

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes for July 8, 2004 FPOM Meeting.

1. The meeting was held at the Bonneville Dam Auditorium. In attendance were:

Rex Baxter	USACE	509.527.7124
Steve Richards	WDFW	509.545.2050
Victor Albaladejo	WDFW	360.906.6745
Paul Kokes	USDA/WS	509.765.7962
John Vickrey	USDA/WS	509.679.0451
Randy Lee	USACE	503.808.4876
Jeff Kamps	PSMFC	541.296.8989
Mary Moser	NOAA	206.860.3351
Larry Basham	FPC	503.230.4287
Rudd Turner	USACE	503.808.3935
Scott Boyd	USACE	503.808.3943
Bob Cordie	USACE	541.298.7406
Jon Rerecich	USACE	541.374.7984
Tim Darland	USACE	541.374.4551
Bill Hevlin	NOAA	503.230.5415
Cal Sprague	USACE	503.808.4305
Wayne VanderNaald	ODFW	503.657.2000
Robert Stansell	USACE	541.374.8484
David Clugston	USACE	503.808.4751

2. The following handouts were distributed:

- DRAFT AGENDA, FISH PASSAGE O&M COORDINATION TEAM, BONNEVILLE DAM AUDITORIUM CONFERENCE ROOM, JULY 8, 2004.
- CENWP-OP-B, 8 July 2004, MEMORANDUM FOR: FPOM MEMBERS, SUBJECT: Bonneville Lock and Dam Fishway and Construction Activities Report for July 8, 2004 FPOM meeting.
- Date: July 8, 2004, Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance Meeting, The Dalles/John Day Status.
- THE DALLES/JOHN DAY PROJECT, FISH RESEARCH REPORT, 6/30/2004.
- John Day Smolt Monitor Facility, Primary Dewatering Structure Lights On/Off Test.
- Email from Terry Hurd to Robert Cordie, June 29, 2004, Subject: shad fish results.
- July 8, 2004 FPOM Meeting, Research Project for discussion: Behavior of white sturgeon near hydroprojects and fishways – Research plan for handling white sturgeon during a turbine de-watering at The Dalles Dam, July 26, 2004.
- FPOM TASK GROUPS (proposed members)
- 2004 Summary (water supply forecast, January final to July early, various basins).

3. Action Status Updates (meeting dates are in parentheses):

Rex B. said he would keep all action items in the minutes rather than have a separate document...at the beginning of each monthly meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting should be referred to and action items worthy of further discussion should be brought up at that time...action items will be carried forward in the minutes for 2 or 3 months before being dropped from the minutes...any older action items should be monitored by those with a need to do so.

- (April 2004) - ACTION: Dave H. and Cal S. 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.

(May 2004) - Cal said he has sent a tentative task group list to Dave and Rex. Rex said he and Dave would review the list and forward it to others as needed. **STATUS:** Ongoing.

(June 2004) – Three options were discussed (see page 3 of Walla Walla District handout)...(1) maintain present task group structure, (2) have two core task groups organized by district, or (3) have two core task groups organized by adult versus juvenile fish. Rex favored the current task group structure but we need to prod chairmen into action occasionally by having each task group discussed every month as part of the standard agenda...was not sure that some people would want to serve on both task groups under option (2)...option (3) is heavy on adult issues, light on juvenile ones. Larry Basham emphasized the need to have deadlines for completion of issue papers...one advantage of having fewer groups is that you would know who was responsible for action. Cal favored current task group structure. Wayne V. asked why are we even considering this change? Cal said we have not been getting the job done, so reorganization is being considered. Since only two fishery agencies were represented this early in the meeting (FPC and ODFW) it was decided to hold off until the next meeting for a decision. **STATUS:** Ongoing.

