



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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DATE: April 3, 2007  
TO: Members Advisory Group  
FROM: Brian Marotz, MFWP and Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA  
SUBJECT: Final Draft Action Notes from 3/20/07 MAG Meeting

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

## MAG Meeting

Tuesday, 3/20/07

9:00am - 3:00pm

@ CBFWA Office, Portland OR

The support material and reference documents for the 3/20/07 MAG meeting are posted at <http://www.cbfwa.org/committees/Meetings.cfm?CommShort=MAG&meeting=all>

## Final Draft Action Notes

**Attendees:** Brad Houslet, CTWS; Michele DeHart, FPC; Stephen H. Smith, Fisheries Consulting Inc.; Peter Hassemmer, IDFG; Gwen Lankford, Sapphire Strategies; Mike Faler, USFWS; Howard Schaller, USFWS; Brian Lipscomb, Jann Eckman, Tom Iverson, Tana Klum, Ken MacDonald, Kathie Titzler, Neil Ward, Dave Ward, Trina Gerlack, Pat Burgess, CBFWA

**Guests:** Patty O'Toole, Karl Weist, Lynn Palensky, NPCC

**By Phone:** Brian Marotz, MFWP; Dale W. Chess, Cd'AT; Phil Roger, CRITFC; Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Paul Ward, YN; Bill Towey, CTRC; Carl Scheeler, CTUIR; Sue Ireland, KTI; Dave Statler, NPT; Tony Nigro, Tom Rien, ODFW; Doug Taki, SBT; Mary Verner, UCUT; Nate Pamplin, WDFW; Lawrence Schwabe, BPT

**Time Allocation:**

Objective 1. Committee Participation	100%
Objective 2. Technical Review	%
Objective 3. Presentation	%

### ITEM 1: Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Mark Bagdovitz is on assignment with USFWS; Brian Marotz, MFWP, served as Chair.

**Action:** The agenda was accepted without a formal motion.

### ITEM 2: Review the 2/20/07 MAG Meeting Draft Action Notes and approve as Final

**Action:**

- Pete Hassemmer moved to accept the 2/20/07 MAG meeting notes as final. Seconded by Tony Nigro. No objections.

**NOTE:** *The agenda items are listed in the order discussed.*

### ITEM 3: CBFWA Public Relations Update and Sapphire Strategies Contract

**Discussion:** **Celilo Falls Memorial:** Brian Lipscomb reported that the event drew thousands of people. The CBFWA statement/press release was well received.

**Report on FY06 Accomplishments:** Gwen Lankford reviewed FY06 accomplishments highlighting the branding campaign to initiate the new logo and color palette, business card and stationary redesign, website and brochure redesign, the collaboration and community outreach with the SalmonPeople Tour 2006, press releases, and development of a press list incorporating all four states, tribes, national publications and organizations.

**FY07 Work Plan/Budget Review/Contract Renewal:** Brian L. advised that only 27K was used of 60K budgeted for FY06. FY 07 projects include the continuation of the

website redesign; exploration of electronic business cards; printing and roll-out of the brochure; determining goals with regard to regional community meetings as discussed at the Members' meeting, and continued efforts to work with Peter Donaldson of SalmonPeople. Brian L. requested that the MAG recommend for Members consideration on 4/4/07 that the FY07 public relations contract be approved for a 12 month extension of the current SOW with a budget of 48K.

**Action:** • Dave Statler moved to recommend for Members consideration, at the 4/4/07 meeting, the FY 07 PR contract renewal and 48K budget. Seconded by Pete Hassemer.

**Motion Discussion:** Brian Lipscomb confirmed that the PR contract is a line item in the Coordination contract for FY07/09; therefore this request is point-of-order only.

Paul Ward requested a current SOW. Brian L. confirmed that the SOW is a continuation of what was discussed and agreed upon for FY06. Paul stated that he did not object to the motion but expressed concern about continuing with an extension given the original contract was not established under a competitive bid process. No discussion was initiated by MAG members as a result of Paul's comments but the Chair noted Paul's concern. The motion passed without objection.

**Action:** In follow-up, Brian Lipscomb advised that he will have staff email the current PR SOW to Paul Ward for his review.

