

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes for October 14, 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
Cal Sprague	USACE	503.808.4305
David Clugston	USACE	503.808.4751
Larry Beck	USACE	541.374.8801
Tammy Mackey	USACE	541.374.4552
Scott Bettin	BPA	503.230.4573
Larry Basham	FPC	503.230.4287
Robert Stansell	USACE	541.374.8801
Jon Rerecich	USACE	541.374.7984
Ben Hausmann	USACE	541.374.4528
Gary Johnson	USACE	503.808.4304
Bob Wertheimer	USACE	541.374.8801

2. The following handouts were distributed:

- DRAFT AGENDA, FISH PASSAGE O&M COORDINATION TEAM, BONNEVILLE DAM, AUDITORIUM BUILDING, OCTOBER 14, 2004.
- CENWP-OP-B, 14 October 2004, MEMORANDUM FOR: FPOM MEMBERS, SUBJECT: Bonneville Lock and Dam Fishway and Construction Activities Report for October 2004 FPOM meeting.
- CENWP-OP-B, 28 September 2004, MEMORANDUM FOR: FPOM MEMBERS, SUBJECT: Description of Lamprey Task Group.
- CENWP-OP-B, Draft, Updated 10/12/04, MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD, SUBJECT: BONNEVILLE DAM WINTER FISHWAY MAINTENANCE 2004/2005.
- Statement on Condition of Turbine Intake Extensions and Options.
- Date: October 14, 2004, Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance Meeting, The Dalles/John Day Status. [Not provided at meeting due to absence, but emailed to Rex Baxter on October 18 to distribute with the minutes.]
- DRAFT #2, THE DALLES DAM FISHWAY DEWATER/DIVE SCHEDULE, WINTER '04/'05. [Not provided at meeting due to absence...]
- DRAFT #1, JOHN DAY DAM FISHWAY DEWATER/DIVE SCHEDULE, WINTER '04/'05. [Not provided at meeting due to absence...]
- FISH PASSAGE O&M COORDINATION TEAM, Adult and Juvenile Fish Facilities Status Report, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, October 14, 2004.

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

- (August 2004) – Caspian Tern Research Presentation by USFWS: David W. introduced Nanette Seto and Tara Zimmerman of the USFWS migratory bird office...they deal with permitting (e.g. lethal take) and are also working on a collaborative EIS with the Corps and NOAA F. Nanette gave a PowerPoint presentation dealing with Caspian terns, East Sand Island, Rice Island, alternatives in the EIS, etc...the USFWS/Corps ROD is expected in 2005...for details see <http://migratorybirds.pacific.fws.gov/CATE.htm>. Paul O. asked her to provide her PowerPoint file to those present and she agreed to do so. Tara followed up with a permit update...USFWS can no longer issue blanket permits due to regulation changes and public controversy...USDA/Wildlife Services has been given (will get) more specific permits...the USDA/Corps EA is presently out for public review...after the EA is done (November?), that will provide a basis for a 2005 permit...timing of lethal take is a critical

item...bird groups insist on lethal take only as needed...Tara will write sections of the permit dealing with lethal take in relation to protecting specific stocks...**ACTION:** Tara needs help from FPOM to identify the best timing for lethal take.

(September 2004) – Rex B. asked for ideas about providing dates of lethal take to the USFWS (Tara). Cal S. said we should contact the Corps project biologists for their input. David W. said USDA/Wildlife Services personnel should also be involved. **STATUS:** Rex and Cal will poll the project biologists.

(October 2004) – Discussed under item 8, below.

#### 4. Construction Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tammy M. said delivery/erection of the new PH1 gantry crane and demolition of the old one may be delayed until January 17. Cal S. asked about possible impacts. Tammy said it would not have any impacts from her perspective.

At TDA/JDA...Bob C. and Miro Z. were absent. See handout.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex B. said a new RSW will be installed at Ice Harbor for use next spring. Scott B. asked will it be tested? Rex said yes but did not know the schedule...work continues on AWS pump 2 at MCN...repairs to pump 3 are scheduled for completion by next March...four spillway gates will be rehabbed at MCN from October to February...should then have 22 usable spillway gates...the gates have become worn in recent years due to frequent adjustments to accommodate spill patterns. Gary J. asked are the gates being rehabbed by using fish and wildlife funding, or project funding? Rex did not know. Gary said Portland District has required the use of project funding in recent years...he wanted the two districts to be consistent. Scott B. asked if we should explore new spill patterns for MCN to avoid wearing out gates? **ACTION:** Rex said he would mention this possibility to Dave Hurson and others in Walla Walla.

