



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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**Draft**

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

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

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

National Marine Fisheries Service

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 13, 2012  
**TO:** Members Advisory Group (MAG)  
**FROM:** Doug Taki, Chair  
**SUBJECT:** Draft Action Notes for the June 5, 2012 MAG Teleconference Meeting

## Members Advisory Group Teleconference Meeting

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Pacific)

851 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 565, Portland, OR

[MAG Webpage](#)

### Draft Action Notes

**Attendees:** Doug Taki, Chair; Elmer Ward, CTWS; Nancy Leonard, Patty O'Toole, Lynn Palensky, and Laura Robinson, NPCC; Mike Faler, and Howard Schaller, USFWS; Jennifer Bayer and Jacque Schei, USGS; Fish & Wildlife Director Robert J. Austin, USRTF; Dave Ward, HDR Engineering, Inc., and CBFWF/A Staff: Jann Eckman, Trina Gerlack, Tom Iverson, Binh Quan, and Neil Ward

**WebEx - Phone:** Laura Gephart, CRITFC; Gary James, CTUIR; Elizabeth Holmes Gaar, NOAA Fisheries; and Executive Director Heather Ray, USRTF

**ITEM 1:** **Introductions and Approve Agenda**

**Action:** The draft agenda was approved as written. No objections

**ITEM 2:** **Draft Action Notes from the April 17, 2012 MAG Meeting**

**Action:** The draft action notes for the 4/17/2012 MAG Meeting were approved as final. No objections.

**ITEM 3:** **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative Presentation**

Howard Schaller, USFWS provided the [Pacific Lamprey Conservation Agreement presentation](#). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have been working with their tribal, federal and state partners to clarify the intent of the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Agreement. The Conservation Agreement is answering the tribes' call for action by bringing the parties together to help fill in the gaps for implementation in the Columbia basin and for developing implementation approaches in other regions. To place the Conservation Agreement in context, the following motivation for developing the wide ranging (from California to Alaska) Conservation Initiative and Agreement may be helpful.

Lamprey Summit I in 2004 was a wake-up call to the fact that Pacific lamprey, a species of major cultural importance to Native American Tribes, are in significant decline.

Lamprey Summit II in 2008 was a call to action by the Tribes for a swift response through cooperative conservation to address continued declines. The U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service set to work with tribal, federal and state partners to collaboratively develop a wide ranging Conservation Initiative. This included folding the Columbia River Tribal Pacific Lamprey Restoration Plan, the USACE 10-yr Passage Plan, the BPA Fish and Wildlife Program, the CBFWA Lamprey Technical Workgroup's Critical Uncertainties and the USBR Lamprey Assessment into the wider ranging Conservation Initiative.

Lamprey Summit III scheduled June 20-21, 2012 will build upon the earlier summits and highlight progress on the tribes' call to action. The broad commitment to conserving Pacific lamprey will be solidified by agreeing to work collaboratively to ensure long-term persistence and to support traditional tribal cultural use. The USFWS worked with tribes, states, and other federal agencies, over the past year, to draft the voluntary Conservation Agreement to serve as the mechanism to efficiently use resources and swiftly implement Pacific lamprey conservation actions.

The Conservation Agreement enhances opportunities for new funding to fill gaps in restoration actions. It reinforces a shared commitment by encouraging investments in collaborative regional conservation actions, such as: lamprey passage structures; sampling for larval lamprey in mainstem river systems; and the advancement of artificial propagation for lamprey.

The USFWS is receiving positive feedback and support from their tribal, federal and state partners for the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative and Agreement.

Howard asked the MAG for their help by sending a letter of support for the Agreement prior to the June 20th Summit.

Please contact Howard Schaller at 360-604-2500 or [Howard\\_Schaller@fws.gov](mailto:Howard_Schaller@fws.gov) if you have any questions and visit the [USFWS website](#) for more information.

Tom Iverson asked the MAG if they plan to sign the Agreement individually or would consider sending a CBFWA letter of support.

The MAG discussed this option but determined that it would not be appropriate for CBFWA to send a letter. They determined that individual letters would be more appropriate from each of the managers. The MAG did not make a formal action.

**ITEM 4: Northwest Power & Conservation Council (Council/NPCC) Project Recommendations Update**

Lynn Palensky and Nancy Leonard provided an overview of the [June 4, 2012 NPCC Staff's recommendations for Resident Fish, Data Management and Regional Coordination Projects](#). The Council staff will present their recommendations at the June NPCC meeting and the Council Members will present their decisions at the July NPCC meeting. The final document will explain and contain the Council's recommendations and decisions to the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for the funding and implementing of these projects for Fiscal Years 2013 through 2017. The recommended work is intended to support and address the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, the requirements of the two Biological Opinions (FCRPS and Libby) and the commitments made by Bonneville with the parties to the Columbia Fish Accords. The Council staff's project recommendations do not include recommended project budgets or annual budgets. BPA will have the flexibility to negotiate with sponsors through contracting to finalize work and budgets.

