



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

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

National Marine Fisheries Service

Nez Perce Tribe

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Coordinating Agencies

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes

Upper Columbia United Tribes

DATE: November 7, 2011
TO: Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC)
FROM: Scott Soultis, Chair
SUBJECT: November 3, 2011 WAC Conference Call Final Action Notes

Wildlife Advisory Committee Conference Call
November 3, 2011
Portland Oregon

The support material for the meeting is posted at:
http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_wac.cfm

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Tom Iverson (CBFWA).

By Phone: Scott Soultis (Chair); Kyle Heinrick (Vice-Chair, BPT); Alan Wood (MFWP); Tom Elliot and Tracy Hames (YN); Aren Eddingsaas (SBT); Carl Scheeler (CTUIR); Paul Dahmer (WDFW); and Nancy Leonard (NPCC).

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Discussion: One change was suggested for the agenda, to allow ODFW to discuss their recent acquisitions under the Willamette Wildlife Agreement (press release posted for today's meeting).

ACTION: The agenda was approved as written with one modification, to add an agenda item if ODFW participates in the phone call to allow them to review their recent acquisitions.

ITEM 2: Review and Approve as Final July Draft Action Notes

ACTION: The WAC approved the August 25, 2011 Action Notes as final with no modifications.

ITEM 3: Elect New WAC Chair and Vice-chair

Discussion: Kyle Heinrick is the incoming Chair of the WAC, effective at the next meeting. There was discussion on whether to nominate a vice-chair to plan for succession for next year. Due to the uncertainty in the format of the wildlife forum in FY 2012, the WAC agreed to postpone nominations for vice-chair until the dust has settled on CBFWA's structure for FY2012 and beyond.

ACTION: The WAC agreed to postpone nomination of a vice-chair until next year. Kyle will officially become Chair at the next WAC meeting.

ITEM 4: Review and Approve the First Draft of the Wildlife Monitoring Implementation Strategy

Tom I reviewed the latest draft of the WMIS. Very few comments were received prior to today's meeting. Scott asked to send the document back out for one more week of review. Tom will incorporate edits and send to the ISRP prior to November 22, 2011 for context in review of the wildlife data management projects. Scott reported that there was a review by a UCUT representative, and the strategy is not inconsistent with their efforts.

Tom would like to include in the WMIS a summary of the Wildlife Crediting Forum efforts at developing a common ledger of HUs for the Program, and the map that CBFWA generated for that effort.

Scott asked if there was someone at USFWS that could review this document. Carl suggested a represented from the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative. Tom will forward a copy for review to that group. Nancy L. stated that the WMIS document will be vetted through the NPCC MERR process and associated regional reviews after the CBFWA WAC submittal. Tom also verified with WAC participants that it was appropriate to forward the next draft to the ISRP.

Final comments on the initial Draft WMIS are due by November 11, 2011. Tom will send out the latest draft immediately following the meeting.

ITEM 5: Discuss Regional Coordination for Wildlife for FY 2012 and Beyond

Discussion: Tom I provided a quick review of CBFWA's proposal strategy for FY 2012 and beyond. Historically, the CBFWA project has been implemented through the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Foundation (CBFWF); the business arm of CBFWA. With the projected funding level for CBFWA in FY2012 dropping below critical needs, the organization is not going to be able to provide the central coordination forums that it has historically provided (e.g., AFAC, WAC, RFAC, SOTR, etc.). Therefore, CBFWA staff has restructured the organization of the project and is developing a proposal for FY2013 that represents a change is how the organization will conduct business.

For FY 2013, the CBFWF (Foundation) will submit a proposal to provide regional coordination functions to support implementation of the Fish and Wildlife Program including: 1) Basin-scale Reporting for HLIs (SOTR); 2) Anadromous Fish Program Coordination; 3) Lamprey Technical Workgroup; 4) Fish Screen Oversight Committee; 5) Resident Fish Program Coordination; 6) Wildlife Program Coordination; and 7) CBFWA. The proposal will provide seven stand-alone objectives that can be funded independently, based on what the fish and wildlife manager's choose to fund. The CBFWA members will contribute \$35k of their regional coordination funding to support the CBFWA function. CBFWA Members, or non-members, will then have the opportunity to select any other regional coordination functions they choose to support form the list and allocate funds to support those activities. The WAC participants were encouraged to talk to their MAG representatives and discuss allocation of funding to

support the Wildlife Program Coordination function.

The scope of facilitation for these functions will be determined by the level of support provided by the fish and wildlife managers. This funding discussion will likely occur in March/April for FY 2013 funding; however, in December CBFWA will have to develop their FY 2012 budget to transition to this new organizational structure. It is anticipated that in FY 2012 the WAC will continue to meet at least quarterly until the future has been determined.

ITEM 6: Update on Land Management Handbook

Discussion: Tom I provided an update on BPA's efforts to develop a Land Management Handbook. Tracy's notes, red-lined mark-up of the previous draft, and the recording from the July WAC meeting in Salem were sent to BPA for their inclusion in the next version of the Land Management Plan template. Phillip Key, BPA, is developing the initial draft of the Handbook. BPA hopes to send out the complete first draft soon for further review, and likely for implementation. BPA has stated in past meeting that this Handbook will be used as guidance and not necessarily rigid requirements.

ITEM 7: Next WAC Meeting

The next WAC meeting will be a conference call on Thursday January 19, 2012 from 9 am until 2 pm. Kyle will be Chair starting at this meeting. Agenda items will include: 1) Review initial draft of a BPA Land Management Handbook, and 2) Review CBFWA FY 2012 Work Plan and Budget. It is anticipated that additional topics will be added as the meeting date draws near.

A meeting announcement and support material will be sent out two weeks prior to the meeting.