

**Columbia River Regional Forum  
SYSTEM CONFIGURATION TEAM  
January 16, 2014  
Final Minutes**

***1. Introduction and Review of Meeting Minutes***

Today's SCT meeting was chaired by Bill Hevlin, NOAA Fisheries. Representatives of the COE, NOAA, Oregon, USFWS, Nez Perce Tribe, BPA, CRITFC, Yakama Tribe, Idaho and others participated. Copies of previous minutes, documents mentioned in the minutes, and the meeting sign-up sheet are available from Kathy Ceballos at 503-230-5420 or Bill Hevlin at 503-230-5415.

Comments on the November 1 draft minutes are due today; these notes will be finalized today. Comments on the November 21 draft minutes are due by the next SCT meeting February 20.

***2. Lower Granite Adult Ladder Temperature and Tailrace Delay Problems***

Hevlin said FPOM members are very interested in what is being done to resolve adult passage problems that occurred at Lower Granite last summer. They want an effective solution in time for July 2014 passage.

Ryan Laughery and Eric Hockersmith, COE Walla Walla, described the COE's response to that concern. The COE's primary goal this year is to assess pump function via reliability tests and mechanical analysis. The existing pumps that supply water to the trap were designed to work only when the forebay is at a flood control elevation. At a minimum, tests now underway are expected to determine the reliability of the pumps in time for next passage season.

While there are no plans to make structural changes to the pumps, the plan is to operate them if they are needed for adult passage in 2014. Meanwhile the COE is investigating the possibility of installing an extension pipe into the LGR forebay. Project staff advocate that all 3 pumps be replaced at the same time with the same model for the sake of maintenance, even if one pump is used only for backup. Replacing the pumps can be done out of water, but installing the extension pipe will be in-water work. Chong estimated the replacement pumps will cost \$100,000 apiece or \$300,000 total. The new pumps will be able to operate at normal forebay levels and also will accommodate a pipe extension.

David Wills, USFWS, asked, has FFDWG discussed the need to maintain current pump volume or increase it? The ladder can provide 75 cfs through low forebay elevations, Laughery replied. Current pumping capacity is probably adequate. Laughery did not think installing the new pumps would lead to a need for increased discharges. He will provide additional information and a more

definitive answer on discharge requirements for the trap at the FFDRWG meeting February 26.

Tom Lorz asked whether there are still plans to use the new LGR model at ERDC to look at tailrace conditions for adult passage. Laughery said that tailrace conditions for adults could presumably be coordinated with existing plans to site the new outfall.

Dave Statler, Nez Perce, asked, if the pumps fail before they've been replaced, what's the backup plan for 2014 passage season? The goal is to have a backup pump on site this summer, Laughery replied. He will provide a firmer estimate of how long it will take to replace the pumps. Chong noted that the current FY14 estimate of \$300,000 for this line item is subject to change. Further discussion of this issue will continue at the Walla Walla FFDRWG meeting on February 26-27.

### **3. Review of Updated FY14 CRFM Spreadsheet (Cost/Schedule Changes)**

Randy Chong, COE, distributed copies of a FY14 CRFM ranking spreadsheet and a ranked order spreadsheet, noting that some individual rankings for line items are still needed.

Regarding the FY14 budget, the omnibus bill currently in Congress calls for \$101.553 million for CRFM, the same as the request made in the President's budget. If the bill passes, that is the amount of funding CRFM will have in FY14, with no continuing resolution to create uncertainty. In addition, the COE was able to borrow \$800,000 during the recent government shutdown.

Trevor Conder, NOAA, asked for an update on MCN adult passage survival through the turbines and TSWs, noting there are no FY14 line items addressing this issue. Pinney said the current contract probably won't be able to be extended past the most recent modification, which runs through February. A new contract will need to be issued for the study in FY14 or FY15. There will be further discussion of this at SRWG and FFDRWG.