#### 5. Fishway Status Updates:

Portland District – See handouts. At BON...Tammy M. said unit 1 has been returned to service and unit 2 is now out of service for rehab...DSM1 continues to run south...she basically discussed her handout without much elaboration. Scott B. asked do we need all of the orifices open? Tammy said she was not aware of any studies indicating how many open orifices are needed to provide adequate flow, so they just leave them all open. Scott asked if she would investigate having half of them open...at JDA orifices are closed when units are off...but of course PH1 is different. **ACTION:** Tammy agreed to look into having fewer orifices open.

At TDA... Bob C. and Miro Z. were absent. See handout.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex B. discussed the handout...a contract was awarded on September 14 to repair AWS pump 2 at McNary...completion is expected by November 1. Larry Basham asked if the contractor was on schedule. Rex said he had not heard of any delays so we should be able to meet the November 1 date...in response to a query by Bill Hevlin at last month's meeting, Rex examined mortality rates at LMO before, during, and after a period of unusually high rates that were apparently related to columnaris...0.9% before, 9.2% during, 0.9% after. Steve R. added that IDFG had reported high water temps...a possible contributing factor. Rex continued...AWS pump 2 at LMO was taken out of service to correct the shaft alignment...wanted to avoid a situation like that at MCN. Scott B. asked about the new barge loading pipe that was installed last year at LMO...did it work and is there any data to show that it helped fish? Rex said it worked but there was no data yet that he knew of [might use PIT tag data after adults return]. Steve R. asked if the juvenile outfall at LMO had been moved. Rex said no, but there has been talk for some years about moving the outfall further downstream...he is not sure where it stands on the priority list. Discussion ensued regarding the eddy created when spill occurs at LMO...mainly a problem during the spring...summer Doble testing is also a problem.

#### 6. Research Updates:

Portland District – See BON handout. At BON...Tammy M. briefly discussed the handout.

At TDA/JDA... Bob C. and Miro Z. were absent. See handout.

Walla Walla District – See handout. Rex B. provided a listing of organizations using the adult trap at LGR...the USGS and USFWS will be radio-tracking juvenile fall Chinook from above LGR to below IHR from October to April. Scott B. said due to fall Chinook passage during the winter months, there may eventually be a request to have turbine units outfitted with screens at that time. Extensive discussion by Scott, Larry Basham, David C. and others regarding possibly doing a short-term test with screens in place during the winter...yearling fall Chinook have high SARs...probable impetus to keep units screened all year...but need to beware of freeze damage...and the need to maintain the facilities. Robert S. asked if the University of Washington researchers mentioned in the handout needed to collect fish at the Portland District dams. Rex said the UW did not have a permit in place to do so. Bob W. said the USGS (Conrad Frost, Cook Lab) had an extensive collection of fish bones that the UW might want to use. Rex said he would pass this on to the UW. [He did.]

7. Task Group Updates: Rex B. said he emailed three finalized task group descriptions to all FPOM members a couple of days ago...the remaining descriptions will be sent when available. Cal S. said he would provide one soon for the shad fishery task group. Scott B. asked who wants to be on the Bonneville winter spill task group? Tammy M., Larry Basham, and Cal volunteered.

8. Avian Abatement Issues (Lethal Control): Cal S. said that Paul Peloquin had called...Paul wanted to figure out how to meld research in the estuary and mid-Columbia with our avian abatement efforts at the dams. David C. discussed the new NOAA BiOp and gap analysis...he said he would contact [Willis? Dorsey?] for [?] details. Gary J. said we needed to finish the EA before continuing with lethal take. Cal said Tara Zimmerman of the USFWS requested input from FPOM on dates of lethal take...he has contacted the projects and will provide the information at the next meeting. Rex B. said he had polled the project biologists on the Lower Snake [and at MCN]...the consensus was to allow lethal take during the entire spring period...he also contacted Paul Kokes of USDA/WS in Moses Lake...Paul agreed that lethal take should be allowed during the entire spring period. Cal said it might be worth tapping into cormorant studies done in the Great Lakes area.

