

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee
Statement of Agreement on Evaluations
To be implemented in 2014 as part of existing requirements or as a result of the
Wanapum Spillway Fracture and Wanapum Reservoir Drawdown.**

Submitted to the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: April 4, 2014
Approved by the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: April 11, 2014

Statement: The Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) recognizes and agrees to the following evaluations and actions to be implemented in 2014 as part of the Public Utility District No.2 of Grant County's (Grant PUD) existing requirements or as a result of the Wanapum Spillway Fracture and Wanapum Reservoir Drawdown.

- (1) The PRCC agrees that a Wanapum Reservoir juvenile acoustic tag survival evaluation (presence/absence) is necessary to inform NOAA Fisheries, PRCC and Grant PUD on the potential impacts on the juvenile salmonid and steelhead run at large as it relates to the necessary drawdown of Wanapum Reservoir and stabilization of Wanapum Spillway Monolith #4.
 - a. The juvenile salmonid and steelhead acoustic tag survival evaluation conducted within the Wanapum Reservoir will include 2 species (steelhead and yearling Chinook). Releases will occur in the tailrace of Rock Island Dam with presence/absence detections occurring at transects located at various location within Wanapum Reservoir (e.g. Crescent Bar, Sunland Estates and in the Wanapum Forebay).
 - b. An effort will be made to collect route-specific information related to the Wanapum Spillway, Wanapum Fish Bypass and Wanapum Powerhouse. However, the PRCC understands that both upstream (forebay) and downstream (tailrace) areas of Wanapum Dam will need to remain clear to facilitate repair activities.
 - c. Release groups will be appropriately sized to achieve at least a Standard Error (SE) of $\pm 5\%$, with a 95% Confidence Interval within the Wanapum Reservoir and Wanapum Project.
 - d. The PRCC agrees that results from the Wanapum acoustic tag survival evaluation will be used to inform ESA consultations and will not be used in current NNI-Fund calculations as defined in Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (SSSA). If additional mitigation is determined to be necessary, the PRCC and PRCC Policy Committees will determine the most appropriate means and methods.

- e. NNI Funds in a total amount not to exceed \$225,000 will be used to facilitate implementation of the Wanapum Reservoir juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook acoustic tag survival evaluation. Data collected through this effort would be used to facilitate the PRCC's decision making process during the juvenile salmonid and steelhead outmigration.
- (2) The PRCC agrees that juvenile acoustic tag survival evaluations for other covered species (e.g. sockeye, summer Chinook sub-yearlings) per the SSSA, within the Wanapum Reservoir, may not be feasible during 2014.
- (3) The PRCC agrees that if the Wanapum Reservoir acoustic tag survival evaluation for juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook is conducted, the need to apply additional Passive Integrated Transponders (PIT -tags) in migrating juvenile salmonids and steelhead (at other upstream locations and conduct additional analysis) would be considered a secondary priority and may not be feasible.
- (4) The PRCC agrees that the Priest Rapids Reservoir survival and Priest Rapids Top-spill Bypass survival and behavior evaluations (if valid) will be counted as progress towards meeting performance standards in the Priest Rapids Project for juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook. The PRCC will determine how valid results would be incorporated into future performance standards calculations.
- (5) If through implementation of the HRFCPA; the Priest Rapids Reservoir survival and Priest Rapids Top-spill Bypass survival and behavior evaluations are invalidated (e.g. SE falls outside 2.5%); the PRCC will examine the root cause and extent of the invalidation. Based on this assessment, the PRCC may determine that study results could be included in survival standard calculations.
- (6) The PRCC agrees that an adult salmonid evaluation using active tags is necessary to inform NOAA-Fisheries, PRCC and Grant PUD on the Wanapum fishway exit modifications.
- (7) The PRCC agrees that an adult salmonid observational evaluation needs to occur at both the Wanapum left and right bank ladder exit modifications. Observers would be stationed at each modified exit of Wanapum Dam and would collect information during peak passage times. Information on adult salmonid passage over the false weir, through the flume and entry into the forebay would be documented via direct observations and video sampling.
- (8) The PRCC agrees that in addition to an adult salmonid evaluation using active tags, PIT-tags will also be applied to further inform NOAA Fisheries, PRCC and Grant PUD on the Wanapum fishway exit modifications and travel time through the Priest Rapids Project (Priest Rapids Dam to Rock Island Dam). Application of PIT-tags at

the Priest Rapids Off-Ladder Adult Fish Trap would be given priority over PIT tagging at other locations.

- (9) If this SOA is approved, each PRCC member agrees that they will inform and facilitate communication within their respective agency and will support the actions identified within this SOA. The PRCC also agrees to support/advocate on behalf of Grant PUD to secure the necessary tags, equipment and permits, if necessary.
- (10) Nothing in this SOA is intended to nor shall in any way abridge, limit, diminish, abrogate, adjudicate, or resolve any Indian or Tribal right reserved or protected in any treaty, executive order, statute or court decree under Federal or state law, including but not limited to the rights of the Wanapum to its subsistence and ceremonial fisheries pursuant to RCW 77.12.453.

EVALUATIONS/AGREEMENTS THAT GRANT PUD WOULD BE SUPPORTING AS A RESULT OF THIS SOA

- Juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook acoustic tag survival evaluation through Wanapum Reservoir (preference/absence).
- Juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook acoustic tag route specific survival evaluation through Wanapum Dam (if possible).
- Juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook acoustic tag survival evaluation through Priest Rapids Reservoir.
- Juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook acoustic tag survival and behavior evaluation through the Priest Rapids Top-spill Bypass.
- Adult spring Chinook active tag evaluation (acoustic tag) from Priest Rapids Off-Ladder Adult Fish Trap to Rock Island Fish Ladder Exit.
- Adult salmonid passage observational evaluation at both the Wanapum left and right bank ladder exit modifications.
- Adult spring Chinook passive tag evaluation from Priest Rapids Off Ladder Adult Trap to Rock Island.
- If through implementation of the HRF CPA; the Priest Rapids Reservoir Survival and Priest Rapids Top-spill Bypass survival and behavior evaluations are invalidated (e.g. SE falls outside 2.5%); the PRCC will examine the root cause and extent on the invalidation. Based on this assessment, the PRCC may determine that study results could be included into survival standard calculations.