



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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**DRAFT**

Coordinating and promoting effective protection and restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitat in the Columbia River Basin.

**DATE:** December 10, 2009  
**TO:** Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC)  
**FROM:** Ken MacDonald, CBFWA  
**SUBJECT:** WAC Wildlife Monitoring Framework Meeting

**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 Fish, Wildlife & 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

**Wildlife Advisory Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, December 16, 2009  
Northwest Power & Conservation Council Office  
851 SW Sixth Ave, Suite 1100, Portland OR 97204  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Pacific)  
Teleconference Number: 503-229-0449 Id: 653585**

WebEx has been arranged for this meeting:  
Select: [Quick Access to 12/16/09 WAC Meeting WebEx Logon](#)  
**Log in first:** Enter your name and email address.  
Click "Join Now" and follow prompts.  
Meeting password: wac (lower case)

All support material is posted at [http://www.cbfwa.org/committee\\_wac.cfm](http://www.cbfwa.org/committee_wac.cfm)

## Draft Agenda

**ITEM 1: Introductions, Approve Agenda and Action Notes**

**9:00-9:15am**

**Recommended Actions:**

1. Approve draft agenda.
2. Approve draft action notes for 11/18/2009 WAC meeting as final.

**ITEM 2:**

**9:15-9:45am**

**Discussion:**

**Council RME Review and Monitoring Framework Expectations - Nancy Leonard and Peter Paquet, NPCC**

Nancy Leonard and Peter Paquet will brief the group regarding the upcoming RME Categorical Review and the Council's desire to develop a monitoring framework for the Fish and Wildlife Program.

**ITEM 3:**

**9:45-10:15am**

**Discussion:**

**Meeting Objectives and Background – Doug Calvin, CTWS and Scott Soult, KTOI**

2008 Fish and Wildlife Program Amendments - CBFWA Consensus Agreement For Wildlife Monitoring:

- Transition from HEP (for monitoring) to ecologically-based paradigm
- Based upon ecological objectives described in management and subbasin plans
- Track trends in ecological function
- Provide data to assess the effectiveness of management (adaptive

management)

- Establish and use of reference sites
- Where appropriate, complement and maintain consistency with State/Tribal Conservation Strategies
- Project data summaries should link to region-wide databases
- Compatible protocols should be developed and used

**Recommendation Action:** Background and development of a M&E framework consistent with the consensus amendment recommendations.

**10:15-10:30am** *Break*

**ITEM 4: Development of Management Questions for Monitoring Framework**

**10:30-11:15am**

**Discussion:**

- What are the baseline ecological conditions of the site?
- Are the wildlife projects at or trending towards the desired ecological condition?
- Are the wildlife habitat management treatments effective?
- How many habitat units does each wildlife mitigation project provide?
- Identification of ecological context (what role the site plays in a larger landscape matrix).
- Are habitat conditions contributing to State Conservation Strategies and/or broader Tribal goals/objectives?
- What is the status of focal species and habitat relationships as described in project management plans?
- Monitoring must contribute to assessments and reporting at multiple scales from the project to the Basin.

**Recommendation Action:** Agree on the general management questions for framework development.

**ITEM 5: Ecological Integrity Assessment Overview– WDFW and WDNR**

**11:15am-12:15pm**

**Discussion:** WDFW and WDNR will present the Ecological Integrity Assessment process for the groups' review and understanding.

Group Discussion

- How do we transition to ecologically-based paradigm
- Effectiveness monitoring

**Recommendation Action:** Pending group discussion

**12:15-1:00pm** *Lunch*

**ITEM 6: Potential Role of HEP/HSI in an Ecological Assessment – Paul Ashley, CBFWA**

**1:00-1:30pm**

**Discussion:** How the HEP Program and habitat suitability indices may be used in the

evolution to an ecologically-based monitoring framework.

- Uses of HEP data in an ecological statistical analysis
- Examples of ecological-based surveys/sampling (e.g., USFWS – VEMA)

**Recommendation Action:** Pending group discussion

**ITEM 7: Review Draft Framework**

**1:30-3:00pm**

**Discussion:** Review draft framework; come to agreement as much as possible on the conceptual framework, identify next steps.

**Recommendation Action:** Pending group discussion

**ITEM 8: Next WAC Meeting**

**3:00-3:15pm**

**Recommended Action:** Schedule next WAC Meeting.