



# 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 government 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 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:** July 29, 2009

**TO:** Resident Fish Advisory Committee (RFAC)

**FROM:** Neil Ward

**SUBJECT:** Final Action Notes for the July 14, 2009 RFAC Meeting

**Resident Fish Advisory Committee Meeting  
July 14, 2009**

**10:00am – 3:00pm PDT**

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**Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority Office  
Portland, Oregon**

[RFAC Webpage](#)

**Attendees:** Sheri Sears (CCT), Mike Faler (USFWS), Ron Peters (CDAT), Jim Uehara (WDFW), Charlie Holderman (KTOI) and Neil Ward (CBFWA)

**Phone:** Christine Mallette (ODFW) and Jake Sellman (SPT)

**Time Allocation:**

Objective 1: Participation	100%
Objective 2: Technical Review	%
Objective 3: Presentation	%

**ITEM 1: Review and Approve Agenda**  
The agenda was approved with no additional items being added.

**ITEM 2: Review and Approve June 4, 2009 Draft Action Notes**  
The draft action notes for the June 4, 2009 RFAC meeting were approved as final.

**ITEM 3: Resident Fish Loss Assessment and Resident Fish Substitution Template Presentations to the CBFWA MAG and Members: Update**  
Sheri Sears and Neil Ward led participants in a review of the RFAC's draft letters pertaining to habitat loss assessment methodology and recommended edits to the Independent Scientific Advisory Board's draft risk assessment template that project sponsors will have to complete, per the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (NPCC) Amended Fish and Wildlife Program (Program), prior to implementing existing and new resident fish substitution projects for which non-native fish are to be released in the Columbia River Basin.

**ACTION:** The RFAC advised Neil to revise the draft letter and to make it available for RFAC review prior to the August Members' Meeting. In addition, the RFAC directed Neil to contact the Kalispel and Spokane tribes seeking their endorsement of the RFAC's proposed habitat loss assessment methodology. The RFAC suggested that Neil draft a letter that the Kalispel and Spokane tribes could consider using as a template for the development of their own letters.

**ITEM 4: Resident Fish Losses: Development of Methodology to Assess Operational Losses**  
The NPCC's Program contains the following objective to address resident fish losses: "Complete the assessments of resident fish losses resulting from the development and operation of the hydrosystem, when and where there is agreement on the appropriate methodology and prioritization of an assessment. As these are available, the Council will consider adopting the loss assessments into the Program." Sheri Sears led the RFAC in an initial discussion regarding the development of an appropriate method to assess resident fish losses that are associated with the operation of the Federal

Columbia River Power System. The RFAC began to review the procedures that Montana used to develop their loss assessment as well as considering the “ecosystem” approach that the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho is currently developing.

**ITEM 5:**

**NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday, August 11, 2009**

**9:00am – 3:00pm PDT**

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**Upper Columbia United Tribes Office**

**25 W. Main Suite 434**

**Spokane, WA 99201**

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