



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

To: Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC)

From: FPC Staff

Date: October 11, 2017

Subject: Action Notes from October 3, 2017, FPAC meeting

On October 3, 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)

Gabe Scheer (FPC)

Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe)

Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC)

Tom Iverson (Yakima Nation)

Trevor Conder (NOAA)

AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Notes (00:20)

- FPAC notes from September 26 were approved without changes.

Water Supply/Flood Control (00:32)

- Dave Benner (FPC) provided a summary of the current reservoir operations. See the attached document.
- Water supply memo also addressed question from last week's meeting regarding the possibility that only three units at LGS will be screened by the time sampling starts on

March 1st. Based on data from 1980-2017, 39% of years had average flows in March that exceeded what can be provided by three units, assuming Units 1-3 are prioritized. 25% of years had average flows in the first week of March that exceeded what can be provided by units 1-3. If prioritize units 6, 4, and 3 (as is proposed for 2018), proportion of years exceeding would decrease slightly. Dave will update the table with data, assuming prioritize units 6, 4, and 3.

- Trevor Conder (NOAA) mentioned that there is still debate on how the COE is going to operate LGS. They might go straight to 30% spill during the day (8-hours) and gas cap at night (16 hours) but no decision has been made. Charlie Morrill (WDFW) reminded everyone that there was a plan to go to ERDC in November to explore patterns. Trevor is clarifying with the COE on these plans. Trip in November may not happen.
- NOAA policy staff have been talking to the COE on future plans at LGS. Unclear how this affects future ERDIC trips. Policy discussions are pending additional information. Tom Lorz (CRITFC) asked what additional information is needed. Paul Wagner (NOAA) specified that they would like an estimate of change as a result of operation. Concern expressed that 30% operation works. If desire to have different operation, what is the estimated increase in smolts that pass through spill and anticipated reduction in delayed mortality and increase in SAR associated with this different operation (i.e., 24 hours of gas cap spill vs. 8 hours at 30% and 16 hours at gas cap).
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) asked whether this conversation is going to come up at Spill Ops meeting tomorrow. Trevor responded that, yes, this will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) provided an update on when screens can be installed at LGS and LMN. First three units will be done by March 1st, other three units may not be installed until end of March, due to lock maintenance schedule. Crew cannot commit to doing all screens during this period. Brandon Chockley (FPC) asked what the concern with LMN was. Are we planning to do early sampling at LMN in March of 2018? Charlie Morrill (WDFW) and Paul Wagner (NOAA) thought that early sampling would occur at LMN in 2018. Jay Hesse (NEZP) clarified that March 2018 would only be LGS, JDA, and BON.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) recapped the August 29, 2017 discussion with Ann Setter (COE) and Erin Kovalchuk (COE) regarding FPAC's JTS letter recommending early sampling operations. After resolving questions, FPAC committed to revising letter and table to provide guidance on 2018 and out-years.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) reminded FPAC that the limited screen installation is an issue of inconsistency in sampling percentage or fish guidance efficiency, not an issue of routing more fish through the turbines because if we hadn't made the request, these fish would be going through turbines anyway. Brandon Chockley (FPC) stated that yes it may impact precision of estimating the magnitude of passage in March, but we will answer the question: are they there.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) suggested that FPAC update the letter and provide some kind of response to the effect that any reduction in turbine screening will not be a fatal flaw but will impact the precision of magnitude and we encourage the COE to get screens in as soon as possible.

- FPC will draft new memo based on discussion from August 29th FPAC memo, with new table of 2018 and out-years, and provides discussion of impacts of having limited screen installation by March 1st. FPC will distribute to FPAC by end of the week in order to try to get final draft to FPOM before Oct. 13, 2017 meeting.

Weather (30:55)

- Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC) provided a summary of weather conditions.
- Kyle noted that NOAA model now indicating 55-60% chance of La Niña. Updated data looking similar to 2016 at this time.
- Annual Winter Weather meeting is October 28, 2017 at OMSI.
- NOAA 30-day forecast calls for near normal conditions. 90-day forecast calls for above average normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.

Juvenile Fish Passage Status (34:50)

- For passage indices through October 2, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated indices, use the FPC website.
- Sampling at LMN and MCN done for the 2017 season. BON and LGS will sample through the end of the month.

Adult Fish Passage Status (36:02)

- For adult counts through October 1, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated counts, use the FPC website.

Lower Granite Spill Update (39:45)

- For spill and TDG from September 26 to October 2, please see the attached document.

Questions to the CSS- what is the process? (40:50)

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked for clarification on how FPAC or others can query the CSS. Should FPAC devote a period to CSS to discuss issues/inquiries about methodologies?
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) clarified that most agencies on FPAC (except NOAA and the Nez Perce) have a representative on the CSS oversight committee. Trevor Conder (NOAA) mentioned that he has two burning questions that he would like to get into the hopper but the point about what best process to have questions addressed in the future is a good one.
- Brandon specified the best way to get questions to the oversight committee is to submit them during the open review period. Send comments/questions to Michele DeHart by Oct 15th.
- Trevor's concern with that is that some questions need an answer in quicker manner and/or perhaps more interaction with group after questions are answered.
- Brandon mentioned that the CSS has already responded to requests from the ISAB and other groups to present CSS analyses from recent and past reports. May be an opportunity to request similar presentations of CSS committee on particular analyses.

- Brandon recommended that Trevor submit his questions directly to Michele and Jerry. If questions can be answered quickly without oversight committee involvement we can do that. If not, we can tell you and go from there.

Screen installation at LMN in March (49:20)

- This agenda item was covered in Water Supply/Flood Control section above.

Update on Little Goose PIT tag Installation (49:35)

- This will be discussed at SCT meeting on October 19th.
- PITAGIS has not received drawings of ladder entrances from the COE.
- Erick Van Dyke (ODFW) asked whether information from past RT studies is something that Don (PSMFC) could use to address some of the design questions. Is the RT study information available to share? Dave Swank (USFWS) asked whether the RT summary report would have this information in it. Erin Cooper (FPC) mentioned that she did not have the RT summary report. Dave will send to FPC to distribute to rest of FPAC.

Some Update from Charlie regarding study in Cathlamet Channel

- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) provided an update on the study in Cathlamet Channel. They are done for the season. Captured 7,138 salmonids. Immediate survival was 99.87%. Handled 15 wild B-run steelhead (unclipped). Tagged 2,084 Chinook (mix of clipped and unclipped) and 808 steelhead (think this is both clipped and unclipped but not totally sure). 1,820 Coho were also handled (4 morts).
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked whether PIT-tag passage to BON be included as part of evaluation. Charlie believes that, yes, this is part of the study.
- Trevor Conder (NOAA) asked whether there is a control group for this study. Charlie believes there is a control group included but unsure how that was done. Trevor also asked about whether they had a temperature criteria for sampling. Charlie believes that did but does not know the details at this point.

Coordination

- RIOG Spill Ops Group tomorrow (10/4) afternoon
- FFDRWG Wednesday (10/5) – Portland
- TMT face-to-face next Wednesday, October 4th.
- FPOM October 12th.
- The next FPAC is the face-to-face meeting on October 17, 2017 at 10:00 am