

Columbia River Basin Lamprey Technical Workgroup

Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97204
fws.gov/columbiariver/lamprey.htm

April 15, 2009
Meeting Notes

Workgroup members present or on the phone: Jody Brostrom (USFWS), Mike Clement (Grant County PUD), David Clugston (US Army Corps), Debbie Docherty (BPA), Chuti Feidler (USFS), Molly Hallock (WDFW), Doug Hatch (CRITFC), Bob Heinith (CRITFC), Kathryn Kostow (ODFW), Bao Le (Longview Associates), Christina Luzier (USFWS), Matt Mesa (USGS), Mary Moser (NOAA-Fisheries), Bob Mueller (PNNL), Josh Murauskas (Douglas County PUD), Chris Peery (USFWS), Tim Shibahara (PGE), Dave Statler (Nez Perce), Bianca Streif (USFWS), Dave Ward (CBFWA).

1. Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC) follow-up and further assistance

Background: CBFWA's Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC) has become re-vitalized after a few years of inactivity. The FSOC is developing a list of questions/information needs regarding lamprey and screen sites (primarily screens at irrigation diversions). The assignment to the LTWG was to prepare a short summary of what is known and what the information gaps are regarding a list of questions that the FSOC drafted. We provided answers to these questions and references of additional literature that would be helpful. Dave Ward gave them our responses at their meeting in January 2009. The FSOC is currently reviewing what we sent them and will get back to us if there are any follow-up questions.

Dave Ward reported that we are still waiting for a response from the FSOC on whether or not they need more information. Dave will let us know. Molly Hallock asked the group if we should make a list of criteria for lamprey regarding screening. The group thought there wasn't enough information to do this. The group wondered if there was documentation on the locations of screens. Chuti Fiedler (new member from USFS) will ask. Dave encouraged workgroup members to present their screen related research at the FSOC screening meeting in September 2009. For more information on the FSOC visit CBFWA's website.

From this discussion a request was made that documents such as the FSOC lamprey screening memo that we commented on should be posted on our website. Additionally, research meetings (such as the FSOC screening meeting in September) should also be posted. Dave Ward and Christina Luzier will discuss updating and improving the website.

2. White paper/position statement on translocation and artificial propagation of lampreys

Background: The workgroup was asked to write a position paper on translocations and artificial propagation of lamprey. If you recall we recently reviewed the sections of the CRITFC plan regarding these topics but the purpose of this assignment is to put out something more official authored by the workgroup. So when this issue comes up we will have something to reference.

Translocation has been ongoing for 10 years (Umatilla, Nez Perce). The group decided that it would not be able to write a position statement due to conflicting opinions about translocation. Kathryn Kostow suggested that we write a review paper instead. Mary Moser agreed and suggested a literature review paper outlining the potential benefits and risks of translocation. The group stated that other issues affecting translocation should be included as well. From the perspective of an entity already conducting translocations, Dave Statler said that unless new information is revealed in this paper it would not make a big difference in their effort.

The group decided that a risk/benefit analysis and literature review type paper would be of value and a subgroup was formed to work on it. Subgroup members are as follows: Dave Clugston, Kathryn Kostow, Chris Peery, Mary Moser, Mike Clement, Molly Hallock, Bob Mueller, Ben Clemens and Christina Luzier. Dave Ward volunteered to take on coordinator duties. The group suggested that tribal biologists such as Aaron Jackson, Dave Statler and Jen Graham should also be on the subgroup. For a timeline of subgroup's development of review paper see #3 next.

The workgroup questioned whether artificial propagation should be included in the paper. Not enough information is available to include it in the paper. What little literature there is on the topic can be included in the literature review section. Ben Clemens suggested that the workgroup submit the review paper to a journal for publication after its completion.

3. Workgroup sponsored Lamprey Workshop

Background: The workgroup's Statement of Purpose, accessible on our website (<http://www.fws.gov/columbiariver/lamprey.htm>) states that we are to have a workshop every other year to allow lamprey researchers to present

their data for dissemination and review purposes. Our last workshop was in 2007.

The translocation discussion became the workshop discussion because an idea was brought forth by the group to host our next workshop with the singular theme of translocation. Following is the timeline for review paper and workshop development.

