



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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Final

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 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 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: March 18, 2010
TO: Members Advisory Group
FROM: Brian Lipscomb, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the March 16, 2010 MAG Teleconference

Members Advisory Group (MAG) Teleconference

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

1:00pm-4:00 p.m. PDT

@ CBFWA Office Portland, OR

[MAG Webpage](#)

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Elizabeth Gaar, NOAA Fisheries; Jason Kesling, BPT; Nancy Leonard, Patty O'Toole, Laura Robinson, NPCC; Brian Lipscomb, Dave Ward, Neil Ward, Patricia Burgess, CBFWA

Phone/WebEx: Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Alan Byrne, IDFG; Lance Hebdon, IDFG; Brian Marotz, MFWP; Tom Rien, ODFW; Bruce Schmidt, PSMFC; Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Keith Kutchins, UCUT; Bill Tweit, WDFW; Jann Eckman, CBFWA

Time Allocation:	Objective 1: Participation	100%
	Objective 2: Technical Review	0%
	Objective 3: Presentation	0%

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Brian Lipscomb requested that a presentation on the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Reporting (MERR) Plan be added under Item 4. Nancy Leonard, Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish, Wildlife and Ecosystem M&E Report Manager, will provide the presentation.

Action: *The MAG approved the draft agenda with the addition of the MERR presentation. No objections.*

ITEM 2: Draft Action Notes from the February 22, 2010 MAG Meeting

Action: *The MAG approved the February 22, 2010 action notes as final. No objections.*

ITEM 3: Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Multi-year Action Plan (MYAP) Presentation (Patty O'Toole, Council Program Implementation Manager and Laura Robinson, Council Intern)

In the February MAG meeting, it was requested that CBFWA staff invite Patty O'Toole to provide a presentation on the MYAPs that are being contemplated in the Fish and Wildlife Program.

Patty O'Toole and Laura Robinson provided the MAG with a similar presentation that was given to the Fish and Wildlife Committee in February 2010. Patty reviewed a presentation/[handout](#) that was posted for MAG review and an additional slide providing a link to [examples](#). (The example link is from page 3 of the February 2010 Council agenda memorandum [Update on Multi-year Action Plans; Subasin Plan Updates](#).)

Patty said they welcomed feedback from the individual agencies and Tribes direct to the individual Council Members relative to the direction of the MYAPs.

ITEM 4: Work Plan Implementation**Policy Directive 1: Assessment Timeline**

At the February MAG meeting, Tom Iverson walked the MAG through a draft Assessment Timeline for coordinating and developing assessments. The MAG directed that CBFWA staff provide clear descriptions of the how/what of anadromous assessments through the development of a sideboards document. The MAG requested that sideboards be developed for resident fish and wildlife as well.

Anadromous Assessments Sideboard: Brian Lipscomb reviewed the draft sideboard document for anadromous assessments: [*Collaborative Information Management to Support Ongoing Assessments of VSP, Hatchery, and Tributary Habitat Effectiveness for Columbia River Basin Anadromous Salmon*](#). Brian stated that the document was a collaborative effort between CBFWA staff, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP), and Council Staff.

After a brief review, it was agreed that CBFWA staff would send out the draft anadromous assessments sideboard document for MAG review and feedback with a table of proposed workshops and a revised process timeline. Comments will be due to Tom Iverson and/or Brian Lipscomb by COB, Friday, March 26.

Brian Lipscomb advised that there is an upcoming RM&E Workshop, Habitat Metrics, scheduled for March 22-23, 2010 and hosted by NOAA. The intent of the workshop is to discuss and develop habitat metrics.

Review/Confirm Lamprey Monitoring and Assessment Sideboards (Dave Ward)

Dave Ward advised that the Lamprey Technical Work Group (LTWG) met last week to begin their discussions on monitoring and assessment and sideboards. The group learned that most of the work is already being done by the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) as part of the Lamprey Conservation Initiative. Dave stated that a draft document will be coming out in May which should put all lamprey projects and proposals into context. The USFWS is putting this together based on a number of workshops held and taking into account work that has already been done such as the Tribal Restoration Plan and the LTWG's Critical Uncertainties document. The USFWS document may serve as a sideboards and framework document for lamprey assessment and monitoring.

