



# 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 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 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:** December 21, 2009  
**TO:** Members Advisory Group  
**FROM:** Brian Lipscomb, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Final Action Notes for the December 16, 2009 MAG Meeting

**Members Advisory Group (MAG) Meeting  
Wednesday, December 16, 2009  
9:00am-3:30pm PST  
@ CBFWA Office Portland, OR  
[MAG Webpage](#)**

Final Action Notes

**Attendees:** Jason Kesling, BPT; Brad Houslet, CTWS; Elmer Ward, CTWS; Dave Statler, NPT; Tom Rien, ODFW; Doug Taki, SBT; Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Bill Tweit, WDFW; Brian Lipscomb, Tom Iverson, Dave Ward, Neil Ward, Pat Burgess, CBFWA

**Phone/ WebEx:** Lynn DuCharme, CSKT; Lance Hebdon, IDFG; Elizabeth Gaar, NOAA Fisheries; Chad Colter, SBT

**Time Allocation:**

Objective 1: Participation	100%
Objective 2: Technical Review	0%
Objective 3: Presentation	0%

**ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda**

Chairman Brad Houslet, CTWS, was delayed; Members' Chairman Elmer Ward, CTWS, chaired the meeting until Chairman Houslet's arrival.

Vice-Chair Elizabeth Gaar, NOAA, announced that she would not be able to participant beyond 10:45am and requested that the MAG discuss Item 4 Policy Directives & Work Plan prior to Item 3 Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Response to CBFWA Resident Fish Loss Methodology Recommendations.

**Action:** The MAG agenda was amended as requested: Items 3 & 4 would be reversed. No objections.

**ITEM 2: Draft Action Notes from the November 16, 2009 MAG Teleconference**

**Action:** The MAG approved the draft action notes from the November 16, 2009 MAG teleconference as final. No objections.

**ITEM 3: Policy Directives & CBFWA Work Plan**

Prior to the start of the Policy Directives/CBFWA Work Plan discussion, Members' Chairman Ward recalled that initial conversations on this subject began last spring. Chairman Ward expressed appreciation for the dedication of the MAG, Members, and staff, and the effort that has gone into this work. Given that we are at the end of December and the Members are scheduled to meet January 6<sup>th</sup>, Chairman Ward stated that today's meeting is a crucial step toward the successful conclusion of the final work product. Chairman Ward encouraged MAG Members to work diligently toward constructive results by the end of the

session today. Chairman Ward acknowledged the great commitment and how demanding this process has been on everyone's time and schedules.

At this point, Chairman Houslet began chairing the meeting.

**Action:** The MAG took action to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing and completing this agenda item. The motion was clarified to state that CBFWA staff would participate in the meeting. No objections.

**Background:** The Members reviewed in Executive Session on December 2<sup>nd</sup> the draft policy directive one, including the forums and guiding principles, as drafted by staff and directed: 1) the technical committees to confirm deliverables and tasks including timeframes and appropriate Members' staff time to accomplish; 2) **CBFWA staff with MAG** to develop a finalized package of all three directives including the above items for adoption as a final draft by the Members on January 6, 2010; 3) **CBFWA staff with MAG** to draft an action establishing the Executive Committee ad hoc and a draft charter amendment to codify the Executive Committee for adoption by the Members on January 6, 2010, and; 4) **CBFWA staff with MAG** draft action relative to the FY 2010 budget and funding for adoption as final draft by the Members on January 6, 2010.

**Action:** After extensive discussion, the MAG took action to come out of Executive Session. No objections.

The MAG did not take any additional formal action but it was confirmed that the Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC) and Anadromous Fish Advisory Committee (AFAC) would meet on Monday, December 21 to review and provide some additional detail under the Policy Directive #1 deliverables. CBFWA staff will email the work products and correspondence discussed under Executive Session for MAG review by COB December 17, except for the work plan deliverables summary which will be emailed by COB December 21 after the RFAC and AFAC meet to discuss and provide additional detail on the deliverables. The MAG will be requested to respond by December 29 for turnaround to the Members by January 6.

