

# COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

## TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

July 31, 2009 Conference Call

### FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Erin Halton

Notes: Christa Leonard

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.

#### **Review Dworshak Operations**

Dan Feil, COE, reported that Lower Granite tailwater temperature is currently at 67.7 degrees F with outflows of 14 kcfs (as decided at TMT face-to-face meeting on Wednesday 7/29). Steve Hall, COE, presented TMT with multiple ESP graphs, emailed to TMT distribution list prior to the meeting, detailing several modeling scenarios. He noted that the model was tracking 1 degree F below observed temperatures, indicating that temperatures could reach 68-69 degrees F by Sunday, 8/2. He further explained that every day that Dworshak outflows are at 14 kcfs, 27 KAF are used. Dworshak currently has 575 KAF total, with assumed inflows of 1.1 kcfs. It was stressed that staying too long at 14 kcfs will reduce the ability to stay at 12 kcfs for very long in August (likely no more than two weeks), and increases the amount of time operations will need to be below full powerhouse through the second half of August. The COE proposed holding outflows at 14 kcfs through the weekend and holding a conference call on Monday so that TMT members can consider how to maintain desired temperatures to the extent possible while also considering how to best distribute the remaining KAF through the month of August. TMT members on the call supported the short-term plan.

**Action/Next Steps:** The COE will maintain Dworshak outflows of 14 kcfs until future action is discussed during a TMT conference call Monday 8/3 at 2:00 p.m. Updated modeling runs will be provided via email/web.

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Technical Management Team Conference Call  
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***1. Introduction***

Today's TMT call was chaired by Dan Feil (COE) and facilitated by Erin Halton (DS Consulting), with representatives of NOAA, Idaho, COE, Oregon, CRITFC, BPA and others participating. 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. Dworshak Operations***

Prior to the meeting, TMT members received information via email on the status of Dworshak operations. Feil presented the new ESP information. The first graph, titled Dworshak ESP Remaining Volume, is an elevation summary. The second shows operations to date according to the ESP traces. If Dworshak flows drop immediately from 14 to 12 kcfs for the next 2 weeks, then flows would have to be reset to approximately 8.8 kcfs for the rest of August. The final graph shows Libby elevation ending at 1,535 feet on August 31 and at 1,520 feet by mid September. These ESP elevations may be high compared with observed conditions.

Steve Hall (COE) presented the latest Dworshak modeling results. The model shows a current discharge from Dworshak of 14 kcfs continuing through the weekend, then dropping to 12 kcfs on August 3. Dworshak outflow temperatures continue to be around 42 degrees F and are expected to peak on August 2. The model, which is tracking about a degree below observed values, shows the Lower Granite tailwater peaking at 68 degrees F on August 2. Given that actual temperatures are about a degree higher than the model, the Lower Granite temperature is expected to peak at 69 degrees F on August 2. The current temperatures reflect a lack of wind, which could cool things down when it blows. Another modeling scenario shows 14 kcfs outflows until August 5.

There was discussion of the remaining volume. It appears that 575 kaf is available, assuming an average of 1.1 kcfs inflows at Dworshak through August. Even if average inflows are 1.3 kcfs, which seems high, there wouldn't be enough volume to maintain a full powerhouse operation at Dworshak through the rest of August. Each day of 14 kcfs outflows now means 27.8 kaf that's not available later. If the remaining volume is 490 kaf after flows drop to 12 kcfs on August 3, that means about 14 days of full powerhouse will be left for the rest of August. In other words, there's 580-600 kaf of water volume available, and full powerhouse requires 620 kaf for 31 days.

Wagner suggested 14 kcfs outflows through early next week, then dropping down to 12 or even 10 kcfs outflows on August 4-5, and again to 8 kcfs outflows on August 18-19.

The COE plans to continue 14 kcfs outflows at Dworshak through the weekend and check in again with TMT members on August 3. NOAA, Idaho, CRITFC and Oregon supported that operation.

### **3. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled TMT meetings will be conference calls on August 3, 5 and 12. The next meeting in person will be August 19. This summary prepared by consultant and writer Pat Vivian.

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Affiliation</i></b>
Paul Wagner	NOAA
Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Dan Feil	COE
Doug Baus	COE
Ron Boyce	Oregon
Kyle Dittmer	CRITFC
Steve Hall	COE Walla Walla
John Heitstuman	COE Walla Walla
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Robyn MacKay	BPA
Margaret Filardo	FPC
Richelle Beck	DRA