

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM
April 25, 2007 Conference Calls

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Robin Harkless

Notes: Erin Halton

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.

4/25/07 CONFERENCE CALL

Paul Wagner, NOAA, said that more information was needed before Spring Creek Hatchery and Nighttime Spill at Little Goose could be discussed.

ACTION: A TMT conference call to discuss these two items was set for Friday, April 27th at 1:00 p.m.

Initiation of Transportation Operations

Paul Wagner, NOAA, reported that temperatures, passage counts, and flow indicators were below the levels to initiate the start of transportation operations and that they would likely begin on Tuesday, May 1st. Paul Ocker, COE, said that the COE received take assurances from NOAA, and planned to initiate transportation on May 1. Everyone said they would continue to monitor conditions on a daily basis and make adjustments as necessary.

Mooring in Lower Monumental

Bernard Klatte, COE, shared a report from the Chief of Operations at Lower Monumental that high swells on Tuesday, April 24 prevented installation of a loading dock mooring bit, prompting a request for a 1 hour spill outage for installation at a time to be determined by the TMT. Given the short amount of time needed for the operation, a spill shift was considered but not pursued by the COE. Bernard noted that this was a safety issue, and that there was a lesson learned to do installations like this before April 1 in future years.

Klatte asked TMT members present on the call for input on the request:

- NOAA did not object to the request.
- OR did not object to the request, and noted they did not support it either.
- ID did not object to the request.
- CRITFC did not object or support the request.
- BOR did not object to the request.
- BPA did not object to the request.

The salmon managers present on the call said they preferred the outage to occur as soon as possible.

Action/Next Steps: Bern said he would talk with the operators at Lower Monumental and a teletype would be issued on the operation, which would be initiated by 1:00 or 2:00 pm today (April 25).

Dworshak Operations

Cathy Hlebechuk, COE, reported that the end of April flood control elevation target for Dworshak was 1572.6'. The project's elevation was 1572.46' at midnight on 4/24, and flows planned to increase to 9.1 kcfs on 4/25. Cathy said that Avista Energy requested not going to full powerhouse (10 kcfs) until Thursday night, when line work would be completed.

NOTE: Hlebechuk sent out the following email later on 4/25: *The Avista line work has been completed early and Dworshak outflows will increase tonight to about 10 kcfs, full load on the units.*

Next face-to-face TMT meeting: May 2nd

Agenda items will include:

- Spring Creek Hatchery Release
- Dworshak Operations
- Updated ESP / STP Model Runs
- Snake River Transportation Briefing
- Priest Rapids Update
- Chum Emergence (?)
- Sturgeon Pulse Operations
- WMP Spring/Summer Update – Comments Finalized
- Operations Review

**Columbia River Regional Forum
Technical Management Team Meeting
April 25, 2007**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Today's TMT conference call was chaired by Cathy Hlebechuk and facilitated by Robin Harkless, with representatives from BOR, BPA, COE, NOAA, Idaho and Oregon on the line. The following is a summary (not a verbatim transcript) of the topics discussed and decisions made on the call. Anyone with questions or comments about these notes should provide them to the TMT chair or bring them to the next meeting.

2. Spring Creek Hatchery Release

Discussion of this issue was postponed until April 27, when the needed information will be available. The group scheduled a conference call for this coming Friday, April 27, at 1 pm to address this issue and agenda items 3 and 4.

3. Start Transportation

The low numbers of fish at Lower Granite indicate that it's too early for transportation, Paul Wagner (NOAA) said. A peak of 90 kcfs is projected for May. The plan is to start transportation on May 1. If it needs to occur sooner than that, TMT members will be notified by email. If there's any new information by this Friday, it will be included on the TMT conference call.

4. Start of Night Spill to the gas cap at Little Goose

Discussion of this issue will be included in Friday's conference call.

5. Lower Monumental Mooring Bracket Installation

COE workers attempted to lower a mooring bit for fish transportation barges, Bernard Klatte (COE) said, but they were unable due to wave action they'd previously underestimated. They considered the possibility of doing the work with spill shifted to other bays but decided the safest procedure would be a one-hour spill outage as soon as possible, either today or tomorrow. NOAA, BPA, BOR and Idaho representatives agreed to the spill outage request; CRITFC said that they were not pleased but would not object and the sooner the better. Oregon also were not pleased but wouldn't object because the work had to be done. Next year, Lower Monumental operations workers now know this installation needs to be done before April 1, Klatte said. COE will issue a teletype for a one-hour outage at 1 or 2 pm today after discussing this with the project.

6. Dworshak Operations

The target end of April flood control elevation is 1,572.6 feet; last night the reservoir elevation was 1,572.46 feet, so it's getting close, Hlebechuk said. Current discharges are 7.6 kcfs. Yesterday, COE planned to go to full load, approximately 10 kcfs. However, Avista is doing line work which puts Dworshak equipment at risk if flows are increased to full powerhouse. The project will increase to 9.1 kcfs later today, then to full powerhouse the evening of April 26th, Hlebechuk said. The project might have to spill to meet its end of month flood control elevation.

[Added information from Cathy Hlebechuk: the project will NOT increase discharges until after the line work is done. A new estimated time of completion is tonight.]

7. Next TMT Meeting

A conference call was scheduled for 1 pm, April 27, to discuss the May Spring Creek Hatchery release, the start of night spill up to the gas cap at Little Goose, and possibly the start of transportation. The next face-to-face meeting will be May 2, 2007. Agenda items for that meeting will include a Priest Rapids update, updated flow forecasts, Dworshak operations, Snake River transportation, chum emergence, finalizing the WMP spring/summer update, and the usual operations review. This meeting summary was prepared by consultant and writer Pat Vivian.

Name	Affiliation
Paul Wagner	NOAA
Rick Kruger	Oregon
Russ George	WMCI
Scott Bettin	BPA
Cathy Hlebechuk	COE
Paul Ocker	COE
Bernard Klatte	COE
John Roache	BOR
Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Tom Lorz	CRITFC
Mike Butchko	Powerex
Dave Trager	Evista
Margaret Filardo	FPC
Ruth Burris	PGE
Shane Scott	NW River partners
Ian Bird	Citigroup