

**COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM**

June 14, 2023

Facilitator's Summary

Facilitation Team: Emily Stranz & Colby Mills, 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; it is not intended to be the "record" of the meeting. Official minutes can be found on the TMT website: <http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/agendas/2023/>. Suggested edits for the summary are welcome and can be sent to Colby at [colby@dsconsult.co](mailto:colby@dsconsult.co).*

**Review Meeting Summaries & Minutes** – TMT Members approved the official meeting minutes and facilitator's summaries for the June 2 and June 7 TMT meetings, pending a word edit from Jay Hesse, Nez Perce Tribe, to the June 2 summary; to note "described" rather than "speculated" in the polling section.

Kelsey Swieca, NOAA, introduced Dana Bethea, new NOAA West Coast Region staff.

**Spill Priority List** – Dan Turner, Corps, reported that the previously posted Spill Priority List (SPL) has been updated to reflect the SPL used for the majority of the summer last year. TMT Members didn't have any feedback to provide on the recently added SPL. Tom Lorz, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation/CRITFC, noted that FPAC will discuss the SPL at FPAC next week and circle back to TMT if they wish to request any modifications. In the meantime, the Action Agencies will coordinate the posted SPL with the projects.

**System Operational Request (SOR)** – Tom presented SOR 2023-C1 (posted on the TMT website) for the summer 2023 tribal treaty fishing season. The request on behalf of the CRITFC Tribes is to operate Bonneville and the Dalles pools within a 1.5-foot band and the John Day pool within a 2-foot band from June 19 at 0600 hours to June 21 at 1800 hours, and June 26 at 0600 hours to June 28 at 1800 hours for summer fishery. Aaron Marshall, Corps, noted that the SOR will be implemented as requested.

**Flow Augmentation** – Joel Fenolio, Reclamation, reported that flow augmentation releases from the upper Snake River below Milner Dam are imminent; with two increases of 1,500 cfs up to 3,000 cfs by Friday. Reclamation anticipates releasing augmentation water within the next 20-22 days at that flow rate. Reclamation is also planning to start releasing flows out of the Boise River within the next week or two depending on localized weather fronts.

In response to a query, Joel noted that the usual flow augmentation target is 487 kaf (limited to 427 kaf if using powerhead). With current prospects, Reclamation estimates between 446-447 kaf, depending on Payette rentals.

**Questions and Comments from Members of the Public** – there were no questions or comments from members of the public.

The next scheduled TMT meeting is on June 21, 2023, at 9:00 AM.

**Columbia River Regional Forum  
Technical Management Team  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023  
Minutes: Andrea Ausmus, BPA (contractor, CorSource Technology Group)**

Today's TMT meeting was held via conference call and webinar, chaired by Doug Baus, Corps, and facilitated by Emily Stranz, DS Consulting. A list of today's attendees is available at the end of these minutes.

Kelsey Swieca, NOAA, introduced a new member of the West Coast regional office, Dana Bethea. Bethea came from the Southeast regional office and will be sitting in on some of the regional meetings.

**1. Review Summaries and Minutes – June 2 and June 7**

- June 2 – Summaries and Minutes
  - Jay Hesse, Nez Perce, said that in the Facilitator's notes his description of the SOR that "he speculated that the operation...", he would prefer it to say he described them.
  - Pending Jay's change June 2 Summaries and Minutes – Approved
- June 7 – Summaries and Minutes – Approved

**2. Spill Priority List - Dan Turner, Corps-NWD**

a. 2023 Summer Spill Priority List

- Turner had posted the wrong summer spill priority order – it was the wrong one of the two from summer last year.
  - He has since posted the one that was in place for most of last summer.
  - This one should more accurately reflect what was done last summer.
- He is taking any feedback on order of the spill priority list for summer.

Tom Lorz, FPAC, said that they had looked at the last one and he appreciates Turner making the modifications. The change was one of the comments that they had. They will look at the list and discuss this more next week at FPAC. If there are other modifications they will get back to Turner. Lorz said that people are probably trying to digest this new information at this point.

Scott Bettin, BPA, asked if in the meantime they would implement the Summer Spill Priority List as written.

Turner said they have an awkward transition week with different criteria in the lower Columbia and lower Snake. He does not actually post that because it gets messy to try to

describe. They will be sending out directions to the projects and with that order in the meantime.

**3. System Operational Request (SOR) – Tom Lorz - CRITFC, & Aaron Marshall - Corps-NWD**

a. 2023 C-1

- Treaty fishing for Summer Chinook:

Monday, June 19, 2023, 6 am through Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 6 pm  
Monday, June 26, 2023, 6 am through Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 6 pm

- Set two fisheries.
  - With the run count TAC felt comfortable going with two.
- Part of joy of harvesting and the same as the last 10 – 20 years.
- Any harvest-specific questions Lorz may not be able to answer directly but he can get answers from TAC reps and will be able to pass them on.
- Lorz appreciates the Corps ability to implement.
- Stranz said that this is an SOR, but it is not something that is typically polled, if there was reason to poll, she would then poll. There was no request to poll.

➤ **Action: The Corps will implement as requested:**

**Bonneville: Operate the pool within a 1.5-foot band during the treaty fishing period.**

**The Dalles: Operate the pool within a 1.5-foot band during the treaty fishing period.**

**John Day: Operate the pool within a 2-foot band during the treaty fishing period.**

**4. Flow Augmentation Update – Joel Fenolio, Reclamation**

a. Upper Snake below Milner Dam

- Start Thursday, Friday
  - Two increases of 1500 cfs
  - Up to 3000 cfs by Friday.
- Should get water out in the next 20 – 22 days at that flow rate.
- Then trying to get flows going out of the Boise in the next week or two depending on how the rainstorms keep hitting go.

Lorz asked if they are expecting the full 427 kaf or some increment thereof.

Fenolio said that they usually target the full 487 kaf but they are limited to 427 kaf if they use power head. Right now, with the current prospects it is looking to be ~446/447 kaf

depending on how many rentals they get out of the Payette. Fenolio said they are estimating that it would be somewhere between those two numbers for this year.

**5. Public Comments:** None

**6. Set agenda for next meeting – June 21, 2023**

- a. Flow Augmentation
- b. Spill Priority List (*if needed*)

Today's Attendees:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>TMT Representative(s)</b>
Army Corps of Engineers	Doug Baus (chair), Lisa Wright
Bonneville Power Administration	Tony Norris, Scott Bettin
Bureau of Reclamation	Joel Fenolio
NOAA Fisheries	Kelsey Swieca
US Fish & Wildlife Service	Dave Swank
Washington	Charles Morrill
Oregon	Erick Van Dyke
Idaho	
Montana	
Nez Perce Tribe	Jay Hesse
Umatilla Tribe	Tom Lorz (CRITFC)
Colville Tribe	Kirk Truscott
Warm Springs Tribe	
Kootenai Tribe	
Spokane Tribe	

Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

Corps – Aaron Marshall, Dan Turner, Alexis Mills, Chris Peery

NOAA – Dana Bethea, Chris Magel

DS Consulting – Emily Stranz (Facilitator), Colby Mills

BPA – Andrea Ausmus (note taker, Contractor with CorSource Technology Group)

Energy Keepers – Eve James

Oregon DEQ – David Gruen

Clearing Up – K.C. Mehaffey

Chelan PUD – Jay Fintz, Melissa Lesser

Grant PUD – Peter Graf