



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: August 8, 2008
TO: CBFWA Members
FROM: Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the August 6, 2008 Members Teleconference

Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) Members Teleconference Wednesday, August 6, 2008 @ CBFWA Office, Portland OR 1:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. PDT

All support material is posted at http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_main.cfm.

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Brian Lipscomb, Jann Eckman, Tom Iverson, Ken MacDonald, Neil Ward, Dave Ward, Patricia Burgess, CBFWA; Karl Weist, NPCC

By Phone/WebEx: Chairman Larry Peterman, MFWP; Ronald Peters, Cd'AT; Elmer Ward, CTWS; Paul Kline, IDFG; Angela Sondena, NPT; Dave Statler, NPT; Lynn Hatcher, NOAA Fisheries; Tom Rien, ODFW; Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Nate Pamplin, WDFW; Carol Perugini, SPT; Greg Delwiche, Andre L'Heureux, BPA

Time Allocation:

Objective 1. Committee Participation	100%
Objective 2. Technical Review	0%
Objective 3. Presentation	0%

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA, advised that an addition to the agenda is the approval of the July 9th Members Teleconference draft action notes.

Action: The Members approved the agenda with the addition of the requested approval of the July 9th Members draft action notes. No objections.

Note: *Items are listed in the order discussed.*

ITEM 2: Approve as Final: Draft Action Notes from the June 25-26, 2008 Members Meeting and the July 9, 2008 Members Teleconference

Action: The Members approved the June 25-26, 2008 Members meeting and July 9th Members teleconference action notes as final. No objections.

ITEM 3: Update on July 15-16, 2008 MAG and Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Meetings

Brian Lipscomb provided the update stating that the MAG Members did an excellent job communicating to the Council from a summary of issue papers surrounding Members' amendment recommendations and comments in Wildlife, Anadromous Fish, Resident Fish, and overall adaptive management structure. Presenters included Brian Lipscomb, Brian Marotz, MFWP, Elizabeth Gaar, NOAA, and Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS. The MAG also reviewed and discussed the Status of the Resource (SOTR) report and the FY09-10-11 budgeting cycle prompting actions for Members consideration.

With regard to the July Council meeting, Brian offered the following update:

The Council process of reviewing and drafting the Program amendments is moving along. Brian stated optimism that the templates provided by CBFWA agencies and

Tribes provided in the amendment recommendations will be placed in the Program as recommended. Contrary to the agencies and Tribes recommendations, Brian understood that Council staff was directed to steer away from the Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) clarifications that CBFWA agencies and Tribes provided in the recommendations and instead provide brief language instructing Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to come up with settlements across the region to settle the wildlife on an acre by acre basis. A discussion regarding a resident fish analysis for assessing the FCRPS impacts on resident fish across the basin may prompt a need for clarification by CBFWA. Lastly, the Council took the 5M goal at BPA in consideration communicating that there should be a process to work with the agencies and Tribes to have a biologically based program objective, whatever that might be.

ITEM 4: Status of the Resource (SOTR) Next Edition

Brian Lipscomb reviewed a regional processes timeline to put into context for Members to consider how CBFWA could interact with the Region as the SOTR continues to evolve. Regional Processes Timeline:

http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/Regional_Processes2008_0806.pdf.

Neil Ward, CBFWA, reviewed the SOTR Next Edition Draft with the Members:

http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/2008DraftSOTRtemplate4.pdf

Neil stated that some of the information contained within the report was developed from conversations with NOAA following the July MAG meeting in Kalispell. In addition, the report contains considerable new material as a result of discussions over the last several months with Council Member Tom Karier, with regard to high level indicators (HLIs). The maps contained within the report are Google Earth maps. Eventually, it is hoped that our interactive website will become an overlay in Google Earth; however, at this time, CBFWA has the approval to only use the maps in printed form and on the website.

Neil outlined the tentative timeline pending CBFWA Members approval of the draft template on August 6th:

- August 2008: CBFWA staff will arrange meetings with BPA, NPCC, and other user groups to discuss the template and website.
- September 2008: CBFWA staff will incorporate comments and edits based on meetings with user groups and review the revised draft with the MAG at the September meeting (via WebEx).
- October 2008: CBFWA staff anticipates presenting a revised template for approval by the Members at the October Teleconference.
- October/November 2008: CBFWA staff anticipates beginning the process of populating the document.
- Anticipated completion of this SOTR report: April 2009.

