

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

December 29, 2004

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Robin Harkless

The following notes are a summary of issues that are intended to point out future actions or issues that may need further discussion at upcoming meetings. These notes are not intended to be the "record" of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

Chum Operations Update:

Ron Boyce, ODFW, sent an email to TMT members yesterday (12/28) that reported: The 12/28 survey observed no chum lives so it appears that chum spawning is complete. Oregon discussed this at FPAC and supported maintaining incubation flows at a minimum 12.3' Bonneville tailwater elevation until ODFW and USFWS can provide TMT information on actual chum redd elevations. ODFW committed to getting that information to TMT prior to the Jan 19th TMT meeting.

Paul Wagner, NOAA, reported the information from ODFW and offered that because the location results from the redd surveys would not be known for another two weeks, NOAA supported a 12' minimum tailwater at Bonneville.

BPA said they are sensitive to the salmon managers' concern that redds may be higher than the previously observed 11.5', and recommended operating Bonneville tailwater at a minimum 11.9' until the final survey results are known, and then revisiting the operation. The COE agreed that maintaining the current minimum tailwater elevation, 11.9', and lifting the maximum 12.3' constraint, would be the preferred operation since the elevation had been down to 11.9' in previous weeks and because the latest known information shows redds at 11.5'. The COE would like to be informed if additional surveys are going to be conducted, so that operations can be changed to accommodate the surveyors. Paul offered that there are no further surveys planned to his knowledge, and will check with a contact at the USFWS to make certain this is the case.

NOAA did not object to the proposed 11.9' minimum tailwater elevation, and requested that, in the future, the action agencies communicate more clearly the decision criteria that will be used for this type of operation. CRITFC supported the action agencies' proposed operation and requested that any excess water saved be used for spring migrants.

ACTION: Effective immediately, the daytime maximum tailwater elevation at Bonneville will be lifted and the 24-hour minimum will remain at 11.9'. This operation will be re-visited when the final redd survey results are known (expected the week of January 10th). If there are additional surveys planned, the USFWS will coordinate with the COE.

Next Meeting, January 5th, 9am:

The next face to face TMT meeting will be held in the new COE building (1125 NW Couch St, Conference Room 4A34 in the Brewery Blocks 4 Building) on January 5th. Following the TMT meeting, there will be a lunch held at Jake's Grill in honor of Chris Ross's retirement. Cathy Hlebechuk will send an email invitation with further details and an RSVP request prior to 1/5.

Agenda

1. Issues for further discussion from 2004 Lessons Learned
2. Chum Update
3. [Water Management Plan](#) comments
[\[2005 Water Management Plan Draft\]](#) 
[\[Appendix 4 - TDG Management Plan\]](#) 
4. Status of Operation
 - a. Reservoirs
 - b. Fish
 - c. Power System
 - d. Water Quality
5. Other
 - Set agenda for next meeting
6. Chris Ross. (NOAA-F) retirement lunch (location TBD)

Upcoming Meeting Dates: 1/5, 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30