(July 2004) – Rex B. reiterated his view from last month that the current structure of task groups should be maintained...reorganization within a government agency, for example, doesn't necessarily solve the problem...our problem is with the process. Nobody else felt strongly about changing the present structure so it was decided to keep it. Bill H. said each chairman should provide objectives, a plan of action, deadlines, etc. It was suggested that each chairman provide a "one-pager" to FPOM for reference. Rudd T. said we needed to establish a "Bonneville Winter Spill Task Group." We then discussed and revised Cal's listing of all existing task groups (see handout): **ADULT FALLBACK** – omit, **ADULT FISH COUNTING** – keep, **ADULT FISHWAY FACILITIES/OPERATION/IMPROVEMENTS** – keep, **AVIAN PREDATION** – keep, **BUDGET PRIORITIZATION** - omit, **COORDINATION PROCESS** – omit, **DEWATERING PLANS** – omit, **DIFFUSER GRATING** – omit, **FISH PASSAGE PLAN** – keep, **HEADBURN** – omit, **LAMPREY** – keep, **SHAD FISHERY** – keep, **TEMPERATURE** – omit, **VBS** – omit. **STATUS:** Task group chairmen will provide "one-pagers." Need to establish a "Bonneville Winter Spill Task Group."

- (May 2004) - The topic of sea lion predation came up. Gary F. said we cannot afford to have sea lions feeding at the ladder entrances. Bill H. suggested installing something like trashracks to keep sea lions away. Bob C. and others wondered about causing fish injury...velocities would be higher than at ladder exits. Bill and others came up with the idea of calling such a device a SLED (sea lion exclusion device). ACTION: Make a decision at the next FPOM meeting regarding if and how to proceed with installing SLEDs.

(June 2004) – Long discussion...need to consider water velocities and debris to avoid fish injury...SLEDs must be removable since they are needed only during the spring...will need engineering help. Bill asked if something similar has been tried elsewhere on the coast. Nobody was certain but Robert S. said various things have been tried and nothing works well...he mentioned "cattleguards" at Willamette Falls. **STATUS:** Robert S. said the Corps will look into the matter further.

(July 2004) – Various people provided further discussion...still worth pursuing...it is on the Corps' radar screen...probably need FFDRWG involvement. **STATUS:** Ongoing.

- (June 2004) – Tim said...shad are clogging bleed-off valve at weir 37...operators have been asked to blow off screen twice daily...structural crew will rake if necessary...maintaining 1.3 feet at the weir...will try to set up a rake on-site rather than have to use a crane...**ACTION:** Tim will develop a rake design and present to FPOM.

(July 2004) – Tim said he would continue to work on it. **STATUS:** Ongoing.

- (June 2004) – Larry Beck said that the SMF dewatering structure has lights...how about turning off lights to speed smolt passage through the structure? Robert S. said at BON when collection channel lights were shut off everything in the channel left. **ACTION:** Bob said they would turn off lights at primary dewaterer and see what happens.

(July 2004) – Bob C. provided a handout that documented lights on/off testing that was done June 17-22...adult fish moved downstream faster with lights off...no clear pattern for juveniles...recommended keeping lights out at all times...project personnel can adapt (carry radios and flashlights). **STATUS:** Complete for JDA. Rex B. said he would have project biologists in the Walla Walla District try similar testing.

- (June 2004) – Use of Low Versus High Outfall at BON: Tim said the FPP language is confusing...**ACTION:** he will re-write and submit for consideration.

(July 2004) – **STATUS:** Tim said it was on his to-do list and will get it done.

4. Sturgeon Tagging at TDA: See handout. David C. said there is an AFEP study at TDA that involves sturgeon tagging...they would like to take advantage of turbine dewatering (e.g. scrollcase and draft tube) to obtain the fish...they propose using a procedure slightly modified from what is normally done...need to ensure that adequate tanks and personnel are available to handle potentially large numbers of fish...they are using radio tags and acoustic tags. Bob C. said it is difficult to predict how many sturgeon will be present. Mary M. added that spaghetti tags, scute marks, and PIT tags are also being used. Proposal was previously approved...FPOM confirms that the proposal as now envisioned is okay. [David reports that the action took place...only 1 of 27 sturgeon was large enough to tag.]

5. Construction Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tim D. briefly discussed his handout. At TDA/JDA...Bob C. said there was nothing to report.

Walla Walla District – No handout this month. Rex said there was nothing to report.

