



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

847 NE 19th Avenue, #250, Portland, OR 97232

Phone: (503) 833-3900 Fax: (503) 232-1259

www.fpc.org/

e-mail us at fpcstaff@fpc.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: FPAC

FROM: FPC Staff

DATE: March 24, 2014

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

On March 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), Erick Van Dyke (ODFW), Russ Kiefer (IDFG), Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC, via phone), Trevor Conder (NOAA, via phone), Tom Iverson (CBFWA, via phone), Erin Cooper (FPC), Margaret Filardo (FPC), Brandon Chockley (FPC), and Dave Benner (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.

Project	Current Elevation (feet)	Change in Elevation (feet over past week)	Last Week's Outflows (Kcfs)	April 10 FC (feet)
GCL	1271.0	Drafted 1.9	98.6 – 132.3	1258.0
LIB	2423.0	Refilled 0.3	4.0	2440.9
HH	3528.0	Refilled 0.5	1.0 – 1.6	3530.4
DWOR	1532.9	Drafted 3.3	12.2 – 17.1	1502.3 1532.1*
BRNLE	2068.2	Drafted 3.4		2057.7

*Local/Shifted FC

- Snowpack estimates from Natural Resource Conservation Service, provided by Dave Benner.

Basin	Snow Water Equivalent (% Avg) March 18, 2014
Columbia above Snake confluence	121
Snake River	99
Lower Columbia, between Bonneville and McNary	65

- ESP runoff volume estimates as of March 17, 2014.

Location	% Average (1981-2010)	Runoff Volume (Kaf)
The Dalles (Jan–July)	104	105326
Grand Coulee (Jan–July)	104	62040
Libby Res. Inflow, MT (Apr–Aug)	106	6232 5505*
Hungry Horse Res. Inflow, MT (Jan–July)	109	2279
Lower Granite Res. Inflow (Apr–July)	109	21713
Brownlee Re. Inflow (Apr–July)	68	3723
Dworshak Res. Inflow (Apr–July)	120	2907 2701*

*COE March Forecast

- Over the past week, tailwater measured at Tanner Creek has ranged from a minimum of 19.6 – 21.5 and a maximum of 21.4 – 26.3. Due to high levels of precipitation recently, operations have not been managed to maintain BON tailwater elevation.

Weather

- Kyle Dittmer provided a handout of precipitation for season (Oct 1 – current), as well as over the month of March. Handout also provided pro-rated monthly temperatures. Precipitation levels were as follows (% of normal):

Location	Seasonal (Oct 1–Now)
Portland	72%
Upper Columbia	89%
Middle Columbia	60%
Lower Snake	97%
Upper and Mid-Snake	83%

- Temperatures were as follows (temperature departures):

Location	Pro-rated Monthly
Portland	-3.5
Upper Columbia	-3.7
Middle Columbia	2.2
Lower Snake	3.5
Upper and Mid-Snake	6.2

Juvenile Fish Passage

- Collection has started at traps and the Bonneville JBS.
- Over the past week, the White Bird trap has collected 120 – 200 fish/day. The Snake River trap collected a few smolts before being removed from the water due to debris.
- Passage index of yearling Chinook at BON are down over past three days when compared to this time last week, and have ranged from 200 – 300 fish/day. Passage index of subyearling Chinook has been in 600 – 1,000 per day range, the vast majority of which have been fry. Collections of coho, steelhead, and sockeye remain low this week.
- Lamprey counts at Bonneville hit a peak of 684 on Monday, March 17th. Other days have ranged from 30 – 200/day.
- Rock Island Dam will begin juvenile sampling as scheduled. Sampling at Lower Granite Dam to begin around March 26th.

Adult Fish Passage

- Over the last week, 41 – 61 Steelhead/day have passed Bonneville. Six Chinook have passed Bonneville.
- Daily steelhead counts at LGR have ranged from 72 – 216 over the last week.
- The corner collector at Bonneville was opened on March 17th for kelt passage.

Sort-by-Code Requests

- A request from Lance Clarke at ODFW for steelhead smolts was approved.
- A request from Ryan Richmond to study orifice passage at Lower Granite was approved.

Wanapum Dam Update

- Weekly meetings (Monday mornings) have been conducted to give updates on the status of the dam and plans for repairs.
- The cause of the crack is still unknown.

- Currently, there are plans to run pumps to supply sufficient water for the adult ladder. Designs will be submitted by Friday, March 21.
- Currently, there are no plans for adult counts, PIT-tag detection, or other monitoring.

Change Forms (IHR and LMN) Status

- Change forms for spill at Ice Harbor and Lower Monumental Dams will be discussed at RIOG on Friday, March 21.
- If necessary, CRTFIC will pursue a change to uniform spill at Lower Monumental in-season with an SOR, rather than the current change form.

Transportation Workshop

- The agenda for the transportation workshop (Wednesday, March 19th) was discussed. FPAC members agree the best available science should be used to make decisions on transportation dates.

Coordination

- The next FPAC meeting will be Tuesday, March 25th at 9:00 AM.
- The next face-to-face meeting will be April 15, 9:00 AM, at the FPC office.
- The transportation workshop will be at COE offices in Portland on March 19th, 1–4.