October 22, 2026

Cowlitz FTC Public Participation Protocol

The Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) holds monthly business meetings to support implementation of the terms of Tacoma's Settlement Agreement with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the Cowlitz River Project.

Specifically, FTC's business is focused on fisheries mitigation, protection, and enhancement measures, as described in the Settlement Agreement. FTC business does not include fisheries management.

FTC opens their monthly meetings to the public so that the public has an opportunity to learn what FTC is working on and share any thoughts or questions.

Information about FTC business is posted on the Cowlitz FTC website at mytpu.org/cowlitzftc, including:

- meeting information,
- past meeting summaries,
- key planning documents, and
- documented decisions.

Members of the public can request to be added to the public email distribution list to receive FTC meeting agendas one week in advance of meetings. They can also sign-up to receive Tacoma's e-newsletter Cowlitz Currents, which provides updates on implementation of their license.

FTC meetings are generally held the first Tuesday of the month with occasional changes due to holidays. All meetings have a virtual option for participation. Once a quarter, FTC holds a hybrid meeting with virtual and in-person options, where FTC representatives and technical staff participating in-person are generally available during breaks for informal conversation with members of the public. This provides a valuable opportunity to ask questions and engage in dialogue.

During FTC business meetings, members of the public can listen in. At the end of meetings, FTC provides up to 30 minutes for members of the public to share thoughts and questions related to FTC business, following these protocols:

- Members of the public must wait until it is their turn to address the FTC.
- Each person has a maximum of 4 minutes to speak to the FTC directly. Time cannot be given to another speaker. (Alternatively, virtual participants can use the Teams chat option during their turn following the same protocols.)
- Speakers are asked to focus on FTC business and are encouraged to speak to new issues rather than repeating what they have already shared in previous meetings.
- FTC members can choose whether to respond or not. Responses may occur during the meeting or at some point in the future.
- Meeting summaries document general themes shared by the public not a verbatim transcript. More or less detail may be included as it relates to current FTC business.

In addition, Tacoma provides specific opportunities for the public to formally comment on certain FTC plans and reports, such as the Annual Program Review. This is in accordance with Tacoma's FERC-approved Article 405 Public Information Management Plan.

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EXPECTATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC AT FTC BUSINESS MEETINGS

FTC values the opportunity to hear from the public. We ask that you speak to FTC business topics and agree to the following:

- **Be positive**
- **Be respectful**
- **Do not interrupt**
- **Limit side conversations**
- **Wait to speak until it is your turn (for virtual meetings, stay muted until it is your turn)**