



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

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: February 24, 2012
TO: Members Advisory Group (MAG)
FROM: Jann Eckman, Interim Executive Director
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the February 15, 2012 MAG Meeting

Members Advisory Group Meeting
Wednesday, February 15, 2012
9:00am - 1:00pm (pacific)
@ CBFWA Office - Portland, OR
[MAG Webpage](#)

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Doug Taki, Chair; Gary James, CTUIR; Elmer Ward, CTWS; Dave Statler, NPT; Edmond Murrell and Rick Edwards, SPT; Mike Faler, USFWS ; Heather Ray and Scott Hauser, USRTF; and Dave Ward, HDR Engineering, Inc. [Contact Dave Ward at Ph: 503/423-3824 or Email: David.Ward@hdrinc.com]

Staff: Jann Eckman, Tom Iverson, Neil Ward, Trina Gerlack, CBFWA/Foundation

Phone/WebEx: Jason Kesling, BPT; Lance Hebdon, IDFG; Elizabeth Holmes Gaar, NOAA Fisheries; and Laura Robinson, NPCC

Time Allocation:

Objective 1: Participation	100%
Objective 2: Technical Review	0%
Objective 3: Presentation	0%

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Action: The agenda was approved as written. No objections.

ITEM 2: Draft Action Notes from the December 6, 2012 MAG Teleconference

Action: The [December 6, 2012 action notes](#) were clarified with minor edits and approved as final. No objections.

ITEM 3: CBFWA Members' Budget Increase Requests for Coordination Needs through 3/31/12.

- [Burns Paiute Tribe requested \\$6,000 for coordination needs.](#)
- [Fort McDermitt Paiute & Shoshone Tribe requested \\$3,000 for coordination needs.](#)

Action: The MAG approved the Burns Paiute and Fort McDermitt Paiute & Shoshone Tribes' funding requests for coordination needs through March 31, 2012, and directed Jann Eckman to manage the budget transfers. No objections.

* Note: Jann asked members to confirm with their account representatives that all billings have been submitted through February 2012. March 31, 2012 is the end of this contract, so it is important to get the invoices submitted.

ITEM 4: Reports by Lamprey Technical Work Group (LTWG)

Dave Ward, HDR Engineering, Inc. reported that the “[Translocating Adult Pacific Lamprey within the Columbia River Basin: State of the Science](#)” paper prepared by the Columbia River Basin Lamprey Technical Workgroup has been accepted for publication in *Fisheries* and should appear in the monthly publication in late-2012.

Dave asked the MAG to review and provide comments on the “[Draft Synopsis of Lamprey-Related Projects Funded through the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program](#)” report that was requested by the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP). The draft report is a summary of existing and past lamprey projects and answers questions presented by the ISRP. Dave Ward and Christina Luzier (USFWS) are [scheduled to present the report to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council \(NPCC\) during their March 6 & 7, 2012 meeting](#).

The MAG agreed to review the technical report and send comments and updates to Dave at David.Ward@hdrinc.com to be incorporated into the draft report and approved as final at the next MAG meeting.

Action: The MAG approved presenting the “[Draft Synopsis of Lamprey-Related Projects Funded through the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program](#)” as a technical progress report in response to the ISRP’s questions with potential updates made to amend the progress report between now and when it is presented. No objections.

ITEM 5: Coordinated Assessments Data Management Team Update

Tom Iverson summarized the [draft goals and objectives of the Data Exchange Template \(DET\) Development Team](#) (DDT) and reported the next phase of the Coordination Assessments is to finalize a DET that will provide data sharing guidance for the Columbia Basin’s state and Tribal fisheries management agencies. The DDT will provide recommendations to the Coordinated Assessments Planning Group.

By the summer of 2012, the goal of the DDT is to develop a final consensus DET that clearly defines the specific data elements that will be included by the agencies and tribes in their sharing of the three initial VSP Indicators and their supporting metrics. The StreamNet project will initially facilitate the sharing of data. In the future, the DET will be expanded to include additional data and other species. It is anticipated that a workshop will be held during the summer to get regional acceptance of the draft DET.

