



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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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 Department of Fish, Wildlife and 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: June 7, 2007  
TO: Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC)  
FROM: Ken MacDonald, CBFWA  
SUBJECT: May 25, 2007 WAC Teleconference Action Notes

## Wildlife Advisory Committee Teleconference May 25, 2007 CBFWA Office, Portland

The support material and reference documents for the meeting will be posted at <http://www.cbfwa.org/committees/Meetings.cfm?CommShort=WAC&meeting=all>

### Final Action Notes

**Attendees:** Nate Pamplin (WDFW), Ken MacDonald (CBFWA)  
**By Phone:** Tracy Hames (YN), Loren Kronemann (NPT), Roger Mann (IEAB), Patty O'Toole (NPCC), Michael Pope (ODFW), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR)  
**Time Allocation:** Objective 1. Committee Participation 100%  
Objective 2. Technical Review  
Objective 3. Presentation

### **ITEM 1: Review and Approve April 26 Action Notes and Agenda.**

**ACTION:** April 26 Action Notes and May 25 agenda were approved with no discussion

### **ITEM 2: Discuss IEAB Task #116 – Roger Mann (IEAB)**

**Discussion:** There was considerable discussion between Roger and the WAC focusing on three questions (see email documents posted for the meeting):

1. Potential to improve BPAs aggregation of work elements into "maintenance" versus "enhancement"
2. Selection of the O&M proxy
3. Selection of the project groups

Many of the WAC are still concerned about using PISCES data for the analysis but Roger stated the NPCC still wants to proceed with the O&M cost analysis using the PISCES data. Roger said he understood the potential shortfalls and feels that by doing the analysis to explain cost differences, the issue of whether the PISCES database is a good tool for a cost analysis can be settled one way or the other and the potential reasons for cost variability can be explained.

Roger wants to explore grouping like projects, not in a statistical fashion but in some meaningful way to try and explain cost variability. The group noted problems due to differences in ecoregions, scale of the projects

(landscape scale vs. small site scale), different implementation rates and funding, the level of degradation and threats to a site. It was decided that a group including Carl Scheeler, Angela Sondenaar, Tracy Hames and a representative from WDFW would take a first cut at developing some meaningful groupings for Roger to begin the analysis. The Willamette projects could probably form a group.

This led to a discussion regarding an O&M proxy. It was pointed out that it is very difficult to split work elements into O&M vs. enhancement categories. It was also noted that most, if not all wildlife projects are in an enhancement phase and not in a true O&M phase. The results of the discussion lead to the idea that it may be more meaningful to not split work elements in general, and work elements associated with individual projects into O&M or enhancement categories but just make one category and call it “management”

The discussion ended with Roger stating he would eventually like to work with the group to explore ways to improve cost efficiency of wildlife projects and how current funding structures may be improved to facilitate long-term, on-the-ground effectiveness including how to provide funding security and account for long-term costs such as major purchases or repairs. Roger asked WAC to email him any ideas they may have.

**ACTION:** Tracy Hames, Angela Sondenaar, Carl Scheeler and a representative from WDFW will take a first cut at forming meaningful groupings for the cost analysis. A teleconference between the four is scheduled for Wednesday May 30, 2007 at 9:00 AM. The groupings will be submitted to the full WAC for review and forwarded to Roger within two weeks.

All WAC, email Roger any ideas on improvements to current Wildlife funding structure and send a copy to Michael Pope and Ken MacDonald.

**ITEM 3: Review and Provide Update Boise MAG Meeting/ Committee Assignment**

**Discussion:** The WAC members participating on the call were updated on the results of the MAG Amendment Workshop in Boise and a follow-up teleconference between WAC members present in Boise. Based upon input from MAG the WAC will not focus on program amendment language at this time but further develop the white papers for O&M (Carl Scheeler), RM&E (Michael Pope), Crediting (Scott Soultz) biological objectives based upon ecological function (Scott Soultz). The white papers are to provide the background and develop the issues for MAG consideration and direction to proceed with amendment development at the July 24-25, 2007 Follow-up Amendment Workshop in Spokane, WA.

**ACTION:** The WAC members developing the white papers and present in Boise will meet in Enterprise, OR on June 19, prior to the June 20-21 full WAC meeting to further refine the white papers. All WAC members present at the Boise meeting are asked to be present June 19 and all WAC members are invited to participate.

**ITEM 4: September WAC Meeting Date and Location**

**Discussion:** The 2007 Society for Ecological Restoration Conference will be September 25-28 in Yakima, WA ([www.sernw.org](http://www.sernw.org)). The question before the group was whether we should hold the September WAC meeting in Yakima, WA concurrent with the conference? A WAC poster abstract has been submitted to facilitate the use of a meeting room

**ACTION:** It was decided that the September WAC meeting would be held concurrent with the conference in Yakima, WA. Date to be determined pending review of conference agenda. Ken MacDonald will continue to work with Society for Ecological Restoration Northwest (SERNW) to arrange a meeting room at the convention center, but as a fall back Tracy Hames indicated we could use the Yakama Nation facilities. Try to keep September 25-28 open until a meeting date is settled.

**ITEM 5: July WAC Meeting**

**Discussion:** The MAG will be holding a two-day Amendment Workshop July 24 and 25 in Spokane. Shall we schedule the July WAC meeting for July 23 in Spokane?

**ACTION:** The July WAC meeting will be held July 23 beginning at 1:00 PM in Spokane and depending upon agenda and need to complete work for the MAG meeting we will also meet the morning of July 24. WAC members are encouraged to attend the MAG workshop.