6. Fishway Status Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tim D. discussed his handout...(early part of discussion not taped, my notes inadequate)...work on fixing the hydrocannon continues...might done by next week...turbine oil spill on June 5 by old navlock...high oil alarm did not go off...about 1,600 gallons in gallery and some in sump (within the dam)...used an oil/water separator to minimize oil getting into the river.

At TDA...Bob C. said the shad fishery took place June 17 and 21 (see email handout)...extensive discussion with others regarding sluiceway and unit operation...oil has been showing up in the tailrace by unit 15...they are “going crazy” trying to figure out where it is coming from...still ongoing. At JDA...Bob said things are going well in general...it is “urgent” to fix AWS pump 6 at JDA north ladder.

Walla Walla District – No handout this month. Rex B. said transport operations have been pretty routine...the “transport season” at MCN began in late June...numbers for the collector projects to-date: 24 million fish collected, 21 million barged, 0.3% pre-transport mortality...AWS pump 3 at MCN Oregon ladder remains OOS.

7. Research Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tim D. said corner collector was dewatered on June 25 when PIT antenna was brought to the forebay side...kept flushing water going in the channel to move fish out...a few fish are getting stranded out of water in a place or two in the corner collector channel and project personnel have taken measures to prevent this (installed a false ceiling)...FGE testing ends next week...radiotelemetry fish will continue to be released through the end of July...unit 18 will be taken OOS for several months beginning July 19, rather than June 1 as originally scheduled (“red flags” went up with fish agencies).

At TDA...Bob C. discussed the handout without much elaboration.

Walla Walla District – No handout this month. Rex B. said that MCN Modernization would be discussed in some detail at a special FFDRWG meeting tomorrow...spring testing is over but the Corps wants to continue with summer testing which may or may not happen...the MCN transport study is essentially over as far as barging is concerned...only 4 fish were put in the last barge...spillway survival testing at IHR will end July 15.

8. Task Group Issues/Status of Groups: Already discussed. See first action item in section 3 above.

9. Initial 2005 FPP Revision Process Discussion: Cal S. said it’s not too early to submit ideas for revision of the FPP. Rudd T. said he would provide the schedule.

10. Avian Abatement Issues: Paul Kokes of USDA/WS inquired about the need for additional bird control efforts at the Lower Columbia dams...they have been working the upper river dams since 1994. Bob C. asked why are we not looking into dam angling, as the tribes once did? Rudd T. said that BPA has increased funding for the sport

reward fishery...they are also working with ODFW and revisiting dam angling...may have tribal fishermen again next year. There was also discussion about grebes remaining in the juvenile fish collection channel at MCN...something needs to be done...Rex said there were plans to do a grebe roundup (capture with nets and return to river). **ACTION:** Wayne V. said he would check with ODFW. **ACTION:** Bob said he would contact Skidmore and Bettin. Paul emphasized that his agency is available for additional work.

11. Adult Shad Fishery/Increasing Shad Numbers Upriver: Tape failed and my notes are inadequate. Sorry! See email handout.

12. River Flow Forecast: Scott B. discussed the handout based on the July earlybird forecast...flows are expected to be up from previous predictions. Rudd T. said the USFWS SOR for sturgeon flows was approved...TMT approved proposed Dworshak operations rather easily this year and he described the details...Dworshak reservoir was within 0.4 foot of full...drafting about 0.5 foot/day now...still, summer flows will not be great...discussed BPA's summer spill reduction proposal...measures for the BPA spill offset agreement include more money for northern pikeminnow program, Brownlee releases, Hanford stranding agreement, and hatchery and habitat measures.

13. Turbine Testing at BON: Tim D. said they wanted to leave the TIES in at BON until turbine efficiency testing is done in September...any objections? Randy L. described the details. There were no objections.

14. Project Tour: After the meeting, about six people toured the project with Tim D. in the lead. The corner collector was viewed top to bottom, as well as a huge new PIT tag detector being constructed for the corner collector channel.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: August 12, 0900 hours, Portland District Office, room 3B.

Minutes prepared by Rex Baxter