



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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Final

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 government agencies:

Burns Paiute Tribe

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of Nevada and Oregon

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

National Marine Fisheries Service

Nez Perce Tribe

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Coordinating Agencies

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes

Upper Columbia United Tribes

DATE: June 27, 2011
TO: Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC)
FROM: Scott Soultz, Chair
SUBJECT: May 25, 2011 WAC Meeting Final Action Notes

Wildlife Advisory Committee Meeting
May 25, 2011
Kootenai River Inn Casino and Spa
Bonners Ferry, Idaho

The support material for the meeting is posted at:
http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_wac.cfm

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Scott Soultz (Chair, KT); Kyle Heinrick (Vice-Chair, BPT); Norm Merz (KT); Tracy Hames (YN); Dwight Bergeron (MDFWP); Nancy Leonard (NPCC); David Byrnes and Mary Bodeen (BPA); and Tom Iverson, Paul Ashley, and John Andrews (CBFWA).

By Phone: Paul Dahmer (WDFW); Aren Eddingsaas (SBT); Carl Scheeler (CTUIR) and Tom O'Neil (NHI);

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Discussion: The group agreed that the agenda looked complete and adequate for the time allowed.

ACTIONS: The agenda was approved as written.

ITEM 2: Review and Approve as Final March Draft Action Notes

ACTION: The WAC approved the March 16, 2011 Action Notes as final with no modifications.

ITEM 3: Wildlife Area Management Plan Template

Discussion: David provided a Plan update. The committee members discussed opportunities to include many of the sections outlined by BPA as "Appendices", where the Plan body should be devoted to items more along the lines of desired future conditions, management actions, etc. The WAC asked for additional input from BPA about the use of these potential appendices.

ACTION: Tom will post the BPA draft template to the WAC website for this meeting and notify the WAC. The WAC will review the draft outline and provide comments and edits to Tom within 2 weeks. Scott and Tracy will meet with David and other BPA representatives and revise the template in time to provide an update for the next WAC meeting.

BPA Working Draft is available for review and comment at:
http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_wac.cfm.

ITEM 4: CBFWA Satisfaction Survey Results

Discussion: Tom presented results from the 2011 CBFWA Satisfaction Survey as they directly related to the WAC. The presentation is available on the WAC website. In general, CBFWA serves a very small but focused community in regards to wildlife. The committee and staff appear to be performing to everyone's satisfaction, with a few exceptions.

ITEM 5: Wildlife Crediting Forum

Discussion: Peter Paquet requested additional review of crediting forum wrap up document. Peter was asked for a final table of all the wildlife management areas to recreate these maps and make that information available via the SOTR website. The Council's F&W Committee will review the draft report at their next meeting. The WAC voiced concern that draft document did not have an Executive Summary. The WAC requested that an executive summary be added to the report as a bare minimum. No formal action was taken at this time.

ITEM 6: Regional HEP Team – 2012 and Beyond

Discussion: The WAC discussed the role and tasks for the Regional HEP Team (RHT) during 2012 and beyond. Discussion topics included the future of RHT, timeframe for implementation, schedule for follow-up HEPs, scope needs to be defined, discussed funding two teams versus one, need for RHT to assist managers in interpret data/tables in HEP reports (clarification reference), and possible summary definitions. Discussed the need for short-term direction/timeframe to construct 2012 contract. The WAC recommended a three year work plan, clarifying the side boards in a new contract to allow for future data collection, build justification for work and provide some stability, determine what funding level is necessary, and assess BPA management buy-in.

ACTION: Paul will develop a matrix of WMA sites that may require HEP surveys in the next three years, including potential new acquisitions, anadromous fish acquisitions, and properties needing follow-up surveys. Based on that list, Paul will develop a three year work plan for up to two survey crews to maintain the HEP Team's "lifting power" and to complete all survey reports in a timely manner. The work plan will be presented to the WAC at their July meeting.

ITEM 7: Wildlife High Level Indicators and Monitoring Implementation Strategy

Discussion: Scott discussed the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) habitat types being used by the UCUT Wildlife Monitoring and Evaluation Project (UWMEP) and reviewed HLI information from previous WAC meetings and workshops. The WAC discussed the possible need for a summary of HLI accomplishments to better define future discussions.

ACTION: Scott will work with Tom I. to re-draft the Wildlife Monitoring Strategy work plan/timelines and Tom O. to summarize possible HLI parameters. WDFW will provide better methodologies/definitions of their "Cross-walking HEP Data" presentation related to 08/2010 WAC meeting. An update will be provided at the July WAC meeting.

ITEM 8: Next WAC Meeting

The next WAC meeting will held in Oregon on July 26-27, 2011. Tom will work with ODFW to provide a site visit to Willamette River properties on July 26 and the WAC meeting will be held in Eugene, Corvallis, or Portland on July 27.

Agenda items will include 1) 2012 and beyond Regional HEP Team work plan, 2) Wildlife HLIs for monitoring strategy and, 3) BPA land management template.

The meeting is confirmed for Salem, Oregon on July 26-27. Details will be distributed prior to the meeting.

The WAC scheduled a meeting on August 25-26, 2011 in Kalispell, Montana. Details for that meeting will be provided at the July meeting.

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