



# FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: FPAC

FROM: FPC Staff

DATE: November 24, 2014

RE: Action Notes from November 18, 2014, FPAC face-to-face meeting

On November 18, 2014, FPAC met at the FPC offices in Portland, Oregon, for its monthly face-to-face meeting. Present for the meeting were: Paul Wagner (FPAC Co-Chair, NOAA), Tom Lorz (FPAC Co-Chair, CRITFC), Dave Wills (USFWS, via phone), Charlie Morrill (WDFW, via phone), Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC), Sherri Sears (Colville, via phone), Russ Kiefer (IDFG, via phone), Dave Statler (Nez Perce, via phone), Trevor Condor (NOAA, via phone), Kathryn Kostow (ODFW, via phone), Joe Skalicky (USFWS), Erick Van Dyke (ODFW, via phone), Tom Skiles (CRITFC), Margaret Filardo (FPC), Erin Cooper (FPC), Brandon Chockley (FPC), and Tommy Garrison (FPC).

### Agenda Items

#### *Water Supply/Flood Control*

- Dave Benner (FPC) provided a summary of the current reservoir operations and water supply forecasts. Below is an overview.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Current Elevation (feet)</i>	<i>Change in Elevation (feet over past week)</i>	<i>Last Week's Outflows (Kcfs)</i>
GCL	1282.6	Drafted 3.9	80.5 – 108.2
LIB	2443.4*	Drafted 4.7	9.0 – 22.7
HH	3548.8	Refilled 0.3	1.0 – 1.3
DWOR	1518.2	Drafted 0.3	1.6 – 1.7
BRNLE	2070.8	Refilled 1.6	9.0 (inflows)
Albeni Falls	2051.3	No Change	12.2 – 14.1

\*The latest ESP for Libby is 6045 Kaf.

- Average tailwater at Bonneville over the month of November is 12.6 feet, and has ranged from 12.3 to 12.8 feet.

**Weather**

- Kyle Dittmer provided an update of current weather conditions. Precipitation was as follows:

Location	Seasonal (Oct 1-Now)
Portland	114%
Upper Columbia	68%
Middle Columbia	107%
Lower Snake	81%
Upper and Mid-Snake	83%

- Temperatures were as follows (temperature departures):

Location	Pro-rated Monthly
Portland	-2.3
Upper Columbia	0.0
Middle Columbia	-3.4
Lower Snake	-4.1
Upper and Mid-Snake	-4.8

- The signs of El Niño are mixed, with probability estimates ranging from a 45% to 58%.

**Adult Fish Passage**

- The November adult fish counts sites are being reduced. Dave Benner (FPC) will provide a memo outlining all the changes over the past two years and plan for the future.
  - In 2013, Bonneville, Lower Monumental, Lower Granite, and John Day had November adult counts.
  - In 2014, Bonneville, Lower Monumental, and Lower Granite have November adult counts.
  - In 2015, the current plan includes only Bonneville and Lower Granite for November adult counts.
- Daily Fall Chinook counts at Bonneville have ranged from 7 to 105. Daily Coho counts have fallen to 108 from 587 early in the week. Steelhead daily counts have ranged from 31 to 50. Chum counts have totaled 38 for the season.
- At Lower Granite, daily counts of Fall Chinook counts have ranged from 15 to 32. Daily counts of marked Steelhead have ranged from 225 to 598. Unmarked Steelhead daily counts have ranged from 81 to 227.
- The zero flow criteria cannot be initiated until December first.

**Chum**

- Live Chum and redds have been observed in November at the Ives/Pierce Island Complex.

### ***TMT Year End Review***

- Brandon Chockley presented *2014 Juvenile Salmon and Lamprey Review*, which will be presented by Paul Wagner at the TMT year-end review.
- FPAC provided comments, which Brandon will incorporate and provide final version to Paul Wagner for presentation to TMT.

### ***Lower Monumental Columnaris Change Form***

- Paul Wagner presented NOAA's change form for the Fish Passage Plan for Lower Monumental *Columnaris*. NOAA will recommend terminating transport and collection, with the exception of a condition sample every third day.
- FPAC agreed that the condition sample should consist of 100 fish, or, if 100 fish cannot be collected, the sample should last 24 hours.
- Brandon Chockley questioned whether/how often the proposed criterion of 20% for 3 consecutive days would be met. He will look at the data and provide information to FPAC for further discussion.
- FPC will look into *Columnaris* levels at Lower Granite and Little Goose Dams, to see if a similar proposal for those sites is warranted.

### ***Fish Passage Plan Change Forms***

- Comments on the Fish Passage Plan are due by December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Grand Coulee reservoir is 3% larger than previous estimates. Water will now be drafted to 1211 feet, rather than the current 1208. It is unclear how this will affect flows throughout the migration season.

### ***BPA TDG Waiver***

- FPC recently attended a meeting of the EQC to answer questions on the five-year TDG waiver for BPA.
- During the first week of January, there will be an informational meeting for EQC involving the COE, BPA, and FPC. There will then be a period for public comments.

### ***McNary Juvenile Survivals***

- FPC did not find evidence for differential juvenile survival or SARs for yearling Chinook, steelhead, and sockeye juveniles that passed McNary Dam through Primary Bypass compared to those that passed through the Separator (but not sampled).
- The details of this analysis can be found in the FPC Memo from November 7, 2014.

### ***Coordination***

- The FPC meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> will start at 10:00 AM.
- The next FPAC face-to-face meeting will be on December 16<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM at the FPC.
- TMT Year-End review will be on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 45 SW Burnside (Note new location at Mercy Corps).
- Comments on the first draft of the 2015 Fish Passage Plan are due on December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- AFEP Year-end review will be December 9 – 11, at 911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland.