

## Memorandum for the Record

SUBJECT: Final Minutes for the Willamette Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance Meeting 22 May 2019.

The meeting was held in the Willamette Room at NOAA Fisheries Office, Portland, Oregon. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Email
Couture	Ryan	ODFW	<a href="mailto:ryan.b.Couture@state.or.us">ryan.b.Couture@state.or.us</a>
Dishman	Diana	NOAA	<a href="mailto:Diana.Dishman@noaa.gov">Diana.Dishman@noaa.gov</a>
Khan	Fenton	NWP-PM-E	<a href="mailto:Fenton.o.khan@usace.army.mil">Fenton.o.khan@usace.army.mil</a>
Kovalchuk	Erin	NWP-ODT-F	<a href="mailto:Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil">Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil</a>
Kremers	Kurt	ODFW	<a href="mailto:kurt.kremers@state.or.us">kurt.kremers@state.or.us</a>
Kruzic	Lance	NOAA	<a href="mailto:Lance.Kruzic@noaa.gov">Lance.Kruzic@noaa.gov</a>
Mackey	Tammy	NWP-ODT-F	<a href="mailto:Tammy.M.Mackey@usace.army.mil">Tammy.M.Mackey@usace.army.mil</a>
Mullan	Anne	NMFS	<a href="mailto:Anne.Mullan@noaa.gov">Anne.Mullan@noaa.gov</a>
Neuenhoff	Rachel	NWP-PME	<a href="mailto:Rachel.D.Neuenhoff@usace.army.mil">Rachel.D.Neuenhoff@usace.army.mil</a>
Reis	Kelly	ODFW	<a href="mailto:Kelly.E.Reis@state.or.us">Kelly.E.Reis@state.or.us</a>
Richards	Natalie	NWP	<a href="mailto:Natalie.A.Richards@usace.army.mil">Natalie.A.Richards@usace.army.mil</a>
Walker	Chris	NWP-ODT-F	<a href="mailto:Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil">Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil</a>
Ziller	Jeff	ODFW	<a href="mailto:Jeffrey.S.Ziller@state.or.us">Jeffrey.S.Ziller@state.or.us</a>

On the phone: Couture, Khan, Kovalchuk, Kremers, Kruzic, Mullan, Neuenhoff, Reis, Richards and Ziller.

**1. Final decisions or recommendations made at this meeting.**

1.1. The edited April minutes are approved.

**2. Action Items**

**2.1. [April 2019] Invite NWP Real Estate to May W-FPOM (Walker/Mackey)** – The COE real estate section met with ODFW to discuss the lease agreement. Couture had sent the lease document to the lawyers but it has to be reviewed by ODFW real estate first. For disposal, if ODFW wants the hatchery then it will go through a fairly smooth process but otherwise the facility will go to GSA for excess. Mackey thinks it will take until 2020 to dispose of Leaburg. Kruzic asked for the Leaburg usage plan. The McKenzie spring chinook program is critical and with the canal problems, Kruzic would like to keep Leaburg as a backup. Couture said ODFW funded Leaburg for the last couple of years but that funding ends in June. The Governor has not funded Leaburg in the budget for next year. ODFW would like to keep the hatchery in production but cannot without funding.

**2.2. [April 2019] Cougar Fish Facility Operations Change Form (Walker)** – The change form is discussed below under 6.2.1.

**3. Foster and Minto PIT antennas** – The COE contracted ODFW to install and maintain PIT antennas for some RME studies but now there are no studies at Foster, Minto and Dexter to keep the funding stream going. The ODFW contract expired in April. New memory cards and batteries were installed at the antennas but the data is not being uploaded to PITTAGIS. The Bennett antennas were taken over by Whitman. Fish that were released 4/5 years ago were PIT tagged and many should be returning. **ACTION: Khan will get a cost estimate for maintaining this system.** PME doesn't have any

studies but next year, research at Foster will start up again. The memory cards should last 9 months to a year and the batteries too. The antennas can't be verified without pulling the cards. **ACTION: Mackey and Khan will meet next week to discuss adding PIT antennas maintenance to the contract.** Khan asked the ODFW contractor for an SOP to maintain the system. Kremers' crew is checking on the McKenzie antenna to make sure it is collecting data. Reis asked what would happen if the antennas are not working. Khan doesn't know because that had been part of the ODFW contract.

#### 4. Updates

4.1. North Santiam – Walker will follow up with Grenbemer on which valves need to be replaced.

4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery (valves) – Production is going well; fish health is good.

4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility (PIT system) – The first non-marked chinook was passed above Minto. 13 StW came in last week with a season total of 195 StW.

4.2. South Santiam

4.2.1. South Santiam Hatchery – Juvenile production is going well.

4.2.2. Foster Fish Facility – Juvenile production is going well. Seven StW returned last week with a season total of 69 and one non-marked Chinook.

