

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes for June 3, 2004 FPOM Meeting.

1. The meeting was held at the Portland District Office. In attendance were:

Rex Baxter	USACE	509.527.7124
Larry Basham	FPC	503.230.4287
Scott Boyd	USACE	503.808.3943
Bob Cordie	USACE	541.387.3785
Tim Darland	USACE	541.374.4551
Bill Hevlin	NOAA	503.230.5415
Cal Sprague	USACE	503.808.4305
Larry Beck	USACE	541.374.8801
Wayne VanderNaald	ODFW	503.657.2000
Robert Stansell	USACE	541.374.8801
Miro Zyndol	USACE	541.506.7823
Tom Lorz	CRITFC	503.238.3574

2. The following handouts were distributed:

- DRAFT AGENDA, FISH PASSAGE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COORDINATION TEAM, PORTLAND DISTRICT, ROBERT DUNCAN PLAZA, JUNE 3, 2004.
- CENWP-OP-B, 3 June 2004, MEMORANDUM FOR: FPOM MEMBERS, SUBJECT: Bonneville Lock and Dam Fishway and Construction Activities Report for June 3, 2004 FPOM meeting.
- Emergency Operations Table for PH2 AWS System Operation.
- FPOM 6/3/04, PRELIMINARY PINNIPED PREDATION DATA AT BONNEVILLE.
- Date: June 3, 2004, Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance Meeting, The Dalles/John Day Status.
- Date: June 1, 2004, From: Bob Cordie, Re: Meeting minutes for Yakima shad fishery, The Dalles Dam, 2004.
- PROPOSAL FOR THE 2004 YAKAMA NATION SHAD FISHERY.
- THE DALLES/JOHN DAY PROJECT, FISH RESEARCH REPORT, 6/03/2004 (Miro will provide e-copies after the meeting.)
- FISH PASSAGE O&M COORDINATION TEAM, Adult and Juvenile Fish Facilities Status Report, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, June 3, 2004.

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

- (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.

- (April 2004) - Chief Joseph Spill Deflector Installation In-water Work Window: ACTION: FPOM agrees with the proposed work window [July 2004 to February 2005] 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.]

(May 2004) - There has not been much contact with Seattle District. Cal said Portland District cannot “approve” the proposal...would require Division approval. Gary said FPOM is a multi-district forum and so FPOM was the appropriate forum... it’s really up to the Corps about what process to follow, but still feels FPOM is appropriate...the Colville Tribe has raised the issue of harvest and wants a November construction startup...need to consider their perspective and that of others...Mark Schneider of NOAA F should be involved...should have a section in the Fish Passage Plan dealing with dewatering procedures and in-water work period. Bill said the Seattle District wants to start as soon as possible, when spill is not a problem...there is a need to get the work done for gas abatement. Scott Bettin suggested that the matter be handled by a separate conference call or meeting...some key players are not here anyway. STATUS: Cal said he would follow up with Jeff Laufle of the Seattle District and try to set up a conference call.

(June 2004) – Cal said he took part in the conference call last week [as did Rex]...Seattle District wanted information on what we have done in the past to salvage fish during such work. [Cal and Rex provided information from various projects, a dewatering plan for Little Goose as an example, mentioned Appendix F in the FPP, and suggested using bubbler(s) to spook fish from work area just before dewatering]. Cal said if anyone had further information then he would forward it. STATUS: Complete as far as FPOM is concerned. Seattle District will continue with regional coordination as needed.

- (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.

- (May 2004) - Rex briefly discussed juvenile facilities...LGR has been inundated with fish lately...over 800,000 per day, two days in a row...the RSW was used one night to avoid running fish through the facility that would otherwise be bypassed anyway. Bill said he would like to see this use of the RSW put into the FPP...fish going through a spillway tend to have higher SARs than fish bypassed through a facility. Gary said we needed to somehow incorporate a fish density trigger. Long discussion ensued. ACTION: Rex said he and Dave H. would come up with some draft wording for the 2005 FPP.

