

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes for April 15, 2004 FPOM Meeting.

1. The meeting was held at the Ice Harbor Dam Visitor Center. In attendance were:

Rex Baxter	USACE	509.527.7124
Larry Basham	FPC	503.230.4287
Scott Boyd	USACE	503.808.3943
Bill Hevlin	NOAA Fisheries	503.230.5415
Steve Richards	WDFW	509.545.2050
Miro Zyndol	USACE	541.506.7823
Joyce McDonald	USACE	509.543.3208
Mark Plummer	USACE	509.543.3208
Tammy Mackey	USACE	541.374.4552 (on the phone)
Cal Sprague	USACE	503.808.4305 (on the phone)

Eric Hockersmith, John Ferguson, and _____, all of NOAA Fisheries, stopped by late in the meeting.

2. The following handouts were distributed:

- DRAFT AGENDA, FISH PASSAGE O&M COORDINATION TEAM, WALLA WALLA DISTRICT, ICE HARBOR DAM, APRIL 15, 2004.
- CENWP-OP-B, 14 April 2004, MEMORANDUM FOR: FPOM MEMBERS, SUBJECT: Bonneville Lock and Dam Fishway and Construction Activities Report for April 15, 2004 FPOM meeting. (Provided to 14 FPOM members via email on April 14.)
- Date: April 14, 2004. Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance, The Dalles/John Day Status. (Provided to all FPOM members via email on April 16.)
- FISH PASSAGE O&M COORDINATION TEAM, Adult and Juvenile Fish Facilities Status Report, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, April 15, 2004.
- April Final Water Supply Forecast.

3. Action List Updates: Task group updates...Cal will put together a list of core people for each district (Corps and other agencies) to serve on task groups and add to the lists as the need arises...ongoing. Cal reported that Larry Beck has sent out the corrected winter counts...completed. Corps response to comments from NOAA F on the draft 2004 FPP...a response was due by March 31...nobody was sure if that deadline had been met...[Rudd sent draft comments to both districts via email on March 22 asking for a review by the 24th...I (Rex) presume the response was sent on/about March 31.] Cal said TDA operating unit priorities have been sent to the project by teletype...the FPP will also be amended...not sure when. Cal asked Miro to provide status of GDACS installation at TDA...Miro said it has been completed. Cal asked for comments on his list of action items so he could revise as needed.

4. Construction Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. Tammy briefly discussed items 1.1, 1.2, and 1.4 on the BON handout. At TDA...Miro said the new wall between spillway bays 6 and 7 was completed on April 8...spill began April 12 and the wall is still standing so the wall is a “success.” Nothing to report for JDA.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex discussed the handout...AWS pump 3 at MCN is down and repairs are scheduled to begin in November. Larry asked if work could start sooner to avoid the possibility of having another pump go down thus leaving only one good pump. Rex said possible leakage into the pump 3 work area is a safety concern...also need lead time to obtain parts. Steve asked what would be done if only one pump is available? Rex said we would close some entrances. Steve asked what about closing floating orifices? Rex said yes this can be done. [We’ll follow criteria in the FPP]. A brief discussion of the prototype VBSs at MCN followed.

5. Fishway Status:

Portland District – See handouts. At Bonneville...Tammy said DSM2 airburst is in auto and runs every three hours...corner collector went into service April 13. Cal said his understanding was that the corner collector would only operate during spill. Bill said training spill is needed. Larry said when he was there recently flows from the outfall looked okay without spill. All agreed to look into this further and possibly run the corner collector even without spill. At TDA...Miro said all fishway equipment is working well except a couple of locations...S1 weir is still OOS and needs to have the cable attachment strengthened...still maintaining decent conditions at that entrance with S2...E2 weir is also OOS due to a weakened cable...E3 is operating. Larry asked when fixes could be expected. Miro said for S1 within a week or two, E2 about a month. Miro said avian lines were reinstalled at the sluiceway outfall, and between the spillway and the bridge. At JDA...Miro said all fishways are working well...the SMF started operation on April 1 and is also working well.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex briefly discussed the handout without elaboration.

