

**COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM**  
**November 30, 2011 Conference Call**  
**Facilitator's Summary**  
Facilitator: 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.*

**Chum Update**

Paul Wagner, NOAA, shared that the live chum count on 11/22 was 38 and that while there was not much activity in the Ives channel, the new channel was proving to be a 'hot spot' with 500 active spawners observed on 11/23. Given this, the salmon managers recommended no change to the current operation of 11.7-12.5 foot tailwater elevation range at Bonneville. Paul suggested that given the current forecasts, the salmon managers would likely not recommend a change next week either, but reserved the option to change that recommendation after next Tuesday's FPAC call. The TMT Year End Review is scheduled for next Wednesday, 12/7 so there will not be a regular TMT business meeting unless necessary for chum operations.

**Operation Plan:** Doug Baus, COE, said the operation would continue at the current tailwater elevation range of 11.7-12.5 feet. If any major changes are recommended before the next regularly scheduled TMT meeting on 12/14, TMT will convene and the meeting will be announced via the TMT web page no later than late Tuesday afternoon 12/6.

**Zero Nighttime Generation on Lower Snake River Projects**

Tony Norris, BPA, reported that while the criteria for removing the zero nighttime generation operation constraint had been met, the fish passage numbers had since gone up. Paul Wagner, NOAA, said the criteria for removing the zero gen requirement this year is a 3-day running average of less than 65 total run (hatchery and wild) adult steelhead and less than 20 wild adult steelhead passing Lower Granite per day. The most recent passage count was 111 adults.

**Action:** Until the criteria are met, nighttime generation will continue at all hours on the Lower Snake projects. Once the criteria are met, Paul will notify Doug Baus at the COE to trigger a change to the operation. Doug will send an email to TMT and will post a brief notice as a link on today's agenda item related to this topic.

**Next Meeting: TMT Year End Review, December 7, 9:00 am -3:30 pm**

The annual year-end review will take place again at the Ambridge Center in Portland. Check the agenda and RSVP for a lunch by COB this Friday, 12/2. Unless there is a need for a TMT business meeting on that day, there will not be a phone line available. The presentations will be posted to the agenda linked to the TMT web page.

**Columbia River Regional Forum**  
**TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**November 30, 2011**

Notes: Pat Vivian

***1. Introduction***

Today's TMT conference call was chaired by Doug Baus, COE, and facilitated by Robin Gumpert, DS Consulting. Representatives of BPA, NOAA, BOR, COE, the Umatilla Tribe, Colville Tribe and others attended. This summary is an official record of the proceedings, not a verbatim transcript. Any questions or comments should be directed to the TMT chair.

***2. Chum Operations Update***

Paul Wagner, NOAA, reported that the latest Ives Island chum count remains low, 38 spawners on November 22. The area of greatest activity this year is the recently rebuilt spawning channel below Bonneville, where more than 500 chum were observed on November 23. The Salmon Managers who participated in yesterday's FPAC call (the same entities represented today) opted to continue the current Bonneville daytime operating range of an 11.7-12.5-foot tailwater elevation.

The Action Agencies intend to continue the current operation until the Salmon Managers indicate otherwise, Baus said. If there is a need to discuss chum operations next week, NOAA will notify Baus and TMT members by the afternoon of December 6, and chum will become the first item on the TMT year end review agenda December 7. Otherwise, TMT will revisit the chum operation at its next regular meeting December 14.

***3. Zero Nighttime Generation on the Lower Snake River***

Fish counts at Lower Snake projects were below the trigger for the zero nighttime generation operation on the Snake, but have recently rebounded, Tony Norris, BPA, reported. Wagner indicated since counts are below the trigger it would not be appropriate to implement the zero nighttime generation operation until fish reached the criteria.

The following are the criteria for implementing a zero nighttime generation operation after December 1: 1) the 3-day running average of adult steelhead passing Lower Granite Dam must be less than 65 steelhead total (hatchery and wild), and 2) of the 65 steelhead total passing less than 20 must be wild steelhead. Both criteria must be met. The most recent count is 171 hatchery and wild adult steelhead. There were no objections to this plan.

#### **4. Next TMT Meeting**

TMT will hold its year-end review on December 7. The next regular meeting will be on December 14.

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Affiliation</i></b>
Tony Norris	BPA
Paul Wagner	NOAA
Tom Lorz	Umatilla
John Roache	BOR
Doug Baus	COE
John Hart	EWEB
Lisa Wright	COE
Laura Hamilton	COE
Karl Kanbergs	COE
Heather Dohan	Puget Sound
Steve Hall	COE
Russ George	WMC
Bruce McKay	hydro consultant
Richelle Beck	Grant PUD
Sheri Sears	Colville Tribe
Barry Espenson	CBB
Rob Allerman	Deutsch Bank
Scott Bettin	BPA
Bill Rudolph	NW Fish Letter