



October 14, 1999

TO: Wildlife Caucus Distribution

FROM: Michele Beucler, Chair *Drina for*

SUBJECT: September 29-30, 1999 Wildlife Caucus Meeting Draft Action Notes

**Attendees:** Michele Beucler and Edward Bottum (IDFG), Ray Entz (KT), Susan Barnes (ODFW), Haace St. Martin (BPT), Tracy Hames and Theodora Strong (YIN), Robert Walker (NPPC), Anders Mikkelsen (SBT), Paul Ashley (WDFW), Phil Havens and Joe De Herrera (BPA) Maureen Smith (USFWS), Robert Matt (CDAT), Matthew Berger and Steve Judd (CCT), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), Clayton M. Cota (SPT), and Frank Young (CBFWA)

**ITEM 1: Review of Agenda**

**Action:** The Draft Action Notes for August 26, 1999 were approved as written.

**ITEM 2: Decision on How to Present M&E Report to Council**

**Discussion:** Ed said that he believed that the M&E Report (Report) was not yet ready to finalize because of concerns with the Executive Summary.

**Action:** Ed will revise the Executive Summary by October 13, 1999 and Frank will redistribute the Report for a final review. The Report will be sent to the Northwest Power Planning Council (Council) as a CBFWA document. Arrangements will be made for the WC to make an oral presentation of the Report if desired by the Council.

**ITEM 3: Complete Review and Approval for Crediting Issue Paper and Discuss How to Present to Council**

**Discussion:** The group decided that since it is unlikely that a consensus could be reached on all components of the Issue Paper, it would be useful to go through the Issue Paper and list alternatives where agreement is likely.

**Action:** Tracy will prepare an introduction which acknowledges the Council's proposed new process and how it may impact the need for a crediting process in the future. Susan will revise the Issue Paper, based on comments at the meeting, for the next WC meeting.

**ITEM 4: Ranking Subcommittee Report on Revised Criteria and Discussion of Prioritization Process "Rules of Engagement" for FY 2001**

**Discussion:** The group decided to table the revised ranking criteria until we act on the larger issues of crediting, subbasin planning, etc. Ray reported that regardless of what process is used for FY 2001 project proposals, there will likely be a need to do some sort of exercise for project funding. Ray recommended that everyone review the Ground Rules that were provided to the Caucus last April. He felt that adherence to these rules would help reduce divisiveness during the ranking process.

**ITEM 5: Report on Resolution of Eagle Lakes Issue**

**Discussion:** Maureen reported that because of the language in the Washington Interim Agreement the Eagle Lake Project is not eligible for FY 2000 funding. The Washington Conservation Fund has agreed to purchase Eagle Lakes without the guarantee of another buyer. Maureen stated that the USFWS might submit a proposal to acquire Eagle Lakes after all Agreement funds are spent. A letter will be sent to the Council with recommendations to distribute the \$287,000 according to the August 26, 1999 WC Action Notes.

**ITEM 6: Demonstration and Discussion of M&E Computer Model**

**Discussion:** Paul reported that a variety of HEP models are available for downloading from the Corps website. He said the model being developed through the M&E Subcommittee will be ready for demonstration by the December WC meeting.

**ITEM 7: RVI Subcommittee Discussion and Where Do We Go From Here**

**Action:** It was decided that the RVI Subcommittee would remain inactive until crediting issues are resolved.

**ITEM 9: Funding for Reallocation for FY 2000 Projects**

**ITEM 10: Agenda and Location for Next Meeting**

**Action:** The next meeting is scheduled for October 27-28, 1999 in Portland. Agenda items will include:

1. Review of Agenda and approval of the September 29-30, 1999 Action Notes.
2. Final approval of the M&E Report.

3. Review of revised Crediting Issue Paper and discussion of how this paper might be used to influence future project funding decisions.
4. A tour of Burlington Bottoms and Tualatin Wildlife Refuge.
5. A discussion of what actions the Caucus can take to prepare for the transition to the Council's proposed new project selection process.

## **Subcommittees**

### **1. Crediting**

Membership: Carl Scheeler (Chair), Joe DeHerrera, Phil Havens, Greg Sieglitz, Susan Barnes, and Michele Beucler.

Deliverables: Develop method of dealing with crediting for operational and secondary losses. Develop assigned definitions and draft rationale for recommended approach. Distribute revised issue paper prior to October 27-28, 1999 WC meeting.

### **2. Ranking**

Membership: Ray Entz (Chair), Anders Mikkelsen, and Stacey Horton.

Deliverables: Develop proposal for new criteria to be reviewed and commented on by the Caucus.

Timeline: Subcommittee will remain inactive until crediting issue is resolved and subbasin planning activities are completed.

### **3. Relative Values**

Membership: Paul Ashley (Chair), Matt Berger, Susan Barnes, Robert Matt, and Ray Entz.

Deliverables: This subcommittee will remain inactive until the crediting issue is resolved.

### **4. Operational Losses**

Membership: Ed Bottum (Chair), Scott Soultz, Paul Ashley, and Bruce Wiseman.

Deliverables: Develop a draft Request for Proposals, addressing wildlife losses due to dam operations, for full Caucus review. Develop definition of operational losses with supporting rationale. Revise issue paper based on comments and distribute prior to October 27-28, 1999 WC meeting.

### **5. Long Term Operations and Maintenance**

Membership: Michele Beucler (Chair), Loren Kronemann, Carl Scheeler, and Jenene Ratassepp.

## 6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Membership: Robert Walker (Chair), Paul Ashley, Susan Barnes, Matt Berger, Carl Scheeler and Joe DeHerrera.

Deliverables: 1. Develop an interactive/standardized HEP modeling program that ties both vegetative and species response to mitigation activities.

- a) Develop a prototype program for review within three months
- b) Funding will be through the Wildlife Plan money
- c) Complete program with a Caucus review within six months
- d) Make program available through existing web sources, i.e. BPA Net or StreamNet; also explore a stand-alone system (CD, Diskettes, etc.) cost vs. the Net cost

A presentation of this model is scheduled for the December 8, 1999 WC meeting.

2. Robert Walker has prepared a report describing M&E efforts to date for the Council in response to ISRP comments. The report is available in draft for Caucus action at the October 27-28, 1999 WC meeting.