



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: May 21, 2007

TO: Members Advisory Group; Anadromous Fish Advisory Committee; Resident Fish Advisory Committee; Wildlife Advisory Committee

FROM: Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS and Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA

SUBJECT: May 9, 2007 Amendment Strategy Workshop Action Notes

Joint Technical Committees and Members Advisory Group (MAG)
Amendment Strategy Workshop
May 9, 2007
Boise, Idaho

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Angela Sondenaa (NPT), Scott Soultz (KTI), Mark Bagdovitz (USFWS), Tony Nigro (ODFW), Lynn DuCharme (CSKT), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), Lawrence Schwabe (BPT), Pete Hassemmer (IDFG), Doug Taki (SBT), Tom Rien (ODFW), Rod Woodin (WDFW), Phil Roger (CRITFC), Nate Pamplin (WDFW), Mike Faler (USFWS), Brad Houslet (CTWSRO), Gary Sims (NOAA), Dave Statler (NPT), Tim Dykstra (SPT), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Gregg Servheen (IDFG), Ron Peters (CdAT), Brian Lipscomb (CBFWA), Dave Ward (CBFWA), Tom Iverson (CBFWA), Ken MacDonald (CBFWA)

By Phone: No phone line was provided.

Time Allocation:	Objective 1. Committee Participation	100%
	Objective 2. Technical Review	
	Objective 3. Presentation	

ITEM 1: Introductions and Background

- Discussion:**
- Brian Lipscomb and Tom Iverson provided an update from the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (Council) April meeting, including approval by the Council to begin the Program Amendment Process in October 2007.
 - Brian provided a review of the discussion and presentation from the February Member's Meeting regarding the importance of the Amendment Process.
 - Brian briefly summarized progress made by the Program Amendment Workgroup, which includes Council staff, CBFWA staff, CBFWA members, BPA staff, and consultants for power and other customers.
 - Tom reviewed the general timeline for the Amendment process, concentrating on the timelines for technical committee and MAG products prior to October (posted on workshop website as *Timeline for CBFWA Amendment Strategy Implementation*).
 - Dave Ward provided further details regarding status of the Anadromous Fish Advisory Committee (AFAC) and Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC) relative to schedules provided at the February Member's Meeting.
 - Ken MacDonald provided further details regarding status of the Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC) relative to the schedule provided at the February Member's Meeting.

ITEM 2: Progress Reports from Technical Committees**Discussion:**

- Dave Ward reviewed assignments given to the technical committees by the Members:
 - Define/clarify terms (i.e., focal populations, biological objectives, strategies, limiting factors, and causative factors or threats)
 - Confirm population level biological objectives
 - Ensure priorities of all F&W plans are captured
 - Validate current limiting factors including out-of-basin effects
 - Review and build on strategies and actions necessary to reduce the limiting factors
- Ken MacDonald provided a summary of work completed to date by the WAC, most notably work on three topics for potential amendment. WAC products included potential amendment language for each topic (each draft is posted on the workshop website):
 - Wildlife monitoring and evaluation
 - Wildlife operations and maintenance
 - Crediting
- The MAG recommended that the technical committees not work on developing measures at this time but focus on the biological objectives and background for each topic. The MAG can then use the background information to discuss how best to proceed at a future workshop.
- Dave reviewed progress of the technical committees in defining and clarifying terms, including highlighting minor differences in some wording among committees. In-depth discussion by MAG was deferred until after completion of the update from the technical committees.
- Dave and Jim Uehara (RFAC chair) then provided a summary of progress by the technical committees in confirming biological objectives, limiting factors, and threats for focal populations. The RFAC has completed approximately 40% of the assignment, and the AFAC has completed approximately 20% of the assignment. Dave urged MAG members to impress upon their staff the importance of helping complete the assignment.
- Tom Iverson reviewed the following assignment given to MAG by the Members, and noted that the MAG had since delegated the assignment to the technical committees (moved from agenda Item 5):
 - Link subbasin population objectives to regional Program goals
 - Identify BPA's obligations
- Dave noted that there is currently no apparent link between population-level objectives and the Program goal of 5 million adult salmonids at Bonneville Dam. Expansion of current objectives to account for hatchery fish, harvest, populations for which no numeric objectives exist, etc., would still result in less than 5 million fish at Bonneville.
- Dave discussed two potential methods for identifying losses caused by the hydrosystem (potential BPA obligation): (1) using EDT estimates to allocate Council-derived loss estimates among subbasins, and (2) comparing estimates from EDT run with and without mainstem dams.
- Brian Lipscomb and Jim Uehara discussed resident fish substitution for anadromous fish losses, and losses of resident fish. Resident fish losses have

been estimated for Hungry Horse and Libby dams and reservoirs only.

ITEM 3: Review and Address Issues Identified in Previous Items

Discussion:

- The MAG discussed the definitions in great detail, and reached agreement on definitions for biological objectives and strategies:
 - *Biological Objective*: The desirable condition or state that one is attempting to achieve through a course of action. Objectives for species may have two components: (1) biological performance, describing responses of populations or aggregate populations/communities, and/or (2) environmental characteristics, which describe conditions needed to achieve biological performance. Biological objectives are intended to be measurable and should have spatial and temporal components.
 - *Strategy*: A strategy is an approach to achieve biological objectives by addressing limiting factors or threats.
- The MAG did not have time to discuss definitions for “measure”, “limiting factor”, or “threat”.

ACTION:

- The MAG requested that a subcommittee including members of each technical committee and MAG develop final definitions for “measure”, “limiting factor” and “threat” and submit the definitions to MAG for approval.
- The MAG directed the technical committees to continue work on confirming focal populations and population-level biological objectives, and validating limiting factors and threats.
- The MAG directed the technical committees to begin work on developing general strategies to address limiting factors.
- The MAG recommended that work on loss estimates be discontinued for now, pending further discussion and results from similar analyses being conducted as part of the remand process.

ITEM 4: Review and Build on Strategies

- Deferred

ITEM 5: Develop Linkage Between Subbasin-Level and Programmatic-Level Objectives

- Incorporated into Item 2.

ITEM 6: Develop Template/Outline for Amendments

- Deferred

ITEM 7: Schedule Next Program Amendment Work Session

- The next work session was scheduled for July 24th and 25th in Spokane. Details on time and location will be provided.