**ITEM 4: Status of the Resource Update**

**Discussion:** Neil Ward provided an update of the Status of the Resource (SOTR) project, timeline, and expectations for the 2006 report. Referencing a handout provided, Neil reviewed the SOTR timeline:

[http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/032007MAG2007SOTRtimeline.doc](http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/032007MAG2007SOTRtimeline.doc).

Neil provided an example of the Wildlife template, geared up for initial review by the WAC this week:

[http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/statuswildlifeIntermountainstatuscont.jpg](http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/statuswildlifeIntermountainstatuscont.jpg).

The BPA wildlife ledger (habitat units that have been assigned to specific species) was used as a basis for this template.

Neil encouraged the MAG members to use the website product ([www.cbfwa.org/sotr](http://www.cbfwa.org/sotr)) which links directly to the meta data where, for the time being, they can judge the quality of the information using that approach.

In response to questions asked by MAG members, Brian L. offered the following information:

CBFWA does not anticipate the actual FY06 SOTR report to be included as part of the Amendment but instead to inform the Members' amendment recommendations and serving as a basis for organization and as an analytical tool for M&E data and efforts from a Status and Trends standpoint.

Preliminary work is taking place in-house on the status of data, quantity and quality, and data source. That information will be married with a CSMEP report called the Status and Trends assessment which will address data statistical quality.

At the April MAG meeting, Dave Ward and Ken MacDonald, will provide a list of CSMEP project deliverables. The intent is to solicit MAG input, for Members' consideration, into the CSMEP products and to ensure that they are aligned with the F&W Managers' processes and determine the next step from an M&E perspective.

The issue of coordinated M&E and coordinated data management continue to be at the forefront of the discussions with regard to project implementation.

**Action:** MAG members with specific comments on the SOTR wildlife template should email Neil at [neil.ward@cbfwa.org](mailto:neil.ward@cbfwa.org). CBFWA staff will continue to provide product copies soliciting input as the process progresses.

**ITEM 5: Fish Passage Center Oversight****Discussion:**

Brian Lipscomb advised that the Northwest Power and Conservation NPCC (NPCC) is considering changing and reinvigorating the Fish Passage Center Oversight Board (FPCOB) pursuant to the 2003 Mainstem Amendment language and they are inviting comments, due 4/6/07, on revising the membership categories for the FPCOB. Brian L. advised that the NPCC will decide on changing the current make up of the FPCOB at their April meeting in Libby, MT. The intent, once the structure of the board is decided upon, is to initiate a solicitation for membership to the FPCOB. Referencing the NPCC request for comment

([http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/Fish%20Passage%20Center%20Oversight%20Board%20Draft%20proposal%20to%20reinstate%20board.htm](http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/Fish%20Passage%20Center%20Oversight%20Board%20Draft%20proposal%20to%20reinstate%20board.htm)), Brian outlined the alternative board structure suggested by the NPCC.

This invitation to comment is pursuant to a memo issued by John Shurts and presented at the March NPCC meeting:

([http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/NPCCjShurtsFPCoversightBoardMemo02March2007.pdf](http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/NPCCjShurtsFPCoversightBoardMemo02March2007.pdf)). (The NPCC FPCOB by-laws are attached to J. Shurts' memo.)

CBFWA issued a statement in response to John Shurts' memo at the NPCC meeting on 5/13/07: [http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/CBFWAtoNPCC-IssueBriefingPaperFPCoversight-Final13March2007.pdf](http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/CBFWAtoNPCC-IssueBriefingPaperFPCoversight-Final13March2007.pdf). Within that statement, CBFWA requested that the NPCC delay their action to reactivate the FPCOB and instead schedule a meeting with the tribes and F&W Managers to discuss the role and responsibilities of the Board.

**Discussion:**

The MAG deliberated extensively about whether to comment to the NPCC and how to focus their comments toward an appropriate response. Questions and concerns raised throughout the discussion include:

- A response may give the appearance that CBFWA is sanctioning the FPCOB.
- Should CBFWA hold off until Joe Mentor has completed the analysis of the legalities of the FPC Manager's performance review issue?
- What is the purpose of the Board?
- How should the Board be populated?
- What direction could be driven by the make up of the Board?
- How should the Technical Advisory Board be populated?

