

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FINAL minutes for the 26 August 2020 WFPOM meeting.

The meeting was held via conference call. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Email
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### 1. Final decisions or recommendations made at this meeting.

1.1. July meeting minutes were approved.

### 2. The following documents are provided or discussed at this meeting. All documents can be found at: [http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette\\_Coordination/](http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/)

2.1. Agenda, Fish Passage O&M coordination team

2.2. Coordination forms (MOC/MFR)

### 3. Action Items

3.1. [August 20] Cougar Fish Facility - ACTION: Helms will send the male/female counts to Kremers.

3.2. [August 20] Willamette Chinook Salmon Database - ACTION: Walker will email the data and post online.

3.3. [July 20] Minto - ACTION: Kelley will set up a special meeting to discuss outplanting additional CH above the dam. *Status: Completed. The meeting did occur. Walker sent out an update via email yesterday. They are continuing to have high fish returns and want to outplant the additional fish above Minto.*

**3.4. [June 2020] Willamette Chinook Salmon Database** - ACTION: Mackey will follow up with Eppard on the meeting minutes. Status: Walker forwarded an email regarding the meeting that PME had with ODFW. The minutes were not in depth. Kelley asked when the 2019 spawning data would be available. Wertheimer supplied the report information to Walker. Walker posted the report from 2019 on the W-FPOM website but not the database. Kelley would like the 2018 and 2019 data in an excel spreadsheet rather than a report. Wertheimer is still working on the raw data from both years and then it will be posted. The 2018/2019 surveys had different CORs. *Status: Walker posted the 2018 and 2019 reports but hasn't posted the database or spreadsheets yet. The action will be changed to Walker posting the data.*

#### 4. Updates

##### 4.1. North Santiam

- 4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery – Marking has been completed. Hatchery operations are going well. Crews had to treat gill fungus which was new this year.
  - 4.1.1.1. Pipe wrap – Pipe wrap is complete. They did have to purchase some additional wrap for the corners. They are impressed so far with the results.
  - 4.1.1.2. Asphalt – A car hit a fire hydrant and a contractor came in to add asphalt around the hydrant at Marion Forks. Grenbemer wanted to add a small section in front of the storage building at Minto because the forklift gets stuck in the gravel. Grenbemer sent an email to Couture, Walker and Wertheimer but did not hear anything. Wertheimer said he was carbon copied on the email, so he didn't realize that it was an action item for him. Wertheimer will contact Grenbemer after the meeting.
- 4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility – Minto has broken a record on total number of salmon collected this year for a total of 5393, 1556 are non-marked. Brood is covered. In July, 61° temperatures caused an increase in fungus growth. Two non-marked chinook that were being held for brood were lost due to fungus. They have their first ripe female which is early and will start spawning the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. The total number of outplanted fish is 2554 out planted above Detroit. The compressor has not been returned.
  - 4.1.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed - The screen was cleaned on Thursday. The clogging has been reduced perhaps less algae than the previous month.
  - 4.1.2.2. Boom Truck – A boom truck is not onsite.

##### 4.2. South Santiam

- 4.2.1. South Santiam Hatchery – production is going well. Fish health is good and size goals are being met. The ponding configuration has been figured out.
- 4.2.2. Foster Fish Facility – collection has slowed down but fish are still holding outside the powerhouse. All brood needs have been met - 303 unmarked CH, 4961 total CH, 621 STS and some fish from Minto. Spawning starts on 09 September. Brood holding has gone well. They have been holding 1K Willamette stock but decided to outplant 500 in the Willamette and keep 250 pairs as back up.
  - 4.2.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. – the wash pump is down but it is scheduled to be repaired. The painter repainted the crowder deck and added skid resistance.
  - 4.2.2.2. Ladder and Adult Collection Issue – Mullan asked if the ladder is continuing to collect. There is a school of fish right up against the powerhouse and in the turbine tailrace. It is a typical holding pattern for this time of year. Once the fish get the urge to spawn, Boyd thinks the fish will come to the ladder.
- 4.2.3. River Bend Adult Release Site – No update.
- 4.2.4. Foster Spill Operations – the spill operation ended in early August.