Pinney asked whether the TSW direct injury evaluation is something the region wants to pursue. Gary Fredricks, NOAA, said yes.

SCT discussed individual line items on the ranked order spreadsheet:

- #6. LGR barge mooring improvements, \$800,000 – This money covers SAEDC (supervision, administration, engineering and construction) for a large contract that was awarded in FY12. The work did not begin until almost a year after it was awarded.

- #11. Lamprey improvements, \$4.4 million –The Action Agencies spent almost \$9 million last year on lamprey improvements.
- #14. Bonneville 2<sup>nd</sup> powerhouse corner collector repairs, \$20,000 – There was discussion of why only \$20,000 is allocated to collect data on the corner collector in FY14. Lorz asked, what is the long term plan for repairs? There's no design that can repair the corner collector permanently, Mike Langeslay replied. If it keeps spauling every year, the COE will figure out how O&M can support it. There won't be time this year to issue a contract for corner collector work, as discussed at SCT a few months ago.
- #15. LGR adult ladder temperature alternatives, \$500,000 – This estimate went up from \$100,000.
- #17. Spillway PIT detection at LGR, \$4 million – This project is at risk due to lack of reliable information. FFDRWG will receive an update on the installation of flow vanes in February, but the COE is still waiting for reliable data on which to base project plans.
- #21. LGR surface passage additions/modifications, \$500,000 – This line item covers an assessment of RSW condition this spring, as well as plans for a study of viable alternatives at LGR. Part of the study will investigate whether the transition plates, which cover the space between the edge of the RSW and the concrete ogee, are really needed.
- There was discussion of whether the jetty on the north side of the LGS spillway that was recently washed out will be replaced. The jetty was installed to help with adult attraction to the ladder.
- #23. MCN steelhead efficiency, \$920,000 – There was discussion of when this contract will be awarded (probably summer 2014 so work can begin in the fall). Chong said he will change the spreadsheet to indicate that this proposal is being funded.
- #29. LGR juvenile bypass facility, phase 1A, \$35 million and #32 LGR juvenile bypass facility, phase 1B, \$700,000 – About \$16 million for #29 will go for outfall construction alone. The COE is taking a closer look at Phase 2 in terms of what might be done to improve the facility without making a large investment in extras such as new raceways and a barge loading area. If a continuing contract is awarded, the \$35 million estimate could go down.
- #37. IHR spillway chute and deflector modifications, \$2.5 million – This estimate does not cover the cost of the evaluation, which will occur in FY15.

- #42. IHR turbine passage survival program, \$1.3 million – Concern was expressed about the high cost of this study. In order to reduce the cost, we need to decide what elements of the proposed evaluation are not necessary, Chong said. Discussion focused on the importance of comparing passage survival through the Kaplan and fixed blade units. Also discussed was whether the new fixed blade runner should replace unit 2 or unit 3 first. Further discussion of this project will occur at FFDRWG.

**4. Schedule of Upcoming Meetings**

- **February 6** – Portland FFDRWG
- **February 27** – **SCT in Walla Walla**
- **February 26-27** – Walla Walla FFDRWG

**5. Next SCT Meeting**

The next SCT meeting will be February 27 in Walla Walla. These notes prepared by technical writer Pat Vivian.

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Affiliation</i></b>
Bill Hevlin	NOAA
David Wills	USFWS
Dave Statler	Nez Perce
Trevor Conder	NOAA
Kathryn Kostow	Oregon
Shane Scott	PPC
Brad Eppard	COE Portland
Derek Fryer	COE Walla Walla
Randy Chong	COE
Mike Langeslay	COE Portland
Christine Petersen	BPA
Tom Lorz	CRITFC

<b><i>Phone</i></b>	
Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Mark Smith	COE Walla Walla
Bob Rose	Yakama
Barry Espenson	CBB
Chris Pinney	COE Walla Walla
Erick Hockersmith	COE Walla Walla
Ryan Laughry	COE Walla Walla