



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

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 Fish, Wildlife & 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: April 16, 2009
TO: CBFWA Members
FROM: Brian Lipscomb, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the April 15, 2009 Members Teleconference

**Members Teleconference
Wednesday, April 15, 2009
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
CBFWA Office, Portland OR (via WebEx)**

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

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Chairman Elmer Ward, CTWS; Brian Lipscomb, Jann Eckman, Kathie Titzler, Ken MacDonald, and Trina Gerlack, CBFWA staff

Phone/WebEx: Jay Hesse and Dave Statler, NPT; Jim Unsworth, IDFG; Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Nate Pamplin, WDFW; Tom Rien, ODFW; Ronald Peters, Cd'AT; Gary James, CTUIR; Kyle R. Prior, USRT; and Tom Iverson, CBFWA staff

Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Action: The Members approved the agenda as written. No objections.

ITEM 2: Approve April 1, 2009 Members Draft Action Notes

Action: The Members approved the [April 1, 2009 Members Teleconference action notes as final](#). No objections.

ITEM 3: Finalize Draft Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E) Work Plan Proposal

Background: The CBFWA work plan proposal was approved by the Members and distributed in January 2009 and the Council's amended F&W Program was distributed in February 2009. Since that time, CBFWA has received from Tony Grover, NPCC, a 5-page 2009 Fish and Wildlife Program to-do list of work items that need to be accomplished over the next year and a Gantt chart listing a timing schedule to-do the NPCC Program tasks. CBFWA staff prepared a comparison document of CBFWA's work plan to the Council's to-do list, and the planning part is a one-to-one match. CBFWA has captured the same issues and commitments identified by the Council to implement into the Program.

In March, the Members assigned the RM&E ad hoc committee to develop an extensive monitoring and evaluation proposal to take to BPA via NOAA Fisheries for consideration to assure effective implementation of the BiOp M&E. The RM&E subcommittee developed draft M&E proposal in two pieces 1) the preliminary draft Viable Salmonid Population (VSP) M&E work plan in support of the BiOp and Accords and 2) the draft M&E work plan that addressed habitat.

At the April 1st Members teleconference, Brian Lipscomb described the work plan status in two parts. 1) coordination to implement the planning to implement the amended Program. The amended Program is loaded with additional planning activities that need implementation this year and continue over the next several years, which CBFWA crafted their work plan to do. 2) coordinating the implementation of BiOp M&E to assist the Action Agencies and NOAA to assure that M&E for the BiOp is being designed and implemented in an effective and efficient method. The Members provided a detailed review of the preliminary draft VSP monitoring proposal and passed the following motions relating to the revised preliminary draft RM&E work plan proposal in support of the FCRPS BiOp and Columbia Basin Accords to include Habitat:

1. The Members directed staff to work with the Members directly, to finalize the VSP M&E proposal revised during the meeting.
2. Forward the revised draft to the RM&E subcommittee to verify any changes.
3. Members direct staff to schedule a special Members teleconference on April 15, 2009 to take final action on the proposal and prepare for communicating the proposal to BPA and the Council.

Discussion: Brian Lipscomb provided an overview of the changes to the [revised 4/13/2009 RM&E work plan proposal draft](#) for the preliminary State-Tribal work plan in support of Columbia Basin Accords, FCRPS Biological Opinion, and Fish and Wildlife Program monitoring needs. The Members have reviewed and provided edits. The highlighted areas are dates that need to be scheduled for completing the tasks and deliverables with the Action Agencies and Council. Brian reviewed the VSP monitoring-related cost participation table articulating the FTEs required to develop and complete the anadromous fish VSP deliverables.

