



DATE: November 26, 2002  
TO: Wildlife Committee (WC)  
FROM: Carl Scheeler, Chair *Franklin R. Young* for  
SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for November 19, 2002 Wildlife Committee Meeting and Wildlife Assessment Workshop

**If there are no objections within five days, these actions will be considered final.**

Draft Action Notes

**Attendees:** Dale Becker and Art Soukkala (CSKT), Paul Ashley and George Wilhere (WDFW), Robert Walker and Peter Paquet (NWPPC), Kelly Singer and B.J. Kieffer (STOI), Matt Berger (CCT), Jess Wenick (BPT), Maureen Smith (USFWS), Tracy Hames (YIN), Greg Servheen (IDFG), Mattie Allen (SPT), Angela Sondenaa and Loren Kronemann (NPT), Scott Soult and Beth Chase (KTOI), Tom O'Neil (NHI), Catherine Macdonald and Terry Cook (TNC), Carl Scheeler (CTUIR), and Frank Young (CBFWA)

**By Phone:** Amos First Raised (BPT)

**ITEM 1: BPA Reductions to FY 2003 Budget for Ongoing Wildlife Projects**

**Discussion:** Carl stated that BPA is unilaterally reducing budgets for ongoing work by very strict interpretation of contract language and using deficiencies in report submittal and other minutia to justify cutting budgets. He also reported that BPA is forcing the Tribe to spend Washington Agreement funds, planned for acquisition, to cover O&M. Others reported that they were experiencing similar actions by BPA as well as delays in reimbursement for approved expenditures. Frank stated that a letter was being prepared outlining budget problems for use by Rod Sando in discussions with Alex Smith and examples inappropriate budget cutting would be helpful in these discussions. Peter requested that members keep the Council informed of BPA funding issues. Frank reported that BPA is to release its Start-of-the-year Budget containing the discussed budget cuts during the week of December 2-7.

**ACTION:** The group agreed to form an ad hoc Budget Workgroup with Maureen Smith as chair and Carl Scheeler, Paul Ashley, B.J. Kieffer, Tracy Hames and Peter Paquet as members. WC members were requested to provide examples of budget problems to Frank for inclusion in a proposed CBFWA letter to BPA. The purpose of the Workgroup is to assess risks, priorities and issues limiting wildlife mitigation funding.

**ITEM 2: Prospects for Future Funding for Wildlife Mitigation Acquisition – Short Term/Long Term**

**Discussion:** The WC discussed the need to develop both short term and long term strategies for dealing with funding shortfalls.

**ITEM 3: Discuss How Best to Incorporate Terrestrial Habitat Needs into Subbasin Plans**

**Discussion:** Frank pointed out the need to assure that wildlife needs are incorporated into subbasin plans since the wildlife section in most subbasin summaries is weak. Carl pointed out that planning for wildlife needs at the subbasin level is very difficult since wildlife are not constrained by subbasin boundaries. There was considerable discussion about the desirability of establishing goals at the province or TNC ecoregion level.

**ACTION:** The WC agreed that subbasin plans need to include a discussion of how plan strategies and objectives for wildlife populations relate to goals established at the province, ecoregion, state, or region level in order to be useful.

**ITEM 4: Wildlife Assessment Workshop**

**Discussion:** Tom O’Neil from the Northwest Habitat Institute demonstrated the uses of the IBIS model and described how it could be used to assist managers in developing wildlife assessments for subbasin plans. Cathy Macdonald from The Nature Conservancy demonstrated the uses of the TNC Sites model and described how it could be used to assist the managers in setting goals and objectives for terrestrial wildlife.

**ACTION:** The WC agreed to support establishing a list of assessment questions to be addressed in all subbasin plans to facilitate analyses of population and/or habitat status at the province, ecoregion, state or regional level.

**ITEM 5: Next Meeting Location and Date**

The next meeting will be January 9, 2003 at CBFWA in Portland. The Precious Lands Management Plan will be review by the WC at this meeting. Please contact Frank Young with additional agenda items at [frank@cbfwa.org](mailto:frank@cbfwa.org).