

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

January 23, 2008 Conference Call

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Robin Gumpert

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.

Official Minutes/Facilitator Notes

The facilitator notes from the 1/16 meeting and 1/18 conference call had been posted to the web. The official meeting minutes from the same dates were expected to be posted by 1/25 and will be finalized at the 1/30 meeting.

Power System Status Update

As follow up from the 1/18 TMT conference call, Tony Norris, BPA, reported that no power emergency had been declared by a connecting control area. He added that the chance of an emergency declaration from a connecting control area had lessened, but that BPA was still planning for contingencies. Kyle Dittmer, CRITFC, noted that the region could expect temperatures to moderate next week.

Next Steps: Norris will provide any follow up details during the operations review portion of the 1/30 TMT meeting.

Draft 2008 Fish Operations Plan

Rudd Turner, COE, referred TMT to the Draft 2008 Fish Operations Plan (FOP) that was presented at the 1/16 TMT meeting and was linked to the TMT meeting agenda. He offered to discuss/answer any questions from TMT members. Paul Wagner, speaking on behalf of the Salmon Managers, said that there had been some discussion of the FOP at the FPAC meeting on 1/22, but that there was no group consensus to report. Dave Wills, USFWS, noted that in 2007 TDG was managed within OR/WA standards and that for 2008, those standards do not include reference to the Camas/Washougal gauge. Turner said that part of the December court hearing was a proposal to roll over 2007 operations to 2008 and that the proposed 2008 FOP was the COE's interpretation of that guidance. He suggested that TMT members share those types of suggestions with their Policy Work Group (PWG) representatives, as the PWG planned to meet the following day. The COE clarified that there is low flow operations language in the FOP. Jim Litchfield, MT, asked whether it might be possible to view comparative analysis of transport start dates that are included in the draft BiOP: Paul Wagner, NOAA, said that he would inquire as to that possibility.

The COE also clarified that Appendix D of the Draft Fish Passage Plan (FPP) will be posted soon, as will a revised Draft Water Management Plan (WMP); both will include references to the 2008 FOP.

Action/Next Steps:

- The PWG will meet on 1-24 to discuss the edits to the FOP.
- The court parties will likely review the FOP by the end of January.
- TMT members will be notified when the Draft FPP and WMP have been posted to the web. (The COE suggested that the WMP would not be posted before the 1/30 TMT meeting, so discussion of this will occur at the 2/13 TMT meeting.)

1/30/08 TMT Meeting:

Agenda items may include the following:

- Revised Draft 2008 Water Management Plan (for further discussion at 2-13 meeting)
- Update: Fish Operations Plan
- Update: Zebra/Quagga Mussels Rapid Response Plan
- Spring Creek Operations
- COE Re-organization Update
- Operations Review

NOTE: The TMT meeting scheduled for 2/13 will be held at the NOAA Fisheries 10th Floor Conference Room

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Technical Management Team Conference Call
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1. Introduction

Today's TMT meeting was chaired by Jim Adams (COE) and facilitated by Robin Gumpert (D.S. Consulting), with representatives from COE, BPA, BoR, NOAA, USFWS, CRITFC, FPC, Montana and others on the line. The following is a summary (not a verbatim transcript) of the topics discussed and decisions made at the meeting. Anyone with questions or comments about these notes should provide them to the TMT chair or bring them to the next meeting.

2. Review Meeting Minutes

There were no comments today on either the facilitator's notes or the official minutes from the January 16 meeting or the January 18 conference call. These notes will be revisited at the January 30 TMT meeting.

3. Power System Status Update

Things turned out well, but we're not out of the woods yet, Tony Norris reported. BPA is still planning for contingencies, and could still lose generation, but an emergency from a connected control area is less likely. The cold snap is expected to last through next week. Temperatures will moderate by late next week, with no major breaks in the chill until the middle of next week, Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC) said. There could be rain and snow by next weekend. Norris will update TMT on the power situation as part of the operations review at next week's meeting.

4. Draft 2008 Fish Operations Plan

The main purpose of today's call was to give TMT an opportunity to ask questions and discuss aspects of the draft FOP, Rudd Turner (COE) said. The draft has not changed, and the version linked to last week's TMT meeting is the most current. There will be a Policy Work Group meeting tomorrow where the FOP will be discussed.

The Salmon Managers have no consensus to report after yesterday's FPAC meeting regarding the draft FOP, Paul Wagner (NOAA) reported, although individual parties asked questions.

The following three documents will become available for TMT review in the next few weeks:

1. Appendix D, water quality monitoring, to the FPP. It will be posted before the end of January, Adams said. The COE has been waiting for the FOP to firm up before updating Appendix D.
2. The FOP will be finalized around the end of January. It will contain 2007 project-specific spill operations to be repeated in 2008. The exceptions will be JDA, MCN, LMN and BON. John Day pool will spill more than 30% for testing this spring and summer. There will be intensive spill pattern testing soon at ERDC for John Day, McNary and Lower Monumental dams. Spill patterns for these three projects will be finalized by the end of January. The need for spill pattern testing is delaying completion of the FOP. Bonneville operations will continue like last year, except there will be additional days of 85 kcfs spill (about 30 days total in 2008) to accommodate testing that starts around July 20.
3. The new draft Water Management Plan will be released for TMT review at the January 30 TMT meeting, Scott Boyd (COE) said. TMT members decided to comment on it at a later meeting after they've had a chance to review the details.

In 2007 TDG levels were managed within the confines of the state of Oregon waiver and a Washington exemption, so it would be consistent to do the same thing this year, Dave Wills commented. But this year the waivers don't include Camas-Washougal, so using it seems inconsistent with replicating last year's operations. The Department of Justice instructed the COE to continue 2007 operations in terms of what actually occurred, Rudd Turner replied. This issue could be further discussed at the Policy Work Group meeting tomorrow.

Jim Litchfield (Montana) asked whether NOAA has done COMPASS analysis of the proposed 2008 operations. It hasn't been planned, Wagner said, but he'll pass along the idea. NOAA didn't commit to doing modeling at this time.

5. Next Meeting

The next TMT meeting will be in person on January 30. Agenda topics include release of the revised draft WMP; a briefing on the rapid response plan for zebra and quagga mussels; an FOP update; discussion of Spring Creek Hatchery studies, including a SRWG trucking proposal; and a power system update. The next regular TMT face-to-face meeting will be February 13 at NOAA's Portland offices, followed by a meeting February 27 at the COE. This summary prepared by consultant and writer Pat Vivian.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Tony Norris	BPA
John Roache	BoR
Tim Heizenrader	Centaurus

John XX	Constellation
Tom Le	Puget Sound Energy
Mike Butchko	Powerex
Kyle Dittmer	CRITFC
Paul Wagner	NOAA
Richelle Beck	DRA
Jim Litchfield	Montana
Barry Espensen	CBB
Dave Wills	USFWS
Dave Benner	FPC
Margaret Filardo	FPC
Jim Adams	COE
Rudd Turner	COE
Cathy Hlebechuk	COE
Scott Boyd	COE