

Columbia River Technical Management Team

August 10, 2016

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. This summary is not intended to be the "record" of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

Dworshak Dam Operations

Wayne Jousma, COE-NWW, reported on current water temperatures in the Snake River and Clearwater River. Presently, water temperatures are cool in both systems and modeling indicates water temperatures will remain cool in to next week. The Corps asked for Salmon Managers' input on dropping Dworshak outflow by turning off one small unit this Friday, August 12th, in order to conserve water, in case of a temperature spike at the end of the month. If the region prefers to stay with the current operation of full powerhouse, the small unit will be dropped on August 18th to prevent drafting too much by the end of August. If the unit is dropped sooner, additional water will be conserved to be available later in August and the unit will be turned back on around August 25th in order to reach the end of August elevation target of 1,535ft depending on flow.

Salmon Managers caucused to discuss both proposals. Paul Wagner, NOAA, reported that Salmon Managers reached consensus and recommended the Corps reduce Dworshak outflow to 7.8kcfs on the 12th. If conditions change, they would like the Corps to modify the operation as needed. Paul Wagner and Dave Statler, Nez Perce Tribe, were interested in more information on any other turbine operating scenarios that could keep flows more balanced through the end of the month; for instance, an outflow between 7.8kcfs and 9.8kcfs, or even below 7.8kcfs. The AAs will look into this and bring information on options to the next TMT meeting.

- **ACTION:** The Corps will reduce outflow to 7.8kcfs out of Dworshak Dam at 0000 hours on Friday, August 12th. The AAs will bring additional information on other Dworshak Dam outflow scenarios to the next TMT meeting on August 17th.

The next TMT meeting will be a face-to-face meeting on August 17th at 9:00am.

Agenda: Dworshak Update, Fall Season Treaty Fishing

Columbia River Regional Forum
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OFFICIAL MINUTES

August 10, 2016
Minutes: Pat Vivian

1. Introduction

Representatives of Idaho, BPA, NOAA, COE, BOR, CRITFC, Washington, Oregon, the Warm Springs, Colville and Nez Perce tribes and others participated in today's TMT meeting. Doug Baus, COE, served as chair and Emily Plummer, DS Consulting, facilitated the conversation. This summary is an official record, not a verbatim transcript.

2. Dworshak Dam Operations

The COE has been monitoring temperatures at Lower Granite tailwater as well as progress toward an elevation target of 1535 ft in Dworshak reservoir by end August, Wayne Jousma, COE Walla Walla, reported. Because modeling of the latest weather data indicates that temperatures will remain cool, the COE proposed to TMT that one of the small units be taken off line on August 12 to save some water for counteracting the high temperatures anticipated later this month. Absent a change, it would still be necessary to turn off one or both of the small units on August 18 or 19 to avoid overdrafting Dworshak reservoir.

When TMT was asked for its opinion of the COE proposal, Paul Wagner, NOAA, and Russ Kiefer, Idaho, agreed the Salmon Managers should caucus to discuss it in light of new information that wasn't available when FPAC met yesterday. NOAA, Oregon, the Warm Springs, Colville and Nez Perce tribes and CRITFC representatives participated in the caucus. Alfredo Rodriguez, COE Walla Walla, said the operation might need to increase output in the last week of August in order to reach 1535 ft elevation by end August.

Wagner asked what the options are in terms of flow levels. Would it be possible to reduce flows more gradually than going directly from 9.8 kcfs (or full powerhouse) to 7.8 kcfs (according to modeling linked to today's agenda)? Would it be possible, for example, to release 8 or 8.5 kcfs? The goal of operating with turbines either on or off is to use the units at their highest efficiencies, which prevents damage to equipment without having to spill and raise TDG levels in the river.

In response to strong interest from NOAA and the Nez Perce Tribe, the COE and BPA agreed to investigate the possibility of operating the Dworshak units at intermediate levels and report back to TMT next week. For now, the

plan is to reduce Dworshak outflows from full powerhouse (9.8 kcfs) to 7.8 kcfs (big unit + one small unit) on Friday morning, August 12, at 00:01 hours.

3. Next TMT Meeting

TMT will meet next in person on August 17, followed by a process meeting.

| Name | Affiliation |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Russ Kiefer | Idaho |
| Scott Bettin | BPA |
| Paul Wagner | NOAA |
| Doug Baus | COE |
| Tony Norris | BPA |
| Mary Mellema | BOR |
| Kyle Dittmer | CRITFC |
| Charles Morrill | Washington |
| Erick Van Dyke | Oregon |
| XX | Snohomish PUD |
| Wayne Jousma | COE Walla Walla |
| Alfredo Rodriguez | COE Walla Walla |
| Laura Hamilton | COE |
| Julie Ammann | COE |
| Lisa Wright | COE |
| Margaret Filardo | FPC |
| Paula Calvert | ODEQ |
| Tory Hines | DSC |
| Jen Graham | Warm Springs |
| Sheri Sears | Colville Tribe |
| Dave Statler | Nez Perce Tribe |