



October 6, 2000

TO: Wildlife Committee

FROM: Frank Young

SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for WC meeting September 27, 2000

Attendees: Dan Gonzales (BPT), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), Terry Luther (CTWSRO), Robert Walker (NWPPC), Maureen Smith (USFWS), Susan Barnes, Ken Rutherford and Greg Sieglitz (ODFW), Michele Beucler (IDFG), Paul Ashley (WDFW), Phil Havens (BPA), Tom Giese, Neil Ward, Tom Iverson and Frank Young (CBFWA).

On Phone: Ray Entz (KT), Michael Powelson (TNC), Robert Matt (CdAT), Scott Soultz (STOI), Steve Judd and Matt Berger (CTCR) and Dave Leptich (IDFG).

If there are no objections within five days, these actions will be considered final.

Time Allocation:

CBFWA Members Coordination Contract*

Objective 1. FY 2001 Project Renewal Process	50%
Objective 2. Rolling Province Review	50%
Objective 3. FY 2000 Project Adjustments	0%
Objective 4. Watershed and Subbasin Assessment and Plan	0%
Objective 5. Coordinate Program Amendments	0%

* Not all agenda items support the objectives identified in the coordination contract.

ITEM 1: Review of Agenda

Discussion: Council Decision on FY 2001 Fish and Wildlife Projects was added to the agenda. Items 3, 7 and 10 were deferred.

ITEM 2: Wildlife Considerations in Watershed Planning

Discussion: Michele provided copies of the Wildlife Society's recently adopted policy on "Recognition of Wildlife Needs in Watershed Planning".

ITEM 3: Update on Status of Wildlife Funding Letter (deferred)

ITEM 4: Wildlife Crediting Update

Discussion: Carl Scheeler gave a brief update on the crediting issue including the outcome of the discussion at the September 19-20 Council meeting in Spokane. There is some indication by Council staff that something greater than 1:1 will be decided in the final Fish and Wildlife Program.

ITEM 5: Discussion of Disposition of Unused Funds Allocated for Razor Ranch Acquisition

ACTION: The Committee agreed to allow USFWS to apply the \$395,000 approved by the Committee in 1999 for the purchase of Razor Ranch (but never used because the acquisition did not occur), toward the purchase of the Eagle Lakes Property (which was approved by the Committee in 2000 but underfunded). Tracy Hames abstained from this decision. The Committee agreed that all future situations analogous to this would be handled in the same manner. Maureen Smith stated that if the acquisition of Eagle Lakes Property was not successful she would support the reallocation of these funds through CBFWA.

ITEM 6: Wildlife Committee Role in Provincial Review Process

Discussion: Frank Young reported that the Intermountain and Gorge province reviews went reasonably well (considering that these were the first provinces reviewed in the new process). Both CBFWA and the ISRP are learning how to deal with the process more effectively. Frank pointed out that the province budget work groups will be meeting the week of October 9, 2000 to prioritize projects and reconcile the province budgets. The WC will meet at 10 a.m. October 30, 2000 in Spokane to review the province budgets before they are sent to the MMG and then to the Members for final approval. The final product is due to the Council November 9, 2000.

ITEM 7: How the TNC Works in Oregon, Idaho and Washington (deferred)**ITEM 8: Election of New Wildlife Committee Chair**

Discussion: There was considerable discussion about the future of the Committee and whether there was a need for the Committee to continue since the future project funding decisions were to occur through the Rolling Provincial Review Process.

ACTION: Carl Scheeler agreed to serve as Chair, subject to the approval of his supervisor. Susan Barnes will consider serving as Chair for the next three months if Carl is unable to serve. The group discussed the integration of current Wildlife Committee duties into the Provincial Review Process with the expectation that the Committee would no longer be needed afterward. In addition, other committees could be established (e.g., a habitat committee) that are better aligned with the new way of doing business. A plaque was presented from the Committee to Michele in appreciation for her performance as Wildlife Committee Chair over the past year.

ITEM 9: Establishment of a Mobile HEP Team

Discussion: Paul Ashley proposed the formation of a HEP team comprised of agency representatives with expertise in HEP to assist with HEPs in all states and assure consistency among all BPA funded projects. Several members indicated that they could not spare the use of their staff for the time required.

ACTION: Paul will develop a proposal to use seasonal workers to assist project managers with HEPs under the oversight of a HEP coordinator.

ITEM 10: Review of Subcommittees (deferred)**ITEM 11: Council Decision on FY 2001 Fish and Wildlife Projects**

Discussion: Tom Giese reported on the recent Council decision to revise the project funding recommendations in the FY 2001 DAIWP. Committee members provided him with their responses to the changes made by the Council to their project budgets as part of a response he was preparing to be considered by the MMG at their October 3rd meeting. The Committee also provided input on how the \$7.3M in budget "surplus" generated by the Council changes be allocated.

ACTION: Some Committee members expressed their concern that the Council had ignored their project funding recommendations. All Committee members agree that the Council made inconsistent adjustments to the project budgets. The Committee agreed that the \$7.3M should be used first to restore funding to CBFWA-recommended projects where project budgets had been inappropriately reduced by the Council.

ITEM 12: Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on October 30, 2000 in Spokane.