

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

November 3, 2010 Meeting

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES

Facilitator/Notes: Robin Gumpert

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.

Meeting Minutes

With no further comments, the 10/26 Conference Call Facilitators' Summary and Official Meeting Minutes were considered final.

Libby Data

The COE provided a recap of the Libby operation from April 17-July 15 in table format, to show the numbers behind the charts that had been presented during the operation. This information was shared in response to a request, and was linked to the TMT agenda for review by anyone interested. The COE clarified the columns: (A) Inflow; (B) (C) and (D) Theoretical Baseline Operations; (E) (F) and (G) Actual Operations; (H) Storage Accounting; (I) Sturgeon Volume; and (J) 4 kcfs Bull Trout Minimum Flow.

Chum Operation

Cindy LeFleur, Washington, provided the latest update on spawning surveys from 11/2 – this data had not yet been posted to the TMT web page. 18 live chum, 1 dead and 4 redds were observed in the Ives/Pearce area. She noted that some Chinook and Coho were spotted in the area as well.

Planned Operation: The COE shared that it would continue operating Bonneville at elevation 11.3-11.7' around the clock to support the spawning chum. They also reported that Powerhouse 1 required restricted generation for pipe removal on 11/1, but that it had been restored and spill was no longer being required to support the chum operation. TMT will check in on this issue as the season continues – the next TMT conference call is scheduled for 11/10.

Water Management Plan

Steve Barton, COE, reported that several comments had been received on the first draft of the 2011 WMP, and all had been posted to the website. The next draft, addressing these comments, will be available on 11/16. The seasonal Update to the WMP had also been posted, and TMT members were asked to review this particularly for the new format changes that had been made. There is an Elements Update Table that keeps track of the date and section that updates are made, for easy reference. Comments on the Update and the second draft of the full WMP will be due by 12/3.

Operations Review

Reservoirs: John Roache, Reclamation, reported on projects. Grand Coulee was at elevation 1288.5' and using storage to support chum below Bonneville. Hungry Horse was at elevation 3538.45' and releasing 1.1 kcfs. Maintenance at Hungry Horse that John had reported on at previous TMT meetings had been completed. Steve Barton, COE, also reported on projects. Libby was at elevation 2441.7', with 7.5 kcfs inflows and 4.5 kcfs outflows. Albeni Falls was at elevation 2055.8', with 12.9 kcfs inflows and 19.3 kcfs outflows. Dworshak was at elevation 1518.0', with 2.5 kcfs inflows and 1.6 kcfs outflows. Lower Granite flows were 20.8 kcfs, with a weekly average of 20.0 kcfs; Priest Rapids flows were 83.9 kcfs, with a weekly average of 67.3 kcfs; McNary flows were 94.9 kcfs, with a weekly average of 94.4 kcfs; and Bonneville flows were 121.5 kcfs, with a weekly average of 105.7 kcfs.

Fish: Paul Wagner, NOAA, reported on adult passage, noting that the run was winding down. Fall chinook counts at Bonneville were 100-200/day; jacks were in the teens, coho were 400-1,000/day and steelhead were less than 100/day. Paul also reported that juvenile monitoring had ended at Lower Granite, Little Goose and Bonneville on 10/31. The final juvenile counts showed a range of 200-500 fish/day at Lower Granite and Little Goose. These, he said, are typically Clearwater fish. Dave Wills, USFWS, added that full flow bypass continues until the screens are pulled (later this year) so PIT-tag detections will continue.

Water Quality: Scott English, COE, reported that the annual TDG and temperature monitoring report will be completed and available by the end of December. A post-spill monitoring review meeting was going to be held later today.

Next Meeting, November 10 Conference Call:

Agenda items include:

- Chum Operation
- Other?

Columbia River Regional Forum
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OFFICIAL MINUTES

November 3, 2010

Notes: Pat Vivian

1. Introduction

Today's TMT meeting was chaired by Steve Barton (COE) and facilitated by Robin Gumpert (DS Consulting). Representatives of Montana, BPA, the COE, NOAA, USFWS, the Colville Tribe, Washington, CRITFC, Idaho and others attended. This summary is an official record of the proceedings, not a verbatim transcript. Anyone with questions or comments about this summary should give them to the TMT chair or bring them to the next meeting.

2. Meeting Minutes for October 26, 2010

The facilitator's notes have been revised and re-posted in response to comments received. There were no other comments today, so the October 26 facilitator's notes and official minutes are considered final.