- A. Subgroup meeting/conference call in May 2009 to develop an outline of paper and design the workshop (solicitation of speakers/presentations).
- B. Workshop/symposium in August 2009. There will be a workgroup meeting on the morning of the workshop, a half day workshop and a subgroup meeting after the workshop.
- C. Draft review paper will be completed by subgroup one month after workshop.

4. Update of Critical Uncertainties

Christina asked the workgroup if they thought the critical uncertainties should be updated. For the most part the group thought it was still a complete list. The prioritization could be updated however. The group decided to look them over between now and our next meeting in August and revisit a possible update then.

5. Workgroup meeting schedule

Christina asked the workgroup if they thought a twice a year meeting schedule was adequate or if we should meet quarterly. The group agreed that twice a year was enough for regularly scheduled meetings but special ones could be arranged as work load dictates.

6. Development of workgroup expertise guide

Background: This topic was mentioned in meeting minutes from several years ago. I see it as an informal guide that describes the specific lamprey expertise of each workgroup member. Among other things, it would be useful for deciding who on the group would be an appropriate reviewer for specific proposals, manuscripts, etc.

The workgroup agreed to develop an informal expertise guide. Christina asked workgroup members to email her a few brief sentences regarding their lamprey expertise. Christina will put the guide together.

7. Proposal/manuscript/etc. review process

Background: One of the main jobs of the workgroup is to review proposals, manuscripts and other documents written about lamprey. No surprise that many of these are written by workgroup members and thus we have had trouble at times providing reviews for those entities that are requesting them. There is a need to create a review protocol that suits our needs and is equitable (the same people often provide the reviews).

There are two types of review that the workgroup can utilize: 1) from the workgroup as a whole and 2) from individual members of the workgroup. The first type would be a consensus review officially from the workgroup. It would have to be run through the workgroup and through CBFWA channels before being released. Because of the obvious issues of agreement and time, this type of review will probably not be used as often as the second type, individual review. Individual workgroup members can review a proposal/manuscript either anonymously or under their name. This review will not be from the workgroup but rather from lamprey experts on the workgroup. Kathryn Kostow suggested that we open this type of review to external reviewers as well. When something needs review the workgroup coordinator will solicit internal or external reviewers directly and not via broadcast email. Regarding conflict of interest for individual reviewers the workgroup agreed that the author cannot provide a review nor can someone who is competing for the same pot of money.

8. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative/Plan

Christina updated the workgroup on the USFWS led Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative. The FWS hosted a work session in October in Portland where information (including regional differences) was gleaned from lamprey biologists regarding life history characteristics, population structure, habitat preferences and threats. A proceedings document was produced and can be accessed on the FWS lamprey conservation team's website: http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Fisheries/sp_habcon/lamprey/index.html. The next step in the development of the Conservation Plan is to hold regional meetings to gather watershed and region specific data on distribution, life history, habitat, connectivity and threats. Christina encouraged workgroup members to be participants in the regional meetings to be held this summer and fall.

9. Dam passage goals/metrics

Dave Clugston brought up a past assignment of the workgroup, developing passage goals and metrics for Pacific lamprey at dams. A subgroup was convened for this and found that metrics were very difficult to develop. The workgroup thinks it is important but at this time there is no biological meaningful way to do it. The workgroup found that the goal "success must be as good as the best dam in the region" was weak. The group thought we

should be doing everything we can to get passage efficiency as high as possible but it is impossible to put a number on it.

The workgroup questioned what the next steps should be on this issue. Dave Ward will get the notes from the subgroup meetings and redistribute them. The original subgroup will meet/call and report to the whole workgroup at our meeting in August. The goal is to put together a progress statement and post it on our website.

10. New research from workgroup members

- a. Ben Clemens – Maturation/run research. New paper.
- b. Matt Mesa – lab evaluation of sea lion barrier on lamprey and sturgeon.
- c. Chris Peery – rearing and spawning habitat research.
- d. Christina Luzier – White Salmon River distribution/Condit dam removal. Mainstem distribution of larval lamprey.
- e. Sampling dredge spoils – the workgroup should review Corps 401 and 404 – Bianca Streif, Kathryn Kostow and Bob Heinith will be a subgroup on this.

H:\WORK\LampreyTechWG\2009_0415LampreyTWG\LampreyTechWkGrp4-15-09MeetingNotesDraft.doc