



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: September 4, 2008
TO: CBFWA Members
FROM: Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the September 3, 2008 Members Teleconference

**Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA)
Members Teleconference
Wednesday, September 3, 2008
@ CBFWA Office, Portland OR
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 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, Kathie Titzler, Neil Ward, Dave Ward, Patricia Burgess, CBFWA

By Phone/ WebEx: Brad Houslet, CTWS; Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Paul Kline, IDFG; Scott Soultz, KTOI; Joel Tohtz, MFWP; Dave Statler, NPT; Elizabeth Gaar, NOAA Fisheries; Tony Nigro, ODFW; Claude Broncho, SBT; Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS

Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Brad Houslet, CTWS served as chair.

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

ITEM 2: Draft Action Notes from the August 6, 2008 Members Teleconference

Action: The Members approved the August 6, 2008 Members Teleconference draft action notes as final. No objections.

ITEM 3: Proposed Strategy for Developing Comments on the Draft Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment and Development of Talking Points

Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA, advised that the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) announced the release of the draft Fish and Wildlife Program on Thursday, August 28th; however, the draft Program was not available on the Council website until September 2nd.

Possible steps forward may include the development of a comment letter and presentation to Council Members at their October 15-16th meeting and development of comments for consideration as testimony at various hearings scheduled throughout the basin. The strategy, to be determined by the MAG working with CBFWA staff, will be presented to the Members at the October 1st teleconference. Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS, suggested that if the MAG decides upon a comment letter, CBFWA should detail what was originally suggested in the CBFWA

amendment recommendations along side what the Council actually produced.

CBFWA staff have just begun reviewing the draft; however, Brian stated that the CBFWA templates have not been added into the draft Program and with regard to detail on the adaptive management framework, the content appears to be focused more toward process to verify objectives at the programmatic, subbasin, and population levels. CBFWA staff will complete their review and will provide a briefing to the MAG at their September meeting and will work with the MAG to develop strategy.

Brian stated that comments are due on October 30, 2008. The MAG may recommend that the Members consider requesting an extension of time at the Council's October meeting in Missoula, MT. Brian encouraged Members to dedicate staff for the MAG meeting on September 12th.

ITEM 4: Update on Strategy and Meetings between CBFWA Agencies and Tribes, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council)

Development of Comprehensive Work Plans: Brian Lipscomb referenced the letter dated August 7, 2008, approved by Members signed by Chairman Peterman and addressed to Greg Delwiche, BPA, and Council Member Bill Booth requesting consultation:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0806/FinalLetter&Attachment_L.Peterman_to_MsrsDelwicheBooth_ReqforConsult2008_0807.pdf. Brian advised that the meeting has been scheduled for September 26th from 1:00-4:00PM at the CBFWA office. Greg Delwiche has confirmed attendance; however, Chairman Booth delegated Council Fish and Wildlife Division Director, Tony Grover, to attend on his behalf.

The Members expressed disappointment that the Council chair delegated attendance to Council management level staff as the intent was to have a face-face meeting with executive level representatives. The Members discussed the consideration of an alternative meeting with BPA only and discussed topics appropriate for presentation specifically to BPA.

Action: The Members directed that Chairman Peterman contact Chairman Booth and request that a Council Member or other executive level representative be delegated to attend. Failing fulfillment of that request, CBFWA will move forward with the meeting with BPA exclusively on September 26th on issues discussed: 1) to come to common ground with BPA on the amendments recommended by BPA versus what CBFWA Members recommended, and 2) the work plan and budget for FY09 and beyond. The meeting would be closed to any participants outside of CBFWA and BPA executive level staff.

Motion Discussion. The Members directed that Chair Peterman suggest an alternate date if that is the reason for Chairman Booth's delegation. In the event that conversation results in an alternate meeting date, Members will be contacted via email.

CBFWA staff confirmed the record of email contact with regard to arranging the meeting directing Tony Grover's delegation. The motion passed without objection.

Brian Lipscomb continued the discussion providing background and context for the meeting advising that Tom Iverson, CBFWA, has worked extensively with Members and staff to analyze BPA's decision for 2009 and the proposed amounts for the FY 2010-11 rate case, to determine how they compare with individual work plans for on-the-ground activities proposed by CBFWA Members.

Tom Iverson explained that the analysis showed that funding levels appeared adequate but the priorities were not clear and upon review the Members requested

that Tom revisit the analysis, validating the data with each Member for accuracy, and report back on his findings. Tom stated that the analysis was inclusive of all Member input with the exception of USFWS, NOAA, and the Coeur d'Alene and Kootenai Tribes.

Tom Iverson reviewed a presentation to communicate his findings:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0903/WorkplanBPABudgetComparison2008_0903MbrsMtg.ppt.

