



February 27, 2004

TO: Members Management Group (MMG)
FROM: Rod Sando, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Action Notes for February 24, 2004 MMG Meeting

MEMBERS MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING

Tuesday, February 24, 2004
CBFWA Office, Portland, Oregon

Action Notes

Attendees: Rudy Peone, STI; Peter Hassemer IDFG; Dave Statler, NPT; Fred Olney, USFWS, Paul Lumley, CRITFC; John Palensky, NOAA Fisheries; Doug Marker, NPCC; Tony Nigro, ODFW; Rod Sando, Jann Eckman, Tom Giese, Tom Iverson, Tana Klum, Kathie Titzler, Neil Ward, & Trina Gerlack, CBFWA

By Phone: Amos First Raised, BPT; Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Brian Marotz, MFWP; Joann Hunt, NPCC; B.J. Kieffer, STI; Gary James & Carl Scheeler, CTUIR; Paul Ward, YN; and Sue Ireland, KTI

Time Allocation:	Objective 1. Project Recommendations	68%
	Objective 2. Regional Issues	32%
	Objective 3. Annual Report	0%
	Other Business	0%

Note: Due to participants scheduling conflicts agenda items were rearranged and Item 3: F&W Program Implementation was discussed before and after lunch. Other informational items were added to the agenda. Rudy Peone chaired the first half of the meeting and Tony Nigro chaired the second half of the meeting. These action notes reflect the order in which the items were discussed.

ITEM 3: Fish and Wildlife Program Implementation

Discussion: Tom Iverson reported on the NPCC actions at their February meeting in Boise, Idaho. The NPCC approved all individual project rescheduling requests, once validated by BPA. The NPCC also approved funding a limited number of corrections to projects. For a complete list of projects see the staff recommendation on the Council's website. This decision by the NPCC did not address all of the available budget adjustment requests and it was unclear if additional requests would be brought forward to the NPCC in the coming months. It was clear that Within-year requests will not be approved in FY 2004 unless through the FY 2005 budget development process. The NPCC urged BPA to make an additional \$10-15 million available to the Program for FY 2004 in order for the NPCC to plan for \$139 million in FY 2005 and FY 2006. That issue remains unresolved.

Tom is finishing up the revised draft CBFWA analysis of FY04 Expense Budget and it will be distributed for MMG review.

ACTION: The MMG assigned staff to prepare a draft letter to the CBFWA Members and an undecided audience stressing that the BPA make the FY04 Budget whole. The letter should reference a specific BPA or NPCC budget to define exactly what "whole" means. The letter should also mention the history of budget cuts and request accountability to carry out funding for projects in FY05-06 as recommended at the Provincial Review. The MMG will review the draft at the 3/16/04 meeting to target the NPCC April meeting agenda.

Additional Discussion Item: Doug Marker, NPCC asked for help with the development of the FY05-06 budgets. NPCC would like CBFWA staff and Members to participate in the process to provide recommendations on projects to address priorities and take a role in developing a new selection process for projects.

The MMG has many questions and concerns regarding Doug Marker's request to engage CBFWA efforts with the NPCC and BPA in an undefined process without a budget.

ACTION: The MMG assigned Rod Sando to draft a short letter to Doug Marker acknowledging his request,, listing the MMG concerns, and requesting time on the NPCC meeting agenda. The draft letter will be distributed to the MMG for review and comment by COB 3/9/04.

ITEM 7: CBFWA Technical Conference

Pete Hassemer and Tom Iverson reported that they are working on developing an agenda and mission for the technical conference. They have been working closely with a consultant to collect recent information on run size and distribution. They also are considering guiding the conference to include power industry interests and other user groups on the Columbia. With the Summer Spill decision on the horizon, there is tremendous potential for fractionalization within the basin. It may be an opportunity for CBFWA to reach out and work with other user groups to consider future opportunities for cooperation and collaboration.

They will be meeting with a small group next week and building a steering committee to develop the agenda for the conference. It is anticipated that half of the conference will be directed at current status and trends of anadromous

fish, while the second half of the conference will be a workshop to discuss future opportunities within the Fish and Wildlife Program. Tom and Pete will keep the MMG informed of their progress.

**Informational
Item:**

Coalition for Smart Salmon Recovery Summer Spill Comments

Rod Sando distributed the comments sent to the four governors and the news release sent to the public regarding “Recent Studies Confirm Better Ways to Increase Salmon and Jobs” - “*Coalition urges Northwest Governors to support alternatives to “summer spill” as Northwest Power and Conservation Council meets in Boise.*” Rod is meeting with key individuals to discuss the summer spill issue and express concern regarding the misrepresentation of the spill issue comments in the letters.

