



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: November 13, 2007
TO: CBFWA Members
FROM: Mark Bagdovitz, Acting Chair and Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes from November 7, 2007 Members Teleconference

Members Teleconference
Wednesday, November 7, 2007
@ Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA), Portland OR

The support material for the meeting is posted at <http://www.cbfga.org/committees/Meetings.cfm?CommShort=Members&meeting=all>.

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Brian Lipscomb, Jann Eckman, Tom Iverson, Ken MacDonald, Binh Quan, Dave Ward, Pat Burgess, Trina Gerlack, CBFWA

By Phone: Dale W. Chess, Cd'AT; Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Gary James, CTUIR; Brad Houslet, CTWS; Paul Kline, IDFG; Sue Ireland, KTOI; Brian Marotz, MDFWP; Dave Statler, NPT; Tony Nigro, ODFW; Claude Broncho, SBT; Nate Pamplin, WDFW; Edward Sheets, Consultant

Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Brian Marotz, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MDFWP), attended on behalf of Chris Hunter and Larry Peterman. Dan Diggs, US Fish and Wildlife Service, was not available to attend; Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS, chaired the meeting on Dan's behalf.

Action:

- The Members approved the agenda with an expansion of Item 3 to include a discussion on data management. No objections.

WebEx Interactive Meeting Manager

CBFWA staff initiated the use of WebEx, an interactive online meeting manager at this meeting with the intent to integrate the tool into future meetings. Brian Lipscomb advised the plan for the future is the integration of an interactive white board that will allow participants to write out issues during meeting discussions which will link to the website for real-time interaction. Also being explored is an option to use web cams in various remote locations expanding the interaction even further. Brian encouraged Members to provide feedback as these new tools are put into action.

ITEM 2: Approve draft action notes from the October 3, 2007 Members meeting as final.

Action:

- The Members approved the October 3, 2007 action notes as final. No objections.

ITEM 3: FY 08-09 Program Budget/FY09 Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Supplemental Rate Case

Brian Lipscomb advised that Tom Iverson has completed the process of capturing and articulating the critical and essential needs and stated that opportunities are at hand to take this information and continue the discussions regarding the FY 07-09 allocation of funds with BPA and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC).

Brian cited an article which appeared in the November 7th Oregonian Newspaper regarding the possibility of BPA cutting rates by 7% to adjust for the court remanded residential exchange issue:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1107/BPA%20Oregonian%20Article2007_1106.doc.

Brian explained that there is an anticipated rate reduction for both the People's Utility District (PUD) and the Investor Owned Utilities (IOU) being considered for the supplemental rate case. Since F&W costs were also a part of the remanded Golden Northwest Case, there's an opportunity for us to communicate to BPA asking for further consideration for FY09.

The Members discussed the importance of reiterating to BPA and NPCC what CBFWA considers as a legitimate analysis of project needs for FY 08-09 and request that they work with us to provide adequate funding levels. We should emphasize that this list does not necessarily reflect all of the projects that are being discussed in other forums and that those projects and costs will come to light if and when those discussions develop.

Action:

- The Members moved to direct CBFWA staff to work with interested Members to draft a letter to the NPCC and BPA for Members endorsement identifying the list of project needs and associated costs for FY 08-09 and requesting that BPA and the NPCC work with us to identify an appropriate mechanism for providing the necessary funds for FY 08-09.

Amended Motion:

- The Members modified the motion to include that the Members convene a special teleconference for the afternoon of Wednesday, November 14th to review the correspondence and provide approval.

Motion Discussion/Clarification:

The Members asked that they be given at least two days to review the correspondence prior to the Wednesday meeting. CBFWA staff will email the letter by COB Friday, November 9th allowing for review up until Wednesday afternoon's meeting. For now, the meeting will be tentative for Wednesday, unless it is realized that more time is needed for review.

It was agreed that a particular funding level figure will not be quoted but reference will be made to past analyses and justifications and assertions that CBFWA Members do not agree that the cost for the projects is unreasonable.

Brian Lipscomb will contact Members not in attendance to notify them of this discussion and action. No objections.

Data Management

Tom Iverson advised that at the November 13th meeting, the NPCC will be reviewing the data management strategy document framework that was approved by the Members at the September meeting in Polson, MT. Tom advised that this document is completely consistent with the version that the Members approval and direction in September in Polson: http://www.nwccouncil.org/news/2007_11/fw4.pdf

Tom stated that in December 2007, the NPCC is expecting data management project funding recommendations and asked for clarification from the Members on their stance on the recommendations. Tony Nigro confirmed that the data management projects would not be considered independent of the critical list and

cautioned against giving the impression that the NPCC should make funding decisions on data management projects independent of decisions on the critical list.

ITEM 4: Regional Coordination Definition/CBFWA Work Plan

Brian Lipscomb advised that the Colville Tribes have requested further analysis of a distributed services model for CBFWA before final approval of the FY 08-09 work plan. The MAG has established a subcommittee to develop a feasibility study for the proposal and will provide a final recommendation for Members consideration on December 5th.

The Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) requested the consideration of a distributed funding model as well. Ray Entz, Kalispel Tribe, has outlined a dispersed funding model that would divide the funds seventeen ways and each entity would individually decide to whom to provide coordination funding to or whether that funding is required or not. Ray has been asked to elaborate on his model and provide a presentation for review.

At the October 23rd meeting, the MAG reviewed the Coordination Definitions document which underwent additional edits by the Kalispel Tribe after Members approval in Polson MT. The MAG agreed that the edits by the Kalispel Tribe were extensive but not significant with respect to the content agreed upon by Members.

Action:

- The Members approved the Coordination Definitions document and agreed for it to move forward to the NPCC.

Motion Discussion: In response to a brief discussion about the document content, Tom Iverson added that if CBFWA chooses to use this document in the Amendment submission, an opportunity will present itself to edit the document as a CBFWA document. Tom reminded the Members that the context of the document being approved today is for FY08-09 funding.

Tom added that this document compliments the NPCC guidance principals document for coordination posted on the NPCC website under the NPCC 2008-2009 call for Amendment: <http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program/2008amend/coordination.htm>

No objections.

ITEM 5: Program Amendment Development Update

Amendment Process Update: Brian Lipscomb advised that the NPCC has initiated the Amendment process effective November 1, 2007. Posted on the NPCC website are documents intended to guide the development of recommendations: <http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program/2008amend/Default.asp>. Brian advised that the documents posted on the NPCC website are not in conflict with the current strategy being contemplated by CBFWA.

Brian advised that under the current timeline, amendment recommendations are due to the NPCC by February 1, 2008 and as the timeline draws near, CBFWA staff will do a process check to ensure that we are on a good timeframe for the development of recommendations. If the F&W Managers require an extension, we would need to contemplate requesting that at the December 2007 or January 2008 NPCC meeting.

Tom Iverson reviewed a memo provided to the MAG for their October 23rd meeting advising where CBFWA is at with regard to Amendment drafts: http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1107/AmendmentRecOutlineMemo_101907.doc.

Brian Lipscomb articulated for Members' information that John Shurts, NPCC General Council, advised that now that the Amendment process is open, all conversations and correspondence relative to development of recommendations

will be documented.

Dave Ward advised that the presentation provided to the NPCC F&W Committee Meeting on October 16th was well received and that NPCC members appeared receptive to the framework.

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1107/CouncilFWCommitteeAmendmentsPresentationByCBFWA_16October2007.pdf.

Tom Iverson presented a memo explaining and attaching a program amendment outline drafted by CBFWA staff containing a general list of examples and ideas that CBFWA Members may want to consider in developing their joint recommendations:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1107/AmendmentRecOutlineMemo_101907.doc. Tom stressed that assistance from Members will be necessary to complete the large amount of writing and editing.

The Members briefly discussed the addition of budgets to the process, and Tom advised that the amendment strategy is designed with flexibility within the framework to incorporate the inclusion of budgets.

Biological Objectives Work Group Update: Tom Iverson advised that at the last Biological Objectives workgroup meeting, the customer groups provided a presentation that pointed toward directing the Program toward life cycle survival with focus on individual hydroelectric projects and a dam by dam accounting of impacts. Tom stated that while this idea fits within our strategy, the focus is incomplete. Brian Lipscomb added that the utilities do not agree that adults are the appropriate measurement for the objectives of the Program. Brian advised the Members that CBFWA staff was very clear that such a decision is for the agencies and tribes to make exclusively and that decision has been upheld in the Courts. Brian stated that he anticipates the customer groups to submit a recommendation at some point to the NPCC.

Mark Bagdovitz recommended that Members consider identifying specific items within the current program that may not need to be changed but that have not been implemented and forward that information to CBFWA staff with suggestions on how to communicate that information.

Federal Caucus Briefing: Brian Lipscomb provided an Amendment process presentation to the Federal Caucus and Mark added that it prompted a good discussion that was appreciated by the Caucus Members. Mark anticipates the Caucus members to request an additional update in 2008.

Wildlife Presentation to the NPCC: Ken MacDonald quickly summarized the wildlife presentation that will be given to the NPCC next week at the NPCC: http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1107/Wildlife_Amendments_NPCCpresentationFinal.ppt. Members requested an edit to the last slide titled "O&M Recommendations" but were in agreement for Ken to move forward with the presentation.

ITEM 6: CSMEP Funding Request Update

Ken MacDonald and Brian Lipscomb provided a presentation on CSMEP to the NPCC F&W Committee on October 16th. It was well received and was believed to provide a better understanding of the role CSMEP plays in coordinating the F&W Managers M&E efforts. The NPCC requested specifics with regard to CSMEP products. Ken has written a memo in response to their queries (the memo is still in draft form):

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1107/CBFWA_Memo_CSMEP_To_NPC_C_Whiting_ResponseDraft.doc.