With intent to determine substance for the meeting with BPA and the Council, Tom asked the question: How do we get BPA to fund the priorities of the Fish and Wildlife Managers and what is the role in setting the priorities and identifying the projects that need to be funded, and how can we use the draft work plans to facilitate the conversations? Tom added that CBFWA, CSMEP, PSMFC, and others are not designated for funding by BPA, but what is funded is under the "unclear" category. The "unclear" is embedded within BPA's 211M budget for FY 2009 with 12M not identified with a project sponsor.

Tony Nigro, ODFW, added that the value in direct discussions with BPA is to ensure that BPA understands the detail and reasons for CBFWA Members' priorities and to challenge BPA where we have differences and communicate our joint funding priorities to the Council.

Brian Lipscomb suggested that the conversation be approached from a broad perspective, folding in the monitoring and evaluation discussions, recognizing the Agencies' and Tribes' authority, and proceeding toward a FY 2009 budget that reflects common agreement.

Status of the Resource (SOTR) Report

Brian Lipscomb communicated that the current draft SOTR has been provided to the Council and BPA. BPA has provided extensive comments and CBFWA staff have met with them and worked through about 75% of their comments. To date, the Council has not provided any comments. CBFWA staff will work on a modified mock-up for review by the Members on October 1, 2008.

ITEM 5: Summary of Proposed Changes to the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Brian Lipscomb advised that the Department of the Interior is proposing to amend regulations governing interagency cooperation under the ESA. Jann Eckman, CBFWA, provided an extensive briefing paper for Members review summarizing the proposed changes to the ESA:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0903/ESAproposedchangessummarydraft.pdf. Review the proposed rule:

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2008_0903/ESA_ProposedRegulations_AT50PR2008_08_13_FR.pdf. The proposed rule is subject to a 30-day public comment period with the deadline set at September 15, 2008.

Action: The Members directed CBFWA staff to develop a comment letter for review by the MAG and for consideration by CBFWA Members.

Motion Discussion: The motion was clarified: the MAG will determine whether the comments would be best coming from Members collectively or individually. CBFWA staff will send a comment letter to the MAG by COB Friday for comment by COB Monday. If the MAG determines that the comments should come from the Members collectively as opposed to individually, a special conference call will be scheduled to achieve Member approval within the comment period timeframe. In developing comments, it was suggested that Members may want to request an extension of the comment period. The motion passed without objection. NOAA and USFWS abstained.

ITEM 6: Proposed Change to CBFWA Work Week

- Discussion and consideration of Member impact of CBFWA staff moving toward a 4-10 work week.

Brian Lipscomb stated that CBFWA staff are considering moving toward a 4 day/10 hour per day work schedule. CBFWA staff would work Monday through Thursday with the CBFWA office closed on Friday, thereby not providing administrative support on Friday.

The intent of the shift in schedule is to reduce the carbon footprint given the current economic climate. Brian added that CBFWA staff considered staggering the admin staff to remain open 5 days but that would not serve the purpose in the manner proposed and having alternating days off would not provide adequate coverage through the remainder of the week. If there are occasions where issues are identified requiring an adjustment of schedule, CBFWA staff will make schedule adjustments as necessary.

The Members did not object to the schedule change and agreed that CBFWA staff could proceed with the caveat that the issue be reviewed at the winter Members meeting to assess how it is working for the Members.

Anticipated implementation date is October 1, 2008. The CBFWA Foundation Board will make the final decision. Brian stated that he will review this issue with Members not on the phone today.

Upcoming Meetings:

The MAG September face-face meeting in Spokane, WA, was originally scheduled for September 16th but rescheduled to Friday, September 12th to achieve broader attendance.

FYI:

October Members Teleconference: October 1, 2008 1:00-4:00 p.m.

September MAG Meeting: September 12, 2008 10:00am-4:00pm face-face in Spokane, WA.

September Northwest Power and Conservation Council Meeting: September 16-18, 2008 in Astoria, OR

Northwest Power and Conservation Council links: [2008-2009 Program Amendments](#) and [NPCC Public Hearing Schedule](#) (as of 9/4/08)

- Tuesday, September 16, 5-7pm, **Astoria**, Oregon
- Monday, September 22, 5:30-6:30pm, **Spokane**, Washington
- Tuesday, September 23, 5-7pm, **Lewiston**, Idaho
- Wednesday, September 24, 5-7pm, **Boise**, Idaho
- Wednesday, September 24, 5-7pm, **Pendleton**, Oregon
- Thursday, September 25, 5-7pm, **Yakima**, Washington
- Tuesday, September 30, 5-7pm, **Lacey**, Washington
- Tuesday, October 14, 10am, **Polson**, Montana
- Tuesday, October 14, 4:30pm, **Kalispell**, Montana
- Wednesday, October 15, 5pm, **Missoula**, Montana
- Tuesday, October 21, 5-7pm, **Portland**, Oregon

Meeting Adjourned.