Review/Confirm White Sturgeon Monitoring and Assessment Sideboards (Neil Ward)

Neil Ward advised that the White Sturgeon Work Group (WSWG) has started to develop their implementation strategy and has decided to use the anadromous fish framework. Neil explained that when that effort was started last spring a lot of time was spent developing a process/sideboards document with various templates that would be used to track the information and that process and sideboards fit quite well for the WSWG's needs. It is anticipated that the products anticipated to be finished by the end of May will serve as context for proposals that will be prepared for the categorical review due to start in June. Neil stated that they recognize that the products won't have a chance to be endorsed by the Council as the timeline will not allow for a public review and Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) review. Neil added that past white sturgeon projects have struggled with ISRP reviews. The ISRP has indicated that they believe that there is a lack of coordination among the white sturgeon managers and researchers. For those that know the research, that is not the case, but it is hoped that this effort will make it

clear that everyone is on the same page when it comes to monitoring and evaluation and addressing the gaps that exist in the Basin.

Review/Confirm Wildlife Monitoring Implementation Strategy Work Plan (Tom Iverson)

Tom Iverson was not in attendance as he was facilitating the Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC) meeting taking place at the same time as the MAG teleconference. Tom will update the MAG on the Wildlife Monitoring Implementation Strategy at the April MAG teleconference.

Added Item: **Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Reporting (MERR):** Nancy Leonard provided a [presentation](#) on the [MERR](#). Nancy advised that the Council will be requesting comments on the plan. [Comments are due Monday, April 26, 2010.](#)

Brian Lipscomb asked the MAG if they thought CBFWA Members should consider comments back to the Council relative to the MERR, either individually or through a coordinated response. The MAG requested that CBFWA staff add this topic to the April 6th agenda for further discussion. Brian suggested that the MAG review the plan prior to April 6 and if anyone would like more detail from Nancy, let CBFWA staff know and they will invite Nancy to the April 6 teleconference.

Policy Directive 2: SOTR Webpage (Neil Ward and Brian Lipscomb)

- Discuss potential modifications to the Basinwide Indicators template for the 2009 printed report.
- Presentation outline for April 20 Directors and Tribal Chairs meeting.

In the February MAG teleconference discussion, CBFWA staff communicated that the SOTR report has been developed over the last several months with updated information incorporated by subbasin. Chair Elizabeth Gaar advised that NOAA would like to see a type of edit prompting population by the Members (e.g. distinguishing between hatchery and natural origin fish). In follow-up to the February discussion, the MAG members were asked to review the report and provide any additional feedback for MAG review by the March teleconference. Brian Lipscomb advised that CBFWA staff did not receive any additional edits.

Brian stated that CBFWA staff will work with NOAA Fisheries on their requested modifications for review with the MAG on April 6. Printing is anticipated for June following the review process with the Federal Caucus and the Council.

A presentation outline for the April 20 Directors and Tribal Chairs meeting was not presented. Brian Lipscomb advised that CBFWA staff intend to have a presentation prepared for MAG review on April 6.

Policy Directive 3: Eyes and Ears (Brian Lipscomb & Tom Iverson)

- **Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Updates**

The [6th Northwest Power Plan](#) was adopted by the Council and is available online for review.

Hatchery Scientific Review Group Recommendations: The Council discussed [options for HSRG recommendations](#). Brian noted that the Council was fairly sensitive to the fact that not everyone was going to embrace or actually implement the HSRG recommendations yet and that it was still being contemplated by many across the Basin.

Brian Lipscomb advised that the Council has postponed the **RM&E**

Categorical Review until June 1, 2010. CBFWA staff will invite Lynn Palensky, Council **Subbasin Planning Project Manager**, to the April 6 MAG meeting for an update on the anticipated process for RM&E Categorical Review and how it relates to various efforts.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Reporting (MERR): See information above regarding the presentation provided by Nancy Leonard and the Council's request for comments.

- **Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP):** Tom Iverson is participating on the Steering Committee and on the Data Management Leadership Team. The focus of the Data Management Leadership Team is the development of the tools that you can all consider toward building an automated data sharing network. CBFWA staff will provide updates as the process continues.

