



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 300 | Pacific Center Building | Portland, OR 97204-1339
Phone: 503-229-0191 | Fax: 503-229-0443 | Website: www.cbfwa.org

DATE: March 2, 2010
TO: Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC)
FROM: Neil Ward
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the February 18, 2010 RFAC Meeting

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

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

Resident Fish Advisory Committee Meeting Thursday, February 18, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Pacific) @ CBFWA Office, Portland, OR [RFAC webpage](#)

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Sheri Sears (CCT), Mike Faler (USFWS), Christine Mallette (ODFW), Norm Merz (KTOI), Chad Abel (BPT), and Tom Iverson (CBFWA)

Phone/ WebEx: David Parrish (IDFG) and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

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

ITEM 1: Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved.

ITEM 2: Approve Action Notes for the January 14, 2010 RFAC Meeting

Action: *The action notes for the January 14, 2010 RFAC meeting were approved.*

ITEM 3: CBFWA Work Plan: Prioritization of RFAC Deliverables

On February 3, the CBFWA Members approved the CBFWA work plan for the period of April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011. Due to the number of resident-fish-oriented deliverables that are included in the work plan, participants, during the January 14, 2010, RFAC, requested that the RFAC prioritize the deliverable and attempt to develop a draft timeline for the upcoming contract period.

The RFAC reviewed the deliverables and prioritized them as follows:

White sturgeon (Columbia and Snake), March – June 2010

White sturgeon (Kootenai), March – June 2010

Resident fish loss assessments, March –December 2010

Bull trout, June 2010 – March 2011

Reservoir/lake-specific resident fish, January – August 2011

Resident trout, June 2011 – March 2012

ITEM 4: Mainstem/Systemwide Categorical Review: Columbia and Snake River White Sturgeon

Neil Ward informed the participants that the Mainstem/Systemwide RM&ECategorical Review is scheduled to begin in early April 2010. Included in the review will be white

sturgeon projects. White sturgeon projects being implemented in the Blocked Area will be reviewed during the Geographical Review which is scheduled to begin in early-2011. Category reviews will focus on existing projects that are largely previous commitments. Once a categorical review is complete, NPCC staff will submit to the Council funding a set of projects including budget and scope adjustments, project durations, and the results from science review. The recommendations may include funding options or alternatives based on near-term adjustments and new or different work elements. The Council and BPA expect to provide a “commitment to fund” qualify (appropriate) categorical projects for up to eight years.

Participants discussed the need to accelerate the process to develop the White Sturgeon Monitoring Implementation Strategy. With a completed strategy, the CBFWA would be able to make the document available to the NPCC and ISRP for use during the Mainstem/Systemwide RM&E Categorical Review. In the past, the ISRP has expressed concern that it was their impression that there was a lack of communication and coordination among white sturgeon managers.

Action: *The RFAC directed Neil Ward and Christine Mallette to develop an ad hoc White Sturgeon Workgroup to review the White Sturgeon Monitoring Implementation Strategy directive and associated tasks. The RFAC suggested the workgroup should include, but not be limited to, the following individual: Blaine Parker (CRITFC), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Brad James (WDFW), Dave Parrish (IDFG), Dave Statler (NPT), Mike Parsley (USGS), and Sue Ireland (KTOI). Monday, March 1, 2010, was identified as the date for the first meeting of the workgroup. The RFAC directed Neil and Christine to provide a report during the next RFAC meeting.*

ITEM 5: Review Columbia Basin Resident Fish: Methodology to Assess Habitat and Fish Losses Resulting from Hydroelectric Development and Operations

During the January 14, 2010, RFAC meeting, participants directed Neil Ward to compile the methodology, for assessing habitat and fish losses, into one document. Neil presented the document to the RFAC for their review. Neil indicated that during the preparation of the document, he recognized the need to include sections that are specific to white sturgeon as well as other unique scenarios. Participants agreed that including the additional sections was prudent. Subsequently, participants directed Neil to continue to develop the additional sections.

ITEM 6: Resident Fish Losses: Development of Methodology to Assess Operational Losses

Norm Merz (KTOI) provided a progress report regarding the KTOI’s operational loss assessment project. In addition, the RFAC continued to discuss an appropriate methodology for assessing resident fish losses resulting from hydrosystem operations.

Action: *The RFAC requested that Norm Merz provide examples of the IBI that were referenced during his presentation. Neil Ward will forward those documents to the RFAC. Also, the RFAC directed Neil to assign metrics and acceptable ranges to operations tables that were provide by Sheri Sears.*

ITEM 7:

Next Meeting

Thursday, March 11, 2010

CBFWA Office

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.(Pacific)