



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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Final

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 Fish, Wildlife & 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: November 26, 2008
TO: Members Advisory Group (MAG)
FROM: Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the November 13, 2008 MAG Teleconference

MAG Teleconference
Thursday, November 13, 2008
CBFWA Office, Portland OR (via WebEx)
9:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. PST w/Working Lunch
Support material posted at http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_mag.cfm

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Ronald Peters, Cd'AT; Manager Michele DeHart, FPC; Jann Eckman, Brian Lipscomb, Tom Iverson, Binh Quan, Dave Ward, Neil Ward, Patricia Burgess, CBFWA

WebEx/Phone: Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Alan Byrne, IDFG; Peter Hassemer, IDFG; William Barquin, KTOI; Dave Statler, NPT; Elizabeth Gaar, NOAA Fisheries; Tom Rien, ODFW; Bill Tweit, WDFW

Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS, chaired the meeting.

Action: The MAG approved the agenda as presented. No objections.

ITEM 2: October 7-8, 2008 and October 21, 2008 MAG Draft Action Notes

Action: The MAG approved the October 7-8th and October 21st draft action notes as final. No objections.

ITEM 3: WebEx Update

Binh Quan, CBFWA, provided an overview of an upgrade to the WebEx tool. The upgrade provides a training interface adapted for use for the CBFWA meetings. The upgrade has additional features that are more user-friendly providing for better organization within the meetings.

ITEM 4: CBFWA Amendment Recommendations and Comments

On October 27th, the Members directed CBFWA staff to request time on the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (Council) November or December meeting agenda to provide a presentation to Council Members regarding CBFWA's comments to the Council's draft Program. The Members directed the MAG to develop the presentation for Members approval at the November 17, 2008 meeting.

Brian Lipscomb reviewed a draft presentation developed by CBFWA staff. Brian Lipscomb advised that as of this date, there are no Members available to provide the presentation; however, Brian advised that he could provide the presentation to the full Council. Brian also suggested a direct follow-up from the Members in the form of a consultation meeting with the Council on December 9th in Portland when the

Members would be available to attend (i.e., to discuss specifics of process on how to get to the ultimate vision of the Program, development and negotiation process for MYWPs, M&E, Resident Fish, and Wildlife).

Action: The MAG approved the revised presentation, with some additional tweaking and polish, for Members consideration at the November 17th Members teleconference. No objections.

On October 27th, the Members approved the concept of the draft letter, attachment, and appendices for MAG preparation toward a final product for final approval at the November 17th Members meeting. Comments are due December 1, 2008.

Within the meeting, the MAG reviewed the latest draft of the letter and provided real-time edits reflecting their comments and conclusions.

Action: The MAG recommended for Members' approval on November 17th, the final package consisting of the cover letter, attachment 1, and the outline for attachment 2, pending changes discussed. No objections. The MAG members were directed to email any additional edits to Tom Iverson.

ITEM 5: FY 09 Project decisions relative to the development of Long-term Work Plans (LTWP)/Multi-year Work Plans (MYWP)

- Smolt Monitoring/Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) start of year budget
- CBFWA Work Plan
 - SOTR
- Other Projects
 - Collaboration Forum for Regional Implementation Oversight Group (RIOG)

The Smolt Monitoring Program and the CBFWA Workplan are two of many mainstem/systemwide projects with uncertain funding during the next three year funding cycle. The development of LTWPs could address these deficiencies in the current BPA Start of Year Budget and the Members may want to initiate meetings with BPA and Council to begin development of a [Draft Mainstem Multi-year Workplan](#).

Smolt Monitoring/BPA Start of Year Budget: Brian Lipscomb advised that there are several issues pending under the draft FY09 start of year budget. Along with many other projects, the funding for the smolt monitoring project has been flat-lined and the funding is not enough to maintain the current level of effort. Michele DeHart, FPC, was advised by the BPA COTR to request a budget increase with the Budget Oversight Group (BOG). On October 29th Michele sent a memo to the BOG (cc to the MAG) addressing this issue

http://www.cbfga.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2008_1113/FPCmemoSmoltMonitProgFY09DeHart178-08.pdf. The outcome was that the BOG would forward this to the Council for their decision. The Council will not be able to make a decision until February 2009; however, the program is due to start on March 1, 2009. Michele added that three states have projects within the Smolt Monitoring Program: Idaho at the trap sites, Oregon at Little Goose and Grand Ronde river trap; and Washington at several mainstem projects.

Bill Tweit, WDFW, requested that FPAC provide to CBFWA Members, an assessment of the vital information that will be lost this year (i.e., from the perspective of BiOp implementation, etc.). Michele agreed to add this request to the FPAC agenda. Pete Hassemmer, IDFG, suggested that the information developed for reporting include how the ability to manage the resources will be affected.

After some additional discussion, Brian Lipscomb suggested that he forward Michele's October 29th memo to Tony Grover and Greg Delwiche advising that it has been sent through the BOG process, resulting in a referral for a February Council decision, and requesting that a decision be made sooner.