At the October 23rd meeting, the MAG moved to direct Brian Lipscomb and Ken MacDonald to arrange a meeting with Bill Maslen, BPA, and interested CBFWA

Members familiar with the CSMEP project, to discuss the current stance and determine a reasonable path forward. Ken has developed a brief outline of the RM&E revised proposed actions as contained in the BiOp and how they relate to CSMEP for meeting participants review prior to the meeting. A follow-up discussion is anticipated for the next NPCC meeting to continue to assert that CSMEP is an integral part of an overall M&E strategy with the hope that the NPCC will agree to recommend to BPA that they increase the funding to the recommended amount.

Brian Lipscomb stated that it is anticipated that a conversation will be initiated at the December NPCC F&W committee meeting regarding what the overall M&E strategy is and how the suite of M&E projects fit into that strategy. Brian suggested that the Members direct the MAG to explore that conversation from the CBFWA members' perspective of what constitutes an overall strategy, what that strategy is, and how it relates to the BiOp.

- Action:**
- The Members moved to direct CBFWA staff to develop an M&E framework for the current suite of projects as recommended by CBFWA. No objections.

Brian anticipates the MAG to have a recommendation for the Members on December 5th in time for a presentation to the NPCC in December.

ITEM 7: Fish Passage Center Oversight Board (FPCOB) Update from the Members Advisory Group (MAG)

Brian began the update by advising that the notes from the October 2007 FPCOB are posted on the NPCC website for review:

http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/fpcob/meetings/2007_10/minutes.pdf.

At the October 23rd MAG meeting, the MAG moved to ask Brian Lipscomb to draft an email to the FPCOB Chair and Board members requesting that the FPCOB chair consider a specific process for requests and requesting clarification regarding verbal assignments given at the October FPCOB meeting. In the interim Bruce Measure communicated their requests in writing and Brian followed up to further clarify the issues and request. Brian added that the written conversations are helping to clarify the issues.

The FPCOB request that Michele DeHart, Fish Passage Center (FPC) provide an update to the FPCOB at the January FPCOB meeting to include the quarterly and annual report of FPC activity. In addition, a discussion is planned about changes and clarifications to amendment language regarding the FPC and also about the smolt monitoring program.

The FPCOB is scheduled to meet on January 14, 2008 in Vancouver WA.

ITEM 8: Update on AHA Implementation/Contract with Mobrand-Jones & Stokes

Dave Ward advised that several of the AHA workshops have been scheduled and are moving forward as anticipated. The next workshop is scheduled at the CBFWA office for Thursday, November 8th.

Dave and Brian Lipscomb added as a related topic that the Hatchery Scientific Review Group (HSRG) has approached BPA to request funding (1.2M) to complete their study using the AHA tool. CBFWA staff will attend a meeting of the HSRG steering committee on November 13th and request that they articulate their request in the form of critical needs as a part of the process.

ADDED ITEMS:

BPA In Lieu: Brian advised that BPA has taken the input received and are crafting an updated and revised *in lieu* policy and will put that out for public comment in mid-November. Brian stated that he does not anticipate an opportunity for further conversations with BPA on this issue. Mark Bagdovitz articulated that BPA's action of developing a policy on their own that defines their own mitigation

obligations is inconsistent with the NW Power Act. Mark asserted that this action should take place within the NPCC F&W Program.

New NPCC Member: Jim Kempton from Idaho has been appointed to another position within the Idaho Public Utilities Commission. Jim Yost has been appointed as his replacement in the role of Chair of the NPCC Power Committee.

Umatilla Basin Project Initiative: Gary James advised that the NPCC will review and discuss the Umatilla Basin Project Initiative that NPCC requested they complete based on the Independent Scientific Review Panel's (ISRP) comments. It appears that the NPCC will be recommending that the project satisfies the science review criteria and they will be recommending continuing funding for FY 08-09. Gary stated that the Umatilla review elevated awareness toward a potential change that they concentrate on more integrative groupings of projects. The NPCC is going to recommend looking at that type of review to be integrated into the next round of solicitations.

Tom Iverson advised that he is working with NPCC and BPA staff discussing the project selection process to determine how to better approach the next review process.

ITEM 9/FYI: Upcoming Meetings

- The next Members Teleconference is scheduled for December 5, 2007 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. PST. Recommendations are anticipated from the November 20th MAG meeting providing context for that Members meeting.
- The Winter Members Meeting is scheduled for January 17-18, 2007 in Vancouver, WA. The date of this meeting that may be contingent on the Amendment process remaining on the same timeline; however, CBFWA will proceed ahead with that current date.
- The next NPCC meeting is November 13-14, 2007 in Coeur d'Alene, ID.

Meeting Adjourned.