ITEM 6: FY12 CBFWA Annual Work Plan Update

Tom Iverson provided the [2012 Transition CBFWA Work Plan](#) presentation for the April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 contract period. He outlined the new structure of the membership and organization, Charter changes, FY2012 budget, specific tasks for the technical work groups, and the proposed future funding distribution model.

Beginning April 1, 2012, there will be ten Members remaining in the CBFWA organization. The Members funding contributions can no longer fully support the technical forums. This is a transition year to CBFWA and the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Foundation (Foundation) to provide Fish and Wildlife Program coordination/ facilitation services. Effective April 1, the Foundation staff will be reduced to 4.75 FTEs, of which, two are full-time coordinators.

The Foundation is searching for alternative funding through grants and soliciting non-members for funding contributions. To date, the [Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks contribution is \\$50,000](#) to support Resident Fish, FSOC, and Wildlife technical committees, and provide regional travel for MFWP employees, and the [Idaho Department of Fish & Game contribution is \\$5,000](#) to help cover costs for facilitation of regional forums during FY2012. Due to the reduced budget and staff, the Foundation is searching for a smaller office. Jann Eckman and Tom Iverson are in negotiations regarding space on the second floor, with an anticipated move by April 1.

The CBFWA Members and MAG forums for addressing policy issues will continue to function under the amended CBFWA Charter. The technical committees will become focus work groups that support Program implementation and will be facilitated by the Foundation staff and serve member and non-member agencies and tribes.

The MAG agreed there is a need to schedule a regional coordination workshop with fish and wildlife managers to discuss the long-term maintenance and future of the technical work groups. The region will have to determine what the value of each work group is and how to fund and support the technical work groups on an ongoing basis.

Due to reduced funding and support, staff will spend more time facilitating meetings in 2012 and less time developing product deliverables.

SOTR

Neil Ward and Binh Quan will continue to update the Status of the Resources (SOTR) website; however, instead of being done on a quarterly basis, the updates will occur monthly. Foundation staff is currently requesting that users of the SOTR complete a survey, available on the website, in an effort to continue to address the needs and desires of the user group. If you have not participated in the survey, please visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5PG2KRQ> to complete the nine-question questionnaire.

Anadromous Fish Focus Workgroup

Tom Iverson will facilitate the Anadromous Fish Focus Workgroup. In the fall, the Anadromous Fish Focus Workgroup will begin planning for the 2014 Program Amendments. He will also co-facilitate the Coordinated Assessments Workgroup to oversee development and adopt the DET for salmonid high level indicators. StreamNet will take the technical lead on DET development. The focus work group efforts may be directed towards the [Intensively Monitored Watersheds \(IMW\)](#) project, Columbia Habitat Monitoring Program (CHaMP) and Columbia River Hatchery Effects Evaluation Team (CHREET) in coordination for the agencies and tribes input regarding habitat effectiveness and evaluations.

FSOC and Resident Fish Focus Workgroup

Neil Ward will facilitate the Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC) quarterly meetings, annual fish screen workshop, develop passage criteria, and increase focus on resident fish. Neil will continue to co-facilitate the Resident Fish Focus Workgroup and coordinate meetings and technical workshops, develop resident fish monitoring strategies and methods, and discuss fish screen/passage needs with FSOC.

Wildlife Focus Workgroup

Tom Iverson will facilitate the Wildlife Focus Workgroup to address the NPCC's Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Reporting (MERR) Plan and develop high level indicators for reporting basin wide assessments for wildlife.

Fish Passage Center

The Fish Passage Center (FPC) will continue to facilitate the Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC), but there will no longer be a connection between the CBFWA Executive Director and FPC Manager.

Lamprey Technical Workgroup

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may take the lead on Lamprey Technical Workgroup (LTWG) with assistance from Foundation staff on distribution of agendas and support material. The MAG expressed concerns relative to one Member facilitating a technical committee and will discuss the appropriate role for facilitation of the LTWG at a later time.

To help plan for the 2014 Program Amendments, the MAG suggested doing a cross-check of the 2009 Program including:

- Which measures are being implemented or accomplished and which are not?
- A review of the recommendations to find what was not accepted and see if they are still relevant in the Program.

CBFWA Services

Tom Iverson proposed that a CBFWA facilitator continue to provide the "Eyes and Ears" services for each of the Members. The intent is to develop a written monthly report on basin-wide activities that affect each Member. The MAG requested more discussion at the next meeting on who is seeking the service and which forums each Member should track.

