi-stage schedule or maybe file for a time extension with FERC.

All RRFF representatives and participants may attend subcommittee meetings. The facilitator will cc RRFF representatives and participants with advance notice of scheduled subcommittee meetings.

Action Item:

- ✓ Art will develop plans that include: 1) methodologies for evaluating a new recreational fishery; and 2) evaluation of resident fish focusing on predatory fish for forum review.

Miscellaneous Action Items:

- ✓ Pat Irlle reiterated the importance that the agenda contain and clearly identify issues on which the forum-voting members will be asked to make a decision at the meeting. (See Settlement Agreement 15.1.4)
- ✓ Each agenda will have time slot for “public comment”.
- ✓ Debby Bitterman will forward Keith Truscott contact information to forum representatives and participants.

- ✓ Jeff Osborn will provide a Gant chart of all scheduled RRF plans/reports to forum representatives and participants.
- ✓ Debby Bitterman will set up recurring RRF monthly meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month, 10:0 am – 3:00 pm per RRF's request.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- ✓ The final DRAFT "Operating Protocol" will be submitted to the forum for approval.
- ✓ The final DRAFT Rocky Reach Fish Forum Facilitator job description will be submitted to the forum for approval
- ✓ RRF representatives and participants will provide the PUD with names of potential RRF facilitators for consideration by the RRF forum.
- ✓ Debby Bitterman will provide an overview of Rocky Reach Implementation web site.
- ✓ Joe Miller will present the White sturgeon sub-committees' recommendation(s) regarding augmentation strategies and broodstock collection options.
- ✓ Jeff Osborn will present the sub-committee recommendation(s) of consultants to be considered and selected by the RRF to conduct Pacific Lamprey upstream passage review.