

Chelan River Fishery Forum (CRFF) Meeting Minutes

Date: October 15, 2013

Time: 9:00 am – 10:00 noon

Location: Chelan PUD Headquarters, Wenatchee, WA
Second Floor Conference Room

Call in number: 1-877-668-4493; Password 1313; Access Code is 23151435

Meeting called by: Jeff Osborn, Chelan PUD

Note taker: Debby Bitterman

Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Graham Simon	WDFW	509-662-0503	Graham.Simon@dfw.wa.gov
Travis Maitland	WDFW	509-665-3337	Travis.Maitland@dfw.wa.gov
Pat Irle	Ecology	509-454-7864	Pirle461@ecy.wa.gov
Jim Pacheco	Ecology	360-407-7458	jpac461@ecy.wa.gov
Jeff Osborn	Chelan PUD	509-661-4176	jeff.osborn@chelanpud.org
Steve Hays	Chelan PUD	509-661-4181	steve.hays@chelanpud.org

Meeting Purpose: Meeting of the Chelan River Fishery Forum to continue Lake Chelan license Implementation

Minutes

Jeff Osborn welcomed everyone to the Chelan River Fisher Forum (CRFF) conference call and made known that voice recording of the call was initiated for note-taking purpose.

Chelan River Temperature Modeling

Pat Irle, Ecology, reported she joined Ray Walton, West Consultants, Paul Pickett, Ecology, and Steve Hays and Jeff Osborn, Chelan PUD, at a meeting and on a site visit to the Chelan River to discuss what model would be appropriate to use for the Chelan River temperature modeling to meet goals and objectives. Jeff reported that Chelan PUD has received the final draft from Ray after input from the meeting and site visit. Ray requested that Ecology and Chelan PUD conduct an internal review of the report and then forward to the CRFF for their review and comments.

Jeff Osborn reviewed the next steps;

- enter into a new contract with Ray to prepare a QAPP for temperature modeling and build the model
- build the model
- run the model for base line calibration
- CRFF review the numbers and plan gaming options

Jeff stated that Chelan PUD has received an approved revised implementation schedule for the Lake Chelan Project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), will review the letter, and report back to the CRFF regarding the revised report schedule.

Chelan River Pool to Habitat Channel Gravel

Jeff stated that neither he nor Steve Hays were able to observe yellow rock movement in the channel before the Chelan PUD implemented spawning flows. However, Jeff was able to verify that a substantial portion of the yellow rocks that were placed in the thalweg (main channel), did move during the whitewater spill (375-400 cfs) event. A snorkel survey is scheduled in November and the survey crew will be asked to observe yellow rock movement and deposition in downstream areas.

In addition, Jeff was pleased to announce that summer Chinook salmon are spawning in large numbers in the channel at this time.

Riparian Feasibility Investigation

Jeff is in final steps of compiling the initial potential riparian consultant list and once it is completed he will forward his spreadsheet to the CRFF for their review and recommendation(s) on the selection of a consultant. After discussion, the attending CRFF agreed to the following steps:

- Chelan PUD draft riparian feasibility investigation proposal
- CRFF review of riparian feasibility investigation proposal
- CRFF send comments to Jeff
- Chelan PUD will draft a final proposal to be sent out to the potential riparian consultants
- CRFF will review proposals received from potential consultants and select consultant
- Selected consultant that will draft a report

Jeff estimated the above process would take roughly 3-5 months and the model construction would be implemented 1 year from now, approximately August/September 2014.

Chelan River westslope cutthroat trout stocking

Travis Maitland, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, had no update regarding westslope cutthroat trout.

Jeff shared with the CRFF, according to Alene Underwood, Chelan PUD, that space for cutthroat at Eastbank is available. Cutthroat at Chelan Falls hatchery will be moved to Eastbank in November 2013 and winter until Spring/summer 2014. The goal is to raise the cutthroat to catchable size before release.

Habitat Channel Ramping Rate Investigation

Jeff noted that the habitat channel ramping rate investigation that was initially agreed to at the 20 June 2013 meeting will be implemented in May 2014.

Habitat Channel Flow Reduction Proposal

Jeff reported that Chelan PUD is now implementing the 4-pump operation. Jeff confirmed with Jim Pacheco, Ecology, that the Chinook are attracted/focused to the new gravel placed immediately downstream from the Habitat Channel large log structure (Noah's Ark) that was removed from the pool upstream of Noah's Ark.

Action Items:

- Jeff will provide the revised temperature modeling report schedule to the CRFF.
- Jeff will complete the riparian consultant list and send to the CRFF for their review.
- Jeff will review FERC's temperature modeling report(s) timeline schedule and send to the CRFF.
- Graham Simon will contact Jeff to schedule a habitat channel site visit that will include Patrick Verhey and Justin Allegro.
- Jeff Osborn will provide the Chelan PUD Lake Level Discussion web page link to Graham Simon.
- Jeff will check with Todd Miller regarding the status of the detection equipment.
- Travis will have an email sent to Jeff regarding the status of the cost estimates for constructing and installing the PIT-tag array in the Chelan River at the bottom end of Reach 1.
- Jeff will send to the CRFF potential meeting/conference call date(s) options.