



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 260 | Pacific First Building | Portland, OR 97204-1339
Phone: 503-229-0191 | Fax: 503-229-0443 | Website: www.cbfwa.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 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: August 23, 2007
TO: Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC)
FROM: Ken MacDonald, CBFWA
SUBJECT: August 22, 2007 WAC Meeting Action Notes - Final

WAC Meeting
August 22, 2007
ODFW Screen Shop 3561 Klindt Dr.
The Dalles, OR 97058

The support material and reference documents for the meeting will be posted at <http://www.cbfwa.org/committees/Meetings.cfm?CommShort=WAC&meeting=all>

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Karl Weist (NPCC-Oregon), Ken MacDonald (CBFWA), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), Paul Ashley (CBFWA), Michael Pope (ODFW), Matt Deniston, Joe DeHerrera (BPA), Tom O'Neil (NHI) Angela Sondenaa (NPT), Nate Pamplin (WDFW), David Speten (BPT)

By Phone: Tracy Hames (YN), Neil Ward (CBFWA)

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

ITEM 1: Review and Approve July 23 Action Notes and August Agenda

ACTION: The July 23 Action Notes were approved as written.

The August meeting agenda was modified as follows: ITEM 3 the CHAP discussion was moved to ITEM 2 and the PISCES discussion moved to ITEM 3; a new agenda topic, Northwest Habitat Institute Work plan became ITEM 4, and the SOTR and Amendment topics became ITEM 5 and 6 respectively.

ITEM 2: CHAP

Discussion: Tom O'Neil, Paul Ashley and Michael Pope gave a presentation on CHAP (Combined Habitat Assessment Procedure). Michael began the discussion with an update on the most recent ISRP review of CHAP which was negative. The ISRP has not been given a presentation but was responding to answers Oregon needed to provide based upon questions regarding a proposed project to continue investigating the potential use of CHAP instead of HEP as an assessment and crediting tool in the Willamette. The group feels a new tool that is ecologically based needs to be developed to replace HEP. Tom, with Paul and Mike then went through a presentation on CHAP and how the process has been applied. CHAP may not only be a useful assessment process but may be a tool to help prioritize management

actions on wildlife mitigation lands. Paul then gave a presentation where they conducted a comparison of the results of a CHAP and HEP assessment on the same lands in the Yakima subbasin. The CHAP results seemed to make more sense biologically than the HEP results.

In general the group felt that while the application of CHAP in the Fish and Wildlife Program is a work in progress, the methodology is a potential tool that needs to be explored. For example how to translate CHAP results into the HUs in loss assessments is still not developed but CHAP represents a paradigm shift into a more ecologically based assessment process.

There was considerable discussion on how to best proceed given that BPA has not funded the Oregon CHAP project and given the negative ISRP review. Clearly the WAC needs to further discuss the matter with ISRP whose main concern is CHAP does not monitor species response to habitat actions, which is true and was never intended to be such a tool.

ACTION: There will be more discussion but the WAC may draft a letter to the Council and ISRP supporting the continued development of the CHAP tool for application in the Fish and Wildlife Program

ITEM 3: Wildlife Crediting in Pisces

Discussion: Matt Deniston demonstrated the recent updates to the PISCES program and answered questions from the group. There was some concern regarding definitions especially the relationship between estimated HUs and baseline HUs, that may need to be clarified but overall the review seemed positive. BPA would like to include project area maps in a GIS format. It was suggested the COTRs ask for the information through individual project sponsors. One of the goals of BPA with the PISCES updates is to make the crediting process through PISCES more transparent and when updates are made to project information the project sponsors will be immediately notified so they can review and provide input.

ACTION: If any individual members have comments on the changes they should contact Matt or Joe directly

ITEM 4: Northwest Habitat Institute (NHI) Work Plan and Funding Request

Discussion: The NHI will be going to The Council and BPA for additional funding request, up to the amount recommended through the MSRT as part of an overall regional data management program. The MAG asked NHI to ask the WAC for review of their priority work items and to recommend to NHI which actions should be moved forward through the proposal to the Council.

A summary of the NHI primary objectives are posted. In brief the priority objectives presented are:

1. Operating and maintaining IBIS
2. Update and refine wildlife habitat maps throughout the basin
3. Wildlife, habitat and GIS tools and services
4. Habitat assessment protocols (CHAP)
5. Develop operational assessments (working directly with Kootenai

Tribe of Idaho)

6. Wildlife population monitoring

ACTION: The group decided the priority objectives were #1, 5, combine 2 and 3 and clarify/revise that NHI will provide oversight, consistency, and assistance to groups that wish to move on those items. Objective 4 while a priority was moved to last given the current ISRP response and CHAP funding. The WAC suggested that #6 be dropped at this time.

Tom will get the revised budget request to Ken MacDonald

ITEM 5: Status of the Resource Report

Discussion: The proposed template for the wildlife portion of the SOTR was reviewed with Neil Ward

ACTION: The following suggestions were made for the template

- The provincial page will stay as is except the columns in the table will include the dam name, habitat units lost and total habitat units credited (estimated + baseline based on HEP assessment + enhanced). Any crediting issues that members have will be footnoted.
- The cost bar chart will be stacked showing capital funds and expense funds
- In the subbasin section the focal species pictures will be replaced by pictures of the projects.
- The table in the subbasin section will include the wildlife project name, sponsor, acres and HU credits assigned to the wildlife project (but not which facility the project was credited to).

An example of the new format will be prepared and circulated for one last review but we are not planning any substantial changes unless there are strong objections to the format

ITEM 6: Program Amendment

Discussion: Due to the late hour and the work the wildlife committee has completed to date on the amendment, and because only a couple of people would be able to attend the proposed work session Thursday this agenda item was postponed

ACTION: Ken MacDonald will schedule a WAC conference call prior to the MAG meeting September 17 to prepare for the MAG meeting. While WAC members can attend the MAG meeting currently the WAC will be represented by Ken MacDonald and Nate Pamplin as they will be attending the MAG and Member's meetings.

NEXT WAC MEETINGS

The September WAC meeting in Yakima has been canceled. The next WAC meeting will be October 25 at the CBFWA office.