



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 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

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

National Marine Fisheries Service

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 20, 2012
TO: Members Advisory Group (MAG)
FROM: Doug Taki, Chair
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the April 17, 2012 MAG Teleconference Meeting

Members Advisory Group Teleconference Meeting

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

1:00-2:15pm (Pacific)

CBFWA/F Office, Portland, OR

[MAG Webpage](#)

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Doug Taki, Chair
Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Foundation (Foundation) Staff: Jann Eckman, Tom Iverson, Neil Ward, and Trina Gerlack

WebEx - Phone: Laura Gephart and Phil Roger, CRITFC; Elmer Ward, CTWS; and Gary James, CTUIR

MAG Not Present: Shoshone-Paiute Tribes; Burns Paiute Tribe; Kootenai Tribe of Idaho; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; National Marine Fisheries Service; Yakama Nation; and Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda
Action: The draft agenda was approved. No objections.

ITEM 2: Draft Action Notes from the March 6, 2012 MAG Meeting
Action: The [3/6/2012 MAG Meeting action notes we approved as final](#). No objections.

ITEM 3: Business Items

Jann Eckman provided a copy of the [Members a statement of revenues and expenditures for April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012](#). The statement reflects the original contract amounts. It was pointed out in the meeting that the overages and a few of the underages were reviewed and approved at a previous MAG meeting and therefore this statement does not reflect actual contract performance. Jann reminded the group to send in any remaining FY 2011 invoices for time and travel reimbursements before April 30, 2012.

The Members Coordination Agreements for contract period April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 were mailed on March 30, 2012 for review and signature. The Foundation has received signed contracts from Umatilla Tribe, Shoshone Paiute Tribe, Shoshone Bannock Tribe, Burns Paiute Tribe, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The Foundation cannot reimburse the Members for time and travel starting April 1 without a signed contract. Please sign and return the FY12 Members Coordination Agreements by the end of the April.

The Foundation office will be closed Friday, April 27 through Monday, April 30, 2012 for our move to the 2nd floor, Suite 250. The office phone and email capabilities will be out of service, but the CBFWA website will be accessible and functioning. We will reopen for business on May 1st. The new Foundation office address is 851 SW 6th Ave, **Suite 250**, Portland, OR 97204. The office phone numbers, email and web addresses did not change.

Due to the size of the new office space, the CBFWA archives have been moved to offsite storage locations. Leonora Oftedahl, CRITFC StreamNet Regional Librarian came to the office and collected the CBFWA library to be included in the [StreamNet Library](#). Jann and Trina are preparing to send the archive of CBFWA Members' consensus documents and Members Advisory Group action notes to the [National Archives and Records Administration \(NARA\) in Seattle](#). These historical documents will be kept in perpetuity and be available to the public for research information needs upon request.

ITEM 4: Future of Program Coordination

Tom Iverson has been monitoring the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC) actions regarding the Fish and Wildlife Program (Program) Coordination Funding Recommendations. In March, the NPCC met to discuss the Program Coordination Funding Recommendations and developed a list of actions that the Coordination Projects should perform, consistent with the Program language. The NPCC plans to bundle the Program Coordination Projects with the specific list of actions and send that package as their project recommendations to Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for decision on funding. It appears that no project-level specific activities nor budget levels will be provided in the NPCC's recommendations.

Also, the NPCC discussed the Status of the Resources (SOTR) Project and that it could potentially be separated from the Program Coordination projects and funded through the Data Management category of projects. One idea that was presented, but did not gain a lot of support, was to issue a request for proposals for a project to replace the SOTR. The NPCC staff is still evaluating various scenarios.

At the April meeting, the NPCC did not address the Program Coordination Projects. The ISRP issued their final report on the Program Coordination Projects and they did not change their recommendations or comments regarding the regional coordination projects.

Tom prepared two concepts to help the NPCC formulate more specific project recommendations. On [March 23, 2012, Tom sent a Draft Conceptual Approach for Program Coordination](#) to the MAG representatives and non-members for discussion on creating a Program Coordination oversight board to facilitate the work groups to make coordination more effective. The idea is to replace the role that the CBFWA Members and MAG forums served in providing guidance and integration to the technical committees. Since the technical committees will no longer serve CBFWA directly, there is a void in leadership to keep the committees work integrated and prioritized. A second concept was posted for today's meeting dated [April 17, 2012, Draft Comments to the NPCC on Program Coordination Project Funding Recommendations](#) and [revised Flow Chart](#). There appears to be a universal need among the NPCC, BPA, federal agencies, and the fish and wildlife managers to coordinate information needs and reporting to support adaptive management processes in the Columbia River Basin. The NPCC is focusing on monitoring and evaluation to support basin-wide decision making through the draft

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Reporting (MERR) Plan as well as their adoption of High Level Indicators (HLI). The BPA staff is pursuing methods for reporting the status of VSP indicators, and habitat and hatchery effectiveness indicators for FCRPS Biological Opinion reporting.

There is a need for ongoing technical workgroups to identify and support Fish and Wildlife Program information sharing priorities; however, the funding mechanism to support ongoing facilitation of these workgroups is unclear.

Considering the MERR structure, Tom created these comments suggesting the creation of a [MERR Implementation Oversight Board](#) could manage and identify a reporting system through the SOTR and HLI websites for sharing information about the Program and Columbia River Basin.

Tom suggested that the fish and wildlife agencies and tribes identify their Program coordination needs and submit individual comments to the NPCC before May 4th. At this time, the NPCC is not going to change their recommendations to BPA until they hear differently from the fish and wildlife agencies and tribes. Tom suggested the comments encourage the NPCC to deliver more specific and accountable recommendations for each of the projects, instead of bundling the projects together for BPA funding; include specifics on which technical work groups are valuable to your entity and should be maintained into the future, and encourage the NPCC to have a conversation about Program coordination needs with the whole region.