(June 2004) – Rex said this item will be completed but there is no rush at this time. Scott Boyd said a related matter involves NOAA’s preference for a higher minimum spill level of 18.6 kcfs during RSW operation. Bill H. added that 18.6 kcfs was studied for two years and looked good [1 stop of training spill provided from bays 2-8] but somehow 15.2 kcfs became the minimum in the FPP table [bays 2 and 4 closed, others open 1 stop]...a closed bay creates an eddy...need to work on the FPP table and make sure it works well when using the RSW for passing excessive fish numbers. Tom L. added that he was concerned about holding fish at maximum raceway capacity for two days due to barges being full...he agreed that two-day holding made sense when raceway fish densities are lower early and late in the season. Larry Basham said, yes, sometimes it is better to keep fish moving...depends in part on river flows. STATUS: Rex agreed to look into revising the FPP to address RSW operations during periods of high fish numbers, RSW minimum spill requirements, and two-day versus one-day holding of fish.

- (May 2004) - Updated BON Fish Turbine and Fishway Operational Table: Randy L. said they have updated the BON emergency operation table...it’s done. No issues to discuss. [Cal sent out the interim procedure and emergency operation files via email on May 24 for a two-week review. If accepted they will be incorporated into the FPP.] ACTION: Discuss at next meeting.

(June 2004) – See handout “Emergency Operations Table for PH2 AWS System Operation.” Cal said he, Dennis Schwartz and others had talked...they agreed to leave the written procedure as is...Dennis will send out further explanation...the table will replace the one in the FPP. Scott B. suggested omitting three columns from the table since they are not needed. **STATUS:** Cal will send out Dennis’ write-up for review when he gets it.

- (May 2004) - BON SMF Juvenile Mortality: Tim said they had a fish lift failure that killed 68 of 150 smolts...somebody had shut off the flushing water (electricians?)...he is trying to figure out who is responsible so they will know not to do it again. Rick added that somebody had left the electricians alone with the fish, after explaining to them the critical need to maintain flow to the fish...he felt there was a need to establish a protocol where the biological staff would remain whenever similar maintenance is done in the future. **ACTION:** Biological staff at BON will follow up. Tim went on to discuss fish beheadings...a potential problem area is the air burst system...they will check the tank about an hour after the system goes off and maybe correlate a cause-effect. Various people speculated about the cause...sheer effect?...mechanical?...not known to occur elsewhere...seems to occur at BON about this time each year...could be many more that are not found.

(June 2004) – Tim D. said they have worked on the protocols to ensure that the biological staff is present as necessary...they also looked further into the air burst system and elsewhere for the possible cause of beheadings but could not find a correlation. **STATUS:** BON staff has done as much as they can.

#### 4. Construction Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tim discussed corner collector Hi-Q PIT detector...will shut down units 11-14 so the barge can unload the antenna...corner collector will be closed and inspected by engineers...SMF hydro cannons are being repaired...USDA bird abatement contract is over at the end of June...really need the cannons going by then...may extend the contract if cannons are not ready...12 new headgates will be delivered...will shut down some units to offload them. At TDA/JDA...Bob said there is no construction going on.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex discussed planned rehab of spillway gates at MCN, in part because gates 8, 12, and 14 have recently been totally or mostly inoperable...the crane problem with gate 8 may have been fixed as of yesterday...gate 12 needs new cables and may be fixed within a week or two...gate 14 has slipped sideways about 3 inches and can be used when the forebay is low due to less pressure on the gate, the hoist is working near overload...four gates are scheduled for rehab next fall, maybe eight total by next spring. Larry Basham asked about the “funding problems” mentioned in the handout. Rex said \$1.1 million was available for the first four gates but contract problems caused a delay...so \$1 million went to the IHR RSW...cannot get going on planned gate rehab until the new fiscal year starts in October. Rex also discussed load testing of the BGS at LGR...might start today and take 3 days total. Scott Boyd said a teletype had been issued to start testing today and get it done in two days. Tom L. asked when unit 1 at LGR would be back on line. Rex could not remember...a few months more he thought [the latest estimate is December 2004].

