



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 300 | Pacific First Building | Portland, OR 97204-1339 | Phone: 503-229-0191 | www.cbfga.org

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 government 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: September 29, 2009
TO: Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC)
FROM: Neil Ward, CBFWA Staff
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the September 24, 2009, RFAC Meeting

RFAC Meeting
September 24, 2009
9:00am-3:00pm
Portland, Oregon

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Dave Statler (NPT), Sheri Sears (CCT), Chad Abel (BPT), Christine Mallette (ODFW), Jim Uehara (WDFW), and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

Phone: David Parrish (IDFG), and Charlie Holderman (KTOI)

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

ITEM 1: Review and Approve Agenda

Action : *Agenda was approved with one addition (i.e., ITEM 3, Election of a New Vice-Chair)*

ITEM 2: Approve Action Notes from the July 14, 2009 and August 11, 2009 RFAC Meeting

Action : *The action notes for the July 14, 2009 and August 11, 2009 RFAC meetings were approved.*

ITEM 3: Election a New Vice-Chair

Effective October 1, 2009, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Ron Peters) will become the Chair of the RFAC. To fill the soon to be empty Vice-Chair position, the RFAC requested nominations and volunteers.

Action: *Participants nominated and approved Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Christine Mallette) as the Vice-Chair for 2009-2010.*

ITEM 4: Resident Fish Loss Assessment Letter for Members Review

During the September Members meeting, there was a motion to approve the resident fish loss assessment letter; however, the motion did not receive a second. Sheri Sears and Neil Ward briefed the committee on the actions the RFAC needs to take to ensure the proposed methodology for assessing inundation losses is approved by the Members in October and forwarded to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC). The RFAC participants acknowledged the importance of briefing their Member representatives prior to the meeting and requested that the letter be made available far enough in advance to resolve, before the Members meeting, any concerns that may exist.

Action: *The RFAC directed Neil Ward to ensure that the agenda for the October Members included the following agenda item description "Resident Fish Habitat Loss*

Assessment Methodology and Letter for Members Approval.” The RFAC also requested that the “Recommended Action” include the similar language.

Action : *For the purpose of clarification, the RFAC provided additional (see highlighted/underlined text in the attachment) verbiage to the letter.*

Action: *Neil Ward and Sheri Sears will prepare a PowerPoint presentation that consists of few slides that provide the context for the exercise, general description of the method, and importance of submitting the letter to the NPCC.*

ITEM 5: Resident Fish Losses: Development of Methodology to Assess Operational Losses

Participants continued to review and discuss the existing methods for assessing resident fish losses that are a result of Federal Columbia River Power System operations. Christine Mallette updated the participants on the results of ODFW’s review of the MFWP’s methodology for evaluating losses associated with the construction of Bonneville Dam. Based on ODWF’s initial review, the MFWP’s method has limited potential for the use in the Lower Columbia River reservoirs. In addition, Dave Statler suggested that the RFAC should consider some of MFWP’s other reports to better understand how MFWPs estimated fishery losses. The RFAC suggested that Brian Marotz should be invited to the next meeting to provide another discussion regarding the MFWP’s methodology. Also, Sheri Sears discussed an approach that she has been considering that is more of an ecosystem approach, similar to the approach that the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho is investigating.

Action: *Neil Ward will ask Brian Marotz to attend the next meeting as well as provide the documents that Brian referenced during his presentation to the RFAC in Whitefish in July 2007 (see attached document)*

****Following the meeting, David Parrish (IDFG) provided IDFG’s “Assessment of Fisheries Losses in the Upper Snake River Basin in Idaho Attributable to Construction and Operation of dams with Federal Hydropower Facilities.” This report has also been attached for your review.****

ITEM 6: Next Meeting – Tentative
Tuesday, November 3, 2009
9:00am – 3:00pm
CBFWA Office - Portland, OR