Brian reported that conversations have started between CBFWA, BPA, and Council regarding the work plan. The [Nez Perce Tribe \(NPT\) sent a letter requesting a meeting with BPA and NOAA Fisheries](#) to discuss the participation of the fish and wildlife agencies and Tribes in the monitoring design relative to the work plan. On April 13, a group met for that discussion with no resolution, but NOAA Fisheries did support the agencies and Tribes participation in the monitoring and design process. During a follow-up conversation with Brian Lipscomb, Tony Grover, and Greg Delwiche, Greg agreed it was appropriate request for the agencies and Tribes to be involved in the process sooner rather than later. They discussed an idea to accommodate that participation by merging the three processes 1) CBFWA RM&E anadromous fish portion of the work plan 2) Action Agencies work on BiOp M&E and 3) Council's categorical review in a concentrated effort to be accomplished in a workshop setting over a 2-week period. The expectations and parameters including participation for this workshop would be developed over the next six weeks with the intention of a June workshop. Preliminary outcomes would be as follows: confirm and communicate the assessments of current monitoring efforts, develop a common vision, complete a gap analysis, and develop common strategy for VSP perimeters for anadromous fish then move to action effectiveness for hatchery, habitat, and hydro. An BPA stipulation would be to set a budget for the agreed to strategy of the current suite of monitoring and evaluation for anadromous fish identified by the Council minus 10% for restructuring flexibility plus \$18M identified by BPA to fund BiOp M&E. Brian will provide an electronic copy of the current suite of monitoring and evaluation for anadromous fish identified by the Council to the Members.

Brian requested the Members direction and approval regarding the draft RM&E work plan proposal and workshop concept to proceed and work with RM&E committee, Greg Delwiche, and Tony Grover to develop the workshop perimeters for deliverables, timing, structure, and attendance. Final review and agreement to proceed with the workshop will be requested of the members.

Nate Pamplin supported the position and direction of the conversations and requested that the discussions with Greg and Tony on merging the M&E processes and vision be written down for Members review.

Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS stated he spoke to Rob Walton, NOAA, and Rob supports the strategy and workshop outlined above.

Action: The Members approved the RM&E Work Plan Proposal and directed Brian Lipscomb to develop and work out the timing and deliverables with BPA and Council to be approved by the Members when the details are worked out. No objections.

Brian stated if BPA and Council commit to this effort, he will prepare a draft proposal within 10-days for Members review and feedback, if not he will email an update next week and continue working with MAG on April 21. Further discussions are needed for work plan, funding, habitat, hatchery, and hydro effectiveness pieces, and implementation.

ITEM 4: BPA/NPCC Follow-up Meetings to Discuss the Work Plan

Updates: Brian provided an update of the follow-up conversation at the April 13 dinner meeting with Chairman Ward, Chairman Booth and F&W Committee Chair Whiting regarding CBFWA funding. Chairman Booth requested a follow up memo articulating the actions and summary of the coordination funding decisions relative to CBFWA's funding budget for FY 2009. Brian will prepare a briefing on funding decisions, direction, and appropriate roles for coordination and data management to best implement the amended F&W Program and BiOp.

Mark Bagdvotiz confirmed with Brian that the MAG would review the briefing prior to distribution.

Brian will keep the Members and MAG informed of any scheduled conversations with BPA and Council. The Members did not review talking points or make any commitments during the discussion of this issue, because no meetings have been scheduled at this time.

Dave Staler, NPT inquired about the no cost time extension granted by BPA for FY 2008.

Kathie Titzler, CBFWA staff stated that she sent the no cost time extension to the Members last week. She requested an email from any CBFWA Member who needs additional funding for April 2009, because some Members have identified available funding for other Members to use. BPA should have new contracts ready for May 2009 when funding runs out.

Kathie will be sending budgets for Members and MAG review to identify their 2009 funding needs for an 11 month budget that has been significantly reduced.

Upcoming Meetings: **MAG Teleconference**, April 21, 2009, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. - MAG's attendance is recommended and the [draft agenda](#) is linked for your review.

Members May 6, 2009 Teleconference, Wed. May 6, 2009, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Members will review the MAG's recommended actions and receive an update the development of the CBFWA work plan and funding.

Council Meeting: May 12-14, 2009 in Walla Walla, WA <http://www.nwcouncil.org/> - Members will present the final SOTR to F&W Committee and Members attendance is requested.

Discussion: Chairman Ward requested that the Members and MAG attend the upcoming CBFWA meetings in person and have face-to-face discussions on these important issues, challenges, and opportunities.