**ITEM 4: Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) Response to CBFWA Resident Fish Loss Methodology Recommendations**

**Background:** On October 13, 2009, the CBFWA received [a response from Steve Crow, Council Executive Director](#), regarding the [letter that CBFWA submitted to the Council](#) in which CBFWA recommended a method to assess the quantity of resident fish habitat inundated due to the construction and operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS). In the Council's letter, the CBFWA was informed that "the Council intends to develop a methodology in a public process that will include independent scientific review of what we assume will be various proposed methodologies." Steve Crow indicated that the Council's "Fish and Wildlife staff is working with Council members to determine our next steps in this process."

At the November MAG meeting, the Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC) drafted a [memo to the MAG](#) requesting the MAG's review and direction. Rather than send another comment letter, the MAG suggested that Brian Lipscomb contact the Council to initiate a conversation to thoroughly assess the situation and inquire as to the Council's expectations and anticipated timeline. After speaking with the Council, Brian will report back to the RFAC at their meeting scheduled on December 15<sup>th</sup>. If the RFAC feel that a response is warranted after Brian's discussion with the Council, they will draft a response for MAG's review at the December MAG meeting.

**Discussion:** Brian Lipscomb advised that he had a discussion with the Council's Fish and

Wildlife Division Director, Tony Grover, on the response from Steve Crow on the resident fish loss assessment methodology. Brian stated that Tony proposed that sometime late this spring, or early summer, the Council would initiate a conversation with the CBFWA Members and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to do a set of workshops, similar to the RM&E workshops, to set up the resident fish categorical reviews. Within that process, the issue of loss assessment methodology and implementation and inclusion in the Program pursuant to categorical reviews would be addressed. The MAG suggested to Brian that Tony's comments be confirmed in writing.

**Action:** The MAG directed that CBFWA staff draft a response letter to Steve Crow in the context of an approved work plan that can be queued up for the Members on Jan 6th. The MAG reiterated that Tony Grover's comments be confirmed in writing to Tony before anything is directly communicated to Steve Crow. CBFWA staff will prepare this draft for timely review. No objections.

**ITEM 5: January 2010 MAG Teleconference**

The MAG meeting for January 2010 will need to be changed due to the federally observed holiday Martin Luther King, Jr. (Jan 18<sup>th</sup>). The MAG will need to discuss alternate dates.

At the January 2010 MAG teleconference, Brad Houslet, CTWS, will pass the MAG Chair gavel to a NOAA Member representative, and Liz Gaar, NOAA, will pass the Vice-chair gavel to a Member representative from one of the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT).

**Action:** The MAG directed that the January 2010 MAG meeting be moved to January 25<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm. No objections.

Brian Lipscomb stated that at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Work Session, the Members suggested that a half-day Tribal Chairs/Director level meeting be scheduled for February 3, 2010. The MAG members expressed that it may be difficult to clear schedules for a meeting in the short time frame. Brian responded stating that it was important that the Directors/Tribal Chairs sign the work plan transmittal letter but that could probably get accomplished under the current Members meeting structure. Brian added that it would be useful if the CBFWA Directors/Tribal Chairs could meet with BPA and the Council to present the work plan with a unified message to move forward. Brian suggested that idea be discussed with the Members on January 6<sup>th</sup> and a date selected.

In conclusion, Brian Lipscomb suggested to the MAG that the Members may want to consider adopting a fourth Policy Directive which would direct CBFWA staff to seek additional funding for CBFWA related activities from sources other than BPA. CBFWA staff will add this to the strategic plan for consideration by the Members.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**Members January Meeting:** Wed, Jan 6, 2010, 1-4pm, Portland, OR

**MAG January Teleconference:** Mon, Jan 25, 2010, 1-4pm, Portland, OR

**CBFWA Directors/Tribal Chairs Meeting:** *TBD*

**Council Meeting(s) 2010:** Jan 12-14<sup>th</sup> in Portland & Feb 9-11<sup>th</sup> in Portland

***Meeting adjourned.***