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## **BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE**

<p><b>Fish &amp; Aquatic Resources Working Group / Hydrological &amp; Water Resources Working Group Combined Meeting</b></p>
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<p>October 12, 2000</p>
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<p>9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</p>
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<p>Skagit Valley Community College Board Room, CA-118 (Administration Annex) 2405 E. College Way Mount Vernon, WA</p>
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### **AGENDA**

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| 1. Review agenda and minutes                                     |
| 2. Review action items   |
| 3. Status report from downstream passage technical working group |
| 4. Hydrology 101 presentation by Bob Barnes (PSE)                |
| 5. Continue defining interest and issues                         |
| 6. Set agenda for next meeting (November 9, 2000)                |
| 7. Evaluate meeting  |



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## BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE

### Combined Meeting of the Hydrological & Water Resources Working Group & Fish and Aquatic Resources Working Group

October 12, 2000

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Skagit Valley Community College  
Mount Vernon, WA

### MEETING NOTES

**Hydrological Working Group Mission:** *“To identify issues and develop recommendations that provide for the protection and management of water quality, watershed processes, and hydrologic regimes associated with the Baker River Project that address the social, economic, terrestrial, and aquatic values they affect.”*

**Fish Working Group Mission:** *“To identify issues and develop solutions and recommendations addressing fish and aquatic resource interests related to the Baker River Project and its operations, leading to a settlement agreement.”*

**Hydrological Team Leader:** Ken Brettmann (Puget Sound Energy) (425) 462-3092, kebret@puget.com

**Fish Team Leader:** Arnie Aspelund (425) 462-3442, aaspel@puget.com

**Future Meeting Dates:** November 9 (9:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. at PSE’s Everett Office, CFS Training Room, 1122 75<sup>th</sup> St. S.W., Everett WA 98203); December 14, 2000 (location TBD)

**Note:** Driving Directions to PSE’s Everett Office given at the end of these meeting notes.

**PRESENT:** Gary Sprague (WA Dept. Fish & Wildlife), Karen Kloempken (WA Dept. Fish & Wildlife) Stan Walsh (Skagit System Cooperative), Bob Carey (Nature Conservancy), Bill Reinard (Wildcat Steelheaders Club), Carol Bordin (WA Dept. Fish & Wildlife), Dick Raisler (Fidalgo Flyfishers), Steve Jennison (WA Dept. of Natural Resources), Don Schluter (by conference phone - Trout Unlimited), Jon Vanderheyden (US Forest Service), Arnie Aspelund (PSE), Nick Verretto (PSE), Ken Brettmann (PSE),

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Doug Bruland (PSE), Bob Barnes (PSE), Lyn Wiltse (facilitator - PDSA Consulting)

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Hydrology**

- Jon V: - Check with Brady Green re: Watershed Analysis Presentation at Nov. 9 meeting  
Rod S: - Check with ID team re: their process  
Fred S: - Bring sample models for structure  
Ken: -Will update list of contacts from Bob.  
Rod S: -Will give Ken contact information on Department of Commerce, Trade and Economic Development  
All: -Review list of issues/interests and circle ones you want to own.

### **Fish**

Gary: Bring hard copy of sockeye presentation

- Gary Sprague provided a handout on historical sockeye returns and harvest numbers
- Bill Reinard invited Don Wick (Economic Development Association of Skagit County) to the Economics/Operations Working Group Meetings

## **October 12, 2000 Meeting Agenda**

9:30 – 12:30

Skagit County Community College, Mt. Vernon

1. Review/Revise Minutes and agenda
2. Introductions
3. Action Items/Parking Lot
  - Report from Technical Working Group
4. Interests/Issues
5. Hydro 101 Presentation (Bob)
6. Evaluate Meeting
7. Set Agenda for Next Meeting

## **ISSUES/INTERESTS**

The combined team reviewed the interests/issues from the hydrology group and narrowed the potential *interests* to the following:

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- Protection, preservation, and perpetuation of fish and wildlife and their habitats
  - Protection and enhancement of resources guaranteed under the Pt. Elliott Treaty of 1855
  - Protection and enhancement of resources guaranteed by the Washington State Constitution
  - Protection, preservation, and perpetuation of ecological integrity and bio-diversity
  - Ecosystem health and sustainability
  - Economic viability of the Baker River Project
  - Protection of human life and property
  - Sustainability of tribal and non-tribal cultures over time
  - Quality of life
  - Protection of cultural, recreational, and natural resources related to hydrologic impacts
  - Availability of abundant and quality water

Due to time limitations the combined group did not finish the hydrology interests and will continue sorting interests and issues for both the hydrology group and fish group at a combined meeting of the two groups, November 9, 2000.

### **HYDRO 101 PRESENTATION BY BOB BARNES**

Bob Barnes gave a “Hydrology 101” presentation covering the natural hydrology of the watershed, the physical characteristics of the reservoirs, how and why they are operated the way they are, a brief review of market factors affecting project operation, a review of historical and current reservoir operations. He closed with a discussion of some of the operational consequences of the reservoirs on other stakeholder interests.

### **PARKING LOT**

#### **Hydrology**

- Communication Plan to enlist “reluctant” members
- Consider moving meeting locations around—possibly closer to Olympia
- Explore possibility of combination of hydrology/water resources working group with the fisheries working group
- USFS Baker River Watershed Analysis Presentation (?)
- Clean Water Act Presentation—Department of Ecology (?)
- Endangered Species Act Presentation (?)
- Presentation on Flood Control by Corps/County (?)

#### **Fish**

- Watershed Analysis- presentation by Brady Green at a date to be defined later
  - We need a strategy to integrate this analysis into the process
- Feedback on “Salmon on the Baker River” document
  - Different perspectives
  - Post reviews on web?
- Presentation on Northwest Forest Plan including Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (USFS) at a date to be defined later

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## MEETING HANDOUTS

- Historical sockeye returns and harvest numbers
- Hydrology 101 presentation outline and fact sheet
- Minutes from past Fish working group meetings and technical group meetings
- Baker River Project Information Package (CD-ROM )

## EVALUATION OF MEETING

### *Well Done:*

Bob Barnes' Presentation  
Combined Meeting (Hydrology and Fish)  
Bob Carey's Participation  
Good facilitation  
Food  
½ Gallon of Half and Half

### *Need to Improve:*

Ran over time

## TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

November 9, 2000 Agenda

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Puget Sound Energy's Everett Office  
CFS Training Room  
1122 75<sup>th</sup> St. S.W.  
Everett, WA 98203

### Driving Directions to PSE's Everett Office:

- 1) From I-5 (southbound or northbound) take the State Route 526 exit (Mukilteo exit) – this exit from I-5 is several miles south of downtown Everett
- 2) Exit from State Route 526 to Seaway Blvd (upon exiting you will be headed north on Seaway Blvd.).
- 3) Turn right onto 75<sup>th</sup> St. SW
- 4) PSE office is on the right about ½ mile after turning onto 75<sup>th</sup> St. SW

**(THIS WILL BE A COMBINED MEETING OF THE HYDRO AND FISH WORKING GROUPS  
AND WILL BE LENGTHEN TO ADDRESS ISSUES/INTERESTS)**

- Review/revise minutes and agenda
- Action Items/Parking Lot
- Report from the Technical Working Group
- Issues and Interests
- Presentations? (Watershed Analysis or ESA or Clean Water Act)

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- Set agenda for December 14, 2000 Meeting
  - Evaluate Meeting