



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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**DRAFT**

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: March 25, 2009  
TO: CBFWA Members  
FROM: Brian Lipscomb, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Draft Agenda for the April 1, 2009 Members Teleconference

**Members Teleconference  
Wednesday, April 1, 2009  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
CBFWA Office, Portland OR (via WebEx)**

WebEx w/Integrative Teleconference has been arranged for this meeting:

**Select:** [Members April 1st WebEx w/Integrative Teleconference](#)

**Log in first:** Enter your name and email address

Click "Join Now" and follow prompts to dial into the teleconference

Meeting password: members (lower case)

Meeting support material and WebEx link are posted at

[http://www.cbfwa.org/committee\\_main.cfm](http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_main.cfm).

**Draft Agenda**

**ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the draft agenda.

**ITEM 2: Approve March 4, 2009 Members Draft Action Notes**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the March 4, 2009 Members Teleconference draft action notes as final.

**ITEM 3: March 10-12, 2009 Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Meeting Update**

*April 2, 2009  
BPA & CBFWA  
Meeting*

A meeting is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) with Greg Delwiche, Bill Maslen, Brian Lipscomb, and Tom Iverson, to explain the Members intention and process in preparing the workplan, review the work to be done under the workplan, and line the efforts up with the Council and BPA work that needs to be done. The Members Advisory Group (MAG) and Member chairs, Elmer Ward and Brad Houslet, and CBFWA Membership representation is desirable to send a strong message to BPA that our Members support the work plan as delivered in January. The subject matter in item 4 and 5 to be discussed next on this agenda will also be a part of the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting discussion.

If you are planning to attend, please contact Brian Lipscomb at [brian.lipscomb@cbfwa.org](mailto:brian.lipscomb@cbfwa.org) or call the office at 503/229-0191 to confirm your intent to attend the meeting at BPA.

**ITEM 4: Review and Approve Draft RM&E Work Plan Proposal**

**Background:** At the March 17<sup>th</sup> MAG meeting the M&E ad hoc work group presented a draft workplan that 1) clarified tasks to produce products to address relevant BiOp RPA priority RM&E needs and, 2) NOAA could support producing through CBFWA to assure products consistent and integrated among BiOp, Accords and local work groups.

The Members need to advocate their support of the specific tasks and communicate that CBFWA has a vital role to play in this process.

**Recommended Action:** Members approve and commit to presenting to BPA at the April 2, 2009 meeting: 1) the RM&E Proposal to address BiOp RPA RM&E; and, 2) the remainder of CBFWA's workplan relative to the amended Fish and Wildlife Program.

**ITEM 5: Update on CBFWA Spending Plan for April and May of 2009**

**Background:** The MAG and staff are developing a spending plan for April and May 2009, consistent with the \$1,895, 201 proposed spending level. The MAG postponed the development of a strategy for a Budget Oversight Group (BOG) proposal until after the April meetings with BPA and Council. BPA has two contract positions posted: [BPA Contract PDs: F&W Information Management & Fisheries Biologist](#). Greg Delwiche suggested that possibly one or two CBFWA staff members could be detailed to BPA to do the contract work. When the BPA contract position descriptions are compared with the CBFWA workplan, they align with what BPA is trying to accomplish and what Members proposed in the FY09 workplan. On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, CBFWA will discuss with BPA the possibility of funding CBFWA to do the tasks rather than hiring contractors. It is important to have strong Member representation at the meeting to explain the direction provided to CBFWA staff to build the FY09 SOW and to help disprove the perception that CBFWA staff is some type of self-promoting entity instead of staff that performs the work that the CBFWA Members direct.

BPA has granted a no-cost time extension to CBFWA for the month of April. When Kathie Titzler receives the extension from BPA, she will send the no-cost time extension to the Members. The BPA no-cost time extension allows CBFWA one extra month prior to the writing of the FY09 contract for \$1.558M on May 1, 2009.

**ITEM 6: Council Request for Comment to Develop High Level Indicators**

**Background:** "The Council is interested in developing a list of high level indicators to communicate its Fish and Wildlife program's progress to the region's Governors and to Congress. The Council is requesting public comment on a draft list of seventeen possible indicators in an effort to stimulate discussion and to begin the process of aligning, as appropriate, with existing high level indicators used by others in the region in reporting the status and trends of the region's natural resources." Comments are due by April 24, 2009. Review Council's request at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program/hli/Default.htm>.

**Recommended Action:** Approve CBFWA comments to the Council for developing High Level Indicators.

**Note:** The deadline for HLI comments has been extended to May 18, 2009: <http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program/hli/Default.htm>

**ITEM 7: Update on Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) Proposed Changes to PTAGIS Database**

The PIT Tag Steering Committee (PTSC) annual meeting was held on February 24, 2009 and Steve Pastor, USFWS, was elected chair for the upcoming year. At that meeting, Randy Fisher explained PSMFC's contract with Tech Heads (software consulting firm) and their efforts to evaluate the current PTAGIS software and exploration of opportunities for improvement. The Tech Heads consultants are being hired to evaluate the status of the PTAGIS database and will prepare an RFP for a third party audit and recommendations for possible changes or improvements to the PTAGIS software. Steve Pastor attended the March 17, 2009 MAG meeting and provided an update. Michele DeHart, FPC asked about the expected deliverables for the consultant's contract. Steve stated that a list of items were identified by the PTSC and sent to Randy Fisher on March 16<sup>th</sup> assuming he will add them into the actual contract. Steve added, that PTSC will decide how to move forward and there is good representation on the committee. The MAG will rely on the PTSC to provide updates on their decisions.

**ITEM 8: Update on Status of the Resources (SOTR)**

The Council provided comments on the draft SOTR (see [Letter from B. Booth to B. Lipscomb RE: Council Comments on Draft SOTR](#)). In the February, Brian Lipscomb stated that most, if not all, of the Council's comments could be accommodated. The CBFWA staff is integrating the Council and Action Agencies' comments into the draft for review. A meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2009 to discuss their comments. BPA is more understanding of the value of the SOTR to support their reporting requirements.

**ITEM 9: NOAA Seeking "Shovel-Ready" Habitat Restoration Proposals – Due April 6, 2009**

**Background:** On March 9, 2009 CBFWA staff forwarded the following notice to the Members. NOAA is formally seeking proposals for a variety of habitat restoration projects - including wetlands restoration, removal of unsafe, obsolete dams, construction of fish passages, oyster and other shellfish restoration and coral reef restoration. To ensure relevance, readiness and accountability to the American public, the 30-day solicitation requires that projects be "shovel-ready." Proposals are due by April 6, 2009. Typical investments by NOAA are expected to range between \$1.5 million to \$10 million per project; applications will be accepted for projects ranging from \$500,000 up to \$20 million.

For more information about this federal funding opportunity, please visit the NOAA habitat recovery website: <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/recovery> or contact Jennifer Steger, Northwest and Alaska Regional Supervisor for the Restoration Center 206.526.4363, [Jennifer.Steger@noaa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Steger@noaa.gov).

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**BPA and CBFWA Meeting – April 2, 2009**

**MAG Teleconference**, April 21, 2009, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Members May 6, 2009 Teleconference**, Wed. May 6, 2009, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Council Meetings:** April 14-16, 2009 in Skamania, WA and May 12-14, 2009 in Walla Walla, WA <http://www.nwcouncil.org/>