



December 10, 2003

TO: Resident Fish Committee (RFC)

FROM: Neil Ward

SUBJECT: Action Notes for the December 2-4, 2003, RFC Meeting

Attendees December 2: Dave Ward (ODFW), Richard LeCaire (CCT), Stephen Francis (CCT), Sheri Sears (CCT), Mattie Allen (SPT), Joe Maroney (KT), Jason Connor (KT), Jason Olson (KT), Todd Andersen (KT), Vaughn Paragamian (IDFG), Melo Maiolie (IDFG), Tom Bassista (IDFG), Clint Muhlfeld (MFWP), Lawrence Schwabe (BPT), Jason Fenton (BPT), Mike Faler (USFWS), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Jim Byrne (WDFW), Ron McPeak (WDFW), Dave Statler (NPT), Scott Soultz (KTOI), Jason Scott (JUB), Bob Johnson (PNNL), and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

December 3: Dave Ward (ODFW), Richard LeCaire (CCT), Stephen Francis (CCT), Sheri Sears (CCT), Mattie Allen (SPT), Joe Maroney (KT), Jason Connor (KT), Jason Olson (KT), Todd Andersen (KT), Vaughn Paragamian (IDFG), Tom Bassista (IDFG), Clint Muhlfeld (MFWP), Lawrence Schwabe (BPT), Jason Fenton (BPT), Mike Faler (USFWS), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Jim Byrne (WDFW), Ron McPeak (WDFW), Dave Burgess (WDFW), Matt Polacek (WDFW), Dave Statler (NPT), Bob Johnson (PNNL), Deanne Pavlik (STOI), Dale Chess (CDAT), Ron Peters (CDAT), Angelo Vitale (CDAT), and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

December 4: Dave Ward (ODFW), Sheri Sears (CCT), Joe Maroney (KT), Jason Connor (KT), Jason Olson (KT), Todd Andersen (KT), Vaughn Paragamian (IDFG), Tom Bassista (IDFG), Clint Muhlfeld (MFWP), Lawrence Schwabe (BPT), Jason Fenton (BPT), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Jim Byrne (WDFW), Ron McPeak (WDFW), Bob Johnson (PNNL), Deanne Pavlik (STOI), Ron Peters (CDAT), Gerald Green (CDAT), Dave Statler (NPT), and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

By Phone: December 2: Sue Ireland (KTOI) and Todd Sween (NPT)

Time	Objective 1. Project Recommendations	0%
Allocation:	Objective 2. Regional Issues	03%
	Objective 3. Annual Report	97%

ITEM 1: Review and Approve Agenda
No new items were added to the agenda.

ITEM 2: Review Rescheduling and Within-year Requests

Through the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) solicitation for rescheduling and within-year requests, the BPA received rescheduling requests for two resident fish projects (Projects 199502700, and 199004400) as well as three within-year requests (Projects 199501300, 199502800, and 200102900).

During the November 25, 2003 Members Management Group (MMG) meeting, the MMG agreed that the current budget adjustment information from the BPA was inadequate for the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) to perform a meaningful review. Subsequently, the MMG decided that the CBFWA should wait for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council to complete their validation/correction exercise and for BPA to verify the availability of funds. The MMG will perform a review of the available information during the December 23 meeting and decide whether the technical committees should review the requests.

The RFC discussed the current situation but did not review any requests per the MMG's recommendation.

ITEM 3: Update on the 2004 Western Division American Fisheries Society (AFS) - Management of Resident Fish in the Columbia River Session

The 2004 Western Division AFS is scheduled for February 29th - March 3, 2004 in Salt Lake City. The theme of the meeting is "Native Fish Management: Policies, Politics, and Practicalities." Dave Ward updated the committee on his progress towards arranging the "Management of Resident Fish in the Columbia River Basin" session scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2004. Dave indicated that Mike Faler would not be able to participate; however, Howard Schaller has volunteered to present a bull trout paper. In addition, Richard LeCaire has been added to the list of presenters. The papers that will be presented during the session include:

- *Resident Fish in the Columbia River Basin: Restoration, Enhancement, and Mitigation for Losses Associated with Hydroelectric Development and Operations:* Neil Ward
- *Kootenai River White Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture: Past, Present, and Future:* Sue Ireland
- *Burbot on the Brink, or, Notalota Lota:* Vaughn Paragamian
- *Actions to Conserve Native Fish in the Upper Columbia River Basin in Montana:* Clint Muhlfeld
- *Monitoring of Bull trout Populations in the Columbia Plateau Province using the EMAP Protocol:* Stephanie Gunckel
- *Non-native Resident Fish in the Columbia River Basin: How Habitat Directs Fisheries Management:* Joe Maroney
- *What are we Recovering? Determining which Attributes of Population Structure are Useful for Identifying Bull Trout Conservation Units:* Howard Schaller
- *Chief Joseph Kokanee Enhancement Project and Grand Coulee Dam Strobe Light Efficacy Test:* Richard LeCaire

Abstracts for the presentations are due to Dave Ward by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 2003. Guidelines for completing the abstract are available at

www.wdafs.org. If you have any questions please contact Dave Ward at (503) 657-2000.

ITEM 4: Discuss Plans for Next Year's Meetings

The RFC discussed whether the scientific/management review of the accomplishments associated with resident fish projects funded by the BPA in the Columbia River Basin reviews should continue during 2004. The RFC agreed that a comprehensive review of all the projects is not warranted; however, participants expressed an interest in organizing quarterly workshops that would include guest speakers that are considered authorities in fisheries/habitat research and management. Participants identified several potential themes including: use of conservation genetics for fisheries management, rehabilitation of fish habitat, management of non-native fishes, strategies for rehabilitating and managing reservoir fisheries, watershed restoration and fisheries management, fish culture and techniques and equipment for monitoring fish presence/absence and movements. Neil Ward committed to developing a list of potential workshop themes for review by the RFC.

ITEM 5: The RFC performed project performance reviews of projects implemented in the Intermountain and Mountain Columbia provinces. Participants reviewed sponsors' accomplishments as they relate to the objectives that the RFC approved during the Rolling Provincial Review. Results from this review will be included in the CBFWA's annual report which will be available in February 2004.