6. Research Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. For Bonneville...Tammy said that elevated juvenile mortality has been noted in the SMF...this seems to occur every year, but it is earlier this year...similar symptoms appear such as decapitation on some, and no outward symptoms on others...investigation continues...no known causes have been found...it is the decapitated fish that cause the concern that the facility may be causing mortality. At TDA...Miro said the spillway survival study by Normandeau using balloon tags is taking place this month...will vary spill levels...more work will occur in late May and early June. USGS is preparing for a 3-D fish passage study...Battelle has installed hydroacoustic equipment at the spillway and powerhouse...USGS telemetry equipment is in place at the spillway and powerhouse...test fish will be collected at the JDA SMF. Bill asked if it had been decided which gates to open for the sluiceway. Miro provided a long, affirmative answer. Bill also asked if the tailrace was outfitted so that fish from the outfall could be tracked. Miro...yes. Cal asked if the University of Idaho was going to wire the count stations for radiotelemetry...relates to possible fish delay...this work is needed. **ACTION:** Miro will check on it. At JDA...Miro said VBS biological evaluation by NOAA F will start in May...involves main unit 7 with ESBSs.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex B. discussed the handout. Bill wondered why bulk spill was occurring at IHR today...test fish are not expected until later. Nobody knew for sure. [A teletype was issued to the project on April 14 indicating that bulk spill was to start April 15 at 0500 hours in support of the spill test.] Long discussion regarding the upcoming separator evaluation at IHR...relates to potential upgrade at LGR.

7. Updates from Task Groups: Cal said that Dave Hurson is to convene a task group to address the VBS drawdown criteria for inspecting VBSs at McNary dam. **ACTION:** Dave and Cal will develop a core list of task group participants, run it by FPOM for approval, and FPOM can add members to individual task groups on an as-needed basis. **ACTION:** Criteria for VBS differentials need to be developed as requested by NOAA (Fredricks), through the newly formed task group. Bill asked if the task group would focus only on MCN. Cal said the group could work on other projects as needed. Larry asked about the monitoring plan for MCN to deal with the 1% study. Bill said a draft plan was recently posted on the TMT website. Cal asked if the headburn task group would have anything going this year. Larry said he did not think much would be happening. Cal said it's a BiOp action item so we need to keep something in the works.

8. Bonneville Unit 16 Index Testing: Cal discussed this. HDC of NWP wants to test three scenarios utilizing the TIES: 1) Test with current TIE configuration including both adjacent units, 2) Test with opposite TIE configuration, 3) Test with NO TIES in place. Testing would occur about the time the TIES are normally scheduled to be removed, in late June or July 2004. Testing would be for about a week or two, and would not include any fisheries OOC conditions other than TIE placement/configuration. The goal of testing is to determine if TIES create current patterns that may interfere with 1% efficiencies of Unit 16. No intentional operations outside of 1% efficiency are planned. **ACTION:** Decision is on hold until this is discussed with Gary Fredricks. Status: Ongoing.

9. Bonneville P1 VBSs (in or out while gatewell dipping?): Cal, Tammy, and Bill discussed this. FPOM has approved the request by NOAA and desire by BON to remove VBSs from units at P1 when no STSs are installed in those units. VBS removal will ease the workload while gatewell dipping. VBSs will only be reinstalled in units that have STSs replaced in them in September. **ACTION:** Approved, project to proceed with VBS removal.

10. Chief Joseph Spill Deflector Installation In-water Work Window: Cal, Bill, and Larry discussed. Request is by NWS (Seattle District) to have an in-water work period (July 2004 to February 2005) to install spillway flow deflectors at Chief Joseph. They request a FPP revision to make it official guidance. Listed steelhead occur in the tailrace, but cofferdams surrounding work sites should reduce impact to these fish to near negligible. Larry and others present agreed. Installation of flow deflectors would be important to reduce gas supersaturation, and supercede any potential negative impacts to listed fish due to construction in the July-February timeframe. **ACTION:** FPOM agrees with the proposed work window to accommodate deflector construction at Chief Joseph, with FPP revision to be made (Cal assumes as an addendum). **[There is now some question that FPOM has any authority in this matter. Perhaps NOAA Fisheries and WDFW should handle the request.]**

11. River Flow Forecast: Scott provided a handout and discussed the April final water supply forecast...water supply continues to spiral down...78-79% at TDA...71-72% at LGR with implications for spring spill at the Snake River collector projects...need seasonal average flows of at least 85 kcfs for voluntary spill at collector projects but only about 72 kcfs is forecast...spill has already started at LGR, LGS, IHR, and some lower Columbia dams...IT will be involved with some decisions. Bill said NOAA prefers to spill at LGR and LGS until steelhead predominate in the collection at LGR for a few days, then shut down spill at those projects...need to spill at LMO to accommodate the spill study. Extensive discussion about the bulk spill studies at IHR and LMO...continued questions about why bulk spill is occurring today...possible lack of communication between NWW research coordinators and NOAA researchers.

12. After the meeting several people toured the dam to observe bulk spill. Conditions at the north shore adult fishway entrance looked okay...at the north powerhouse entrance water was moving laterally (sideways) and being drawn directly toward the spillway flow...water from the juvenile fish outfall was going the wrong way (toward the dam).

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 12, 2004 (tentative), Portland District Office. **[Changed to May 11, 0900 hours.]**

Minutes prepared by Rex Baxter