After considerable discussion, Brian Lipscomb summarized the comments and concerns stating that if CBFWA decides to respond, we should respond from the perspective of what we think the Board's role is in light of the Program, ensuring and articulating:

- That FPC operations are transparent.
- That Products are posted and available to the public.
- That the FPCOB is not an oversight board that conducts day-to-day management or contractual oversight of the FPC; that responsibility is contained within CBFWA.

Additional comments/information offered by MAG Members:

- Request that the Board generate periodic regional conversations based on their determination of priorities for FPC products that feed into regional decision making; articulated so it is not interpreted as a vehicle to attempt to ad hoc the FPC contract.
- Guidance or suggestions given by the Board must be filtered through the CBFWA Executive Director as the supervising entity of the Board.
- The intent is not for the FPCOB to provide specific line item direction but the conversations could be teed up from a long-term planning perspective.
- Request that the NPCC recommend that the CBFWA contract be ratified.
- Be specific in articulating the timing of when the Board should meet. Brian L. stated that he will work with Michele DeHart to determine an appropriate timeline.
- The NPCC description of the FPCOB function is vague; CBFWA may benefit from

a legal review of the language.

- One perspective on the make-up of the FPCOB is that it will most likely contain a considerable representation of CBFWA Members with the ability to take part in Board deliberations.
- The NPCC description of the selection process is vague; comments could be focused to bring clarification to the process and recommend that, as in the past, the NPCC task CBFWA with the recruitment and selection process of the F&W managers.
- The current process does not preclude CBFWA Members from forwarding their recommendations for F&W representatives to the CBFWA Executive Director who would in turn provide a collective recommendation.
- If the NPCC approves the current recruitment process, the recruitment letter for the two scientific community members will go out to the public.
- The current Program language states that the final selection of the Board will be the responsibility of the NPCC; however, CBFWA could make recommendations toward those selections.

Brian L. clarified that the legal review in process is centered on the legalities of the FPC manager performance evaluation; however, that analysis could be used to build perspective that the responsibility of the FPC resides within CBFWA organizational structure and suggest that the NPCC implement the CBFWA contract and incorporate comments as to the role and structure of the FPCOB.

Tony Nigro moved to direct CBFWA staff to draft up statements of purpose capturing the conversation on recruitment and selection for group consideration after lunch or on a special conference call. Brian Lipscomb advised that given the depth of the discussion, an after lunch deadline was not possible; Tony amended the motion.

**Action:**

Tony Nigro moved to direct that CBFWA staff work with interested members of the MAG to draft up a letter that captures the purpose and recruitment and selection process for the FPCOB, and that the MAG have a special meeting to review and discuss the draft for forwarding to the Members. Seconded by Dave Statler.

**Motion**

**Discussion:**

Howard Schaller stated that the USFWS is determining whether one of the FPCOB members should be a fish and wildlife service representative to ensure federal representation for the species of interest, (resident or anadromous fish, i.e., cut throat, lamprey). Howard offered that this discussion point be added to the motion.

The Chair noted Howard's discussion point and asked that the question be added to the draft comments. The motion passed without objection.

**Membership  
Categories:**

Brian Lipscomb requested clarification from the MAG regarding the membership categories of the FPCOB. Brian L. suggested that the MAG talk through the scenarios today or request staff to lay out scenarios for MAG review. Tony Nigro commented that in the past the advice from CBFWA to the NPCC was "less was more" as long as Members were confident that the selected parties represented their interests.

A motion was called by Tony Nigro to the MAG to agree that "less is more" with regard to the make up of the FPCOB. The motion was not seconded. The discussion continued.

Dave Statler suggested that if the NPCC recommendation to have one NPCC representative serve as chair succeeds, CBFWA should recommend a F&W manager as opposed to a member representing a state entity.

