



August 3, 2001

TO: Wildlife Committee

FROM: Carl Scheeler

SUBJECT: Action Notes for July 23, 2001 Wildlife Committee Conference Call Meeting

Attendees: Susan Barnes (ODFW), Terry Luther (CTWSRO), Robert Walker (NWPPC), Tom Iverson and Frank Young (CBFWA)

By Phone: Maureen Smith (USFWS), Carol Perugini (SPT), Ray Entz (KT), B.J. Keiffer (STOI), Paul Ashley (WDFW), Robert Matt (Cd'AT), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), Ed Bottom (IDFG), Matt Berger (CTCR), and Scott Soultz (KTOI)

Time	Objective 1. FY 2002 Renewal Process	%
Allocation:	Objective 2. Rolling Province Review and Subbasin Summaries	90%
	Objective 3. FY 2001 Adjustments	10%

ITEM 1: Approval of Project Proposals for the Columbia Plateau.

Discussion: The WC discussed the crediting and in lieu issues expressed in a Memo from Ray Entz (attached). Others expressed similar concerns on these issues but did not share Ray's view that project proposals should be precluded from funding based on those issues alone.

On the crediting issue, the managers are concerned that BPA will unilaterally choose to apply credits from watershed projects and anadromous fish habitat projects against the construction and inundation losses ledger for wildlife impacts from the hydrosystem. This could be done between basins or within basins that are implementing both wildlife and watershed projects. Such action on the part of BPA threatens to limit the in-place and in-kind mitigation that is called for by the Council's Program and the USFWS HEP protocols and could reduce the incentive to fund projects focused primarily on the documented wildlife losses. The wildlife managers still feel strongly that these losses are a high priority for mitigation funding.

On the in-lieu issue, the managers are concerned that BPA funds are being used to fund project proposals that are the responsibility of other funding sources and/or address problems unrelated to the development of the hydrosystem. Such expenditures could have a significant impact on the

availability of funds for more appropriate new start projects.

ACTION: The WC recommends that concerns expressed in Ray's memo along with any other member's comments pertaining to individual projects, be incorporate into the comments for each of the subject proposals for the MMG to consider at their July 27 meeting. The WC recommends that concerns expressed in Ray's memo about the in-lieu and crediting issues be addressed in the transmittal letter for the Columbia Plateau project proposals.

ITEM 2: Consistency of BPA in its Application of Crediting for Future Projects Relative to the 2000 Fish and Wildlife Program

Discussion: Maureen Smith stated that BPA is insisting on contract language that is inconsistent with the 2:1 ratio for crediting recently adopted by the Council and asked the WC for advice on how to proceed. Robert Matt indicated that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe was having difficulties in their contracting with BPA also.

Action: The WC recommended that agencies concerned over this issue should elevate the contacts between their agencies and BPA to the policy level.

ITEM 3: Funding for Coordination Needs. *This item was deferred until the next WC meeting.*

ITEM 4: Date and Location of Next Meeting. *No date or location was set for the next meeting.*