



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: November 16, 2007
TO: Members and MAG
FROM: Mark Bagdovitz, Acting Chair and Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA
SUBJECT: Final Action Notes for the November 14, 2007 Special Members Teleconference

Special Members Teleconference Wednesday, November 14, 2007 CBFWA Office, Portland, Oregon

The support material for the 11/14/07 Members Teleconference is posted at:
<http://www.cbfgwa.org/committees/Meetings.cfm?CommShort=Members&meeting=all>.

Final Action Notes

Attendees: Jann Eckman, Kathie Titzler, Binh Quan, Dave Ward, and Trina Gerlack, CBFWA

By Phone: Mark Bagdovitz, USFWS; Dale W. Chess, Cd'AT; Gary James, CTUIR; Brad Houslet, CTWS; Paul Kline, IDFG; Chris Hunter, MDFWP; Claude Broncho, SBT; Nate Pamplin, WDFW; Bill Towey, CTCR; Tim Dykstra, SPT; Brian Lipscomb and Tom Iverson, CBFWA

Time Allocation:

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

ITEM 1: CBFWA Draft Letter to BPA and NPCC Regarding the Upcoming BPA WP-07 Rate Proceeding

Discussion: Due to other meeting obligations, Dan Diggs, USFWS was unable to attend the teleconference and designated Mark Bagdovitz as acting chair.

BPA is preparing to reopen the WP-07 Rate Proceedings, which provides opportunities for the fish and wildlife managers to influence funding by providing an order of magnitude estimate of fish and wildlife costs to BPA to ensure those costs are correctly identified and rates are sufficient to implement Program funding for projects that are approved through the various ongoing processes. BPA begins the formal process in early December 2007 and will make the final FY08 funding decisions in March 2008.

On November 7, 2007, the Members directed the CBFWA staff to work with interested Members to draft a letter to the NPCC and BPA for Members endorsement identifying the list of project needs and associated costs for FY 08-09 and requesting that BPA and the NPCC work with us to identify an appropriate mechanism for providing the necessary funds for FY 08-09.

On November 14, 2007, the Members met by teleconference to review and approve the draft letter and analysis. Brian Lipscomb stated that the Members he spoke with approve the draft letter as written, but if changes occurred today, he must bring the revised letter back for their approval.

The draft letter is linked at
http://www.cbfgwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1114/CBFWA_WP07letter_Nov9_2007Draft.doc

The October 31, 2007 memo regarding the FY 2007-2009 BPA Budget Situation, List of Critical and Essential Unfunded Projects, and BPA WP-07 Supplemental Rate Case is linked at

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1114/BudgetMemoFromCBFWAstafftoMembers2007_1031.pdf

The October 31, 2007 list of projects and planning budgets is linked at

http://www.cbfwa.org/Committees/Members/meetings/2007_1114/CBFWACriticalEssentialOct31.xls

The Members requested clarification in the third paragraph, second sentence of the draft letter. They agreed to add “by BPA” to clarify the sentence. The revision states, “Our analysis recognizes that the list of projects currently approved by BPA for funding under the Expense category of the Integrated Program budget is significantly less than the available funding.” This sentence is in reference to BPA’s posted July 2007 start of year budget. The funding identified in the CBFWA analysis is in addition to the posted budgets for each project.

Tom Iverson is confident that all the critical and essential needs identified by CBFWA members are listed in October 31, 2007 table. Tom reported that the ISRP recommended nine of the 107 projects as Do Not Fund (some with qualifications) and only seven projects were not reviewed by ISRP. Brian stated that the language in the draft is written to protect the Tribes who are involved in other rate processes.

The USFWS will abstain on this letter for reasons related to federal processes and the Remand. Mark Bagdovitz and Brian Lipscomb are contacting NOAA Fisheries for comments. The vice chair Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks will sign the letter, if no Members object.

Action:

The Members approved the draft letter as modified. No objections by the attending Members. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service abstain and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks will sign the letter. Brian Lipscomb will contact the absent Members for their decisions and notify the Members of the final action.