



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 fish and wildlife 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
 - Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes

DATE: January 29, 2008

TO: Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC)

FROM: Mike Faler (Chair)

SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for the January 24, 2008 RFAC Meeting

**Resident Fish Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 24, 2008
Spokane, WA**

Attendees: Ron Peters (CDAT), Melo Maiolie (IDFG), Mike Faler (USFWS), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Sheri Sears (CCT), Joe Maroney (KT), and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

Time Allocation:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Objective 1. Committee Participation | 100% |
| Objective 2. Technical Review | 0% |
| Objective 3. Presentation | 0% |
| Objective 4. Other Business | 0% |

Phone: Christine Mallette (ODFW), Lawrence Schwabe (BPT), Tom Rien (ODFW), and Lynn DuCharme (CSKT)

ITEM 1: Review and Approve Agenda

Action: Items 8 (Amendment Template-Resident Fish M&E) and 9 (Columbia River White Sturgeon Task Force Update) were added to the agenda.

ITEM 2: Review and Approve Action Notes for the January 9, 2008 RFAC Meeting

Action: Action notes approved with no changes.

ITEM 3: Amendment Process Timeline and Deliverables

Neil Ward led the RFAC in a review of the timeline (attached), developed by the Members, for reviewing and submitting the CBFWA amendment package. Neil indicated that the resident fish section must be completed by February 1, 2008 to ensure that the Members Advisory Group (MAG) has adequate time to review the amendment recommendations prior to the February 19, 2008 MAG work session.

ITEM 4: Members Advisory Group (MAG) Subcommittee Update

Neil Ward and Mike Faler provided an update regarding discussions that ensued during the January 10-11, 2008 MAG subcommittee meeting.

ITEM 5: Review and Approve RFAC Proposed Amendments

During the January 9, 2008 RFAC meeting, participants expressed a desire to submit an amendment that captured the resident fish-oriented language contained in the 1994 Fish and Wildlife Program. The RFAC reviewed and edited a revised version (attached) that was developed by the RFAC amendment ad hoc workgroup.

Action: The RFAC directed Neil Ward to update the RFAC amendment per the participants' requests and to forward the document to the RFAC for a final review prior to submitting the document to the MAG on February 1, 2008. **UPDATE:** Version 2 of the RFAC Resident Fish Amendment was distributed for review on Friday, January 29, 2008. The attached document reflects the comments/edits that have been received.

ITEM 6: RFAC ad hoc Committee Review of Mark Bagdovitz (USFWS) Request

During the January 9, 2008 RFAC meeting, the committee developed an ad hoc committee to address Mark Bagdovitz's document which pertains to reintroducing anadromous fish to the blocked areas as well removing obsolete infrastructure from Columbia River tributaries. The ad hoc committee met on January 16, 2008 to discuss the document and develop a recommendation for RFAC's consideration and approval. The ad hoc committee indicated that the desires expressed by Mark were commendable but did not warrant the establishment of specific sections within the amendment package. The ad hoc committee recommended that the appropriate place for references to feasibility studies and the removal of obsolete infrastructure are the measures and strategies that the managers are submitting for the focal species/subbasins.

Action: The RFAC recommended that if specific amendment language for feasibility studies and the removal of obsolete structures was submitted for inclusion in the CBFWA amendment package, such language should be included in the measures that will be included in each subbasin section, opposed to developing a section dedicated solely to feasibility studies and the removal of obsolete structures.

ITEM 7: Amendment Template Update

Neil Ward discussed the status of the templates that have been received. Neil indicated that during the January 17-18, 2008 Members meeting, the Members directed the RFAC to ensure that the resident fish measures are identified as "resident fish mitigation" or "resident fish substitution for anadromous fish losses." Neil suggested that RFAC participants, based on their experience in the Fish and Wildlife Program, should be able to review the proposed measures and provide the appropriate "label." Several of the RFAC participants were not comfortable labeling the proposed measures and insisted that they would return the templates to the various biologists for the purpose of updating. Participants indicating a desire to return the templates to the field biologists requested that criteria be provided that would aid the field biologists in their categorization exercise. Neil indicated that adequate descriptions of what constitutes a resident fish mitigation and resident fish substitution for anadromous fish losses project, for the purpose of categorizing measures, exists in the RFAC's draft amendment verbiage (Item 5).

Action: Neil Ward will be returning the templates to the managers to allow for the inclusion of the labels: 1.) resident fish mitigation, or 2.) resident fish substitution for anadromous fish losses. **UPDATE:** On Friday, January 25, 2008 Neil returned the templates to the RFAC participants requesting that measures be labeled per the recommendation.

ITEM 8: Inclusion of Resident Fish M&E Amendments

Tom Rien described the importance of being able to track the status of a population relative to actions and biological objectives. Tom recommended that the amendment measures the managers are submitting should include a monitoring and evaluation component to ensure that actions that are being implemented are providing outcomes that establish progress towards achieving the stated biological objective for the focal species/population.

Action: The RFAC directed the managers to review their measures to evaluate the appropriateness of adding an M&E component to the suite of measures they are submitting for the various focal species/populations.

ITEM 9: Columbia River White Sturgeon Task Force: Update

Christine Mallette reported to the RFAC that the Columbia River White Sturgeon Task Force recently met and recommended that the RFAC consider developing an overarching white sturgeon amendment that would include measures and strategies for populations throughout the Columbia River Basin. The RFAC reviewed the request and expressed concern that implementing such an action would be a deviation from the approach that the CBFWA has championed since February 2007. Furthermore, participants suggested that creating a special section for white sturgeon would likely lead to requests from other groups that would want special sections for other species throughout the basin.

Action: The RFAC recommended that white sturgeon measures and strategies should be submitted using the amendment template that the CBFWA has developed for focal species/populations/subbasins. The RFAC directed Neil Ward to distribute the completed white sturgeon templates to the white sturgeon managers to ensure there is agreement among the managers regarding the measures and strategies.

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