Lynn Hatcher, NOAA, expressed that the SOTR report is an excellent report. Lynn stated that NOAA is aware that the report contains a lot of information regarding Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund which they will use; however, Rob Walton, NOAA, asked him to convey that the SOTR report could not suffice for NOAA's report to Congress. Their report contains similar information but in a format based on what they are required to report.

Action: The Members approved the SOTR framework and content as presented. No objections.

ITEM 7: Climate Change Briefing Paper

Brian Lipscomb advised that at the meeting in Kalispell, the MAG reviewed the Western Climate Change Initiative (<http://www.westernclimateinitiative.org/>) currently being considered by the Columbia Basin Governors of Oregon, Montana, and Washington (Idaho is considered an observer).

Brian stated that at this point in time, there is not a lot of opportunity for the agencies and Tribes to participate; however, participation should be possible once the initiative

goes to the legislators. Brian suggested that CBFWA Member agencies and Tribes work together to formulate a plan to obtain on-the-ground money in the event funds are generated through this process to create improvements in habitat. This could in turn create carbon credits and ensure that the entire carbon production and impact on the ability for the environment to create carbon credits is accounted for when looking at the impact by the development of hydropower primarily in the form of habitat impacts.

At federal level, both presidential candidates' environmental strategies contain carbon cap-and-trade elements. The mindset within the environmental community is that regardless of which candidate is elected, there should be movement at a national level, which is the level where the agencies and Tribes would want to collectively engage.

ITEM 5: Conversation with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) on the Analysis of the Relationship between Population Level Objectives and Program Level Objectives

Brian Lipscomb opened the discussion stating that at the June Members meeting, Dave Ward, CBFWA, provided the initial briefing of the Anadromous Fish Advisory Committee (AFAC) assignment. NOAA and USFWS have requested that BPA be included in the conversation to contemplate where to go from here and from that perspective Greg Delwiche, BPA, was invited to take part in today's discussion.

Dave Ward provided a review of the briefing paper prepared for Members titled *Relationship Between Subbasin Objectives and Basin-Wide Objectives for Anadromous Salmon and Steelhead in the Columbia River Basin*: http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/ObjectivesAnalysisBrief_Mbrs_Rev2008_0806.pdf. In addition, the Objectives Analysis was posted for Members review: http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/ObjectivesAnalysis_Members_Review2008_0806.xls

Brian Lipscomb stated that with the preliminary analysis completed by the technical staff, Members still need to consider: 1) revisiting the population objectives to make sure if they are the appropriate objectives to include, and 2) how the Members will use this information in discussions with the Council in the form of objectives at the subbasin level and/or objectives at the programmatic level, and how should the programmatic level objective be communicated so that it was clearly reflective of the population level objectives.

Dave Statler, NPT, stated that when revisiting goals and objectives at the basinwide scale, caution must be used to not lose site that the objectives and goals were based on losses of the hydropower system and the desire by the fish managers to recoup the losses. Dave continued that it is not biologically feasible to go down the path that expects increases and biological capacity by habitat improvements. Dave stated that if, for example, the Members strictly go toward biological capacity, then Members could be severely limiting the capacity to achieve mitigation for fisheries for losses caused by the hydro system.

Action: After considerable discussion, Dave Statler moved that the Members refer this discussion back to MAG requesting that they make recommendations to refine the technical analysis contained within the draft reviewed today, specifically refining inputs into the tables.

After some discussion and confusion surrounding the direction of the motion, Dave Statler clarified that the intent of the motion is for the AFAC to refine the technical data in the tables based on the subbasin objectives encouraging the Members in the subbasins to participate and provide the data.

Dave stated that once this work is done, he would be willing to entertain some policy type of discussions with regard to what this information tells us.

The motion passed without further discussion. No objections.

Action: The Members directed the AFAC to do "technical outreach" as they proceed with implementing the assignment in the previous motion (under this item discussion). No objections.

Brian Lipscomb stated and Dave Ward concurred that this assignment will take

considerable time to complete and stated a possible time frame of 6-12 months.

