

Columbia River Technical Management Team

July 20, 2016

Facilitator's Summary

Facilitator & Notes: Emily Plummer, 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. This summary is not intended to be the "record" of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

Review of Meeting Minutes

TMT members approved the June 29, July 6th and July 13th official TMT minutes and the June 29th and July 13th Facilitator's summaries.

Dworshak Dam Operations

Alfredo Rodriguez, Corps, reported on current water temperatures in the Snake River and Clearwater River. He noted that the cooler weather has helped keep temperatures below the 68 degree Fahrenheit threshold. Alfredo shared that discharge at Dworshak was increased to 9.6kcfs, full powerhouse, on Sunday, July 17th at midnight; the project plans to hold 9.6kcfs discharge unless conditions warrant a change. The increase in discharge was in preparation of the end of August Dworshak forebay elevation target of 1,535ft. The project will continue to run models and if needed will increase discharge to offset temperature.

- **ACTION:** The Corps will maintain a constant discharge of 9.6kcfs out of Dworshak Dam until conditions warrant a change in outflow. An update will be provided at the next TMT meeting.

Operations Review

Reservoir Operations: Lisa Wright, Corps, reported on Corps projects:

- Libby midnight elevation was 2,445.2ft, with 7.0kcfs outflow and 11.2kcfs inflow.
- Albeni Falls midnight elevation was 2,062.3ft, with 13.6kcfs inflow and 17.0kcfs outflow.
- Dworshak midnight elevation was 1,583.5ft, with 0.3kcfs inflow and 9.6kcfs outflow.
- Lower Granite average outflow was 35.2kcfs.
- McNary average outflow was 170.2kcfs.
- Bonneville average outflow was 165.9kcfs

John Roache reported on BOR projects:

- Hungry Horse midnight elevation was at 3,558.5ft, with outflows of 2.0; the project is targeting 3,550ft by September 3rd.
- Grand Coulee midnight elevation was at 1,287.5ft; the project is targeting 1,277.6ft by the end of August.

Fish: Bill Hevlin, NOAA, reported that one adult sockeye has been detected at Red Fish Lake in Idaho, and 700 have made it over Lower Granite Dam at this point. He noted that this is a significant improvement from last year. Trevor Condor, NOAA, reported that adult passage is ramping down, with roughly 1,000 sockeye, chinook and steelhead respectively, past Bonneville in the last week. He noted that returns are looking pretty good this year. Dave Swank, USFWS, reported that adult lamprey passage at Bonneville is at an all-time high, with 336 past; however, counts at Lower Granite are only 15. Dave Statler, Nez Perce

Tribe, noted that they will be watching this conversion closely as there have not been identified passage issues for lamprey at Lower Granite up to this point. Lisa Wright asked if lamprey travel time is similar to salmonids, to which Dave responded that the lamprey can move through a pool in 1-2 days.

In regards to juveniles, sub-yearlings have ramped up at Bonneville, and a few are still passing Lower Granite and Little Goose, however, most have not yet passed Lower Monumental.

Water Quality: Laura Hamilton, Corps, noted that there have not been many TDG exceedences and the gauges are operating properly.

Power System: Tony Norris, BPA, noted that there is nothing to report.

The next TMT meeting will be a conference call on July 29th at 9:00am.

Columbia River Regional Forum
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING OFFICIAL MINUTES

July 20, 2016

Minutes: Pat Vivian

Representatives of the COE, BPA, NOAA, Montana, Washington, Nez Perce Tribe, USFWS, BOR, Oregon, Idaho, CRITFC/Umatilla, Warm Springs Tribe and others participated in today's TMT meeting chaired by Doug Baus, COE, and facilitated by Emily Plummer, DS Consulting. This summary is an official record, not a verbatim transcript.

2. Meeting Minutes – June 29, July 6 and 13

The minutes and facilitator's summaries for these meetings were approved as final.

3. Dworshak Operations

Alfredo Rodriguez, COE Walla Walla, reported. Thanks to cooler weather, Dworshak releases have been kept relatively low. Releases were increased to 9.6 kcfs or full powerhouse on July 17 at midnight so the reservoir will reach elevation 1535 ft by end August. Dworshak releases will continue at 9.6 kcfs until temperatures rise and cooling flows are needed. Temperatures at Lower Granite tailwater are below the 68 degrees F threshold for augmentation. Jim Litchfield, Montana, asked whether holding 9.6 kcfs out will get the reservoir to 1535 ft by end August; Rodriguez said it will be close, possibly a little higher than 1535 ft elevation.

4. Operations Review

4a. Reservoirs. Lisa Wright, COE, and John Roache, BOR, reported.

Libby is at elevation 2,445.2 ft with average inflows of 11.2 kcfs and releases of 7 kcfs. Albeni Falls is at elevation 2,062.3 ft with inflows of 13.6 kcfs, releasing 17 kcfs. Dworshak is at elevation 1,583.5 ft with inflows of 0.3 kcfs, running full powerhouse at 9.6 kcfs out. Lower Granite average releases are 35.2 kcfs, McNary releases are 170.2 kcfs, and Bonneville releases are 165.9 kcfs.

Hungry Horse is at elevation 3558.5 kcfs, discharging 2 kcfs and heading toward a 3550 ft elevation target by September 30. Grand Coulee is at elevation 1287.5 ft, headed to 1277.6 ft by end August.

4b. Fish. Trevor Conder, NOAA, reported. Adults: Yesterday an adult sockeye reached Redfish Lake in Idaho, and about 700 adult sockeye were seen above Lower Granite. These sightings are good news for the Snake River sockeye return. In general, adult passage through the Snake and upper Columbia is ramping down. About 100,000 sockeye have returned to Bonneville, with about the same number of summer chinook adults returning. Steelhead passage is picking up, with just over 1,000 arriving at BON. Sockeye returns on the Snake are in the single digits at this point.

Juveniles: Bonneville is passing large numbers of subyearlings, and a few are passing Lower Granite. Dave Swank, USFWS, pointed out this year's adult lamprey return to BON was an all-time record high. While having 336 adult lamprey at Ice Harbor is good news, the numbers at Lower Granite are still very low, Statler said. Statler noted that adult lamprey can move through the pools on the river fairly quickly, within a day or two.

4c. Water Quality. Laura Hamilton, COE, reported. All gages are working as expected, and there have been few TDG exceedances during the last three weeks.

4d. Power. There was nothing to report today.

5. Next TMT Meeting

TMT will meet next in a July 27 conference call.

Name	Affiliation
Doug Baus	COE
Lisa Wright	COE
Tony Norris	BPA
Trevor Conder	NOAA
Jim Litchfield	Montana
Karl Kanbergs	COE
Laura Hamilton	COE
Charles Morrill	Washington
Dave Statler	Nez Perce
Dave Swank	USFWS

Phone:

Bill Hevlin	NOAA
John Roache	BOR
Erick Van Dyke	Oregon
Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Michael Bryant	CBB
Tom Lorz	CRITFC/Umatilla
Jen Graham	Warm Springs
Brian Zigler	Snohomish PUD