

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

February 21, 2024

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: <https://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/agendas/2024/> Suggested edits for the summary are welcome and can be sent to Colby at colby@dsconsult.co.

Review Meeting Summaries & Minutes – TMT Members approved the facilitator's summary from the February 7 meeting; official meeting minutes from February 7 will be reviewed at the next TMT meeting.

Chum Operation – Doug Baus, Corps, provided an update on the current chum operation (posted to the TMT website). RFC inflow forecasts at Bonneville Dam over the next 10-day period show a low of 117 kcfs today, peaking at a high of 128 kcfs on February 28. Bonneville inflows will likely remain low for the remainder of the chum operation, which will conclude on April 9 at midnight unless otherwise coordinated at TMT.

Doug noted that the low inflows are predominantly a result of below average precipitation and above average temperatures. The Snake River above Ice Harbor Dam has observed 10.3 inches for the season, or 91% of normal; the Columbia River mainstem above The Dalles has observed 11.9 inches, or 83% of normal.

Regarding seasonal temperatures, the Columbia River mainstem above The Dalles has observed higher than average temperatures throughout October, November, and December, although January did see below average temperatures (0.5 degrees F below average). The seasonal temperature departure has been 1.8 degrees F above average.

BPA, NOAA, Reclamation, and Washington did not have additional updates on the chum operation.

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 March 6, 2024, at 9:00 AM.

**Columbia River Regional Forum
Technical Management Team
OFFICIAL MINUTES
Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

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.

Chris Runyan, Reclamation, reminded TMT that Joel Fenolio is down in California for a 3-month detail, and Runyan will be filling in for him while he is gone.

1. Review Summaries and Minutes – Feb 7 Summary Only

- Summary approved.
- Minutes still pending.

2. Chum Operations – Doug Baus, Corps; Tony Norris, BPA; Chris Runyan, BOR; Charles Morrill, Washington; and Kelsey Swieca, NOAA Fisheries

a. NWRFC – Bonneville Dam Extended Inflow Forecast

- 10 – Day Forecast
 - Low 117 kcfs (February 21)
 - High 128 kcfs (February 28)
 - Based on the current forecast BON will likely have low inflows for rest of the chum operation that will conclude April 9 at midnight unless otherwise coordinated at TMT.

b. NWRFC – Water Year Precipitation Table

- Snake River Basin above IHR
 - Observed: 10.3 inches
 - Percent of Normal 91%
- Columbia River Basin above TDA
 - Observed: 11.9 inches
 - Percent of Normal 83%

c. NWRFC – Monthly Temperature Table

- Columbia River Basin above TDA
 - October – November – December
 - Temperature Departures: +1°F
 - January
 - Below average temperatures in the month of January.

- Temperature Departures: -0.5°F
- Seasonal
 - Above average
 - Temperature Departures: +1.8°F

d. Summary of Chum Operation

- Will continue to have low BON tailwater elevations associated with low project outflows.
- Primarily have been attributed to below average precipitation and above average temperatures seen since October.

Baus said that Swieca, as FPAC chair, may want to cancel the March 6 TMT meeting as TMT only has a chum update on the agenda if the topic load continues to be light.

3. Public Comments: NONE

4. Set agenda for next meeting – March 6, 2024

a. Chum Operations

Today’s Attendees:

Agency	TMT Representative(s)
Army Corps of Engineers	Doug Baus, Julie Ammann, Lisa Wright, Aaron Marshall
Bonneville Power Administration	Tony Norris, Scott Bettin, Ben Hausmann
Bureau of Reclamation	Chris Runyan
NOAA Fisheries	Kelsey Swieca, Trevor Conder
US Fish & Wildlife Service	Dave Swank
Washington	Charles Morrill
Oregon	
Idaho	Jonathan Ebel
Montana	Brian Marotz
Nez Perce Tribe	Jay Hesse
Umatilla Tribe	Thomas Lorz (CRITFC)
Colville Tribe	Kirk Truscott, Dennis Moore
Warm Springs Tribe	
Kootenai Tribe	
Spokane Tribe	

Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

COE – Chris Peery, Tom Conning, Elizabeth Holdren

Oregon DEQ – David Gruen

DS Consulting – Emily Stranz (Facilitator), Colby Mills

CorSource – Andrea Ausmus (BPA note taker, Contractor)

Yakama Nation Fisheries – Keely Murdoch

TMT – February 21, 2024

Clearing Up – K.C. Mehaffey

Columbia Basin Bulletin – Mike O’Bryant

NW Power – Kate Self

Chelan PUD – Jay Fintz

Energy Keepers – Eve James