Brian L. stated that he will have CBFWA staff flesh out the pros and cons of the membership category alternatives from a Members standpoint. Although a MAG subcommittee was suggested, the MAG agreed instead that CBFWA staff will draft the letter and send it out via email Thurs, 3/22 for MAG review and request comments back, from interested MAG members, by COB March 26<sup>th</sup> in preparation for the conference call on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**3/27/07 Update:**

Several comments and edits were received by CBFWA staff and incorporated into the FPCOB comment letter. During the conference call, additional edits were discussed.

The final MAG draft to be presented to the Members can be viewed at:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007\\_0404/FPOBLetterMbrsReview.doc](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_0404/FPOBLetterMbrsReview.doc).

**ITEM 7: Amendment Strategy Update**

At request of the NPCC, Brian Lipscomb provided the amendment process presentation to the NPCC F&W Committee at their March meeting. Brian stated that the presentation was well received and NPCC staff appreciated the input/output connection and are beginning to understand the clarification of the specificity of measures and the tie to BPA's obligations. Brian was asked by Rhonda Whiting to return to update the F&W Committee with the status of the amendment strategy process.

Brian L. also reported:

- CBFWA staff held a two-day workshop with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation to review the amendment strategy. The workshop initiated a good discussion about how they may participate in the process.
- CBFWA staff had a successful meeting with the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council discussing the current status of issues.
- The Upper Snake Tribes have requested CBFWA staff meet with them to help organize their thoughts about what they would like to see in the Amendments.

**ITEM 7a: Amendment Communication Letter**

Brian Lipscomb presented a draft letter to the MAG for recommendation to the Members regarding the process toward developing strategies and actions for consideration during the proposed amendment process for 2007. This letter conveys the Members' actions resulting from the February 2007 Members' meeting.

Brian reiterated his report to the MAG at the 2/20/07 MAG meeting that he had met with Steve Wright and Greg Delwiche to review the CBFWA Members' actions. At that time, Steve Wright, BPA, expressed willingness to draft a letter in response and support to a CBFWA letter articulating the direction of the Members' actions. View the initial draft letter drafted by CBFWA staff and presented to the MAG:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/AmendmentLetterToRegion032007DRAFT.doc](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/AmendmentLetterToRegion032007DRAFT.doc).

The MAG began editing the letter but decided it more efficient for the MAG members to provide their edits direct to Tom Iverson or Brian Lipscomb via email.

**Action:** Tony Nigro moved to ask Brian Lipscomb to incorporate edits by MAG members and present the draft for Members' consideration at their 4/4/07 meeting. Motion was seconded.

**Motion Discussion:** Dave Statler and Tony Nigro requested clarification on the sentence in the second paragraph "The fish and wildlife managers, along with. . ." Pete Hassemmer stated that he thought that sentence should be a topic sentence and the remainder of the paragraph left to define the processes. Brian Marotz suggested that the recommended edits be transmitted to Brian L. The motion passed without objection.

**3/27/07 Update/ Amendment Strategy Letter:** This letter was incorporated into the March 27th conference call for review along with the FPCOB letter. Edits received from MAG members were incorporated into the final draft letter approved for Members consideration. View letter at: [http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007\\_0404/AmendmentLetterToRegionMbrsReview.doc](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_0404/AmendmentLetterToRegionMbrsReview.doc).

**Science Policy Conference:** Brian Lipscomb advised that the NPCC is developing a Science Policy Conference scheduled for September 2007. The conference presents an opportunity for discussion of the best available science which would feed the amendment recommendations.

Lynn Palensky, NPCC, advised that the directive from the NPCC Chair is to populate a steering committee to initiate dialogue and shape issues to be useful in the amendment process, ahead of the call for amendments. Target audience is the NPCC members, scientists, ISAB, and key fish and wildlife managers. Suggested topics include: 1) estuary, 2) ocean conditions, 3) Snake River fall chinook over wintering habitat, 4) mainstem juvenile and adult passage, and 5) habitat strategies (habitat strategies topic currently not focused except for nutrient enhancement).

Tom Iverson stated that although most of the conference topics have to do with mainstem operations, he suggested to Lynn that the Remand group chairs be included in the participation, if the Remand is completed by then.