9. Fish Passage Plan Revision Process/Submissions: Cal S. said he had received some submissions...still waiting for others to respond.

10. Bonneville Fishway/Winter Maintenance Issues: See handout. Tammy M. said the **fish units outage** issue is more of a WA shore outage issue...Gary Fredricks apparently has concerns about this...it is tied in with FV1-1 repair...FV1-1 at PH1 is making a horrible noise...it needs repair but the fishway would be out of criteria...work is scheduled for late February with the idea that the WA ladder would be back in service by then...Gary suggested bringing the fish units back in service early...but there is no point having the fish units on if the WA ladder remains out of service for installation of the new PIT detectors...if that work gets done early, fine...don't want to attract fish to a dry hole...FV1-1 could be repaired after the WA shore ladder is back up, but are you willing to have the ladder out of criteria in March?...mechanics estimate one week of work. Extensive discussion involving Tammy, Larry Beck, Larry Basham, Steve R., Gary J., and Cal S....to be resolved later. Tammy discussed the **TIES** handout...the project would like to leave TIES in year-round to reduce maintenance...is there any biological reason why not?...maintenance would like to scrap the six TIES in poorest condition...see suggested options in the handout. Scott B. said if the index testing shows improved turbine performance then that is incentive to leave the TIES in. Cal S. was concerned that if the TIES are left in year-round then they may deteriorate faster. Tammy said maintenance did not think it would be a problem...she mainly wanted people to be aware of this issue at this point...the final outcome depends on the results of index testing in January...if indexing shows no power benefit then we will need to look into rehabbing the TIES for fish purposes...if indexing shows a power benefit then maybe power will pay for rehab. Scott said he would contact Mike Berger about this. Tammy continued with **PH1 STSs/VBSs**...maintenance wants to know are we going to continue running DSM1 north and if so when?...or run it south?...leave the STSs out?...if STSs are left out they would like to scrap all but seven of them (enough for two units plus a spare). Scott asked are the STSs needed primarily for juveniles or adults?...is another type of screen needed? Larry Basham said it may be better to use the sluiceway for adult (kelt) passage. Bob W. said kelts readily find the sluiceway. Scott said if there are no STSs used then unit operation is more efficient, the orifices can be closed since the bypass is not running, and you would get better fish passage...this would pay for it big time. Cal S. said Chris Ross of NOAA had wondered why we had screens only in the two priority units. Gary J. suggested revising the Fish Passage Plan and allowing everyone, including NOAA Fisheries, a chance to provide input. Tammy continued...the riggers are tired of cleaning **weir 37**...can presently blow it out or rake it...they would like

to modify it somehow to make cleaning easier...perhaps something like a double set of picketed leads...they have a hard time maintaining criteria...something more for us to think about.

11. NWD-RCC Reservoir Ops/Water/Weather Update: Larry Beck will take Scott Boyd's place at RCC while Scott is detailed to other duties for one year. Scott is filling in for someone else that has deployed to Iraq. Scott Bettin said flows will pick up in early November for chum salmon below BON [rain or not]...an SOR is expected around November 5...tailwater was at 11.5 feet yesterday...discharge went from 89 to 147 kcfs. Gary J. added that the amount of fall rainfall determines how much water must be drawn from upstream storage.

12. Project Operational data (turbine/spill) reporting: Cal S. said this group needs to provide input on what kind of operational data should be provided to NOAA Fisheries in accordance with their 2000 FCRPS BiOp...hourly or real time data through GDACS? Gary J. said NOAA wants real time data on individual turbine units and spillway bays...tailwater levels, etc...they would like to know, for example, when their in-season recommendations take effect. Scott B. asked if this was in the new BiOp...he wasn't sure that a new reporting system was needed to run the river. Gary emphasized the need to make sure that completed coordination is communicated to all concerned so that nobody is surprised when they find something out of the ordinary.

13. The Dalles Main Unit 6: Gary J. said unit 6 has been out of service for quite some time due to thrust bearing problems...they needed to take it down to tailwater...headgates have been in place with wicket gates closed...no tail logs in place...they wanted to know if they should install tail logs and salvage fish...Gary advised them that no fish salvage was necessary.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: TO BE DETERMINED. [Now set for November 4, 0900 hours, Portland District Office, room 3C]

Minutes prepared by Rex Baxter