



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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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

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

National Marine Fisheries Service

Nez Perce Tribe

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Coordinating Agencies

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes

Upper Columbia United Tribes

DATE: April 11, 2011
TO: Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC)
FROM: Scott Soult, Chair
SUBJECT: March 16, 2011 WAC Meeting Final Action Notes

Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC) Meeting

March 16, 2011
2:00pm-4:30pm (pacific)
@ CBFWA Offices
Portland, Oregon

The support material for the meeting is posted on the [WAC webpage](#).

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Scott Soult (Chair, KT); Kyle Heinrick (Vice-Chair) and Jason Kesling (BPT); Tracy Hames (YN); Angela Sondenaa (NPT); Carol Perugini (SPT); Paul Dahmer (WDFW); Doug Calvin (CTWSRO); Tom O'Neil (NHI); David Byrnes (BPA); and Tom Iverson and Paul Ashley (CBFWA)

Phone/WebEx: Aren Eddingsaas (SBT) and Nancy Leonard (NPCC)

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Discussion: Scott requested to add an Agenda Item 5 to discuss issues regarding the regional HEP team. Tom I. requested to add an Agenda Item 6 regarding an update on the recent CBFWA Members' meeting.

Action: The agenda was approved with these two modifications.

ITEM 2: Review and Approve as Final February Draft Action Notes

Action: The WAC approved the February 3, 2010 Action Notes as final with no modifications.

ITEM 3: Wildlife Area Management Plan Template

Discussion: Tracy provided an update on the status of the template. Scott and Tracy will follow up with Philip on additional management plan information. Later in the meeting, David Byrnes joined and updated the group on several items; new PISCES work element for development of land management plan (draft will be in phases), discussions on BPA interpretation of baseline assessment, and questions regarding contract compliance in the developing land management structure.

Action: Scott and Tracy will continue to work with BPA on developing the next draft of the template.

ITEM 4: Wildlife High Level Indicators Framework

Discussion: Tom O. presented a power point presentation on GIS layers for ecological mapping examples of shrub-steppe, ponderosa pine, and grasslands. Question arose on hierarchical level issues (i.e., white oak dominant 1:100,000 to 150,000 scale – minimum size?), Shrub-Steppe Habitat, and issues related to Basins and Unified HUC layers (being aware of breaks between hydrology layer units, NPCC Provincial basins and geographical boundaries). Tom O. mentioned the ability to query species from the multi-species context and recommended a visit to their website: www.nwhi.org/NHI_Rangemaps/.

Action: 1) Scott/Tom O. and Paul A. to review basic vegetation types and bring back the generalized habitat type grouping and ask about agreements, questions, what these types really mean. 2) Scott to bring UCUT reference habitat labels and descriptions, and 3) Scott/group go back and review prior meeting notes to follow up previous HLI directions.

ITEM 5: General Discussion on Regional HEP Team

Discussion: Scott asked Paul to give a brief history of the RHT and indicated he had questions related to the relationship between the RHT and the WAC. The WAC was brought up to date on RHT activities to understand the sideboards of contract, roles of CBFWA/BPA and BPA's recent request on HEP reports. The Regional HEP Team is under CBFWA contract in order to retain an unbiased nature for their work.

Action: The WAC will add an agenda item at a future meeting to discuss 1) what are the contractual sideboards for the RHT, 2) where are the Technical HEP needs for the near future, 3) when is the need for the RHT fulfilled – when ledger is full or obligation mitigated?, and 4) what is future funding requirements?

ITEM 6: CBFWA Members Meeting Update

Discussion: Tom I. reported a good turnout for the Winter CBFWA Members' meeting. The 14 current members voiced a strong commitment to CBFWA and directed staff to begin development of the FY2012 and beyond CBFWA work plan and budget. CBFWA is alive and well. The CBFWA Members recognized the philosophical shift from CBFWA providing the central technical staff for Program implementation to a more focused role of facilitating the CBFWA Members' participation in the Program processes. CBFWA will prepare a five year work plan that outlines the priority work and describes how it should be funded. The Policy Directives and work will likely remain the same through 2013, which are focused on developing basin wide assessments and identifying high level reporting to evaluate the success of the programmatic strategies. In 2013, the work will likely shift to evaluating the available information to implement a regional assessment of the current strategies and produce a high level strategy document for the next Program Amendment Process. CBFWA

staff may seek out a change in office location as a cost saving measure.

ITEM 7: Review Wildlife Crediting Forum Summary Table

Discussion: Peter will be reviewing the Wildlife Crediting Forum (WCF) report at tomorrow's meeting. He is looking forward to wrapping up the forum; but is currently working on the data and tables. The WCF should recognize that there will never be total agreement on issues due to a lack of data accuracy and other reasons, and until some of the mentioned issues are truly decided (between BPA/individual entities) that there may not be total agreement wildlife mitigation. This report and data validation effort is the first step towards getting agreement on a foundation those settlement agreements could be built.

Action: The WAC members agreed that they should each review the draft reports and provide comments and edits to Peter as soon as possible.

ITEM 8: Next WAC Meeting

The next WAC meeting will be hosted by the Kootenai Tribe in Bonners Ferry, Idaho on May 24-25, 2011. The meeting will be coordinated with a site visit to KTI managed lands. Agenda items will include 1) 2012 and beyond Regional HEP Team work plan, 2) Wildlife HLIs for monitoring strategy, and 3) BPA land management template.