#### 5. Fishway Status Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tim said debris had accumulated at the boat barrier near the corner collector but unit loading had removed the debris...he changed DSM2 air burst from 3- to 1-hour cycles due to recent problems...may go to ½ hour cycles if necessary...FV 5-9 has had problems in auto...he checked again today and there are still problems...he will have electricians check it out so it can be run in auto...acoustic sensor for PH2 collection channel velocity meter is “gone”...adult PIT exit detectors in WA ladder will be replaced next winter...recent hydraulic testing at PH2 collection channel...velocities good at south end, 2-2.5 fps...middle was slower, around 1.5 fps...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...mid-season fishway inspection dive is scheduled for August 3...wants to try an ROV instead...fish units need not be OOS. There was some concern that an ROV could not pull on diffusers like a diver to determine if fasteners are okay.

At TDA...Bob said east entrance weir hoists are finally done...recently met with Steve Parker and others of YIN for pre-work shad fishery meeting (see handout)...more than normal shad fallback has been occurring at north fishway according to fish counters...picketed leads are fine...Terry is looking at past fish numbers to see if there are just

more shad...long discussion regarding operation of west and east sluiceway gates and research...a mysterious sheen was seen in the tailrace by unit 16...they shut down a block of units trying to determine the source...no luck...oil is being tested...not a large volume. At JDA...Bob said things are going smoothly for the most part...steelhead jumped through a hole in netting at north fishway count station...hole has been patched. Larry Beck mentioned the problem of overcounting/fallback of steelhead at JDA. Bill H. said this is still in the SCT spreadsheet but a low priority. Bob continued...ESBS brush failed in auto so manual was used...will be fixed sometime this summer. 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.

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

#### 6. Research Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tim said installation of the lamprey ladder at Bradford Island began on May 24...same structure as last year but it is being re-routed...USGS FPE testing continues...chain gate configuration will be changed on/about June 17 from 2C, 4C and 6C (spring) to 1C, 3C and 6C (summer)...USDA/WS contract...birds have increased...control agents now working 7 days/week until the end of June...hopefully hydro cannons are fixed by then...if not, will try to extend control agents...TIES “in” test will begin in July.

At TDA...Miro said this is a big research year but most studies are done or nearly so. At JDA...Miro discussed ESBS/VBS evaluation...VBSs were swapped...still some descaling but reduced...considering the history of ESBS testing we need to be cautious because that system may not be suitable for JDA due to higher flow conditions compared to other dams...FFU kelt evaluation ended June 1.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex, Tom, Bill, Scott and others discussed McNary Modernization research...the nature of future testing will be discussed in a conference call tomorrow. Rex mentioned IDFG is interested in fertilizing Dworshak Reservoir...marine-derived nutrients are no longer introduced to the watershed so there is less productivity...more to come in the next year or two. Tom asked if spillway survival research at LMO had taken place during the recent (somewhat unexpected) spill period. Rex was not sure but would check with Mark Smith. [Answer: no]

7. Updates from Task Groups: Cal said the shad fishery at TDA will start next week (see handout)...not much else to discuss since we had already talked about reorganizing task groups (see action item above).

8. Chief Joseph Spill Deflector In-water Work Window: Discussed earlier as an action item. See above.

9. Lamprey and Shad Passage Criteria at JDA: In reference to 2.5.1.2.a.1 of the FPP (JDA chapter), Larry Beck said that shad are no longer being counted at JDA...to determine when depth-over-weirs should be changed it would seem appropriate to use a set date in the FPP rather than a set number of shad (over 5,000 shad per day). Miro suggested using visual estimates by the project biologist...when lots of shad are stacked up, then change depth-over-weir. It was generally agreed to use criteria similar to that at BON...go from 1.0 to 1.3 ft on May 15. **ACTION:** Cal will follow up.

10. River Flow Forecast: Scott Boyd said TDA forecast went from 68% to 72% of normal...Libby went down and sturgeon pulse began recently...LGR went 13.1 to 13.4 MAF...DWK went from 78% to 87% of normal...DWK is close to full, spilling, and passing about 19 kcfs.

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

12. Security Lighting at BON: Tim said the contractor is doing well, keeping light out of fishways...Tim and others will do a walk-around Wednesday night to further evaluate.

13. 4-Year Overhaul of Unit 18 at BON: Tim said unit 18 was to be taken OOS on June 1 but this did not happen due to fish concerns (FGE?) and use of unit 17 as a test unit...postponed until mid-July.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: July 8, 2004, 0930 hours, Bonneville Dam Auditorium (check in at the auditorium – not the project office).

Minutes prepared by Rex Baxter