

Memorandum for the Record

SUBJECT: Minutes for the Willamette Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance Meeting 26 September 2018.

The meeting was held in the St. Helen's Room at USACE NWP HQ, Block 300. Portland, Oregon.
In attendance:

| Last | First | Agency | Email |
|------------|---------|---------------------------|--|
| Chane | Ian | NWP-PM-E | Ian.B.Chane@usace.army.mil |
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| Garletts | Doug | NWP-ODV | Douglas.F.Garletts@usace.army.mil |
| Grenbemer | Greg | ODFW- Marion Forks/ Minto | Greg.A.Grenbemer@state.or.us |
| Helms | Chad | NWP-ODV | Chad.K.Helms@usace.army.mil |
| Khan | Fenton | NWP-PM-E | Fenton.o.khan@usace.army.mil |
| Kovalchuk | Erin | NWP-ODT-F | Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil |
| Mackey | Tammy | NWP-ODT-F | Tammy.M.Mackey@usace.army.mil |
| Neuenhoff | Rachel | NWP | Rachel.D.Neuenhoff@usace.army.mil |
| Piaskowski | Rich | NWP-PM-E | Richard.M.Piaskowski@usace.army.mil |
| Richards | Natalie | NWP | Natalie.A.Richards@usace.army.mil |
| Royer | Ida | NWP-PM-E | Ida.M.Royer@usace.army.mil |
| Traylor | Andrew | NWP-ODT-F | Andrew.W.Traylor@usace.army.mil |
| Wertheimer | Robert | NWP-ODT -FFU | Robert.H.Wertheimer@usace.army.mil |

On the phone: Chane, Couture, Dishman, Garletts, Grenbemer, Helms, Kovalchuk, Richards, Tuttle and Wertheimer.

1. Final decisions or recommendations made at this meeting.

1.1. August minutes were approved.

2. Action Items

- 2.1. [September 2018] WFFDWG/Research updates - ACTION: Dishman will discuss the fate of the balloon tagged fish with Kelley and follow up with Khan.
- 2.2. [September 2018] 18FOS04 Holding Unmarked Chinook Salmon at Foster Fish Facility- ACTION: Piaskowski will update the MOC with more data on length time fish were held and numbers of fish out planted that he did not previously have.
- 2.3. [September 2018] 18FOS04 Holding Unmarked Chinook Salmon at Foster Fish Facility- ACTION: Walker will send out the updated MOC when he returns next week.
- 2.4. [August 2018] Pinniped Update - ACTION: Couture will find out about the monitoring effort at Willamette Falls. *Status: See 3.6.*

3. Updates

3.1. HMT Updates – There was no meeting last week, only email updates. Low BKD results were reported all over the sub-basins except for the Middle Fork which had slightly higher BKD levels. Willamette has normal PSM this year.