3. Libby Data

The table linked to this item on today's agenda is provided in response to data requests the COE received in late September and early October regarding storage accounting for the deviation request TMT made for Libby Dam this summer, Barton said. Joel Fenolio (COE Seattle) explained the contents of the data table. Columns B, C and D show the standard baseline operation, while columns E, F and G show actual Libby operations per the deviation request. Column H gives a daily account of the storage and release of the 260 kaf under the deviation request. Column I accounts for the sturgeon volume, and Column J the 4 kcfs minimum used to calculate the sturgeon volume. The two data sets converged on July 15, thus ending the operation.

4. Chum Operations

Yesterday's spawning survey found 18 live chum, 1 dead chum and 4 chum redds, as well as Chinook and coho, in the Ives Pierce area below Bonneville Dam, Cindy LeFleur (Washington) reported. The COE has issued instructions to the project to maintain a tailwater elevation of 11.3-11.7 feet.

On November 1, generation was restricted at Bonneville Powerhouse 1 for dive safety associated with removal of the juvenile bypass system, Barton reported. This resulted in some spill in order to meet the chum flow minimum requirements. Sufficient units have been restored that spill is no longer necessary to meet minimum flow requirements. The COE will keep TMT updated on any other actions at Bonneville that might impact the chum operation.

5. Water Management Plan

The COE is in the process of incorporating comments received on the first draft of the WMP, Barton reported. The draft will be reissued on November 16 for another round of comments due December 3.

The seasonal update (formerly the fall/winter and spring/summer update) will be available for comments on the same schedule. The seasonal plan is a living document that will be continuously updated, even as it's being reviewed. Tony Norris (BPA), who designed the new WMP format, suggested that TMT members cultivate a habit of checking the seasonal update before every TMT meeting to keep in touch with the latest water management information. The COE will add the WMP to future TMT agendas whenever new forecasts come in or conditions change.

6. Operations Review

a. Reservoirs. Grand Coulee is at elevation 1,288.5 feet, currently operating and drafting to support chum spawning below Bonneville Dam. Hungry Horse is at elevation 3,538.45 feet, releasing 1.1 kcfs. The BOR recently completed required maintenance at Hungry Horse more quickly than expected, so flows only fell below the Columbia Falls minimum for 5 days.

Libby is at elevation 2,441.7 feet, with inflows of 7.5 kcfs and flat discharges of 4.5 kcfs. Albeni Falls is at elevation 2,055.8 feet, with inflows of 12.9 kcfs and a daily average discharge of 19.3 kcfs. Dworshak is at elevation 1,518.0 feet, with inflows of 2.5 kcfs and discharges of 1.6 kcfs.

Lower Granite is discharging 23.8 kcfs; last week's average was 20 kcfs. Priest Rapids is discharging 83.9 kcfs; last week's average was 20 kcfs. McNary is discharging 94.9 kcfs; last week's average was 67.3 kcfs. Bonneville is discharging 121.5 kcfs; last week's average was 105.7 kcfs.

b. Fish. Adults: Chum spawning is the only adult activity at present, Wagner reported (see above).

Juveniles: This is the last week of smolt passage monitoring at Lower Granite, Little Goose and Bonneville dams. For the past few days, Lower Granite has been passing 300-500 fall Chinook per day and Little Goose has been passing 400-450 fall Chinook per day. Typically these are Clearwater River fish at this time of year. Fish screens will be pulled in November or December, depending on the project

c. Power System. There was nothing to report today.

d. Water Quality. The COE will release the annual dissolved gas and water temperature monitoring report at the end of December, Scott English (COE) reported. This afternoon, the COE will host the annual post-spill season monitoring system review meeting.

3. Next Meetings

TMT will meet next on November 10 via conference call. A chum update and report from a November 8 navigation meeting will be on that agenda. A potential TMT conference call was scheduled for November 17. The next TMT meeting in person will be on December 1. The annual TMT year-end review will be on December 8.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Steve Barton	COE
Jim Litchfield	Montana
Tony Norris	BPA
Doug Baus	COE
Karl Kanbergs	COE
Paul Wagner	NOAA
David Wills	USFWS
Laura Hamilton	COE
Joel Fenolio	COE Seattle
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Russ George	WMC
Rob Allerman	Deutsch Bank
Tom Le	Puget Sound Energy
Doug Vine	Thomson Reuters
Charles Morrill	Washington
Mike Shapley	Snohomish PUD
Glen Trager	Iberdrola
John Roache	BOR
Ryan Dorsch	Capitol Power
Eric Trautman	BP
Tom Lorz	CRITFC
Russ Kiefer	Idaho