



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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February 21, 2006

TO: Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC)
FROM: Jim Uehara, Chair
SUBJECT: March 8, 2007 RFAC Meeting Draft Agenda

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

**Resident Fish Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 8, 2007
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM PST**

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**CBFWA – Portland, Oregon
Teleconference (503) 229-0449 ID: 518665**

Draft Agenda

ITEM 1: Program Amendments

During the January 24, 2007, RFAC Meeting, participants reviewed the “*Outline of Program Amendment Recommendations*” prepared by the CBFWA staff to evaluate what the RFAC could accomplish relative to the proposed amendment process. The RFAC agreed that the geographic scales (i.e., Subbasin, Province, and Regional) were sufficient; however, the RFAC recommended that an additional scale-oriented section (i.e., Policy/Principle Scale) should be included in the list to accommodate resident fish substitution and losses. The RFAC recommended that the Status of the Resources Project (SOTR) and its products (i.e., annual report and website) should be used to address the questions associated with the Subbasin Scale effort. The following is a brief description of the how the RFAC envisions using the SOTR to address the Subbasin Scale questions:

- Confirm focal species – Review each subbasin in the SOTR and add any species that were overlooked during subbasin planning (focal species depicted in the SOTR are those that were identified by the subbasin planners).
- Establish biological objectives – Review and confirm the biological objectives, as listed in the SOTR, for each focal species (biological objectives appearing in the SOTR are those that were presented in the subbasin plans or in management/recovery plans referenced in the subbasin plans). For many of the focal species, biological objectives were not provided in the subbasin plans. The RFAC needs to confirm whether biological objectives exist for those focal species
- Confirm primary limiting factors and identify strategies and actions to address the limiting factors – The RFAC indicated that the subbasin plans should be reviewed to confirm and update the limiting factors. In addition, participants indicated that in many of the subbasin plans’ strategies were identified to address the limiting factors.

At the Province Scale, the RFAC agreed that adding data from individual populations across a province was not an appropriate method to create a province-scale biological objective. The RFAC suggested that the appropriate measure should be what proportion of populations are meeting or exceeding their respective biological objectives (e.g., the number of focal species that are meeting or exceeding their respective biological objective).

During the February 7, 2007, Members Meeting, the Members directed the technical committees to: 1.) define and clarify terms (i.e., focal species, objectives, how to express limiting factors, etc.), 2.) confirm population level biological objectives, 3.) ensure that priorities affecting fish and wildlife are captured in this process, 4.) validate current limiting factors including out-of-basin affects, and 5.) review and build on strategies and actions necessary to reduce the limiting factors.

During the February 20, 2007, Members Advisory Group Meeting, participants directed the technical committees to provide a progress update to the MAG during their March 20, 2007, meeting.

The RFAC will begin to address the Members requests during this meeting. Efforts during this meeting will focus on confirming focal species in each of the subbasins as well as their respective biological objectives. To facilitate this review, Neil Ward will provide a list of focal species and their respective biological objectives that was compiled by reviewing the subbasin plans. Meeting participants will be asked to review the list prior to the meeting to facilitate discussions.

ITEM 2: In-Lieu Analysis

On February 13, 2007, the BPA released their final in-lieu analysis and project recommendations. Major issues that the RFAC must discuss, besides reduced funding recommendations, include BPA's decision to: 1.) "invest less significantly than before in monitoring bull trout populations that are not directly affected by the FCRPS", 2.) not provide full funding to Lake Roosevelt kokanee projects until the ISRP completes their report, 3.) not provide funding for some projects because "no resident fish crediting mechanism exist", 4.) not provide funding to projects proposed above Hells Canyon Dam because it "may not be an FCRPS responsibility to mitigate above Hells Canyon Dam if not affected by the construction or operation of Black Canyon, Anderson Ranch, Boise Diversion, Minidoka, or palisades Reservoirs", 5.) indicate that "fish population status monitoring is a low priority", and 6.) identify new bull trout projects as "not a high priority."

During the February 20, 2007, MAG Meeting, participants directed the technical committees to review, compare, and comment on the BPA's recommendations relative to those provide by the NPCC and fish and wildlife managers and to provide a report to the MAG during the March 20, 2007, MAG Meeting. In addition, the RFAC should address the BPA's resident-fish-oriented responses and provide a review to the MAG seeking transmittal to the Members.

ITEM 3: Other Updates and Schedule Next Meeting