

**Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) Meeting with
Northwest Power and Conservation Power (NPCC) Fish and Wildlife Committee and
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Staff
Wednesday, April 20, 2011 1:30-3:30pm (pacific) @ CBFWA Office, Portland, Oregon**

DISCUSSION BULLETS

Purpose:

- 1) CBFWA membership status update.
- 2) Opportunities to align CBFWA Work Plan with NPCC and BPA efforts in 2011.
- 3) Discuss upcoming Fish and Wildlife Program processes.

Discussion Points:

- 1) CBFWA is alive and well. At their recent Members' meeting, the CBFWA Members recognized the philosophical shift from CBFWA providing the central coordinating staff for Program implementation to a more focused role of facilitating the CBFWA Members' participation in the Program processes. We hope that the NPCC Members and BPA staff can appreciate that shift as well.

FY2011 CBFWA Membership:

Burns-Paiute Tribe (BPT)
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation (CSKT)
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (CTWS)
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe of Oregon and Nevada¹ (FMPST)
Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG)
Kootenai Tribe of Idaho (KTOI)
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MFWP)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Nez Perce Tribe (NPT)
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho (SBT)
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation (SPT)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (YN)

FY2011 CBFWA leadership:

Chair – Nathan Small (SBT)
Vice-Chair – Jim Unsworth (IDFG)
MAG Chair – Doug Taki (SBT)
AFAC Chair – TBD
RFAC Chair – Mike Faler (USFWS)
WAC Chair – Scott Soult (KTOI)
FSOC Chair – Lynn Stratton (IDFG)
FPAC Chair – Paul Wagner (NOAA)
Acting Executive Director – Jann Eckman²

- 2) The Members of CBFWA agreed that their coordination efforts should primarily focus on the implementation and evaluation components of adaptive management. To effectively implement this shift in focus and capitalize on the expertise and authorities of the fish and

¹ New CBFWA Member effective March 10, 2011.

² It is anticipated that CBFWA will not fill the Executive Director position in FY2011.

wildlife agencies and tribes, the Members adopted the following Policy Directives, committing each Member's staff and directing CBFWA to:

1. participate in and support ongoing assessments of the status of the species and implementation of strategies and actions to help determine if protection, mitigation, and enhancement efforts are successful in the Columbia River Basin;
2. maintain a "Status of the Resources" (SOTR) website and annually prepare a written report summarizing the current information provided on the website; and,
3. monitor and report on activities of key regional forums where policies, programs, and actions that affect fish and wildlife are planned and implemented.

FY11 Work Plan and Budget

For contract year 2011 (April 2011 through March 2012), the CBFWA Members will carry forward with the 2010 Policy Directives and continue to evaluate their implementation.

Policy Directive #1:

The NPCC's Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Reporting (MERR) Plan Implementation Strategies are essentially the first step in completing coordinated basinwide assessments, and therefore, the CBFWA work plan is heavily focused on assisting the NPCC and CBFWA Members develop the first iteration of those strategies to support the next round of Geographic Reviews.

Products to be developed in 2011 include:

Data sharing to support the Anadromous Salmonid Monitoring Strategy (ASMS);
Coordinated Assessments project.

Development of:

White Sturgeon Implementation Strategies;
Bull Trout Implementation Strategies;
Kokanee Implementation Strategies;
Westslope/Redband Trout Implementation Strategies;
Reservoir Fish Implementation Strategies; and a
Wildlife Implementation Strategy.

Develop a paper to support lamprey passage standards.

Implement the biennial FSOC Workshop.

Carry forward methodologies for evaluating resident fish losses.

Continue oversight of Regional Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP) Team.

Assist the CBFWA Members with updating Subbasin Plans (if called for).

Assist BPA and the Members in developing a Lands Management Plan template.

Policy Directive #2:

CBFWA staff will continue to update the Status of the Resources (SOTR) Website with the most current information. CBFWA staff has recently completed restructuring the website to support ESU/DPS/MPG structure for salmon and steelhead and improvement of the

Basinwide section to report High Level Indicators (HLIs). Scheduled improvements during FY2011 include developing a Wildlife section to capture and report the results from the Wildlife Crediting Forum and developing a Bull Trout section organized by DPS/Recovery Unit/Core/Population. It is anticipated that the website will be updated quarterly to support the monitoring strategies being developed under Policy Directive #1. A user group is being organized to ensure support of regional recovery boards and other users of the SOTR website.

Policy Directive #3:

For the FY2011 CBFWA contract, staff will continue to monitor forums that impact fish and wildlife in the Columbia River Basin, (e.g., NPCC, BPA, Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership, Budget Oversight Group, etc.). With the reduction in CBFWA staff, the role and attendance of CBFWA staff will be reduced as compared to prior years, limiting the “eyes and ears” function that CBFWA has previously provided (e.g., due to reduced funding, participation by CBFWA staff in the the Columbia River Treaty forums is not currently supported by the work plan).

3) Questions/comments on upcoming Program processes:

The NPCC and BPA processes require agency and Tribe involvement. The Members of CBFWA rely on the CBFWA organization to help them manage much of that burden. The Members need to plan CBFWA activities to support upcoming Program processes and therefore have the following questions/comments:

Regional Coordination Categorical Review:

What month is it likely that proposals will be due?

CBFWA will be submitting a proposal that is consistent with the 2009 Fish and Wildlife Program; it is expected that the NPCC will hold others to the same standard?

Does the CBFWA work plan described above under Policy Directive #1 fit better under regional coordination or another fund within the Program?

CBFWA Members would like CBFWA staff be included in the planning phase of the Categorical Review process for regional coordination projects.

Role of SOTR for NPCC and BPA:

Do NPCC and BPA view the SOTR as a regional asset for the Program?

How could the SOTR be improved to meet BPA and NPCC requirements?

Should that element of the CBFWA work plan (SOTR) be funded from another fund within the Program?

Other Program processes we should be aware of:

Will Subbasin Plans be updated and when?

Are there other anticipated processes?