#### 4.3. McKenzie

- 4.3.1. McKenzie Hatchery – They had been struggling to get brood but made it because of fish collected at Leaburg Hatchery. The mobile sorter is in place. 1200 plus fish came to the Leaburg hatchery in the last couple of months. No fish have returned to McKenzie Hatchery due to the water source problems.
  - 4.3.2. Cougar Fish Facility. – To date, 154 fish have returned to the facility. All fish were double floy tagged and released downstream. Out of those, 73 returned a second time and were released above the dam. Additionally, 3 hatchery fish returned, totaling 76 fish outplanted. Two Bull Trout and a couple of summer steelhead have been collected. **ACTION: Helms will send the male/female counts to Kremers.**
    - 4.3.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. – Helms was trying to find out if the VFD was replaced/repared but doesn't know yet.
  - 4.3.3. Leaburg Hatchery - The sorter is in place at Leaburg dam. The adjustments made to the sorter are positive but there is a lack of fish present to collect. Fish health is good but some blood fluke. Spawning is scheduled to start 14 September. Mullan wanted confirmation that the fish ODFW outplanted above Cougar Dam were hatchery fish. Kremers confirmed that they were. Out of the 300 fish, ODFW tried to split them evenly between two sites in the Upper area of the South Fork above Cougar Dam. They collected 300 pairs for brood, 181 females and 30 males were outplanted in the upper area of the south fork above Cougar dam. It is above the confluence with Roaring River. Survey crews have seen those fish. The Corps puts the fish only three miles above the dam (about 7 miles downstream from the ODFW site). Couture asked if the Corps would like to be in the conversation about the permit for DEQ. Mackey would like Walker and Ken Duncan included. The old permit expired in 2012. The DEQ permit writer is only working on the McKenzie hatcheries right now but the others will be addressed in the coming years.
- #### 4.4. Middle Fork
- 4.4.1. Willamette Hatchery – fish production is going well. When marking started, they realized that they were short, so they moved some fish back to Willamette, that had earlier been sent as ODFW production to Oxbow Hatchery. Adult holding is going well. Pre-spawn mortality has increased slightly. As previously mentioned, ODFW has 500 fish surplus at Willamette. Approximately 500 of those fish were out planted into the Middle Fork Willamette above Hills Creek Reservoir.
  - 4.4.2. Dexter Fish Facility –
    - 4.4.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.
  - 4.4.3. Fall Creek Fish Facility – 827 unmarked chinook, 64 STW and 2 PL were hauled above the dam.
    - 4.4.3.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed- the pipe lining contract will continue in October.
- 4.5. Bull trout and Oregon Chub (Taylor) – everything has been signed, submitted and moving forward.
  - 4.6. WFFDWG/Research updates (Neuenhoff) – research ranking will happen on 27 August.
  - 4.7. Water Quality updates (S. Hart) – In early August, there was high TDG due to the Big Cliff outage. Adjustments were made at Detoit Dam to the schedule because of a temperature discussion in North Santiam. There will be further discussion about the appropriate temperature targets. Mullan asked if these were the changes from 2017. Walker stated yes, but sounds like there will be future. Mullan will forward her questions to Walker that she had sent to Hart.
  - 4.8. Flow update (S. Hart) – no update
  - 4.9. Pinniped Update (ODFW) – Reis said that there was a recent decision from NOAA to allow removal of both California and Stellar sea lions below Willamette Falls. At BON, over 40 SSL are present in the tailrace. The states did receive approval for SSL removal. Sub adults will be targeted for removal while they work on the methodology. Mullan was surprised that sub adults will be targeted but supposed they could fall into the category of preventing further

recruitment which would prevent further required removal. Wertheimer said that hazing non habituated animals could help as well. FFU has been studying the efficacy of hazing and removal might interfere with that goal.

**4.10.** BPA updates – no update

**5.** HGMP BiOp T&Cs

**5.1.** Production and Biometrics – included in the hatchery production contracts.

**5.2.** Use of natural origin broodstock.

**5.2.1.** MOC: 20WVP08 Integrate Natural Origin Chinook Salmon Adults into North Santiam and McKenzie broodstock – The Corps received a letter from NMFS allowing integration of brood stock. The MOC will be removed next month. Couture reiterated that they are integrating at Minto. In the McKenzie, they just aren't getting enough NOR returns to integrated fully.

**5.3.** Bennett Counts (ODFW)

**5.4.** Lebanon Counts (USACE) – A PDT has been formed to come up with several alternatives on how to funnel the fish towards the VAKI fish counter system. Equipment installed within the ladder would be protected but any equipment outside of the ladder would be subjected to uncertain flows. The concerns of the equipment are pushing the design. Wertheimer did receive comments from ODFW and NMFS, mostly about non target species. The terms and conditions of the BiOp only require Spring Chinook counts. Wertheimer would like to do a pilot test within the south ladder. Mackey recommends creating a task group to meet separately since this will be a long discussion and update WFPOM, as needed. Several key ODFW personnel are not in the meeting today. Jundt has concerns that the decision on cost and scope was made before understanding exactly what is needed. Jundt provided comments with concerns that are about chinook not just ancillary species. Kuryachy described the two primary alternatives to install within the south ladder. Option 1- picket leads location is immediately downstream of the grating. It gives 3 feet to install the VAKI counter. Option 2 – the picket lead is installed in the gap between the bulkhead notches and the grating. A vertical pipe holder would have to be cut. The next two options are not wholly contained within the ladder. Option 3 - mounting the fish counter to the wall face and then running a picket lead to the pier in order to withstand the load from high flows. Mounting to the wall would ensure a stable anchor. Option 4 - installed upstream of the fishway in the ladder rather than on the wall. This option would require excavation and potentially, there would be access issues (see attachment for additional option details). The major differences between the in or out of ladder options is the cost. In ladder options can maximize the existing infrastructure. Outside of the ladder options require fabrication which classifies the contract as construction. A construction contract inflates the costs significantly. The two needs in this project are to guide fish toward the VAKI counter and minimize fall back. Likely, a log boom will be necessary. Mullan asked if option 4 was ruled out due to cost. Wertheimer said nothing is ruled out right now, but the decisions do need to be made soon. When FFU was at the dam for a site visit, they observed lots of debris being pulled up. Jundt said that a Section 18 prescription is applied to this ladder from USFWS. Any in ladder work that could harm species will trigger additional reviews and permissions from FERC. Jundt requested to invite USFWS to the task group.