- 3.1.1.** North Santiam – Adult CHS Collections to Date = 2,024 marked and 245 non-marked. All NM fish released above Minto. Spawning complete having reached goal of 200 pairs for N. Santiam production. 50 adults were outplanted into Horn Creek, 715 adults into the N. Santiam at the log deck site and 169 into Breitenbush. Mortality was again low this season the colder temp targets really make a difference. Pre-spawn mortality was 2.2%. Work continues on addressing safety issues listed on the Corps inspection report. Minto has a new contact for the Hot Springs release location. Grenbemer used this site last week.
- 3.1.2.** South Santiam - 1324 Hatchery ChS collected, 705 Males – 619 Females. The goal of spawning 269 pairs is expected to be reached with spawning continuing for another two weeks. 81 Unmarked ChS collected, 57 Males – 24 Females. All unmarked adults have been out planted above Foster, no adults currently on site. 1219 summer steelhead collected. Brood needs have been met. We provided 75 adults for a USACE fish passage study over the Foster weir for Fenton. We are currently holding adults for a study in October at low pool. All juvenile fish are healthy and on track to meet production goals. Work continues on addressing safety issues listed on the Corps inspection report.
- 3.1.3.** McKenzie - Run size to date – 4,899 CHS (includes 69 unmarked fish which were released back to the river) 218 STS also collected. Low mortality in all adults on hand. Outplants – On Sept. 5th - 548 fish (173 males, 374 females, 1 jack) all released upstream of the Terwilliger Fire at Frissel Crossing Bridge on the S. Fork McKenzie. We have been releasing fish at this site for the last 4 years. Spawning is nearing completion with next week the anticipated final spawn to meet the production goals for the release of 605,000 smolts into the McKenzie. Fish Health has been very good in our juvenile CHS, all fish are on target for size. Since school is back in session our schedule is filling up with tours to learn about the McKenzie watershed and salmon. Work continues on addressing safety issues listed on the Corps inspection report.
- 3.1.4.** Middle Fork - To date we have spawned just over 600 pairs at Willamette and expect to meet all egg take goals for M. Fork releases. 355 adults were outplanted to the N. Fork and 298 outplanted to the M. Fork. All juvenile fish are healthy and everything else is going like normal. Work continues on addressing safety issues listed on the Corps inspection report.
- 3.2.** HGMP updates – Traylor has been working on the rainbow trout HGMP with ODFW and would like to submit it this week or next. NMFS is waiting on this HGMP before submitting the new hatchery BiOP for the Willamette. Elise Kelley is the ODFW POC for the review of the HGMP.
- 3.3.** WFFDWG/Research updates – PME is still planning the FY19 studies. Khan said there is a plan to go down to the minimum flow of 1,000cfs in South Santiam due to the dry summer. ODFW needs 1Kcfs of flow for their spawning surveys. The Foster fish weir would have been set to pass 500cfs but the remaining flow is too low to come from the turbine or spill bays. After talking to Greg Taylor, Khan is going to set the fish weir at 300cfs. Khan explained further that it was the flow management team call that decided to reduce the flow from 1,500 to 1,000cfs then the group floated the river for visual confirmation. The weir test goes into operation in October. It is on the agenda for the 27 September RME meeting. Dishman will talk to Mullan to make sure she is aware of the situation. RME – The Copepod Stress Study was obligated this week. The researchers are collecting copepods from the Willamette hatchery and might be looking at Dexter and Roaring River. This year, OSU is working on the infection protocol in the lab for the stress study and in FY19, the researcher

might be requesting Willamette hatchery fish. Khan asked if the fish from the balloon tag study should be euthanized or returned to the river. In the NMFS permit, it says to euthanize the fish but ODFW said to release them. The fish are not anesthetized. **ACTION: Dishman will discuss the fate of the balloon tagged fish with Kelley and follow up with Khan.** At the end of meeting, Khan came back to this topic to say that he will need 125 more fish in October for his study.

3.4. Water Quality Updates – No update.

3.5. Flow update

| Sub-basin | Dam | Minimum Flow (cfs) | Current Flow (cfs) | Primary Use |
|---------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| North Santiam | Big Cliff | 1,000 | 2,250 | Spawning |
| South Santiam | Foster | 800 | 1,086 | Spawning |
| SF McKenzie | Cougar | 300 | 399 | Spawning |
| McKenzie | Blue River | 50 | 49 | Spawning |
| MF Willamette | Hills Creek | 400 | 715 | Migration & rearing |
| MF Willamette | Dexter | 1,200 | 1,763 | Spawning |
| MF Willamette | Fall Creek | 80 | 145 | Spawning |

Willamette Mainstem

Salem: 6,500 cfs (minimum flow), 7,601 (current flow)

Albany: 5,000 cfs (minimum flow), 4,658 (current flow)

3.6. Pinniped Update (ODFW) – The ODFW monitoring effort starts 01 January; however, 5 CSL have been currently observed at Willamette Falls. The predation rate on this year’s run was 22% on STW and 9% on non-marked CHS. Chane noted clipped chinook going over Willamette Falls and asked if they are strays since there is no fall chinook hatchery. Couture was not certain and these fish are not typically seen at Minto or other collecting facilities. At BON, there are 35 SSL with low numbers of fish passing. Wertheimer asked if the ID is certain since there are not usually CSL this time of year. Couture said that Brian Wright confirmed this update. Couture followed up on this, providing information from ODFW staff suggested the clipped fish were in fact U. Willamette CHS from the hatchery programs, returning to W. Falls late in the run year. August 15 is an arbitrary cut-off date for the counts to distinguish between “spring” and “fall” run times.

