



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

TO: FPAC

FROM: FPC Staff

DATE: January 21, 2014

RE: Action Notes from January 21, 2014, FPAC face-to-face meeting

On January 21, 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), Tom Skiles (CRITFC), Dave Wills (USFWS), Charlie Morrill (WDFW), Erick Van Dyke (ODFW), Russ Kiefer (IDFG, via phone), Sherrie Sears (Colville Tribe, via phone), Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC), Erin Cooper (FPC), Dave Benner (FPC), Margaret Filardo (FPC), and Brandon Chockley (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)	End of January FC (feet)
GCL	1278.2	Refilled 0.4	60.2 – 102.8	1290.0
LIB	2425.8	Drafted 0.1	4.0	2426.7
HH	3537.4	Drafted 0.8	2.2 – 2.6	3544.4
DWOR	1526.4	Refilled 1.5	1.6	1546.5
ALBF	2051.7	No Change	10.1 – 18.2	---
BRNLE	2067.1	No Change	9.9 – 10.3 (inflows)	2077.0

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

Basin	Snow Water Equivalent (% Avg) Nov 19 2013
Columbia above Snake confluence	85
Snake River	69
Lower Columbia, between Bonneville and McNary	49

- ESP runoff volume estimates as of January 19, 2014.

Location	% Average (1981–2010)	Runoff Volume (Kaf)
The Dalles (Jan–July)	84	84675
Grand Coulee (Jan–July)	87	51627
Libby Res. Inflow, MT (Apr–Aug)	95 92*	5616 5432*
Hungry Horse Res. Inflow, MT (Jan–July)	93	1944
Lower Granite Res. Inflow (Apr–July)	87	17215
Brownlee Re. Inflow (Apr–July)	61	3318
Dworshak Res. Inflow (Apr–July)	98 94*	2364 2296*

- Over the past week, tailwater measured at Tanner Creek has ranged from a minimum of 11.5 – 12.4 and a maximum of 13.0 – 16.6.

Weather

- Kyle Dittmer provided an update of the current season.

Location	Seasonal (Oct 1-Now)
Portland	45%
Upper Columbia	78%
Middle Columbia	29%
Lower Snake	59%
Upper and Mid-Snake	46%

- Temperatures were as follows (temperature departures):

Location	Pro-rated Monthly
Portland	0.9
Upper Columbia	6.3
Middle Columbia	4.2
Lower Snake	4.1
Upper and Mid-Snake	3.7

Joint Technical Staff Memo on 2013 Performance Tests

- A number of FPAC attendees signed a JTSM to be submitted to the COE.
- The JTSM requested additional information to be included in the final report of performance testing at LGS and LMN for subyearling Chinook in 2013. The information requested was details on rejection rates, route-specific survival estimates, and survival estimates under spring and summer operations at LMN.

Changes in 2014 Biological Opinion

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) provided an overview of some of the changes to the 2014 Biological Opinion. Many of these will be discussed at the next TMT meeting.
- The transition from spring to summer operations in the Snake (applies to LMN) will be determined by a rolling 5-year average of the 95% passage date for wild yearling Chinook and steelhead or wild/hatchery sockeye, but no earlier than June 1.
 - FPAC raised concerns about the use of PIT tags to determine passage date due to unequal tagging among target populations and the limitations on tagging wild fish due to trap removal early in the seasons.
 - FPAC also raised concerns about the lack of passage data for hatchery/wild Sockeye in the Snake.
- Three days of flexibility have been included in the language on the start date of transportation. The goal is to transport 50% of Steelhead migrants.
 - Data on the benefits and negative impacts of transportation may be considered in a TMT workshop later in 2014.

Effects of Climate Change in the Columbia Basin

- Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC) gave his presentation “Climate Change Impacts on Columbia Basin Tribal Lands: Past-Present-Future”, summarizing his research on climate change in the Columbia Basin, recently published in *Climate Change Journal*.

- Although annual precipitation totals may not change significantly over time, the seasonal totals and form of precipitation may change.
- After incorporating a number of climate metrics, it appears that the largest climate change impacts will be in regions with an elevation less than 4,000 ft. In particular, this may have a significant effect in NE Oregon.
- A copy of Kyle's presentation was sent to FPAC and he is available for more detail.

Coordination

- The next face-to-face meeting will be February 18, 9:00 AM, at the FPC office.