Jann Eckman and Tom Iverson will coordinate the MAG and Members committees.

The Members will meet at least once a year to address decisions regarding future annual work plans, regional coordination, Charter amendments, and passing the gavel to the next Chair and Vice-Chair.

The MAG should meet bi-monthly or more if necessary to develop future annual work plans, regional coordination discussions, Columbia River Basin activity updates, future planning for F&W Program amendments, and Charter revisions.

ITEM 7:

FY13-15 CBFWF Presentation to ISRP Update

The [FY2013-15 proposal RESCAT-1989-062-01 – Program Coordination and Facilitation Services provided through the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Foundation \(Foundation\) Project Number: 1989-062-01](#) was submitted on November 30, 2011 to the NPCC for review. On January 17, 2012, Tom Iverson provided the [1989-062-01: Program Coordination and Facilitation Services presentation](#) to NPCC and ISRP.

Tom Iverson provided a [presentation summarizing the ISRP's preliminary "Resident Fish, Data Management, and Regional Coordination Category Review"](#).

The ISRP gave all regional coordination proposals the same grade and comment.

The ISRP did not review the proposals under the existing context of regional coordination, but instead reviewed them under a future context that the NPCC may or may not support. The CBFWA staff and several members expressed concern and were confused by the ISRP's comments and policy guidance requests.

The MAG raised the question, if the ISRP are the technical experts, why are they reviewing non-technical projects and asking policy questions. Why would the fish and wildlife managers do research in-lieu of coordination? The MAG recommended referring to the Northwest Power Act to support regional coordination projects. The fish and wildlife managers are a necessary component for creating the Fish and Wildlife Program. The MAG decided not to respond to the ISRP questions, but to create talking points and meet with Tony Grover and NPCC staff to ask what they plan to do with the ISRP's comments. The talking points should identify the concerns that ISRP raised and the fish and wildlife managers' concerns with the review by the ISRP.

Assignment: The MAG directed staff to create and send talking points to the MAG for review and comment. A volunteer team of MAG representatives will meet and prepare for meeting with Tony Grover and NPCC staff in April to address the key concerns and discuss future direction.

ITEM 8: Revised CBFWA Charter

- Consider the Charter changes associated with the new membership structure.

Assignment: The MAG reviewed the draft amended Charter page by page and provided edits, which staff will incorporate and distribute back to the MAG for final review and recommendation for Members review and approval at the next Members Meeting.

Update: The staff incorporated the February 15th comments into the [revised draft amended Charter in tracking changes version 3](#) for MAG's review and comment. The Appendix at the end of the document needs a thorough review.

ITEM 9: Status of the Resources (SOTR) Survey

- If you haven't already done so, complete the short nine-question survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5PG2KRO> to enable the staff to evaluate usage and content of the SOTR (survey closes March 1, 2012). Survey results will be available on the SOTR website by the end of March 2012.

Assignment: To get the broadest distribution, the MAG representatives agreed to forward the survey to other project leaders and interested parties.

ITEM 10: Next MAG Meeting

The MAG is scheduled to meet March 6, 2012 from 1:30-4:00pm via teleconference. Potential agenda items are approve amended Charter, approve Members March meeting draft agenda, approve [Draft Synopsis of Lamprey-Related Projects Funded through the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program](#), discuss regional coordination work shop, office relocation update, and other business items.

Next Members Meeting Date

Assignment: Chairman Taki directed staff to poll the Members for their availability to participate for a one day meeting in Portland near the airport during the weeks of March 12 and/or March 19, 2012. Potential agenda items are FY12 CBFWA Transition Work Plan update, approve amended Charter, acknowledge

withdrawing Members, select FY12 Chair and Vice-Chair, Regional Coordination workshop, discuss eyes and ears function for coordination, office relocation update, and Members budget/expense summary update.

Update: **The Members Meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2012 from 9:00am-2:00pm in Portland, Oregon.** The hotel logistics and meeting agenda are forthcoming.

Upcoming Meetings: [Northwest Power and Conservation Council](#) Meeting(s): March 6-7, 2012, Portland, OR and April 10-11, 2012 Skamania, WA