[The NPCC invites your comments through May 4, 2012, on the ISRP's reports related to Resident Fish, Data Management, and Regional Coordination Category Review of proposals.](#) The NPCC Staff will be presenting their project recommendations at the NPCC's May 8-9, 2012 meeting in Hood River, Oregon. The NPCC is planning to make their final project recommendations to BPA on all project proposals in these categories at the NPCC's June 12-13, 2012 meeting in Missoula, Montana.

Doug Taki supported Tom's suggestions to send individual comments from each agency and tribe regarding their Program coordination needs to the NPCC by May 4, 2012.

Phil Roger (CRITFC) requested that Tom resend the [March 23, 2012, Draft Conceptual Approach for Program Coordination](#) document.

ITEM 5: Policy Directive (PD) Updates

1) PD #1 – Upcoming Technical Committee Meetings

Resident Fish

Mike Faler (USFWS) facilitated the April Resident Fish Workgroup meeting during which time future resident fish coordination was discussed. It was well attended including the states and Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT). They discussed future work that needs to be completed regarding resident fish, including that associated with the next amendment process, as well as responding to the NPCC's MERR Plan.

Recently, the ISRP reviewed the Resident Fish Monitoring Strategies (RFMS) which the resident fish managers submitted to the NPCC staff in the September 2011, prior to the project reviews. Although the strategies were not used during the initial review, they were used during the "fix-it loop" and the ISRP said they were useful. In addition, the ISRP provide a full review of the draft strategies and provided comments and recommendations that will prove useful during the development of Phases 2 and 3. The ISRP did indicate that although the draft strategies provided a good overview of the ongoing work, there still remains a need

for better description of how the activities are coordinated and how the managers collaborate to complete the efforts. For Phases 2 and 3 to be successful, it will be essential that the resident fish managers are coordinated to ensure collaboration between the agencies and tribes, BPA, and NPCC staff.

Wildlife

The Wildlife Committee met in February and will meet again May 7th to discuss the wildlife monitoring strategy and how to incorporate the ISRP's comments into the wildlife monitoring strategy. The Wildlife committee will begin discussing how to develop a work plan and prototypes for reporting wildlife high level indicators for the Program. The goal is to have the prototype reports completed by next fall.

Anadromous Fish

The Anadromous Fish committee focus for coordination efforts is developing the data exchange template for sharing three high level indicators. The Coordinated Assessments Planning Group will meet next month to review and finalize the draft data exchange template. At a summer workshop, the goal will be to get a basin wide buy in to start using the data exchange template and sharing high level indicators for Salmon and Steelhead in a very structured way beginning next fall. This project is on track and making good process.

Lamprey

The facilitation of the Pacific Lamprey Workgroup has been transferred to USFWS. Some of the tribes have commented that they would like facilitation of the Lamprey Workgroup back at CBFWA or somewhere else.

Tom introduced the [USFWS's Draft Conservation Agreement for Pacific Lamprey](#) that was presented at the NPCC's April meeting and requested a presentation from USFWS for the next MAG meeting.

Gary James recommended a thorough review of the draft and pointed out that this is a development of regional plans for implementing actions. He stated the Columbia Basin is a leader and already developed plans. The Columbia Basin is at the implementation phase: action, more commitment, dollars. There is a 10-year USACE plan in the accord agreement, as well as anew tribal restoration plan. The CRITFC tribes are not ready to embrace another planning effort without more information.

Gary reported that the Lamprey Summit III is scheduled for June 20-21, 2012 and the tribes envision an overview of all the ongoing actions including the USFWS's initiative. During the second day, participants from the Columbia Basin would meet to discuss implementation of the existing plans. It is expected the remaining participants would discuss how to implement the new conservation initiative.

FSOC

The Fish Screening Oversight Committee are preparing for their training workshop in September. They will start looking at lamprey and resident fish impacts for developing more robust screening criteria.

2) PD #2 – Status of the Resources (SOTR) Survey Results Report

The [SOTR Survey Results](#) were positive and well received. Neil Ward reported that the findings confirmed that the goals that were set when the project was initiated have been accomplished and that the SOTR continues to be maintained to ensure the goals are realized. The survey results provided helpful guidance for the future. Unfortunately, some the user groups recommendations likely will not be addressed in the near future due to staff reductions and time constraints.

The timing is ideal to use the results for discussions on how the SOTR can be used in the future. This is an opportunity for the agencies and Tribes to brief the NPCC on the merits of the SOTR project. The Foundation staff requested the region's

support in retaining the SOTR.

3) PD #3 – Updates on Other Activities

Tom sent the [Pacific Coast LCC](#) solicitation for integration of tribal knowledge into landscape scale conservation management. The funding opportunity was forwarded to CRITFC, USRT, and UCUT for review.

[Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership](#) (PNAMP) has several committees working on data sharing for habitat information. The PNAMP habitat data leadership team is meeting on April 23rd to review all the habitat data management committees.

ITEM 6:

Next MAG Meeting

The next MAG meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 15, 2012 from 9:00am-12:00pm pending the opportunity to review and comment on the Coordination Project Recommendations prior to the NPCC's decision to BPA in June 2012.

Doug Taki directed staff to send an email notice to the MAG requesting their availability to participate on this date.

Upcoming Meetings:

[2012 Columbia River Estuary Conference](#) – May 15-17, 2012, Astoria, OR

[Northwest Power and Conservation Council](#) Meeting(s): May 8-9, 2012, Hood River, WA - June 12-13, Missoula MT - July 10-11, Boise ID.