

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

July 30, 2015

Facilitator's Summary

Facilitator, Emily Plummer; Notes, Tory Hines, DS Consulting

The following Facilitator's Summary is intended to capture basic discussion, decisions and actions, as well as 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.

Emergency Snake River Sockeye Trap and Haul Operation Update

Doug Baus, COE-NWD, noted that the 2nd emergency test operation at LGS has concluded and at this point NOAA is not recommending continuing the operation. Russ Kiefer, ID, requested input from the region regarding when to terminate the Emergency Snake River Sockeye Trap and Haul operation at Lower Granite. He noted there were two options discussed internally at IDFG:

1. End the trap and haul operation at 12:00PM on 7/31; or,
2. On Monday, August 3rd, at 0400 hours return to FPP unit priority (Unit 2 as the priority unit) at Lower Granite Dam, with deep spill, no RSW and a uniform spill pattern. And continue the trap and haul program through next Wednesday, August 5.

Russ explained that the hope is that the change in operation will stimulate the remaining Sockeye to move through the project. Bill Hevlin, NOAA, stated that NOAA is not opposed to the proposal to switch to Unit 2, however, noted that switching U1 on and off is not recommended due to the current condition of U1 and concerns that turning it on and off may break it.

Dave Statler, Nez Perce, asked if the proposed operation utilizes the Nez Perce's assistance with storing Sockeye collected from the juvenile bypass separator in the kelt tanks to be transported the next day. Russ expressed gratitude for Nez Perce's effort to store Sockeye captured after the hauling truck departs and he requested they continue to assist through this operation.

TMT members weighed in and were polled on the recommendation to alter the Emergency Snake River Sockeye Trap and Haul Operation at Lower Granite to include an operation with Unit 2 priority at Lower Granite Dam with deep spill, no RSW and a uniform spill pattern beginning on August 3rd at 0400 hours and continuing with this operation until further notice. The Emergency Snake River Trap and Haul operation would conclude on August 5th at 1200hours:

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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ○ BOR – Support. | ○ NOAA – No objection. |
| ○ BPA – Support. | ○ Oregon – No objection. |
| ○ Colville – No objection. | ○ Umatilla – Support. |
| ○ Montana – No objection. | ○ USACE – Support. |
| ○ Nez Perce – Support | ○ USFWS – Support. |

- **ACTION:** Monday, August 3rd, the Action Agencies will resume FPP unit priority at Lower Granite Dam, Unit 2 as the priority unit; the Corps will continue to implement deep spill, no RSW, and a uniform spill pattern beginning at 0459 hours and will operate until further notice.
- **ACTION:** The Emergency Snake River Sockeye Trap and Haul Operation will conclude on Wednesday, August 5th, at 1200 hours and the Corps will revisit the operation at the next TMT meeting scheduled for August 5th.

The next TMT meeting will be a face to face meeting on August 5th at 9:00am.

Columbia River Regional Forum
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING—OFFICIAL MINUTES

July 30, 2015
Minutes: Pat Vivian

1. Introduction

Representatives of Idaho, Colville Tribe, Nez Perce Tribe, USFWS, Oregon, COE, BOR, BPA, NOAA, Montana, CRITFC/Umatilla Tribe, Warm Springs Tribe and others participated in today's special TMT meeting to discuss the emergency trap and haul operation for adult sockeye at Lower Granite. Doug Baus, COE, chaired the meeting, with facilitation by Emily Plummer, DS Consulting. This summary is an official record of the proceedings, not a verbatim transcript.

2. Update on Emergency Trapping and Transport of Snake River Sockeye

Today's meeting was held at the request of Russ Kiefer, Idaho. NOAA was not planning to recommend another experimental emergency operation to improve sockeye passage at Little Goose Dam. In order to continue collecting sockeye for transport next week, Idaho sought a regional recommendation on one of two options at Lower Granite Dam:

1. Default option: End trap and haul operations at noon Friday, July 31, due to declining adult sockeye counts, unless the situation changes. Only 2 fish passed today; both were captured for broodstock.
2. Idaho proposal: At 4:59 am on Monday, August 3, switch Lower Granite operations back to the FPP unit priority (operate unit 2 as the priority unit). If TMT agrees to this, Idaho will continue to trap and haul adult sockeye until Wednesday, August 5. IDFG recommends this course of action because researchers found a change of operations in 2013 brought a bump in sockeye passage on the lower Snake River. The goal of extending the trap and haul operation for a few more days is to capture as many sockeye as possible, while restoring the Lower Granite unit priority operation established in the Fish Passage Plan.