Michele suggested that the letter be redrafted under CBFWA letterhead from Brian Lipscomb to avoid any confusion as to the source of the request (i.e., that it is not coming from the FPC). Ron Peters, Cd'AT questioned whether it is appropriate for CBFWA to support individual projects rather than focus on problems needing to be fixed on a broader scale. In response to Ron's question, Brian Lipscomb directed the MAG to CBFWA staff's recommendation to adopt the Mainstem Multi-year Work Plan and send it to BPA to discuss all required funding commitments. Dave Statler, NPT, suggested that the BOG's determination be included with the correspondence.

Tom Iverson suggested a parallel process suggesting that the state Members make individual requests to place this on the Council agenda for December.

CBFWA Work Plan/MYWP/Other Projects: Brian Lipscomb stated that in follow-up to the September 26th Consultation meeting, the Members provided information and definitions as requested to BPA and the Council ([http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_1001/ConsultFollowUpfromLPeterman\(CBFWA\)toMessrsBoothDelwiche2008_1002Final.pdf](http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_1001/ConsultFollowUpfromLPeterman(CBFWA)toMessrsBoothDelwiche2008_1002Final.pdf)); however, there has been no communication and follow-up with regard to process to proceed forward for the mainstem systemwide MYWPs.

Brian suggested that action be taken to focus the conversation on FY 2009 and move toward the MYWP for FY 2010 by June 2009. Brian suggested that this conversation be included within the discussions at the December 9th Council meeting. An action could go before the Members at their December 3rd teleconference to approve a presentation for December 9th emphasizing that it is in follow-up of the September 26th Consultation meeting. Ron Peters stressed the importance of communicating to the Council that there are multiple projects requiring funding for FY 2009, not just the ones cited as examples.

Brian suggested that CBFWA staff formulate correspondence and a consultation presentation to the Council and BPA December 9th with a review by the MAG electronically by COB Wednesday, November 26th for Members approval on December 3rd.

- Action:** The MAG directed CBFWA staff to develop correspondence and a consultation presentation to the Council and BPA and reviewed electronically with the MAG as discussed. No objections.
- ITEM 6: Status of the Resource (hard copy) template review and recommendation to Members**
- Action:** Due to time constraints, the MAG deferred this item to the December MAG meeting. No objections.
- ITEM 7: Response of CBFWA to Welch, et al paper on *Survival of Migrating Salmon Smolts in Large Rivers With and Without Dams***

The Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC) was to provide a technical analysis of the Welch et al paper (http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2008_1113/Article_SurvivalMigratingSalmonSmolts_Welch_etal.pdf) to the MAG; however, instead Michele DeHart, FPC, provided a verbal analysis of the paper. After a lengthy discussion, Ron Peters, Cd'AT, stated that he was not in agreement with CBFWA responding on this paper and suggested instead that in the event that conflict arises, CBFWA could respond to

the validity of the arguments presented on the FPC website provided in response to the data requests. Following the meeting, Michele emailed a memo to MAG members with detailed conclusions:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/MAG/meetings/2008_1113/MemotoMAGfromMDeHart186-08.pdf.

Brian Lipscomb stated that this will be put on the Members December 3rd agenda as an update only. If the situation changes, it can be brought up for discussion again at the December MAG meeting. Mark Bagdovitz added that if there are potential policy/management decisions based on the information in the Welch et al paper, then CBFWA may need to give this more consideration.

ITEM 8: NOAA Data Dictionary and Monitoring Guidance Follow-up

At the October 21st meeting, the MAG assigned the AFAC to work with non-AFAC members to review the draft data dictionary and monitoring guidance documents. The group will report their findings to the MAG.

Action: Due to time constraints, the MAG deferred this item to the December MAG meeting. No objections.

ITEM 9: Fish Screening Oversight Committee Actions

- FSOC charter – the FSOC is committed to becoming revitalized, and development of a charter is a step in this process.
- Mitchell Act funding for screens – it is possible that Mitchell Act funding for fish screens may be eliminated in 2010. The FSOC has prepared a briefing memo summarizing the effects if this happens.
- Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act (FRIMA) reauthorization – the FSOC has drafted a letter indicating CBFWA's support of FRIMA reauthorization.

Action: Due to time constraints, the MAG deferred this item to the December MAG meeting for Member consideration in January.

ITEM 10: December 2008 MAG Meeting

Brian Lipscomb advised that in keeping with the MAG's recommendation of holding quarterly face-to-face meetings and rotating the meetings among the four states in the basin, the December MAG meeting would be held in Boise, Idaho. Due to the substantial agenda items for MAG consideration, it was recommended that the meeting be a two-day meeting beginning the afternoon of the first day and ending by noon on the second day. Due to a low number of participants left on the teleconference, it was agreed that CBFWA staff would poll the MAG members for their input into scheduling the December MAG meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:
Members December Teleconference: Wed, Dec 3rd
MAG December Meeting: December 16-17th
Council November Meeting, Coeur d'Alene, ID, Nov 18-20th
Council December Meeting, Portland, OR, Dec 9-11th

FYI: **Northwest Power and Conservation Council links:** [2008-2009 Program Amendments](#) and [NPCC Public Hearing Schedule](#)

Deadline for Comments: December 1, 2008

Meeting adjourned.