COLUMBIA BASIN FISH & WILDLIFE AUTHORITY
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December 15, 2000

TO: Anadromous Fish Committee (AFC)

FROM: Gary James, Chair for

SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for November 20, 2000 AFC Meeting in Portland. **If there are no objections within five days, these actions will be considered approved.**

Attendees: Ron Boyce (ODFW), Doug Taki (SBT), Phil Roger (CRITFC), John Palensky (NMFS), Fred Olney (USFWS), Bruce Schmidt (Streamnet), Bob Foster (WDFW), Bob Austin (BPA), Lynn Hatcher and Theodora Strong (YN), Brian Allee, Tom Giese and Tom Iverson (CBFWA).

By Phone: Gary James (CTUIR, chair), Patty O'Toole (CTWSRO), Bert Bowler (IDFG), Paul Kucera (NPT), Allyn Meuleman (BPA), Cedric Cooney (ODFW/Streamnet) and Mary Verner (ST).

Time Allocation:

CBFWA Members Coordination Contract*

Objective 1. FY 2001 Project Renewal Process	*40%*
Objective 2. Rolling Province Review	*0%*
Objective 3. FY 2000 Project Adjustments	*0%*
Objective 4. Watershed and Subbasin Assessment and Plan	*20%*
Objective 5. Coordinate Program Amendments	*30%*

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

ITEM 1: Discuss Possible Changes to Today's Agenda

The group reviewed and approved the Draft Agenda. Agenda Item 3 was moved to the second discussion topic to facilitate the Streamnet representatives.

The action items have been arranged to reflect the order of discussion at the meeting.

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ITEM 2: BPA Biological Opinion Implementation

Bob Austin, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), provided a brief summary of how the Federal Action Agencies (BPA, Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation) intend to implement the NMFS 2000 Biological Opinion (BiOp). The BiOp requires hydro-operations plans as well as off site mitigation. The hydro-operations will be addressed through the existing forums under the Implementation Team. The offsite mitigation will rely on the existing process for project selection and implementation through the Fish and Wildlife Program. The action agencies are also responsible for developing one and five year implementation plans that should be complete in April 2001. The one-year plan will be for FY 2002 implementation.

There was considerable discussion in regards to the BiOp calling for a significant improvement in survival above and beyond the existing fish and wildlife activities. Bob suggested that there is a need to identify which existing projects meet the BiOp requirements. However, the AFC suggested that it is evident that existing activities are not meeting recovery needs of the listed species and that additional new projects will be needed. The AFC asked what the budget expectations are in the future. Bob reiterated BPA's desire to determine future Fish and Wildlife Program budgets on needs identified in regional plans.

ITEM 3: Streamnet Response to NWPPC Funding Decision

The Streamnet Steering Committee met on November 7, 2000 to set priorities for data development and data services for the coming year. In addition to regular Steering Committee members, a variety of regional entities were invited to participate, leading to attendance by Northwest Power Planning Council (NWPPC) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) representatives. Besides maintenance and updating of existing Streamnet data sets and trends, the committee determined that a specific set of data linked to the NWPPC's Subbasin Assessment were also high priority but beyond the current staff and financial capability of the project. These data are also of value to NMFS efforts to determine viability of salmon populations as part of their responsibilities for Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing and recovery planning. It would be helpful for the Anadromous Fish Committee to review this list of priority data and to provide feedback on these and other data priorities for this coming year.

Streamnet will be submitting a within year budget modification when it becomes clear what the regional priorities for this project are. There was general agreement that Streamnet should develop estimated costs and budgets for assembling the information requested by NMFS and NWPPC.

Bruce reiterated the he would greatly appreciate broader representation on the Streamnet Steering Committee by AFC members.

ITEM 4: FY 2001 Within Year Budget Requests

Tom Giese sent a memo to project sponsors on October 26, 2000 that outlined a process to reinstate project funds cut by the NWPPC's decision on FY 2001 project budgets. Project sponsors were directed to submit a "within year budget modification request" outlining funding needs that were cut from the CBFWA recommendation in the FY 2001 Draft Annual Implementation Plan (DAIWP). The guidance was that each request demonstrates the direct benefits to fish and wildlife, a favorable review by the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP), and that no new work was being proposed. At the November 14, 2000 BPA Quarterly Review follow-up meeting all FY 2000 carry forward issues were resolved. Tom Giese distributed a table and justifications for all additional FY 2001 requests (attached).

The AFC reviewed the table of projects and identified five projects that exceeded the recommendation in the FY 2001 DAIWP. There was also discussion about projects that may not have had ample opportunity to respond to Tom Giese request. Also, the grouped agreed to add the Streamnet request.

ACTION: The AFC will support all requests to reinstate funds in this table or received by Tom Giese by noon on November 21, 2000 that do not exceed the FY 2001 DAIWP recommendation. If requests exceed the DAIWP amount, those projects will be supported up to the DAIWP amount and project sponsors must follow the within year budget modification process with a specific review by the AFC to receive additional funds beyond that.

Five projects in the table were dealt with individually:

Project Number 198902700, Power Repay Umatilla Basin Project, was approved for funding above the FY 2001 DAIWP amount. Tom Giese will provide a letter of support to the Contract Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) on behalf of the AFC. This increase is due to new guidelines in purchasing a certain amount of green power and can be covered under the 10% rule at BPA.

Project Number 199703400, Monitoring Fine Sediment Grande Ronde and John Day Rivers, was approved with the condition that additional funds could be taken care of by the COTR within the 10% rule. The additional costs are strictly due to inflation and salary increases and would be under the purview of that rule.

The sponsors of Project Number 198740100, Assessment of Smolt Condition, will be invited to the AFC to make a presentation on their request. They are looking to restore their project to its original requested amount. The CBFWA recommendation was $135,000 less than requested. This presentation will most likely occur at the January meeting.

Project Number 199206200, Yakama Nation - Riparian/Wetlands Restoration, requests an additional $380,000. The Yakama Nation will prepare a letter and justification for a within year budget modification to increase their budget by $380,000. The AFC will review this request once it has been received.

Project Number 199800703, Facility O&M and Program M&E for Grande Ronde Anadromous Salmonids, requested $35,400 additional funds over what was approved by the FY 2001 DAIWP. The AFC agreed to fund up to the DAIWP amount and allow the COTR to make up the difference using the 10% rule. Tom Giese will prepare and send a letter indicating the AFC support of the additional kelt work proposed in the study.

ITEM 5: Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2000 in Portland. No specific agenda items have been identified for this meeting. The meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at CBFWA offices.

Current proposed agenda:
Innovative Project Review - a memo was sent on November 22, 2000 outlining the innovative project review process. Please review and be prepared to comment on the 66 innovative project proposals at this meeting.