



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

To: Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC)
From: FPC Staff
Date: August 1, 2017
Subject: Action Notes from August 1, 2017, FPAC meeting

On August 1, 2017, FPAC met via conference call for its weekly meeting. The following people participated in the meeting:

Tom Lorz (FPAC Co-Chair CRITFC)
Alex Saint (FPC)
Brandon Chockley (FPC)
Charlie Morrill (WDFW)
Dave Benner (FPC)
Erin Cooper (FPC)
Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe)

Jennifer Graham (Warm Springs Tribe)
Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC)
Michele DeHart (FPC)
Sheri Sears (Colville Tribes)
Tom Iverson (Yakima Nation)
Trevor Conder (NOAA)

AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Notes

- Approval of the previous meeting's notes were suspended until next FPAC Meeting.

Water Supply/Flood Control

- Dave Benner (FPC) provided a summary of the current reservoir operations and water supply forecasts, snowpack estimates, and ESP runoff volumes.

Weather

- Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC) provided a summary of weather conditions and water year status. See attached.

Juvenile Fish Passage Status

- For passage indices on August 1, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated indices, use the FPC website.
- GBT sampling is currently once per week in the mid-Columbia due to temperatures. GBT monitoring at Lower Granite is likely done for the season.

Adult Fish Passage Status

- For adult counts on August 1, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated counts, use the FPC website.
- Temperature differentials in the adult ladder were close to 2.5°C last week at Little Goose, but are currently less than a degree. At Lower Granite, the differential has been maintained at less than a degree.

JTS -Early operation of JBS

- Brandon Chockley (FPC) received comments from Paul Wagner (NOAA) and Dave Swank (USFWS). He noted that the JTS should be sent out soon due to the upcoming FPOM Meeting.
- Trevor Condor (NOAA) commented that he was concerned with the SMP part of the 4 year plan. His concern is based in the amount of time fish would be held. He expressed his opinion to follow the SMP project for the first year, and then to reevaluate for subsequent years.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) asked for clarification on the phrase “hold the fish” and explained that SMP fish are only held for a maximum of 24 hours; fish are not held until a sample size is met.
- Trevor Condor (NOAA) expressed his concern that the sampling at Lower Monumental in March would be every other day, and then go back to twice a week condition sampling in April. Brandon clarified that the condition sampling would be the same in March as it currently is in April.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) stated that he would revise the section with concern to Lower Monumental SMP sampling.
- Michele Dehart (FPC) pointed out to Trevor that the SMP is contracted on a year-to-year basis, so there is leeway to make changes every year.
- Trevor Condor (NOAA) expressed concern that signing on to this letter would be viewed as supporting a 4-year implementation of the SMP. He stated he would prefer to analyze the data after one year. Michele responded that this can be done.
- Tom Lorz (CRITFC)- suggested changes to the document to specifically list only the year 2018 with a note to review data afterwards.

- Brandon Chockley (FPC) asked if these changes were acceptable, Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe), Charlie Morrill (WDFW), Dave Swank (USFWS), Tom Lorz (CRITFC), and Sheri Sears (Colville Tribes) all agreed to the above changes.
- Tom Lorz (CRITFC) suggested that any further changes need to be in to Brandon by 2 o'clock, August 1st. All present agreed.

JTS- ERDC Flow Diagrams

- This JTS Memo requests that FPC host flow diagrams generated at ERDC so they are available to FPAC members. Brandon Chockley asked if there was a deadline for then the COE needed to receive this document. Tom Lorz (CRITFC) pointed out that Sean Milligan (COE) is not in the office this week so the letter can be discussed at next week's FPAC.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) noted that FPC will revise grammatical errors and will be send corrected version for next week's meeting.

WDFW Purse Seine Gear Study

- Tom Lorz (CRITFC) stated that WDFW had decided to go forward with the WDFW Purse Seine Gear Study. He has contacted WDFW that this may not be the best year to attempt this study due to the expected low steelhead run size, but due to funding, WDFW is planning to go forward.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) asked if WDFW will submit recap files for previously tagged PIT-tagged fish. Tom Lorz responded that he did not see that in the proposal, and offered to forward the email so that Brandon may submit a request. Brandon asked to be forwarded the information.
- Trevor Conder (NOAA) reported that NOAA had met with the researchers and gave approval for the predicted take of the study. The primary concern is that if they collect 15 – 20 B-run steelhead, it could require shutting down the AFF. They will notify TAC members if they reach a collection of 10, and decide from there if they should discontinue the study.

Dworshak Operations

- Brandon Chockley (FPC) asked if there was a current plan for Dworshak. He pointed out that according to the TMT website the current plan is to maintain at 11 Kcfs, at least for the next week. Brandon noted that the website had not been updated for several days. Dave Benner pointed out that the average is 10 Kcfs, so to stay at 11 Kcfs now will require a drop to 9 Kcfs later in the season.
- Dave Swank (USFWS) noted that he and Jay had a call with the hatchery. As previous weeks, the desire is to reduce spill to reduce TDG but given temperatures this does not appear to be possible. Tom Lorz (CRITFC) Noted that the latest STP has total outflows at DWOR dropping to 10.5 Kcfs on August 9th.

LGR Turbine Unit Update

The COE has reported that changing blade angle for Unit 2 is not possible, for fear that Unit will fail. A failure at Unit 2 would require that Unit 3 becomes the priority unit, which is what the original plan was in order to meet FOP spill levels through the end of August.

Coordination

- FPOM next week, August 10
- TMT Wednesday, August 2.
- FPAC conference call on Tuesday, August 8 at 9:00 AM.
- The next FPAC face-to-face meeting will be on August 15, 2016, at 10:00 AM.

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