ITEM 5: Snake River Recovery Planning Update (Chair Elizabeth Gaar)

Chair Elizabeth Gaar provided an update on the Snake River Recovery Plan effort and reviewed a handout she provided for MAG review: [Snake River Recovery Plan Coordination and Completion Structure](#). Chair Gaar stated that the plan will be a "roll-up" and it will be modeled somewhat after the mid-Columbia steelhead recovery plan. It will incorporate a number of efforts at the Management Unit (MU) level for the Idaho, Oregon, and Washington MU Forums. The roll-up will also incorporate the estuary module and a module summarizing the hydro components. Chair Gaar added that they may add an additional module that would explain NOAA's approach to analyzing the effective hatchery actions.

Chair Gaar stated that they plan to convene a Snake River species roll-up coordination group and referenced page 1 of the [handout](#) in which the group's function is articulated (under the "responsibilities" portion). The "participants" are entities identified for participation. Chair Gaar stated that they are in the process of talking to the entities individually.

The intention is to get issue statements and recommendations on how to proceed prepared for review shortly. They anticipate it to be late spring/early summer before they are ready to convene. The goal is to have a work product by mid-fall.

Referencing page 2 of the [handout](#), Elizabeth noted the relationships between the MU's and the participants that are known already or that they are expecting at the MU level.

Jason Kesling, Burns Paiute Tribe (BPT), suggested that the Upper Snake River Tribes (USRT) office would be a good place for the BPT, Shoshone Bannock Tribe (SBT) and the Shoshone Paiute Tribe (SPT) to meet conveniently.

Lance Hebdon, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) requested a list of the conservation and independent groups listed under "participants." Liz advised that she would seek that information from the Idaho management lead, David Mabe, and would send it out.

Jason Kesling, BPT, noted that the Idaho SPT and Oregon BPT are not listed on page 2. Jason added that American Rivers would most likely be interested.

Chair Gaar concluded the discussion stating that they intend a different approach to sockeye. It will have its own plan and a more refined set of participants. They are also trying to decide who to have as a project lead for fall chinook.

Chair Gaar encouraged MAG members to contact her with any questions or

comments: elizabeth.gaar@noaa.gov, 503/230-5434.

Recovery Coordinator contact information: Rosemary Furfey, rosemary.furfey@noaa.gov, 503/231-2149.

This topic will be added to the MAG agenda each month as the process progresses to allow for ongoing updates.

ITEM 6: CBFWA Charter Changes (Brian Lipscomb)

The draft Charter was sent to the MAG on March 9 requesting edits and comments. Edits received were incorporated into the draft reviewed and posted for the MAG.

Brian Lipscomb advised that Lance Hebdon, IDFG, requested an edit to the Members Executive Committee (MEC) section. Lance requested that “*regarding budget and personnel*” be added to 501(D)(4). The revised language would read as follows: All matters discussed within the Members Executive Committee **regarding budget and personnel** are considered to be confidential unless agreed upon by the Executive Committee and Executive Director.

Action: *The MAG moved to accept the Charter with the edits presented and forward it to the Members for their consideration at April 20 meeting. No objections.*

ITEM 7: April 20, 2010 Directors and Tribal Chairs Meeting

- Review of draft agenda.

The MAG members reviewed the agenda and were happy with the changes made since the last meeting. Brian Lipscomb stated that he will have *Item 3: 2010 CBFWA Committee Designees* removed from the draft that will go out to Members. Brian confirmed that the Council Members were invited by Rob Walton, NOAA and that Greg Delwiche, BPA, is aware of the meeting. Brian stated that he was not sure at this point if Steve Wright, BPA, will be invited.

Brian encouraged MAG members to contact him if they desire updates or preparation presentations to their individual Tribal Councils to assist in getting the Tribal Chairs to the meeting.

Action: *The MAG moved to accept the agenda and forward it on to the Members. No objections.*

Upcoming Meetings:

MAG April Teleconference: Tues, April 6, 2010 1-4pm

- At the Feb 2010 MAG teleconference the MAG agreed to meet on March 16 and April 6 with intent to revisit the schedule for the remaining 2010 MAG teleconferences at the April 6th teleconference.

Directors/Tribal Chairs Meeting: Tues, April 20, 2010, 10am-3pm, Embassy Suites, Portland, Oregon

Council Meeting(s) 2010: April 13-15 in Boise, ID & May 11-13 in Portland