



April 12, 2000

TO: Wildlife Committee (WC or Committee)

FROM: Michele Beucler, Chair

for

SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for the March 30-31, 2000 Wildlife Committee Meeting in Portland, Oregon.

If there are no objections within five days, these actions will be considered approved. If you have any questions or comments please contact Frank Young by phone at 503-229-0191 or by e-mail at frank@cbfwf.org.

Attendees: Michele Beucler (IDFG), Haace St. Martin and Dan Gonzales (BPT), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), Anders Mikkelsen (SBT), Tracey Hames (YIN), Maureen Smith (USFWS), Greg Sieglitz (ODFW), Frank Young (CBFWA), Jenene Ratassepp (WDFW), Joe DeHerrera (BPA), Robert Matt (CDAT), Steve Judd (CTCR), Ray Entz (KT), Peter Paquet (NWPPC), Dale Becker (CS&KT)

By Phone: Scott Soultz (KTOI), Bill Bradley and Theodora Strong (YIN)

Time Allocation: Objective 5. Coordinate Program Amendments: 100%

ITEM 1: Review and Approval of Agenda

ACTION: The agenda was developed and approved by the Committee at the beginning of the meeting.

ITEM 2: Action Notes

ACTION: The March 15-16 Action Notes were approved as modified.

ITEM 3: Review of John Shurts March 29, 2000 Memo on Program Amendment Process

Discussion: Frank Young distributed the Shurts memo outlining the Northwest Power Planning Council (NWPPC or Council) staff's thinking on the amendment process for review as background for the Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife

Authority (CBFWA) Members' discussions at the Council's Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting scheduled for April 4, 2000 in Boise, Idaho.

ITEM 4: Strawman FY 2001 Budget

Discussion: Frank Young distributed the revised Draft FY 2001 Wildlife Budget Table for Committee review.

ACTION: There was no agreement to remove the FY01 balanced budget column (in reference to a question raised from the March 15, 2000 Action Notes).

ITEM 5: Development of Recommendations to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program

Discussion: Peter Paquet said the current thinking of the Council staff is that subbasin assessments could be completed by September 2000 using the template being developed by CBFWA's Science Advisory Team. The agencies and Tribes would be involved in this process. Subbasin plans would be completed over the next three years. Peter further stated the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has agreed to use EDT in addition to CRI in assessment work. He also recommended that crediting language in the current program be carried forward into the amended program and remain in effect until the subbasin plans are amended into the new program. Wildlife mitigation would then be guided by the subbasin plans.

Bill Bradley of the Yakama Nation (YN) proposed separating the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funding for the blocked and unblocked areas of the Columbia Basin. The blocked area budget would continue with the budget separated into resident fish and wildlife components while the unblocked area budget would be merged for all species, but would be directed primarily toward anadromous fish recovery projects.

Carl Scheeler said that he felt that it is important to have wildlife benefits from projects directed primarily toward anadromous fish recovery efforts credited to operational and secondary losses, rather than using up the remaining construction and inundation credits on these projects.

Robert Matt said that his Tribe is considering recommending to the Council that projects addressing construction and inundation losses in areas with few current mitigation projects be given the highest priority to address inequities in the current Program. Anders Mikkelsen said that he supported this action.

The Committee agreed to spend the rest of the meeting on a page by page review of Robert Matt's and Ray Entz's mark-up of the CBFWA Draft Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment document.

ACTION: The Committee approved mark-up document will be provided (on disk) to Tom Giese for incorporation into the next draft of the draft review document.

ITEM 6: Time and Location of Next Meeting

Discussion: The next meeting is scheduled for April 26-27, 2000.

Subcommittees

1. Crediting

Membership: Carl Scheeler (Chair), Joe DeHerrera, Phil Havens, Susan Barnes, and Michele Beucler.

Deliverables: Develop method of dealing with crediting for operational and secondary losses. Develop assigned definitions and draft rationale for recommended approach. Work with the NWPPC and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to resolve crediting issues and bring recommendations to the WC for consensus.

2. Ranking

Membership: Ray Entz (Chair), Anders Mikkelsen, and Stacey Horton.

Deliverables: Develop proposal for new criteria to be reviewed and commented on by the Committee.

Timeline: Subcommittee will remain inactive until crediting issue is resolved and subbasin planning activities are completed.

3. Relative Values

Membership: Paul Ashley (Chair), Matt Berger, Susan Barnes, Robert Matt, and Ray Entz.

Deliverables: This subcommittee will remain inactive until the crediting issue is resolved.

4. Operational Losses

Membership: Scott Soultis (Chair), Ed Bottum, Paul Ashley, and Maureen Smith.

Deliverables: Develop a draft Request for Proposals, addressing wildlife losses due to dam operations, for full Committee review. Develop definition of operational losses with supporting rationale. This subcommittee will work with the Crediting Subcommittee to resolve crediting issues with the NWPPC and BPA.

5. Long Term Operations and Maintenance

Membership: Loren Kronemann (Chair), Michele Beucler, Carl Scheeler and Jenene Ratssepp.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Membership: Robert Walker (Chair), Paul Ashley, Susan Barnes, Matt Berger, Carl Scheeler and Joe DeHerrera.

Deliverables: 1. Develop an interactive/standardized HEP modeling program that ties both vegetative and species response to mitigation activities.

- Develop a prototype program for review within three months.
- Funding will be through the Wildlife Plan money.
- Complete program with a Committee review within six months.
- Make program available through existing web sources, i.e. BPA Net or StreamNet; also, explore a stand-alone system (CD, Diskettes, etc.) cost vs. the Net cost.