



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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## Template letter sent to each Federal CBFWA MAG representative

October 26, 2012

*Name:* Federal MAG Representative

*Agency*

*Address*

*Phone*

Dear *first name*,

As you know it is the time of year to develop the FY13 Annual Work Plan and determine funding support to the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority. While the past year has been a transition year for CBFWA and its staff -maintaining the technical committees through the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (NPCC) review processes - FY 2013 looks to be filled with opportunities to focus efforts on providing direct support to the CBFWA Membership. The NPCC has completed its review of regional coordination projects and with the recent completion of their Program Evaluation and Reporting Committee recommendations, it is clear that CBFWA staff's role will be fundamentally changed over the next year. The historic technical committees previously funded through CBFWA will no longer exist in the format that we have known them. A new era has begun for the CBFWA organization.

The CBFWA Charter and the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Foundation (Foundation) Bylaws have been modified to separate the management from the Members and central staff. This has allowed the Foundation to engage in contract services to support any of the fish and wildlife managers' involvement in the NPCC's Fish and Wildlife Program. Jann Eckman's role has been redefined as Manager of the Foundation, while Tom Iverson is the Director of CBFWA, now a project implemented through the Foundation but maintaining direct Member oversight through Tom.

The CBFWA 2013 Work Plan will be determined by the level of funding provided by the Membership. It is anticipated that funding contributions will remain similar to FY2012 and that two staff positions will be funded to provide support for the CBFWA Membership: a coordinator and administrative support. CBFWA staff will aggressively pursue the "eyes and ears" function of the previous work plans; attending regional meetings and reporting back to the Membership on a monthly basis on activities that affect fish and wildlife management in the Columbia River Basin. CBFWA staff will also support Member's project leaders with issues related to implementation of the Fish and Wildlife Program (i.e., project planning, within-year budget modifications, project review processes, etc.).

I have included the funding table from FY2012 for your consideration. While it is understood that the Federal agencies no longer receive regional coordination funding from BPA, direct funding from the your agency would help maintain the CBFWA staffing at adequate organizational levels. The MAG will be meeting on December 6 to discuss the final FY2013 CBFWA Work Plan and Budget, so responses one week prior to that meeting would be extremely helpful.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at (208)251-4146 or Tom Iverson at (503)229-0191.

Sincerely,

Doug Taki, Chair  
Members Advisory Committee  
Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Authority

CC: Jann Eckman, CBFWF  
Tom Iverson, CBFWA

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