3.7. BPA updates – No one from BPA was present at the meeting.

3.8. Cougar Fish Facility – The fire has stopped all operations at the facility. All fish that were in the trap were returned back to the river. The total is 119 fish back to the facility. Some of the culverts have melted and the road is unsafe to pass. The counts are final out plant numbers from Cougar. Helms is going to check on spawning below the dam today.

3.9. Fall Creek Fish Facility – The facility will close on 27 September. Counts to date are: 92 non marked chinook transported above the dam (41 males, 36 females, 15 jacks); 9 ad clipped Chinook (4 males and 5 females) released in to the stilling basin; transported 24 winter steelhead (10 males and 14 females) and 5 lamprey – four passed and 1 escaped the presort pool.

4. Willamette Valley Contract Status

4.1. Willamette Hatcheries (ODFW) – Awarded at the end of August.

4.2. Trout (Desert Springs) – Contract options awarded for 200K lbs for 2019 deliveries. Options for 2020 deliveries need to be awarded by 01 January 2019. 100K of trout was obligated on 26 September for the FY20 deliveries.

4.3. Monitoring and Evaluation (spawning surveys) – Surveys are ongoing. For next year, the contract is being reviewed and should be awarded by 01 April. Mark Lewis is the ODFW contact. Walker has initiated coordinating schedules with ODFW and Normandeau. Couture said that the first week, there was a mistake in scheduling but it has been straightened out. Wertheimer suggested a central database for this data in order to spread out resources and have standard reporting. Couture agreed with Wertheimer’s suggestion. Mackey said that this topic will come up again at the upcoming meeting with ODFW in October in an effort to maximize our resources instead of duplicating surveys.

5. Coordination/Notification forms (need concurrence/discussion)

5.1. 18CGR05 MFR Fire Impacts Cougar Dam and Fish Facility

5.2. 18FOS03 MFR Spawning Flows in South Santiam River

5.3. 18FOS04 Holding Unmarked Chinook Salmon at Foster Fish Facility (and other out planting strategies) – Comments close on 09 October and there will be an updated version sent out soon with more details on options 2 and 3. Couture pointed out that the MOC says “holding unmarked chinook at Foster would result in high density” but the presort pool is designed for a couple thousand fish and this action would hold less than a hundred. In addition, disease is relatively low at this time of year and the MOC says that the action could increase disease. Piaskowski walked through the updated version of the MOC. The goal is to maximize survival and spawning success in the out planted fish. Couture said that the fish were held during warmer temperatures for a couple of weeks, not for the length of the run. Fish had been out planted earlier in the season when the temperature was lower. It appears outplanting protocol as described in the WFOP was followed by ODFW Hatchery staff. **ACTION: Piaskowski will update the MOC with more data on length time fish were held and numbers of fish out planted that he did not previously have.** Traylor said that option three will be difficult because they have already looked for cooler streams and haven’t found any in the S. Santiam. **ACTION: Walker will send out the updated MOC when he returns next week.**

6. Fish Operations Plan: Mackey reminded the group that now is the time to submit any change forms in order to be added to the printed copy of the WFOP for the upcoming year. WFOP homepage: http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/WFOP/

6.1. Status of the 2018 WFOP

6.2. Change forms

6.2.1. 18NS003 – Maintenance Periods (pending, discuss at October W-FPOM)

7. Task Group Updates.

7.1. SWIFT, Flow task group (Piaskowski) – Phase 2 is proceeding. There was a meeting in August. The work goal was to look at the habitat flow relationships in the main stem. The team meets sporadically so monthly updates are not available.

7.2. Adult Fish Facility Operations (convene after October W-FPOM)