



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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Coordinating and promoting effective protection and restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitat in the Columbia River Basin.

The Authority is comprised of the following tribes and government agencies:

Burns Paiute Tribe

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

National Marine Fisheries Service

Nez Perce Tribe

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Coordinating Agencies

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Upper Columbia United Tribes

DATE: October 16, 2006
TO: Anadromous Fish Advisory Committee
FROM: Doug Taki, Chair
SUBJECT: October 12, 2006 AFAC Meeting Final Action Notes

AFAC Meeting
October 12, 2006
Portland, Oregon, CBFWA Office

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Phil Roger (CRITFC), Tom Rien (ODFW), John Palensky (NOAA), Lynn Palensky (NPCC), Chip M^cConnaha (Jones & Stokes), Dave Ward (CBFWA), Tom Iverson (CBFWA)

By Phone: Paul Kline (IDFG), Doug Taki (SBT), Keith Kutchins (CTCR), Brad Houslet (CTWSR), Jesse Schwartz (CTUIR), Dave Fast (YN), Dan Warren (D.J. Warren and Associates)

Time Allocation:	Objective 1. Project/Budget Recommendations	100%
	Objective 1. Committee Participation	%
	Objective 2. Fish & Wildlife Regional Issues	%
	Objective 3. Annual Report	%
	Objective 4. RM&E	%
	Objective 5. Other Business	%

ITEM 1: Election of New Chair and Vice-Chair

Discussion: Both positions are vacant and must be filled. One candidate has volunteered for each position. No other nominations were received.

ACTION: Doug Taki (SBT) was elected Chair and Brad Houslet (CTWSR) was elected Vice-Chair. Doug will serve as Chair through September 30, 2007, after which Brad will serve as Chair for one year. A new Vice-Chair will be elected to serve effective October 1, 2007.

ITEM 2: Biological Objectives for Fish and Wildlife Program

Discussion: The Members Advisory Group (MAG) requested that the AFAC determine how to best define biological objectives for anadromous fish as part of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (Council) amendment process. The AFAC discussed the MAG's request to (1) define populations, environmental attributes, and metrics to be used, (2) define the appropriate scale for metrics, and (3) consider the compatibility of the Council's objectives with other activities such as recovery planning.

Tom Iverson summarized the Council's request for input regarding possible amendments and reiterated the MAG's request. The AFAC discussed the need for (1) objectives to be set up so progress towards recovery is detectable on the chosen geographic scale for relevant metrics, and (2) Council products to be integrated with Technical Recovery Team (TRT) and recovery planning products (i.e., concern about provincial vs. ESU scales).

The AFAC discussed potential biological and environmental metrics,

concentrating on VSP parameters of abundance, productivity, spatial structure, and diversity. It was generally agreed that not all of these metrics are relevant on all geographic scales, and that Council objectives should concentrate on abundance, and possibly productivity (recruits per spawner at low abundance).

Environmental metrics were also discussed. It was agreed that specific restoration/protection metrics such as miles of fence, or diversions with new screens are not appropriate for Council objectives. These are strategies/actions that address limiting factors. However, high-level environmental indicators (variables such as water temperature and sedimentation that describe conditions across a broad scale) may be appropriate.

The AFAC agreed that the population scale is the building block from which to work. The AFAC also agreed that where applicable, population definitions provided by TRTs should be used. CBFWA has previously developed a list of populations that can serve as a starting point for defining populations not considered by TRT's.

The AFAC concluded that integration/compatibility with recovery planning is essential; therefore, the Council should wait approximately one year before developing objectives. Many recovery plans are in progress, and will be completed by late 2007. Although compatibility with recovery plans is desired, it is not clear how objectives on the provincial scale will relate to objectives on the ESU scale. One method discussed is for provincial objects not to be a "roll up" of population abundance objectives, but rather a number (or proportion) of populations meeting abundance objectives. With this method, provincial objectives could include component parts for each applicable ESU.

ACTION: Dave Ward and Jesse Schwartz will develop a matrix with geographic scale (population, ESU, province, etc.) on one axis, and VSP (and environmental) metrics on the other axis. The AFAC will review the matrix and indicate which metrics are relevant at each geographic level. Dave will present the AFAC matrix at the MAG meeting on October 24.

ACTION: Dave Ward will compile a list of anadromous salmonid populations based on TRT products and previous CBFWA products where applicable. The AFAC will review the list and comment on the populations, as well as on factors to consider when defining populations. Dave will present the AFAC list of populations the MAG meeting on October 24.

ITEM 3: The Columbia River Hatchery Reform Project

Discussion: The MAG is concerned about potential time, effort, and funding required for managers participation in the Columbia River Hatchery Reform Project, and requested that the AFAC discuss the importance of the project relative to other needs. Tom Iverson provided some background, and Chip M^cConnaha described the project.

Most existing data has been uploaded to a web-based system, and a priority need for the remainder of 2006 is a review of this on-line data. In early 2007 the project moves up-basin, and will benefit from further data and information review and workshop attendance by managers. Dan Warren provided AFAC with a "best guess" draft budget, which indicates the need for approximately \$250,000 through project completion in spring 2008.

The AFAC generally recognized the relative importance of the project, pending further information regarding integration with harvest information and data coordination. StreamNet needs to be in the loop.

ACTION: Dave Ward and Tom Iverson will work with Dan Warren and Chip M^cConnaha to set up a Hatchery Reform Project workshop for AFAC and MAG members.

The workshop agenda will include reviewing the tools (including the AHA model), data and information procedures and management, and some example programs. Potential dates include October 30 or November 3 in Portland.

ACTION: Dave Ward will inform the MAG on October 24 that the AFAC considers involvement in the Hatchery Reform Project to be a relatively high priority, pending answers to some questions, which include those involving harvest and data coordination. The AFAC makes this comment in a general sense, and this is not an endorsement of re-programming CBFWA funds to do so.

ITEM 4: BPA In-Lieu Letter

Discussion: The AFAC discussed the potential ramifications of the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) draft in-lieu review of ongoing and new projects. Although no specific actions were suggested regarding comment to BPA, the AFAC agreed that it is important that members ensure that each project be notified of the review and the project's draft categorization by BPA.

ITEM 5: Next Meeting

No meeting was scheduled, other than the tentative dates for the Hatchery Reform Project Workshop. The AFAC decided to wait until after the October 17-18 Council meeting and the workshop before assessing the need and developing an agenda for the next meeting.