



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: July 13, 2007
TO: Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) Members
FROM: Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS and Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for July 10, 2007 Members Teleconference

Members Teleconference

Tuesday, July 10, 2007 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. PST

@ Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, Portland OR

The meeting support material and reference documents are posted at <http://www.cbfwa.org/committees/Meetings.cfm?CommShort=Members&meeting=all>.

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Brian Lipscomb, Tom Iverson, Ken MacDonald, Dave Ward, Pat Burgess, CBFWA

By Phone: Dale W. Chess, Cd'AT; Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Gary James, CTUIR; Brad Houslet, CTWS; Brian Marotz, MDFWP; Dave Statler, NPT; Gary Sims, NOAA Fisheries

Guests: Tony Grover, Lynn Palensky, Jim Ruff, NPCC; and via phone: Richard Williams, Ph.D.

Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Dan Diggs, US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), was not available to attend; Vice-chair, Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS, chaired the meeting. Modifications to the agenda: Item 4 was moved to follow Item 2; Items 3 and 5 will follow item 4; and Item 6 will be deferred.

Action:

- The Members approved the agenda with the modifications requested. No objections.

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

ITEM 2: Approve the June 6, 2007 Members Meeting Draft Action Notes as Final.

Action:

- The Members approved the June 6, 2007 meeting notes as final. No objections.

ITEM 4: Data Management Strategy/Data Management Framework Subcommittee (DMFS)

Tom Iverson provided the update reiterating that the data management projects that were given a level funding for FY07 were funded under the expectation that funding for FY08/09 would be based on a comprehensive data management strategy, i.e., the context and justification for funding the data management projects. Tom stated that the DMFS has continued their work on that strategy. The strategic outline has gone through several reiterations and is currently being rewritten it for the third time using a Federal Enterprise Architecture as a foundational tool on which to organize the information.

In addition to the formalizing the data management strategy, the DMFS, as directed by the Members Advisory Group (MAG) in April 2007, will develop funding recommendations for FY 08-09 data management projects.

Tom advised that he and DMFS members Phil Roger, and perhaps Stewart Toshach, Nate Pamplin, and Tom Rien, are scheduled to provide a data management strategy update to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (NPCC) F&W Committee on Tuesday, July 11th. DMFS has been working in conjunction with the NED workgroup focusing on the F&W Program. The message that the DMFS hopes to send is that the right mix of people are involved and working in this process, and that they are working toward a strategy that will set the context for BPA to fund the cost of bringing all the data together into one place so it can be used for the F&W program.

At the July 17th MAG meeting, the DMFS we will provide an update and hope to present fundamental questions for the MAG toward building project recommendations.

The DMFS are scheduled to meet again the regional support required of that project, and possibly the Northwest Habitat Institute's project as well.

Tom stated that the DMFS must still decide the final timeline; however, it is anticipated that they will finalize the strategy and recommendations by the end of July, for presentation and discussion to the MAG in August, and on to the Members for their endorsement in September.

ITEM 3: Status Report from Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC) Fish and Wildlife (F&W) Committee Chairs and/or Members

Tony Grover, the new NPCC F& W Director, stated that he is looking forward to the CBFWA Membership playing an influential role in the future of the Amendment process for the F&W Program. He stated that the CBFWA Members have unique and critical roles within the Columbia Basin and the NPCC depends on that active participation.

Tony advised that the Program Amendment process is currently due to begin in October 2007 and run through to September or November 2008; however, there has been discussion about pushing the process back by 2-3 months to allow the biological objectives workgroup to finalize their discussions. The anticipated alternate date identified to begin the process is January 2008. The Amendment process must be completed and adopted by December 2008, prior to the Northwest Power Act update slated for the beginning of 2009.

Tony suggested that CBFWA members might want to consider and discuss the possibility of an alternate timeline.

Tony stated that he is very interested in the CBFWA Members' ideas about what can be done to better serve the needs of the region. Tony advised that CBFWA Members wishing to meet with him individually should contact his assistant Kendra Coles to arrange a meeting (to commence after August 1st). Tony stated that he will visit the Members at their locations.

Tony announced that the NPCC has scheduled "Consultation Panels" within their monthly meetings. This dialogue is specific to the F&W Program Amendment process, providing CBFWA Members a forum to address comments and questions to the NPCC about the process and direction of the Amendment process. Tony and Brian Lipscomb have discussed CBFWA's participation in the August NPCC Consultation Panel.

Brian Lipscomb added that while CBFWA has been giving Amendment strategy process presentations to the F&W Committee, the Consultation Panel provides an

opportunity to have dialogue, on record, with the full Council.

- Action:**
- The Members requested that the MAG to develop a presentation outline geared for participation in the Consultation Panel at the NPCC August 14-16th meeting in Spokane, WA. The MAG will develop the outline in the July 24-25th workshop and present it for discussion and endorsement at the August 1st Members meeting.

ITEM 5: Science Policy Conference Update

Science Policy Exchange Program:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_0710/SciencePolicyExchangeEventProgram2007Sept12-13.doc

Rick Williams, Science Policy Exchange Conference facilitator, provided an update advising that Brian Lipscomb has been extremely helpful in further defining the conference structure and objectives and ensuring an equal role for the management perspective in the conference. Rick added that he sees the conference participants as the three legs of the stool managing the F&W Program.