Tom Iverson expressed concern that the staff recommendations did not acknowledge the difference between participation by the sovereign entities and facilitation necessary to produce products. The trend with regional coordination

funding has been towards individual entity participation and away from central facilitation staff. It does not appear that the Council is going to address funding facilitated forums in their decision process (Objectives 2-6 of the Foundation proposal). Therefore, the longstanding anadromous fish, resident fish, wildlife, and fish screening oversight forums are at risk for continuation after FY2012.

More details will be provided at the June Council meeting.

**ITEM 5: Northwest Power & Conservation Council Discussion of Subbasin Dashboards**

Patty O'Toole and Laura Robinson presented the [Clearwater Subbasin Dashboard](#) concept. Council staff developed a concept for an interactive, web-based tool, called dashboards, for each subbasin. These dashboards could assist in the geographic project review, future subbasin plan updates, and the implementation of the MERR. The dashboards would essentially be individual websites for each subbasin, containing extracted key elements from the subbasin plans and specific information for each subbasin such as links to other management plans, local maps, and BiOp information. As a pilot Council staff prepared a dashboard for the Clearwater Subbasin. Managers in the Clearwater Subbasin were contacted for their feedback and suggestions, most of which have been incorporated into the Clearwater Subbasin Dashboard. Council staff will continue to collaborate with those working in each subbasin to ensure the dashboards are useful, up to date, and personalized for each area. The ISRP will review the concept at the end of June to be completed by July.

The Council staff will be seeking F&W Committee support for this concept and will move forward with the development of dashboards for additional subbasins on a prioritized basis. NPCC staff will update the F&W Committee on progress and will seek committee members' guidance on priorities.

**ITEM 6: Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP) Web Tools Presentation**

Jacque Schei and Jen Bayer, USGS/PNAMP provided a [presentation Overview of PNAMP's Monitoring Resources](#), a proposed suite of online tools to design and document, collaborate, and discover monitoring projects, methods, and data. The [MonitoringResources.org](#) website will provide a network of information and tools to support several features of ecological and biological monitoring. These resources include orientation and educational materials, a community forum, a place to document and share monitoring methods, the ability to describe monitoring projects and upload sample sites, and tools for creating sample designs based on a master sample. The website includes a glossary of monitoring terms. The goal is to provide a place where monitoring practitioners can easily document once and share many times, and where funders and managers can review existing and proposed monitoring projects and better understand gaps and overlaps at a regional scale. The development of these web tools are supported by PNAMP, BPA, and Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. These tools are in various stages of development: the [www.MonitoringMethods.org](#) site is complete; the Sample Designer and Site Manager are in active development now; we are scoping the concept of adding a monitoring activity "Explorer" feature and integration into a single site ([www.MonitoringResources.org](#)) now. You are encouraged to explore the site and provide feedback and send questions to Jacque Schei at [jschei@usgs.gov](mailto:jschei@usgs.gov) or call 503-201-0880.

**ITEM 7: Other Updates**

The Upper Snake River Tribes hired Bob Austin as their Fish and Wildlife Program Director.

Tom Iverson provided the following meeting notices:

June 5, 2012 at BPA is the IPR Kickoff Meeting to describe rates and budget cuts for fish & wildlife funding for 3-year rate case (i.e. 2013, 2014, & 2015).

June 12-13, 2012 - The NPCC's staff will present their project recommendations in Missoula, MT and the Council Members will provide their decisions at the July 10-11, 2012 in Boise, ID.

June 21-22, 2012 – Wildlife Focus Workgroup is meeting in Walla Walla, WA to review BPA's land acquisition handbook, update the Wildlife Monitoring Implementation Strategy, and a site visit to implement a HEP survey on the Rainwater property.

July 12, 2012 – Coordinated Assessments Workshop is meeting in Portland, OR to review and adopt a Data Exchange Template for Salmon and Steelhead Indicators.

**ITEM 8: Next MAG Meeting**

The next meeting date is postponed pending the outcome of the NPCC's June meeting. The Foundation staff will poll the MAG with possible dates per Chairman Taki's direction.

***Upcoming Meetings:*****Integrated Program Review (IPR) Kickoff Meeting**

June 5, 2012 from 1:00-4:00pm in the BPA Rates Hearing Room, 911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland Oregon. To participate via phone: Dial 503-230-5566. When prompted, enter access code 5834#. Additional Information will be posted at <http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/Finance/IBR/IPR/index.cfm>. "The IPR process combines the previous program level review processes, replacing the Capital Program Review, Power Function Review, and Programs In Review, and allows interested parties to see all agency expense and capital spending level estimates in the same forum. The IPR occurs every two years, or just prior to each rate case, and provides participants with an opportunity to review and comment on BPA's program level estimates prior to spending levels being set for inclusion in rate cases."

[Northwest Power and Conservation Council Meeting\(s\)](#): June 12-13, Missoula MT - July 10-11, Boise ID.

[Pacific Lamprey Summit III – June 20-21, 2012 – Portland OR](#) – Contact Howard Schaller, USFWS at 360-604-2500 or [howard\\_schaller@fws.gov](mailto:howard_schaller@fws.gov) for details.