

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

November 28, 2012

DRAFT 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 Operations

Today's TMT conference call was convened to discuss a change in operations at Bonneville given high inflows in to the project. Doug Baus, Corps, said he emailed notification to TMT and interested parties yesterday afternoon describing the change:

The AA's will increase the Bonneville Dam tailwater for the chum operation to 14.0 ft. (operating range of 13.5 - 14.5 ft.) today. The previous operation targeted a 12.5 ft. tailwater operation (operating range of 12.2-12.8 ft.). Based on current conditions associated with higher Bonneville Dam inflows as well as NWRFC forecast information it is no longer possible to maintain the previous 12.5 ft. tailwater operation.

Doug added that the project commenced operating within the new operating band (13.5 to 14.5 ft.) at 1600 hours yesterday when the recorded Bonneville Dam tailwater reached 14.2 ft.

TMT members discussed the operation and one member asked if the action agencies had done long term modeling to ensure this elevation could be maintained throughout the season. Tony Norris, BPA, responded that while too early to know for sure, the current ESP analysis did not show any impact to Grand Coulee 4/10 elevation with the current 14.0 ft spawning operation and a 13.5 ft incubation operation through the rest of the chum operation. Also, the action agencies had no other option but to increase the tailwater elevation given the high flows and pending weather conditions.

Operation/Next steps: The action agencies will implement the current operation until further notice. Everyone will monitor conditions closely and agreed to discuss this issue again during a conference call next Tuesday, 12/4 at 3:00 pm PST. If there is no change to conditions or operation, TMT reserves the right to cancel the meeting and will do so with notification out no later than 3:00 pm the previous day, 12/3.

Columbia River Regional Forum
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM – OFFICIAL MINUTES

November 28, 2012

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 the COE, BPA, USFWS, CRITFC/Umatilla, Montana, NOAA and others attended. This summary is an official record of the proceedings, not a verbatim transcript.

2. Chum Operations Update

The purpose of today's call was to review the chum operation in light of changes needed to handle higher inflows and forecasted water supply than previously expected. The previous chum operation targeted a 12.5 foot tailwater elevation below Bonneville. Yesterday, the COE issued a teletype to the project targeting a 1-foot band of 13.5-14.5 feet elevation to accommodate the increase in flows.

Tom Lorz, CRITFC, asked about potential impacts on spring flows. Tony Norris, BPA, said an incremental analysis of 54 ESP traces showed that, under present conditions, none of them would impact the ability to meet the April 10 elevation target at Bonneville. The ESP analysis assumed that Bonneville tailwater will remain at elevation 14 feet through December, then drop to 13.5-foot protection levels through the incubation phase of the operation.

3. Next TMT Meeting

A conference call was scheduled for 3 pm Tuesday, December 4, to revisit the chum operation. The TMT annual review will be December 5, and the next regular TMT meeting will be December 12.

Name	Affiliation
Doug Baus	COE
Cathy Rogers	COE
Russ George	WMC
Richelle Beck	Grant PUD
Tony Norris	BPA
Dave Wills	USFWS
Tom Lorz	CRITFC/Umatilla
Brian Marotz	Montana
Paul Wagner	NOAA
Chris Duncan	Jensket
Peter Richardson	Jensket