Greg Delwiche, BPA, stated that he appreciated the opportunity to respond and while it was hard for him to get a clear big picture of the effort, he thinks it has promise and he would like to be involved at the technical level for a better understanding. Greg added that the comprehensive BiOp analysis was done for a different purpose looking at how to avoid jeopardy and to get on the path to recovery of the population groups that are in trouble. Greg continued stating that this analysis is a lot broader but he was particularly interested in having those that were involved in the development of the BiOp review this to see how the two dove-tail, and from a management point of view what could be done with this.

Greg stated his ongoing anxiety about efforts to define BPA's obligations because of all the other impacts at the water sublevel (i.e., salmon, irrigation depletions, water temperature issues, etc) but that he thought having clearly defined biological objectives in terms of adult populations at the subbasin and provincial level could be helpful in a number of areas (i.e., harvest and hatchery management, program management, helping in prioritizing actions funded by the Program, etc).

Greg concluded stating that BPA would like to be involved and appreciates the opportunity and the invitation.

ITEM 6: BPA's Integrated Program Review (IPR) FY 2009 and FY 2010-11 Processes

At the June 25-26, 2008 meeting the Members directed staff to review the rate case analysis for FY 2010-11, validate the Integrated Program Review (IPR) FY09 budget processes, and review their findings at the July 15 MAG meeting.

At the Kalispell meeting, the MAG directed CBFWA staff to draft a brief letter to BPA and the Council (based on BPA's FY08-09 Budget and individual amendment recommendations and information) to collaboratively discuss and develop a comprehensive work plan for FY 2009 and FY 2010-11.

The letter presented to the Members for approval today was previously circulated to the Members and the MAG for comments. Edits received included a suggestion from NOAA that the letter be addressed to Greg Delwiche, rather than Stephen Wright, BPA.

Brian Lipscomb stated that he had a recent discussion with Council Chair Bill Booth, and Bill expressed that he would be open to this meeting and would encourage other Council Members' engagement. Bill Booth stated that from a timing perspective, it would be appropriate to have the meeting between the August Council meeting in Spokane, WA and the September Council meeting in Astoria, OR.

Greg Delwiche, BPA, stated that whether the letter is addressed to him or to Steve, upon receipt Steve will direct him and Bill Maslen to participate as senior staff at the meeting. With regard to timing, Greg suggested that the meeting be scheduled closer to the Astoria Council meeting, or immediately after. At the request of Bill Booth, Greg stated that BPA is developing an articulation of where the dollars are geographically and categorically with work under the Accords and the BiOp. Greg intends to provide the Council with the analysis by the end of the week of August 11th and anticipates the information to invite dialogue at the Astoria Council meeting. Greg added that concurrently, BPA has been working with the lower river Tribes that are Accord signatories to add some accounting provisions for managing the implications of the Accords in less cryptic provisions than is currently contained in the Accords.

Within the meeting, Members provided further clarifying edits to the letter.

Action: The Members approved the letter with the edits discussed. No objections.

Update: Final letter and attachments sent August 7th to Messrs Delwiche and Booth: http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/FinalLetter&Attachment_L.Peterman_to_MssrsDelwicheBooth_ReqforConsult2008_0807.pdf

Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) Contract: The recommended action to approve the draft letter from fish and wildlife agencies and Tribes regarding the HEP contract was dropped from the agenda. Brian Lipscomb advised that the letter regarding the

HEP contract does not need to be sent because BPA has committed to keep the HEP contract with CBFWA and have agreed to keep HEP separate from conversations with regard to policies on crediting ratios.

Brian Lipscomb briefly reviewed a ten month work planning timeline:
http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/workplanning_08_08-01_09.pdf.

ITEM 8: Members Winter Meeting Location and Date

Brian Lipscomb suggested that the Members consider a two day meeting in January or February 2009. The agenda is yet to be determined but from a timeline perspective the agenda would probably include discussions surrounding the implementation of an amended Program and BiOp and a conversation and approval on CBFWA's work plan and budget for FY 2009 and considerations for FY 2010-11.

The Members did not make a decision on the location and date for the winter meeting. Members were prompted to consider where and when to have the meeting and if any Members were interested in hosting the meeting. The decision was deferred to the next Members teleconference.

FYI/Upcoming Meetings:

- August Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Meeting: August 12-14, 2008 in Spokane, WA.
- August MAG Teleconference: August 19, 2008.
- September Members Teleconference: September 3, 2008 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- Northwest Power and Conservation Council links:
[2008-2009 Program Amendments](#) and [NPCC Public Hearing Schedule](#)

Meeting Adjourned.

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