



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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DATE: September 28, 2007
TO: Anadromous Fish Advisory Committee; Members Advisory Group
FROM: Dave Ward, CBFWA Staff
SUBJECT: Development of Lamprey Passage Standards

Lamprey Technical Workgroup
Passage Standards Ad-hoc Subgroup
September 24, 2007
Teleconference

Draft Action Notes

Attendees: Dave Ward (CBFWA)
By Phone: Ben Clemens (Oregon State University), Chris Peery (University of Idaho), Chuck Pevan (Chelan PUD), Matt Mesa (USGS), Dave Statler (NPT)
Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: Assignment to Lamprey Technical Workgroup (LTWG) from the Members Advisory Group (MAG)

Discussion: The MAG tasked the LTWG to “work with the Corps and other interested parties to develop lamprey passage objectives and related performance standards and measures.” A subgroup of the LTWG volunteered to work on this assignment.

The purpose of the September 24, 2007 teleconference was to develop a preliminary product – a summary of what would be required in terms of time and effort to complete the assignment.

The subgroup spent a considerable portion of the teleconference discussing the inherent difficulties in determining passage objectives, standards, and measures for Pacific lamprey. The subgroup discussed juvenile (downstream) and adult (upstream) passage separately. The subgroup also determined that both interim and long-term objectives should be developed for both life stages. In general, information is not currently adequate to develop long-term objectives for either life stage.

Juvenile Passage:

Technology does not currently exist to develop passage objectives. Methods must be developed to allow tracking of individual lamprey across projects, and preferably across multiple projects. Methods such as acoustic cameras and various tagging techniques should be explored.

Juvenile lamprey have fewer passage options than juvenile salmonids;

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

therefore, interim objectives are quite important. Interim objectives should be stated in terms of passage conditions and information needs, e.g., (1) minimize impingement (subsequent information revealed that the new grid size was made to minimize impingement and to be used at extended screens where the majority of impingement occurred; replacement is slow as it was decided to change screens as they wear out); (2) expand counts at collection facilities to develop passage indices (longer season? More hours per day?), (3) use collector projects to obtain samples for needed studies, etc. Studies should provide the information needed to develop long-term objectives.

The subgroup determined that a one-day workshop would be required to (1) develop interim passage objectives, and (2) develop a list of information needs (studies) for long-term objectives.

Adult Passage:

Although we are in better position regarding technology to monitor passage of adult lamprey, information needed to develop specific objectives is still lacking. Some have concerns that behavior of radio-tagged lamprey may not accurately reflect behavior of non-tagged fish.

Information on population dynamics of adults would be useful in discerning passage parameters (e.g., distinguishing migration identifying among cohorts/populations).

Potential conservative, preliminary objectives discussed were: (1) range of system passage and survival for Pacific lamprey should be similar to that of steelhead (although lack of strong natal return fidelity in lamprey may make it unlikely to expect the same rate as steelhead), and (2) passage at each dam should at least be equal to that of the dam with the best current passage.

Complicating all potential objectives is the lack of knowledge regarding the proportion of adult lamprey approaching a dam that actually intend to spawn that year, therefore making passage important (most overwinter before spawning).

As with juveniles, the subgroup determined that a one-day workshop would be required to (1) develop interim passage objectives, and (2) develop a list of information needs (studies) for long-term objectives.

ACTION:

The subgroup will work with the LTWG, the AFAC, the Corps, and other interested parties to schedule a two-day workshop to (1) develop interim passage objectives for both juvenile and adult Pacific lamprey, and (2) develop a list of information needs (studies) necessary to develop long-term objectives. The workshop will preferably be held before the deadline for proposed amendments to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, so that information from (2) can be included as a proposed amendment(s). Discussions and decisions could also be useful in updating the LTWG's Critical Uncertainties Document.