4.2.3. River Bend Adult Release Site – The temperature at Foster is significantly different than the release site and due to the site, crews don't have the ability to temper the water. **ACTION: This topic will be discussed at HMT.** Dishman asked about the change form to hold adults until the temperature differential lessens. Walker said the change form is still pending. Couture said there are two issues: temperature restriction of 68° that would trigger holding at Foster and the difference between the truck and the release site of 7°. The dynamics of the release site doesn't allow for tempering by pumping water into the truck. Dishman would like to make sure the modifications to Foster consider tempering truck water as well at WFFDWG. Royer confirmed that the PDT is considering tempering truck water. Most of the change forms that were not reviewed were from Dexter but a couple of other issues haven't been figured out either. The change forms will be reviewed at HMT and sent out in advance. **ACTION: Couture will forward the change form that he wrote to Kruzic.** Mullan asked about the alternate release site, Gordon Road for STW release site and if that could be used instead of River Bend. Couture said both sites are adequate for release but both have the same problem for water tempering.

4.3. McKenzie –

4.3.1. McKenzie Hatchery (water supply) The canal is stable at the moment. EWEB installed an elevation gauge and the water level has been stable since. During the warm weather, the level dropped but came back up with the rain. Temperature swings have been ~10° during hot weather. Kremers reported the river was at 46.2° and 49.4° in the canal. As soon as air temperatures start to rise, the canal water temps will go up as well. Cogswell Creek was at 12 cfs but has dropped to ~4.5 cfs. The intakes are running solely on the canal by June. Twenty fish have returned to the trap. There are many fish going over Willamette Falls. The canal is 3° warmer than the river. Kruzic thinks there will be attraction problems due to the temperature differentials. Kremers said he hasn't seen anyone working on the Leaburg canal but heard that core samples were taken. FERC is still processing the plans. To get any temperature control, FERC has to allow EWEB to adjust the canal gates which FERC doesn't want to do. Completion of the repairs during 2019 is not likely. **ACTION: Mackey will invite FERC and EWEB to the next meeting.**

4.3.2. Cougar Fish Facility – Six bull trout have been transported and no chinook have returned to date.

4.3.3. Leaburg Hatchery (lease/use) – See Action item 2.1.

4.4. Middle Fork

4.4.1. Willamette Hatchery – Production is going well and crews are fin marking right now.

4.4.2. Dexter Fish Facility – Crews are preparing for next season. The trap operations will start 01 June.

4.4.3. Fall Creek Fish Facility – The Dedication Ceremony is on 23 May. To date, 61 ChS and 51 StW have been transported above the dam and 1 Pacific lamprey released downstream.

4.5. HGMP updates – The BiOp should be sent out this week. Kruzic would like to do a presentation and discussion at the next HMT to highlight some new management actions. Mackey would prefer the next WFPOM. Kruzic will be on annual leave.

4.6. WFFDWG/Research updates – RME is in the planning stage for FY20.

4.7. Water Quality updates – No update. The next meeting Flow Management and WQ meeting is the 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30.

4.8. Flow update

Sub-basin	Dam	Minimum Flow (cfs)	Current Flow (cfs)	Primary Use
North Santiam	Big Cliff	1,500	1600	steelhead spawning
South Santiam	Foster	1,100	1338	steelhead incubation
SF McKenzie	Cougar	300	2190	rearing
McKenzie	Blue River	50	491	rearing
MF Willamette	Hills Creek	400	1492	rearing
MF Willamette	Dexter	1,200	3677	rearing
MF Willamette	Fall Creek	80	209	rearing

4.9. Pinniped Update (ODFW) – ODFW has removed 34 CSL for the year. There are up to 6 CSL left in the area but most are leaving to go back to the breeding grounds. Most of the 2018 animals identified have been removed. Dishman asked for the number of SSL. Reis did not know.

4.10. Fish Counts (Bennett/Leaburg) – These counts will be ending soon. Walker put this topic back on the agenda for more discussion about how important they are to the region. Kruzic said that the continuation of these counts is in the new Bi Op as a high priority. The counts over Bennett to date are: 640 StW, 182 ad clip ChS and 53 non marked ChS.

4.11. BPA updates – No update

5. Willamette Valley Contract Status

5.1. Willamette Hatcheries (ODFW) – The COE should have the PWS to ODFW soon to start negotiations for the next the contract.

5.2. Trout (Desert Springs) – The next option year will be awarded at the end of the calendar year. Then a new contract will be written for award in FY20.

5.3. Monitoring and Evaluation (spawning surveys) - The contract was awarded to Normandeau again. Mullan asked to see a copy of the contracts. Mackey will have to check to see if the contract is available for release. Reis is interested as well.

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

6.1. 19BCL02 MFR Elevated TDG – Comments were due on 17 May but ODFW requested an extension by a week. Both NOAA and ODFW are planning on commenting.

7. **Fish Operations Plan:** WFOP homepage:

[http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette\\_Coordination/WFOP/](http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/WFOP/)

7.1. Status of WFOP

7.2. Change forms

7.2.1. 19MCK003 Fish Facility Operations (pending) – Walker took the ODFW plan and made it consistent for Cougar too. Kruzic thought that the ODFW plan was due to staffing issues. **Pending.**

8. **Task Group Updates.**

8.1. SWIFT, Flow task group (Piaskowski)- no update

8.2. Total Dissolved Gas/Maintenance Periods Task Group – Walker sent a doodle poll.

8.3. Fish Facility Task Group (Dexter Fish Facility Operations) – The meeting is scheduled for 18 June and the location is to be announced.