*Steering Committee Meeting:* The first steering committee meeting is tentatively set for Thursday, 3/29, to accommodate the schedule of Rick Williams, former ISRP member who agreed to help with planning and facilitating the conference.

*Conference Date:* The tentative dates for the conference is 9/12-13/07, immediately following the September 11<sup>th</sup> NPCC meeting.

CBFWA members Mary Verner, Jaime Pinkham, and Phil Roger have already been contacted requesting their organization's participation. In addition, Lynn requested participation from the MAG members.

**Action:**

- Tony Nigro moved that the MAG recommend to the Members on 4/4/07 to task Brian L. to designate staff for full participation. Seconded by Nate Pamplin. No objections.

Brian L. advised that CBFWA staff will join in on the March 29<sup>th</sup> conference call to gain additional information.

**ITEM 7b:**

**Biological Objectives and Linking Local Objectives to the Program**

**Discussion:**

Brian Lipscomb advised that there are several conversations taking place outside of CBFWA providing forums for this topic:

- The NPCC has been discussing whether provincial objectives are the best way to organize the link between the subbasin and programmatic level.
- Meetings have transpired between CBFWA and customer groups, NPCC staff, and BPA staff on objectives and overall strategy. Brian L. will meet with this group on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and again on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. MAG members interested in participating should contact Brian Lipscomb.

Brian L. advised that in the last meeting, the MAG briefly discussed a presentation by Pete Hassemer showing how metrics at a scale larger than population could allow for tracking ESU or some major population status and trends relative to data already being collected and tracking and monitoring for harvest management.

Pete Hassemer stated that the fish and wildlife managers' need to deliberate on how to address and express objectives for resident fish, and certain anadromous fish species, in the upcoming program amendment process.

Brian Marotz added that he has examples of loss statements, adopted by the NPCC, for resident fish and habitat impacted by Libby and Hungry Horse Dams. He will forward that information to CBFWA for possible use by RFAC and AFAC.

Brian L. advised that CBFWA staff is in the process of verifying the focal species that are in the subbasin plan; this will answer the question of what species to target.

**Action:**

- Tony Nigro moved to assign the RFAC, AFAC, and WAC to this task and report back to the MAG, with the following direction:
  - Deliberate and provide feedback on the technical aspects of developing biological objectives that link subbasin objectives to overall programmatic objectives and clarify BPA's obligations in the communication of those objectives.
  - The aspect from resident fish needs to consider two perspectives: 1) What are the losses suffered because of the construction and operation of the FCRPS? 2) The linkage that needs to be made between the strategies and biological objectives formulated for resident fish to the losses of anadromous fish suffered in those geographic areas. The separation of construction losses (finite) from operational losses (annual continuance) should be considered.

Seconded by Nate Pamplin. No objections.

**ITEM 7c:**

**Technical Committee Status Reports on Members Assignment**

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/CBFGWAFeb7MbrsFeb2ACTIONS.pdf](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/CBFGWAFeb7MbrsFeb2ACTIONS.pdf)