Bill Hevlin said NOAA would not oppose Idaho's proposal, assuming it includes uniform deep spill and no RSW, which Kiefer confirmed. Hevlin reminded everyone LWG unit 1 is operating on borrowed time and has been running 24/7 for two weeks. Turning unit 1 on and off is risky, so any future plans for this summer need to keep the unit running once it starts.

If the region supports Idaho's proposal, TMT will consider next steps at its next meeting August 5, Baus said. Until then, Idaho and NOAA agreed, LWG can continue to

operate under an emergency permit that suspends the FPP protocol of stopping trap operations whenever temperatures in the trap exceed 69 degrees F.

Several TMT members had questions regarding the Idaho proposal. Scott Bettin, BPA, asked for how many hours a day Idaho plans to trap sockeye; Kiefer said it was 4 hours, although after additional coordination with NOAA Fisheries IDFG is now permitted to trap for up to 8 hours a day. Any sockeye caught in the trap at the end of the day are being trucked by the Nez Perce Tribe to kelt holding tanks to await IDFG transport the next day. Bettin wanted to know how many adult sockeye have been transported to date; Keifer said approximately 44. Dave Statler, Nez Perce, asked whether Idaho's proposal involves continued trucking by the tribe. Kiefer thanked the tribe for its assistance and confirmed that trucking is needed until August 5. The Nez Perce Tribe agreed to provide this service until trapping ends. Joe Skalicky, USFWS, asked if the RSW will remain closed until August 5; Kiefer confirmed the RSW would not be in operation.

Baus said the COE echoes NOAA's concerns about the operation of LWG unit 1 and asked whether project staff would be comfortable implementing Idaho's proposal. Ann Setter, COE Walla Walla, said yes, staff do support extended sockeye trapping, but they would oppose turning LWG unit 1 on and off, which Kiefer said would be unnecessary.

TMT members were polled on the Idaho proposal to extend the emergency trap and haul operation until August 5:

- **NOAA** – No objection
- **Oregon** – No objection
- **Colville Tribe** – No objection
- **Umatilla Tribe** – Support
- **BOR** – Support
- **USFWS** – Support
- **Idaho** – Support
- **Montana Tribe** – No objection
- **Nez Perce** – Support
- **BPA** – Support COE's decision
- **COE** – Support

DS Consulting recommended the COE follow up with TMT members who were not present today (**Washington, Kootenai Tribe** and **Spokane Tribe**) to ensure they do not object to implementation of the Idaho proposal. At 4:59 am on August 3, the Action Agencies will resume operation of Lower Granite unit 2 as the FPP priority unit, spilling in a uniform pattern from deep gates with the RSW turned off. This operation will continue until TMT makes a different recommendation. The Idaho trap and haul operation will continue until August 5, the same day of TMT's next regular meeting. TMT will revisit sockeye passage then.

Name	Affiliation
Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Sheri Sears	Colville Tribe
Dave Statler	Nez Perce Tribe
Joe Skalicky	USFWS
Erick Van Dyke	Oregon
Steve Haeseker	USFWS
Doug Baus	COE
Lisa Wright	COE
Mary Mellema	BOR
Scott Bettin	BPA
Gary Fredricks	NOAA
Steve Hall	COE
Ann Setter	COE
Darren Ogden	NOAA
Lisa Wright	COE
Laura Hamilton	COE
Tony Norris	BPA
Tory Hines	DSC
Tom Lorz	CRITFC/Umatilla Tribe
Becky Johnson	Nez Perce Tribe
Jen Graham	Warm Springs Tribe
Margaret Filardo	FPC
XX	Lower Granite Dam
Shane Scott	PPC
Bill Hevlin	NOAA
Jim Litchfield	Montana