



# FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC)

From: FPC Staff

Date: September 5, 2017

Subject: Action Notes from September, 2017, FPAC meeting

On September 5, 2017, FPAC met via conference call for its weekly meeting. The following people participated in the meeting:

Paul Wagner (FPAC Co-Chair NOAA)  
Tom Lorz (FPAC Co-Chair CRITFC)  
Alex Saint (FPC)  
Brandon Chockley (FPC)  
Charlie Morrill (WDFW)  
Dave Benner (FPC)  
Dave Swank (USFWS)

Erick Van Dyke (ODFW)  
Erin Cooper (FPC)  
Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe)  
Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC)  
Sheri Sears (Colville Tribes)  
Trevor Conder (NOAA)

## AGENDA ITEMS

### ***Approval of Notes***

- FPAC notes from August 29 were not available and will be sent for review prior to next week's meeting.

### ***Water Supply/Flood Control***

- Dave Benner (FPC) provided a summary of the current reservoir operations. Because of the holiday on Monday, FPC was unable to provide a memo of reservoir operations by the time of the conference call.

### ***Weather***

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

### ***Juvenile Fish Passage Status***

- For passage indices on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated indices, use the FPC website.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that since I-84 was closed fish that had been loaded into transportation trucks were released back into the river (at the closest boat ramp below each project). Less than 100 total fish were in the trucks. Little Goose and Lower Monumental dams are currently on secondary bypass until certain that the road will remain open.

### ***Adult Fish Passage Status***

- For adult counts on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated counts, use the FPC website.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that NOAA had recently released a memo covering preliminary 2017 ocean conditions. Catch of juvenile salmonids, productivity, and chlorophyll, and northern species of copepods were all low. This indicates that 2017 is likely a poor ocean year. Paul will circulate memo to FPAC after the meeting.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) inquired when the NOAA reach survival memo might be released. Paul indicated that it should be available soon and he will circulate it when it comes out.

### ***Spill Update***

- For spill and TDG from August 28<sup>th</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, please see the attached document. For updated information, please use the FPC website.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce) requested that FPC continue to provide a review of spill at Lower Granite.

### ***Lower Granite Spillway Operations***

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked if spill was from the RSW or if it was deep spill. Answer was deep spill is fine due to the warm temperatures, and a deeper level has less impact on temperature.
- Jay Hesse (NOAA) noted that a fair amount of discussion at FPOM to develop the switch to the RSW spill to September 1<sup>st</sup>. He also noted that there is uncertainty in how long this operation will continue, most likely until there is a reduction in surface water temperatures.
- Erick Van Dyke (ODFW) noted there is an ongoing discussion in whether fall Chinook are higher in the water column or not.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that this was done more for temperature than for juvenile passage. Also noted that the idea was to control temperature below the project as much as possible. Spilling from the surface would have larger impact on temperatures below the project than deep spill.

- Erick Van Dyke (ODFW) noted that powerhouse passage.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) stated that his thought process is to balance both of those things, acknowledged the lack of fall Chinook information.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) expressed concern with which spill bays are being used to draw the spill. Currently using bays 6-8. Seems to make more sense to spill from bays closer to powerhouse.
- Trevor Conder (NOAA) stated that spillbays chosen wasn't for the purpose of passage. Noted it was for conditions affecting construction work. If not interfering with construction, can revisit which spill bays are used. Bays adjacent to RSW seem to make more sense. Better to keep juveniles out of the powerhouse than worrying about tailrace conditions.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked if this information/discussion has to go to FPOM or to Doug Baus (COE). Tom Lorz (CRITFC) responded that the information should be passed on to Doug and/or Eric Hockersmith at the COE.
- Seems that need to have two discussions: 1) when to switch back to RSW (based on temperatures) and 2) if not using RSW, which bays do you operate. Trevor stated that it seems to make the most sense to operate bays most adjacent to RSW unless other reasonable explanation as to why that's not a good idea. Would like to hear other viewpoints of there are any.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) stated that it may be worth looking at the latest model run. Model run predicts that LGR tailrace will be at 68 or above about 7 days out. Jay Hesse (Nez Perce) not sure if this model run is correct, given weather forecast.

#### ***End of MOP Operations***

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that sites will return to MOP except LGR when Dworshak augmentation is done.

#### ***Recap of LGS Adult PIT Tag Detection***

- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) stated that he wanted a recap of the FFDRWG discussion about adult PIT-tag detection at LGS entrances. Charlie could hear discussions but could not understand the discussion. Charlie's key take away was that matter would be brought back to next SWRG for further discussion. Would like a recap.
- Trevor Conder (NOAA) stated that PSMFC presented a concept of PVC style antenna with two side by side antenna at entrance. Proposal was to put antennas behind bulkhead slots. Noted that there still would be difficulty determining efficiency with certainty. COE also had concern with directionality. Was discussion about RT work. Sounds like COE might be leaning towards RT work but precision concern. Noted PIT-tags would give additional reads with some uncertainty on detection efficiency and directionality could cross verify with active tags. Noted that Ann Setter (COE) didn't think project would support any additional help because they were doing bypass work early. Needs to be followed up on.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce) asked what needs to happen to keep this alive. Tom Lorz (CRITFC) responded by saying that there needs to be some convincing at the higher levels.

- Erick Van Dyke (ODFW) mentioned that there has been a lot of support for the RT work from SRWG. Seems that we'd get more than RT has to offer by using PIT-tags but not sure how that has been incorporated into the discussion with those higher up. Tom Lorz (CRITFC) stated that he thinks the COE is wondering if this is something we really need. Stated that there is likely a preference for a more substantial system.
- Jay Hesse stated that it seems like putting together a 1 pager is needed to state that the RT methodology isn't going to provide the in-season management tool that we desire. Dave Swank (USFWS) stated that he was concerned with sample size issue with RT study, when it came to application to real-time management. Charlie agrees with this concern.
- Trevor is more supportive of PIT-tag detection if antenna is installed at entrance and second antenna somewhere in-between (e.g., collection channel or junction pool) to be able to get directionality. ??(??) asked about what the COE is looking for the feel comfortable moving forward. Tom Lorz responded that they would be more supportive of the idea with a PIT-tag antenna a little further forward for efficiency and directionality.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) asked if directionality was possible.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) suggested that FPAC write a memo of what is desired, in-season, and equipment needed. Noted that radio tags won't fill current in-season needs. Charlie, Erick, Trevor, and Shari all agree with this idea. Jay will take first stab at writing the first draft with help from Charlie and Erick. Trevor suggests contacting Dereck Fryer (COE) to see if memo should go to FFDRWG or SRWG.

### ***Coordination***

- TMT tomorrow (Sept 6).
- FPAC conference call on Tuesday, XX at 9:00 AM.
- The next FPAC face-to-face meeting will be on September 26, 2017, at 10:00 AM.