- AFAC:** Dave Ward advised that the AFAC developed a list of terms which has been forwarded to the RFAC with intent to report back to the MAG in May.
- Confirmation of focal species current objectives and limiting factors: A database went out to AFAC members on 3/19 containing the current list of anadromous salmon and steel head populations as well as lamprey populations with the assignment to review, edit, and resolve any conflicts. The database options include opportunities to change/add biological objectives and list out accommodations of limiting factors and high/med/low priority threats. AFAC anticipates completion by May MAG meeting.
- The long term assignment of reviewing and building strategies and actions toward building program amendments is slated for June-August of this year.
- RFAC:** Mike Faler advised that the RFAC focus is on working at the subbasin scale, looking at focal species, biological objectives, and metrics. The RFAC are looking at the SOTR and subbasin plans for review and confirmation of these topics.
- The next meeting of the RFAC is 4/10-11/07. The RFAC are waiting to review the definitions and clarification of terms provided by the AFAC before moving into priorities and confirming limiting factors strategies and actions. The RFAC expect to be in good position by May to continue with the conversations.
- WAC:** Ken MacDonald reported that the WAC will meet on 3/22 in Spokane to discuss:
- 1) Looking at the past F&W program language (i.e. 95 Program),
  - 2) Measuring and crediting against losses and to define operational secondary and remaining construction inundation losses,
  - 3) Looking at processes to assess operational losses,
  - 4) Defining biological objectives and appropriate scale and focal species focus,
  - 5) How we can link the program to the recently completed state conservation plans, and
  - 6) Defining obligations for operations and maintenance for wildlife habitat acquisition.
- The WAC will finalize a draft review and will report back to the MAG in May.
- ITEM 7d: Defining Coordination and Discuss Process**
- Brian Lipscomb referenced the Members' assignment to the MAG to develop a definition of Coordination working with the Kalispel and Spokane Tribes for possible inclusion in the program amendment recommendations. This is in sync with the required deliverable to develop coordination contained within each of the five coordination contracts.
- The five coordination groups are scheduled to meet on April 11<sup>th</sup> in Spokane to begin the task of defining coordination. Brian L. requested direction from the MAG to either assign CBFWA staff, or a MAG collective, or assign specific MAG members to participate in this process.
- Action:**
- Tony Nigro moved to direct CBFWA staff to attend the meetings and participate in the deliberations for the coordination definition process and bring it back in draft form for MAG review. Seconded by Pete Hassemer. No objections.
- MAG Workshop: Program Amendment Process**
- Pete Hassemer expressed concern that CBFWA and the Members are not on an appropriate timeline to develop what is needed to be prepared for the proposed open amendment process in September/October.
- Pete suggested that the MAG, or a MAG subgroup, schedule a meeting to focus on specifically discussing the program amendment process, the establishment of objectives that would go into the Program, and to discuss strategies and actions that would be consistent with those objectives.
- Given the work of the technical committees, there is enough information to proceed and begin to frame up the objectives and address other issues, such as lamprey and white sturgeon, and consider a well defined strategy for reaching the September/October goals.
- Pete's request led to a discussion on scheduling a MAG workshop to brainstorm amendment strategy and biological objectives. The group jumped to Item 11 to finalize a date for the proposed MAG workshop.

**ITEM 11: Next MAG Meeting Dates and Times**

Brian Lipscomb advised that the April and May MAG meetings be moved to avoid conflicting with the concurrently scheduled NPCC meetings. Brian L. suggested that the May meeting be slated for a workshop instead of a regular meeting.

Brian L. strongly encouraged in-person attendance at the workshop and offered that CBFWA staff will formulate an agenda and arrange a location.

**Action:** • **April MAG Meeting:** Pete Hassemer moved to reschedule the April MAG meeting to April 24<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Mike Faler. No objections.

**Action:** • **May MAG Workshop:** Initially, Tony Nigro moved for the workshop to be scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup> but after some discussion, the motion was amended to schedule the workshop for Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> with a 9:30 start time. Seconded by Pete Hassemer. No objections.

**ITEM 6: Response to BPA's FY 07-09 Actions**

**Discussion:** Brian Lipscomb offered the following information in context for the discussion:

- BPA issued their decision reflecting a comprehensive change from the NPCC's recommendations for 07-09.
- BPA increased the planning budget and increased the amount of money on the table for the implementation of the program. They increased funding in areas they considered biologically justified. Their internal COTR and biologists provided the basis for that decision.
- BPA attempted to move toward the 70/25/5 split between on the ground, RM&E, and coordination but their analysis showed 54% to 57% on the ground.
- BPA viewed RM&E from the aspect of it being tied to whether the mitigation strategy is working or not.
- BPA defined *in lieu* as the first attempt to begin that discussion with regards to the *in lieu* funding issue.
- The NPCC has challenged BPA on their actions.

Brian L. suggested that MAG consider how CBFWA might respond to the policy issues that BPA has begun to address with their actions.