ITEM 8:

Invoices

Kathie Titzler asked the MMG to remind their accounting staff that all FY 2003 invoices are due by February 29, 2004 for reimbursement.

**Informational
Item:**

BPA’s Power Net Revenue Improvement Sounding Board Meeting Notice

Rod notified the MMG that the Fish and Wildlife Direct Program was on the BPA’s 2/25/04 Power Net Revenue meeting agenda and staff distributed a meeting packet for review. He encouraged the MMG and staff to attend tomorrow’s meeting. CBFWA staff will provide an update to the MMG.

ITEM 6:

Subbasin Plans

Discussion:

Tom Giese reported that the “Integrating Subbasin Plans” workshop may occur in summer 2004 because folks are too busy with subbasin and recovery planning to think about the future. The MMG agreed that the public and locals are interested and should be engaged in the process. The MMG asked, what happens after the subbasin plans are adopted, what is the future use of the subbasin plans, how are the subbasin plans going to be implemented, and who is guiding the project selection? The Regional Coordination Group (RCG) oversees the subbasin planning and provides guidance. Doug Marker said this is the forum where these issues are discussed. There is a RCG meeting on 2/27/04.

ITEM 1:

2003 BiOp Remand

Tony Nigro reported that the parties to the remand agreed to initiate a collaborate scientific process, schedule scoping meetings and workshops for the state, tribes and technical folks to receive information and provide comments to the NOAA Fisheries.

ITEM 2:

Summer Spill

Discussion:

Tony Nigro reported that the 2/17/04 Full Spill meeting was cancelled to allow more time for revisions to be made to two spill proposals. Tony will contact Jim Ruff to reschedule that meeting to finalize the draft revisions to distribute to the Federal Regional Forum before 4/5/04.

Tony Nigro stated that the Summer Spill cover memo for the FPAC Technical Joint comments would have carried more weight if the analysis would have been endorsed under CBFWA Members’ support. CBFWA staff must be clear on all assignments from the MMG.

ACTION: The MMG assigned staff to collect all comments to the version 3 draft spill policy letter and send the package for the authors/subcommittee review on 2/25/04. The MMG requested that the authors/subcommittee review all comments individually and each send a revised draft to Tom Iverson by COB 3/3/04. Tom will incorporate all the edits received into one revised draft and send the package back to the authors/subcommittee by COB 3/09/04 for review, editing, and approval. The authors/subcommittee approved revised draft will be reviewed by the MMG at the March 16, 2004 meeting for approval. If the MMG approves the draft it will be distributed to the Members for approval via the consent mail process. The NOAA Fisheries and USFWS abstain.

Discussion: Brian Marotz reported the Libby Dam Hungry Horse Operations proposal is being revised in response to the ISRP and ODFW comments. Tony Nigro requested that the revised proposal be reviewed by Resident Fish Committee.

ACTION: When the revised Libby Dam Hungry Horse Operations proposal is received from MDFWP, the MMG assigned five working days for the Resident Fish Committee to review and provide comments on the revised proposal and report back to the MMG with their recommendations.

ITEM 4: F&W Funding Agreement (MOA II)

Discussion: Tana Klum reported on 2/9-12/04 ATNI meeting and noted that the Tribes are expecting an MOA II draft at the ATNI meeting in May.

Paul Lumley reviewed the “Principles Developed by the 13 Columbia River Basin Tribes for a Long Term BPA Fish & Wildlife Funding Agreement” presented at the 2/18/04 NPCC meeting. Paul requested feedback and a list of concerns from the MMG on the Principles document. He would like to know if CBFWA would adopt number 9 “CBFWA will assist the region in “sizing” the F&W Program funding needs for the next rate case (FY 2007-11).” Paul requested that the MMG engage in the process and work with Tom and Tana.

ACTION: The MMG requested that the Long Term BPA Fish & Wildlife Funding Agreement be a standing MMG meeting agenda item with updates and discussion time. Tom Giese will summarize issues involved with a new funding “MOA” for MMG review and approval of CBFWA policy positions at the 3/16/04 meeting.

ITEM 5: FY 2007-2011 BPA Rate Case

Discussion: Tom Giese and the MMG discussed steps in a process for estimating future F&W costs for the FY 2007-2011 BPA rate case and assumptions used in developing past budgets. The deadline is June 2004.

Assignment: The MMG agreed that they needed to present policy measures with policy variables. The MMG asked Tom to bring to the 3/16/04 MMG meeting for review a summary of assumptions made in the previous F&W cost estimate and changes that have occurred since. Tom should also present a detailed set of steps to arrive at a regionally acceptable estimate for the next rate case.

ITEM 9: Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the CBFWA Office, Portland, Oregon.