



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: July 21, 2014

RE: Action Notes from July 15, 2014, FPAC face-to-face meeting

On July 15, 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, via phone), Dave Wills (USFWS), Charlie Morrill (WDFW), Trevor Conder (NOAA, via phone), Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC, via phone), Erick Van Dyke (ODFW, via phone), Kathryn Kostow (ODFW, via phone), Steve Williams (PSMFC, via phone), Dave Statler (Nez Perce), Sherri Sears (Colville, via phone), Tom Iverson (Yakima), Gary Fredricks (NOAA, via phone), Russ Kiefer (IDFG), Tom Skiles (CRITFC), Dave Benner (FPC), 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	1289.4	Refilled 1.9	103.5 – 152.2
LIB	2452.1	Refilled 2.0	15.0
HH	3559.5	No Change	5.7 – 7.8
DWOR	1592.5	Drafted 5.6	11.8 – 13.7
BRNLE	2071.3	Drafted 2.5	10.6 – 13.4 (inflows)

- The Summer Biological Opinion flow period began on June 21st in the lower Snake River. The flow objective this spring will be 52 Kcfs at Lower Granite. Flows at Lower Granite have averaged 51.8 Kcfs over the last week and 62.2 Kcfs over the spring season.
- The Spring Biological Opinion flow for the Upper and Lower Columbia began on July 1st. The spring flow objective at McNary Dam will be 200 Kcfs (average so far is 247.5 Kcfs).
- Below are the ESP runoff volume estimates as of July 14, 2014.

Location	% Average (1981–2010)	Runoff Volume (Kaf)	Observed Runoff through 7/14/2014 (Kcfs)
The Dalles (Jan–July)	107	108015	100888
Grand Coulee (Jan–July)	109	64970	59358
Libby Res. Inflow, MT (Apr–Aug)	117	6914	5700
Hungry Horse Res. Inflow, MT (Jan–July)	133	2786	2663
Lower Granite Res. Inflow (Apr–July)	99	19718	18880
Brownlee Re. Inflow (Apr–July)	63	3456	3122
Dworshak Res. Inflow (Apr–July)	123	2974	2861

Weather

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

Location	Seasonal (Oct. 1–Now)
Portland	86%
Upper Columbia	83%
Middle Columbia	60%
Lower Snake	81%
Upper and Mid-Snake	81%

- Temperatures were as follows (temperature departures):

Location	Pro-rated Monthly
Portland	4.7
Upper Columbia	6.6
Middle Columbia	8.9
Lower Snake	7.2
Upper and Mid-Snake	7.4

- Current NOAA models predicting that El Niño is not expected to be very strong.

Juvenile Fish Passage

- Spring migrants are passing in very low numbers at all SMP project
- Compared to last week, subyearling Chinook numbers are decreasing at Snake River projects. Subyearling numbers, decreasing in recent days at BON, are likely a sign that hatchery release from Little White Salmon NFH at the beginning of month has mostly passed project.
- Per FPAC request at previous meeting, FPC staff provided the criteria being used by internal e-mail alert system for mortality and descaling.

Adult Fish Passage

- Sockeye at Bonneville have reached a record, with 580,000 adults counted to date—300% of the 10-year average.
- Summer Chinook at Bonneville are at 120% of 2013 returns and 128% of the 10-year average. At Lower Granite, returns are at 85% of the 10-year average.
- Summer Chinook jacks at Bonneville are at 88% of 2013 returns and 126% of the 10-year average. At Lower Granite, counts of summer Chinook jacks are at 109% of the 10-year average.
- Steelhead at Bonneville are at 250% of 2013 and 106% of the 10-year average. At Lower Granite, counts are at 87% of the 10-year average.
- There is no obvious adult delay between Little Goose and Lower Granite Dams.
- Nez Perce tribe has collected their quota of 250 adult lamprey at BON for translocation to above LGR. Adult lamprey are overwintered at Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery and released throughout Snake Basin (above LGR) in spring.

Biological Opinion Spill

- TDG in the Little Goose tailrace exceeded 115% from July 8th through July 11th.
- TDG in the Ice Harbor forebay exceeded 115% from July 8th through July 11th and again from July 13th through July 14th.
- TDG in the McNary forebay exceeded 115% on July 9th and July 10th.
- There were no exceedances in the Lower Columbia.

Non-Treaty Storage

- Pam Kingsbury (BPA) provided a handout on expected flows from the Columbia with regard to non-treaty storage.
- FPAC members agree that even if conditions change and storage is possible, flows should be maximized and no additional non-treaty storage is necessary.

Dworshak Operations

- COE committed to increasing outflows at DWOR to ~13.5 Kcfs on July 11th, due to modeling that was predicting temperatures at LGR tailrace to exceed 69°F by July 17th if outflows did not increase.
- Current plan is to keep outflows at ~11.7 Kcfs through the end of August.

McNary Sampling Temperature Protocols

- Suggestions were made for further changes to the McNary high temperature sampling protocol.
- FPAC members agree that since problems from this protocol have not arisen before, the current language will remain. Managers and FPC will continue to review the data as the season progresses to see if future changes are warranted.

Sort-by-Code Requests

- Jason Vogel submitted a request to collect adult Steelhead at Lower Granite. This request was approved.
- Matt Corsi also submitted a request to collect adult Steelhead at Lower Granite. This request was also approved.

Bonneville Unit Testing

- The COE has expressed a need to test units at Bonneville, which will require operation outside of the 1% optimal operating range. Testing was done on the morning of July 15th.
- FPAC members believe this testing should not occur during the outmigration season or during nighttime hours. The amount of notice was not sufficient and less than is required by the FPP.

Smolt Monitoring Program Review

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) and Charlie Morrill (WDFW) provided comments on the Smolt Monitoring Program and proposed changes for future monitoring.
- FPC will review the comments and proposals and provide information at a later meeting on what the impacts might be from proposed changes.
- SMP trap operations are currently under review by the Comparative Survival Study Oversight Board.

Lower Granite Pumps and Adult Trap

- There are currently three pumps moving water from the Lower Granite forebay into the adult ladder.

- Additional pumps are on order for diffuser 14/adult trap. They should be in place by July 25th.
 - Currently, funding will allow for only 10 hours/day of operation of these pumps. FPAC has expressed concern that high temperatures in the ladder will deter adult passage while these pumps are not operational. Additionally, there may be a need to use the adult trap more than 10 hours/day.
 - This issue will be raised at FPOM.
- The adult trap is currently non-operational, but the COE reports that repairs will be completed by the time the auxiliary pumps are in place, around July 25th.
- FPAC discussed COE Coordination Request for bushing repairs on Transformer 1 and Transformer 2 at LGR. Repairs would require unit outage (spin no load) during daytime hours (0600–1800) from August 5–6 and August 11–15. The request will be discussed at the special FPOM meeting on July 16th.

Coordination

- The next FPAC face-to-face will occur on August 19, 2014, at the FPC office at 1:00 PM.