Tom Iverson provided a map with histograms of the NPCC's recommendations versus BPA's recommendations. Where BPA's recommendations were less than the NPCC's, Tom assumed it was an unallocated placeholder for that province but that has not been confirmed through a NPCC conversation:

[http://www.cbfga.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/BPAdecisionFY2007-2009Solicitation031607.ppt](http://www.cbfga.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/BPAdecisionFY2007-2009Solicitation031607.ppt)

Tom advised that the BPA budget was confusing and policy was not applied consistently. Tom provided a memo from Patty O'Toole and John Shurts, NPCC, that contains breakouts of all of the budgets in the various categories:

[http://www.cbfga.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/NPCC-BPAsFY2007-09ProjectFundingDecisionLetter030107.pdf](http://www.cbfga.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/NPCC-BPAsFY2007-09ProjectFundingDecisionLetter030107.pdf)

Tom advised that BPA increased the budget by 18M and that comes from 9M claimed unspent in last rate case (analysis unknown) and 3M into the program for 07 settlements with the Tribes. The NPCC staff took the planned funding for the 07-09 rate case and added 10M/yr as a planning buffer but BPA decided to allot 12M/yr as a planning buffer. This creates a total of 18M more funding than in the NPCC's recommended budget. It is unknown why BPA suddenly decided to increase the planning budget.

Tom stated that he suspects that BPA wanted a more justified allocation of funds across the provinces so their strategy and rationale was to go project by project focusing on their obligations and on the biological response that the projects may receive.

BPA made cuts but as they are being challenged by project sponsors, they are making corrections to their errors. It is not clear that the process was done systematically so it may benefit project sponsors to initiate negotiation with BPA.

The capital budget has not been released yet.

Patty O'Toole briefed the MAG on the NPCC's direction advising that they issued correspondence to BPA on 3/19 regarding their decisions.

The NPCC correspondence for review and information:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/2007-0319LrfromPeterPaquetteBillMaslen.pdf](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/2007-0319LrfromPeterPaquetteBillMaslen.pdf)

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/2007\\_0319LrfromPeterPaquetteGregDelwiche.pdf](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/2007_0319LrfromPeterPaquetteGregDelwiche.pdf)

**Technical Committee Reports**

As previously directed by the MAG in their 2/20/07 meeting, the technical committees reviewed BPA's funding decisions in the context of the NPCC recommendations and CBFWA's priorities and reported their findings to the MAG.

**AFAC Report:**

Dave Ward reviewed a handout detailing the AFAC findings:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/AFACfundingAnalysis031307.doc](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/AFACfundingAnalysis031307.doc)

**RFAC Report:**

Mike Faler reviewed a handout detailing the RFAC findings:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/RFACfundingAnalysis031307.pdf](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/RFACfundingAnalysis031307.pdf)

**WAC Report:**

Nate Pamplin reviewed handouts detailing the WAC findings:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/FY0709\\_WildlifeDecisionMemo.doc](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/FY0709_WildlifeDecisionMemo.doc)

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/BPAfy0709decision\\_WildlifeProvince\\_final2.xls](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/BPAfy0709decision_WildlifeProvince_final2.xls)

**CSMEP:**

Brian Lipscomb added that the NPCC recommended that CSMEP be funded for 07-08 with a discussion to be held in 08 about 09 funding continuance. BPA funded CSMEP at NPCC's recommended level at 07 and reduced funding in half for 08 to provide for closeout in 08. A strategy is being formulated within CSMEP to change the perception of CSMEP deliverables.

**Discussion:**

Brian Lipscomb requested that the MAG discuss recommendations to the Members from the standpoint of responding to BPA.

**Action:**

- Tony moved to ask CBFWA staff to draft a letter for MAG review in April and Members consideration in May focusing on:
  - CBFWA's frustration with NPCC and BPA's recommendations which do not appear consistent with the project review process and the recommendations that came out of that process
  - Describing consequences for each project that have been negatively impacted by both the NPCC and BPA's decision.
  - Including an analysis of the capital budget if that point does not detract from the other points.

Seconded by Howard Schaller. No objections.

**Additional Information:**

- Brian Lipscomb suggested that we wait for the RFAC to pull their information together for input into that discussion. The letter should include capital budget discussion and encouragement for consistency between the NPCC and BPA. Discussion is timely as BPA is scheduled to attend the April MAG meeting to discuss managing the capital program.
- Brian L. has asked CBFWA staff to go back through and pull all correspondence for 07-09 to make sure this draft is consistent with the policy positions taken in the past.
- Brian L. commented that with regard to Members' frustration about NPCC not allocating the entire budget; BPA did allocate the entire budget and then some but with less on the table for discussion for 08-09. Brian suggested positive comments from that perspective. Congratulate them on the acceptable changes, not just identifying the negative. Negative comments should focus on the inconsistency and the impacts on the F&W and their habitat.

**ITEM 8:**

**FY 2007 Members Coordination Contracts – Allocation from 4/1/2007 to 3/31/2008**

**Discussion:**

Kathie Titzler provided a revised spreadsheet from what had been originally posted:

[http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/AWP-Members2007-09BudgetRequestRevised032007.xls](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/AWP-Members2007-09BudgetRequestRevised032007.xls)

The spreadsheet is a reflection of the responses to the 2006 request to Members to

provide an estimate of their needs for the 4/1/07-3/31/08 contract years. Kathie inserted historical figures billed to compensate for the Members who did not respond to the poll.

All funds have been allocated resulting in a zero balance in the reserve account. In past years, when there was no reserve account, and a request was received for additional funds, CBFWA would look at who was not expending their funds and communicate between the three parties to see if they would agree to reallocate the funds.

Mike Faler requested that USFWS be included for travel reimbursement and would like their 2006 amount to be included in the 2007 budget.

The total budget is 361K. Kathie requested that MAG approve the budget for Members' consideration.

Kathie advised that she anticipates receiving the contract effective 4/1/07 from BPA soon, at which time Kathie will send new contracts out to the Members. Kathie reminded everyone to have staff send in their invoices for the current year.

**Action:**

Tony Nigro moved to approve the budget for Members' consideration as presented with the recognition that it will be managed in real-time and any vacancy savings from individual members will go into a reserve for reallocation at a later date, including savings from the staff side of the budget. Seconded by Dave Statler.

**Motion Amended:**

Tony Nigro amended the motion stating that the MAG approve spreadsheet with the revision from a change in the meeting budget from 15K to 9K and adding USFWS to the Member budget for 6K. In response to a question raised as to the differing amount of meetings between the committees: Kathie advised that the budget reflected the number of meetings from one year ago; the meeting costs, however, have been revised. Kathie confirmed that she is asking MAG to approve the 361K and she will revise the meeting information. The motion proceeded without objection.

**ITEM 9:**

**Salmon Economic Analysis and Planning Act – March 14, 2007**

Brian Lipscomb advised that there was an article in the *Idaho Statesman* regarding the planning of a bill to be introduced by WA Representative J. McDermott into the House calling for an economic analysis of removal of the Snake River facilities. Draft Bill for review: [http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007\\_0320/SalmonPlanningActHR150\\_0320207.pdf](http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2007_0320/SalmonPlanningActHR150_0320207.pdf).

Tana Klum will track the progress of the Bill as it proceeds through D.C.

**Action:**

Brian L. asked that the MAG review the bill and report back with a decision whether or not to have CBFWA facilitate input.

**ITEM 12:**

**April 4, 2007 Members Teleconference Proposed Agenda Approval**

Brian Lipscomb reviewed the agenda items for the Members' 4/4/07 meeting:

- Response to the NPCC RE: Fish Passage Center Oversight Board
- Approval of PR Contract
- Approval of Members' Budget Allocations for 4/1/07-3/31/08
- Input to Salmon Economics Analysis and Planning Act Update
- Status Report from NPCC F&W Committee Chair & Committee Reports
- Approve letter to Region regarding Amendment Strategy
- Recommendation to assign CBFWA staff to NPCC Science Policy Workshop Steering Committee

**Action:**

- Tony Nigro moved to approve the proposed agenda as outlined by Brian Lipscomb. Seconded by Howard Schaller. No objections.

**ITEM 10:**

**CBFWA Office Move Update**

Brian Lipscomb reported that upon review of the alternative site, it was determined that the building presented a negative health and safety issue for staff and visiting Members. CBFWA will proceed with consideration of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor space of the current building.

**Meeting Adjourned.**