Each of the sessions (habitat, estuary, ocean, and mainstem) will be relatively short with intent to educate NPCC members on the current science, the state of the F&W program within certain topic areas, and what new science has come along in the last ten years.

Rick Williams articulated that each session will be structured around what hypotheses are in the program relative to the topic under discussion. Scientists, many of who have been on ISAB/ISRP, will summarize and provide presentations. There will be ample question and answer time and small panel sessions populated by the scientist/presenters and the F&W Managers. The conference steering committee will work through Brian to identify appropriate managers' participation in the small panel sessions.

Rick stated that the NPCC Members formulated the topics selected. With regard to concerns about the lack of attention toward resident fish, Rick stated that there would be other opportunities to express this and other topics when the Amendment process gets under way. Rick cited the recent ISAB report presentation to NPCC on human population growth and climate change as another alternative and stated that we must all work to find other ways to get that information in front of the NPCC.

Brian Lipscomb added that the habitat strategies and nutrient enhancement topics provide an opportunity for resident fish to be integrated within the discussions. Rick stated that he would make a recommendation to Bob Bilby and Pete Bisson to be sure that resident fish would be included in those discussions.

FPAC technical staff memo to the NPCC:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_0710/SciencePolicyExchangeMtg_FPAC_memoToNPCC_070207df.pdf

Referencing the FPAC technical staff memo to the NPCC, Brian Lipscomb advised that the mainstem subcommittee met with FPAC regarding their input expressing the need to consider a weighted evidence process for the Snake River Fall Chinook life history diversity issue. (For full description of the weighted evidence process, refer to memo posted.) However, it was concluded by both the steering committee members and FPAC that although the weighted evidence workshop is a good idea for Snake River Fall Chinook life history issue, there is not enough time for it to be established prior to the September conference. FPAC will try to extract some of the management questions or hypotheses that are in the NPCC Program and look at the state of the science as it relates to addressing those management concerns.

CBFWA Science Policy Conference Issue Briefing Paper:

http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_0710/SciencePolicyConference_IssueBriefingPaper.pdf

Brian Lipscomb referenced the CBFWA briefing paper posted for Members' review. Management implications with regard to the science and how it is informing the hypotheses will need to be presented at the conference by the agencies and tribes, if the suggested format is to be followed.

For example, Brian articulated that the current assumption within the Program is that ocean conditions and the estuary do not affect what goes on up river. There is considerable science starting to point toward that issue but there are differing mindsets. The agencies and tribes that manage the resources don't agree with the premise in the current Program but by participating within this session, the F&W Managers can begin to explore in front of the NPCC what has been developed and how that information is informing the decisions of the agencies that manage those resources.

Action: In conclusion, the Members directed the MAG to develop and define CBFWA's commitment to the conference at their July 17th meeting. The MAG's assignment is within the habitat, estuary, and ocean topics. (FPAC will work with Jim Ruff to define the mainstem topics.)

The MAG is instructed to work with NPCC's central staff to look within the existing F&W program and determine assumptions with regard to the topics, presenters, and overall participation. Consideration will be given to:

- What hypotheses or management questions are currently within the Program?
- Reviewing the suite of presenters and determine if they are the appropriate presenters with regard to the specific topic areas.
- Formulating how the agencies and tribes would participate in each of those areas given the format and layout.

Action: Jim Ruff, NPCC, will serve as liaison between the conference steering committee and FPAC to fine-tune the mainstem issues and come to some agreement as to what will be presented at the conference and determine who will make the presentations. FPAC will facilitate the management implications from that information.

ITEM 6: Approve Combined AFAC and FPAC Comments on Corps of Engineers (Corps) Plan for Addressing Pacific Lamprey Passage Draft 2007-2011

The Lamprey passage letter is still undergoing comments from the MAG members and not ready for Member approval. There isn't a deadline date set by the Corps for comments.

Action:

- The approval of the Lamprey passage letter was deferred until the August 1st Members meeting. The Members redirected the comment letter to the MAG with instructions to finish it up, incorporate all the comments, and prepare the final draft for Members approval on August 1st.

ITEM 7: Status Report from CBFWA Technical Committee Chairs

Brian Lipscomb stated that the technical committees have been working diligently in their deliberations toward the Amendment process. All have been working to develop their approach in their perspective arenas and are ready to join in the MAG discussion at the workshop scheduled for July 24-25th in Spokane Valley, WA.

Brian stressed the importance of the continued commitment from the agencies and tribes to allow for participation from their staff.

ITEM 8: July 24-25, 2007 Amendment Workshop Update

Brian Lipscomb advised that the workshop is on track for July 24-25th in Spokane Valley, WA. A draft agenda is posted for review:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_0710/Agenda0724-25AmendmentWSdraftVer1.pdf

ITEM 9: Next Members Teleconference

- The next Members' Teleconference is scheduled for August 1, 2007 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. (PST).

- The CBFWA Amendment Strategy Workshop is scheduled for July 24-25, 2007 in Spokane Valley, WA.

- The next NPCC Meetings are scheduled for July 11-12, 2007 in Portland, OR and August 14-16, 2007 in Spokane, WA.

Meeting Adjourned.