



**COLUMBIA
BASIN
FISH & WILDLIFE
AUTHORITY**

DRAFT

DATE: October 31, 2005
TO: Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC)
FROM: Lawrence Schwabe, Chair
SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for the October 24, 2005, RFAC Meeting

Note: These draft action notes will be on the next RFAC Meeting agenda for final action/approval.

Resident Fish Advisory Committee Meeting
October 24, 2005
Portland, Oregon

Draft Action Notes

Attendees: Dave Ward (ODFW), Ron Peters (CDAT), Frank Young (CBFWA), Tom Iverson (CBFWA), Neil Ward (CBFWA)
By Phone: Lawrence Schwabe (BPT), Chris Brun (CTWSRO), Melo Maiolie (IDFG)
Time Allocation:
Objective 1. Committee Participation 100%
Objective 2. Technical Review %
Objective 3. Presentation %

ITEM 1: Review Agenda
No changes were made to the agenda.

ITEM 2: Resident Fish Population Status Template: Update
Neil Ward presented the updated draft template that will be used to assemble resident fish information for the purpose of performing a status review of resident fish resources in the Columbia River Basin. Neil indicated that he will be contacting RFAC participants during the next two weeks to identify dates that they could meet to review the template and assist him in identifying the reports, websites, and plans that contain pertinent information. Neil indicated that it is his goal to complete this exercise by early-2006.

ITEM 3: Creating Project-Type Placeholders for the Fish and Wildlife Program: Update
During the August 31, 2005, RFAC meeting, an ad hoc workgroup was formed to draft a correspondence that would be forwarded to the Members Advisory Group (MAG) highlighting the continued reduction in funds that the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC) has recommended for resident fish projects. In addition, the RFC directed the ad hoc work group to include a recommendation to initiate the use of project-type placeholders to ensure that the resident fish segment of the Fish and Wildlife Project does not continue to absorb budget cuts. Neil Ward presented the information that would be presented to the the MAG for their review and consideration on October 25, 2005.

ITEM 3 Creating Project-Type Placeholders for the Fish and Wildlife Program**Continued:**

Update: *On October 25, 2005, Lawrence Schwabe presented the RFAC's "placeholder proposal" to the MAG for their consideration as well as proposed that the \$1,000,000 placeholder that currently exists for 2006 should be partitioned per the 70/15/15 objective. The MAG advised the chairs of the CBFWA committees to meet with Neil Ward and Brian Lipscomb to a draft a letter, for submission to the NPCC and BPA, that represents an agreed upon approach to the reallocation of funds that become de-obligated.*

ITEM 4: Review and Approve RFAC Charter

In September 2005, the Members adopted a new charter and directed an ad hoc group to develop a universal charter for the technical committees. Lawrence Schwabe, who participated in the development of the format for the new technical committee charter, led the RFAC in a review of the proposed RFAC Charter. The following corrections/additions were provided by the participants:

- Section II, C – insert resident before fish and delete “and wildlife”
- Section II, D – delete hyphens in “resident-fish-oriented” and delete “oriented”
- Section IV, New (3) - Insert the following: The Resident Fish Advisory Committee shall have a Chair and Vice-Chair to manage the meetings and operations of the committee. They will serve one-year terms, running from October to September each year. Each October the Vice-Chair will automatically move to the role of Chair and a new Vice-Chair will be elected. In the event that the Vice-Chair cannot move to the role of the Chair, both a Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected. A rotating Chair is desirable but not necessary. The positions of Chair and Vice-Chair are open to all assigned Resident Fish Advisory Committee representatives of a CBFWA member. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair will be based on the votes of the Resident Fish Advisory Committee members present at the meeting during which the election is held or their proxies.
- Section IV – renumber, starting with “(3)” (i.e., 3 should become 4 following the insertion of the “New (3) (see above)

ACTION: The RFAC recommended forwarding the edits to Tom Giese.

ITEM 5: Discuss the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee (PNUCC) “Projects of Interest” Document and Decide How to Respond

The PNUCC has indicated that they intend to become more involved in the NPCC's Fish and Wildlife Program during the project recommendation phase. The PNUCC recently identified several projects, funded through the Fish and Wildlife Program, that they believe should no longer receive funding from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). A review of the list suggests that the PNUCC may not be familiar with the resident fish substitution and off-site mitigation provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Program. Neil Ward led the RFAC in a discussion regarding the PNUCC document.

ACTION: The RFAC recommended that Lawrence Schwabe present the document to the MAG for their review and discussion.

Update: Lawrence Schwabe presented RFAC's concerns, regarding the uncertainties associated with the document, and requested that the MAG discuss this issue during their next meeting. The MAG will review and discuss the PNUCC document during their next meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2005.

ITEM 6: CSMEP: Evaluate the Potential for Initiating a Resident Fish Effort

Frank Young briefed the RFAC on the potential of including resident fish efforts in the CSMEP proposal. Frank indicated that some CSMEP participants have agreed that it is logical to include resident fish, especially since language exists in the current proposal supporting a resident fish effort. Frank suggested there should be a partnership with the USFWS, which would serve as the lead entity. Frank recommended that the RFAC contact the USFWS to seek their participation and inquire about their ability to provide their own funds for the activity.

ACTION: The RFAC directed Neil Ward to attend the October 28, 2005, CSMEP to brief the participants. In addition, Neil Ward and Dave Ward were directed to attend the November 8-9, 2005, CSMEP Workshop.

ITEM 7: Coeur d'Alene Trout Ponds

Ron Peters led the RFAC in the review of a funding situation that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe has experienced during the last several years. The BPA funds that enabled the Coeur d'Alene tribe to stock their put-and-take trout ponds, ponds created with BPA funds, are no longer available because they were included in the Coeur d'Alene hatchery project, a project that was de-funded in 2001. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has submitted a within-year request seeking funds to allow them to purchase fish and complete the construction of the suite of put-and-take ponds that were contracted through their hatchery project.

ACTION: The RFAC supported the request for a within-year adjustment and recommend that Lawrence Schwabe request, during the October 2005MAG meeting, that the MAG review this request during their November 15, 2005, meeting.

UPDATE: Lawrence Schwabe presented the RFAC recommendation to the MAG and the MAG has advised the Coeur d'Alene that a discussion regarding their within-year request will be included as an agenda item for the November 15, 2005, MAG meeting.