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Sent: August 26, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Rahul Ray
Cc: Wayne Salewski
Subject: Nechako Water Temperature Data

Hi

I see no option to reply to all available with this email so assuming this decision is left to the Chair.

Although I have been diligent in researching, attending and participating in the WEI process since the beginning....and I admit to frustration with the file.... I offer up a couple of points in regards to the STMP and its objectives:

1) Any suggestions so far too change flows prior to a final agreement with RTA that will help us gain knowledge and data that works us towards the recovery of the river has not meet with uptake. I think I see the current Saik'uz court case as a challenge for RTA to make this move but I had missed the idea that BC Hydro and that contract would also influence that decision.

- to be total transparent in how RTA will be making decisions in the future is would seem we need to understand the BC Hydro contract and in particular the penalties when RTA does not meet the contract. The greatest profit to RTA seems to arrive when the "pond is full" so therefor the incentive to keep it full even at the risk of flooding the downstream communities (when large snow packs the following winter happen) is pretty powerful for RTA and I suspect this operating practice is going to be hard to give up.

I suggest that there is a needed conversation on this issue.

2) The STMP and its objectives are confusing as I see reference to its design being for Chinook and Sockeye and yet it is touted by EDI and RTA as being only for Sockeye moving through the area.

- the STMP does nothing for the health of the Nechako River and perhaps is not the vehicle needed to concentrate on when looking for contributing towards a healthy river
- the STMP does not contribute to the chinook population health as that temperature should be < 18* C
- the STMP does not acknowledge climate changes and timing
- the STMP has hardened calendar dates that do no acknowledge the realities of salmon migration and timing

I suggest we ask for a presentation on the agreement and its role and then we can suggest how flows could be managed that contribute to the biological health of the Nechako River

I suggest that RTA models what flows are needed to reach a target level of <18* C and then we would understand how this affects their current management and operations strategy.....

I suggest that BC Hydro is a crown corporation and as the Province of BC wants a settlement on the issue and that the Province be petitioned to change the penalties to RTA when conservation of endanger salmon is of greater value to the Province of BC

3) The current STMP flow management strategy may be detrimental to the aquatic life forms within the river.

- winter flow levels may be harmful to REDD's while being good for ice jams.

I suggest that we need consideration and advice from DFO - North West Hydraulics that determine minimum winter flows that protect and or enhance aquatic life forms.

4) The graphs are interesting- again the STMP does nothing to contribute to the health of the Nechako and that is the conversation we want to have.

I suggest we need to ask the **TWG experts** what flows contribute to the health of the aquatic life forms and what timings are critical in order to move forward this in the form of a recommendation to RTA - DFO and the Province.

Wayne