**5.5.** Leaburg Counts (EWEB/USACE)

**5.6.** Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie River - Leaburg sorter – The sorter has changed the dynamic of the counting operation. Kremers said that there have been adjustments to the sorter and operational management to the right bank ladder. Kremers thinks that the sorter will help the pHOS. The placement has disrupted the counts. It is hard to test if the adjustments worked without fish. The counts are on the right bank ladder, but the right bank is closed while using the sorter. The right bank is open on the weekends. Total counts are 1502 unmarked CH, 1025 marked CH, not including fish that used the sorter. There is a log stuck in the right bank roll gate which attracts fish. EWEB will not try to remove the log until flows increase. Most of the fish use the right ladder: 91 lamprey on right and 2 on left. The

left bank ladder has a trigger camera. The fish have been milling about causing the camera to record constantly. Typically, the review for one passage day was about 40 minutes. With the sorter in place, a week of passage will take over 40 hours to review; one day took almost 20 hours. Once the sorter is working, the numbers can be integrated into the counts. Sachs said that they can meet the target of Chinook passage, but the incidental fish may not be counted at the same quality assurance levels. Reis said that ODFW is very interested in having the non-ESA listed species counted. Sachs has not had a conversation with Ziller about the increased review time. Romer said that ODFW is aware of the increased time but would still like all the species enumerated.

- 5.7. Improving broodstock holding at Willamette Hatchery
- 5.8. Analyze steelhead genetics (ODFW)
- 5.9. Assess future effects of hatchery summer steelhead in the North and South Santiam Rivers. (ODFW)
- 5.10. Assess genetic pedigree of Chinook salmon (up to 2019 and then every five years after) – the contract includes the South Santiam fish.
- 5.11. Assess salmon spawning above federal dams
- 5.12. Adaptively manage hatchery salmon outplanting above federal dams.
- 5.13. Willamette Chinook Salmon Database – Walker is planning on posting the data that he has from 2018 and 2019. Mullan asked if the data could be shared over emails. **ACTION: Walker will email the data and post online.**
- 5.14. Three year report for NMFS SFD. Report due 2022.

## 6. Willamette Valley Production Contracts

- 6.1. Willamette Hatcheries option year – the final option will be awarded this week.
- 6.2. Trout Production – Mackey had been looking at a MATOC for this contract. Since the last meeting the plan has changed. The Corps is now going forward with a purchase order because of cost and time. The solicitation should be coming out this week and awarded by the end of September. Walker said it is like the 2017 contract. Couture asked how this contract is different. Mackey said that it is LPTA (Lowest Price Technically Acceptable) instead of best value trade off. Until the contract is awarded, Mackey is unsure exactly how it will be awarded. Any specific questions should go to the contracting office. Mackey had been giving information that was valid until recent and recognizes that this change was last minute by the contracting office.

## 7. Coordination/Notification forms (need concurrence/discussion)

### Ongoing:

- 7.1. 20CGR01 Water supply Issues and Broodstock Collection at McKenzie Hatchery
- 7.2. 20WVP03 MOC Mitigation Trout Release Schedule ODFW 2020 (HGMP) – the Corps agreed with ODFW except eliminating the bodies of water with non-ESA listed in the HGMP. Adding those ponds gives the Corps some level of NEPA coverage. Kruzic asked if Walker will send out the letter. Walker said that the environmental coordinator would send it out and Walker would post to the website.
- 7.3. 20DET02 MFR Elevated TDG
- 7.4. 20FOS04 Passage Enumeration at Lebanon Dam

### New:

- 7.5. 20CGR04 MFR spring Chinook Mortality Cougar Fish Facility – a CH jumped out of the pre-sort pool. The gap in the cover of the pool has been fixed.
- 7.6. 20FAL02 MOC\_FCR\_AFCE\_Outage
- 7.7. 20LOP01 MFR Unit outages elevated temperatures – Increased temperatures were observed downstream including at Dexter. Reis said that there was associated mortality due to stress. Walker will add this information to the MFR.
- 7.8. 20BLU01 Ramp Rate

**8. 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/)

**8.1.** Fish facility inspections and reporting.

**9. Task Group/PDT Updates.**

**9.1.** Safety and Environmental corrections – a PDT is set up to address this. Small projects is taking this on.

**9.2.** Asbestos abatement/surveys – Willamette, Marion Forks and McKenzie hatcheries have been completed.

**9.3.** Marion Forks pipe and valves – The pipe wrapping has been successful. The Corps is still looking at long term plans. Mackey is trying to set up a PDT for non-routine hatchery maintenance.

**9.4.** McKenzie Water Supply - meeting at 1300. A PDT has been set up for the water supply.

Mullan asked for clarification on spawning surveys. Mackey said that no spawning surveys will take place this year.

McKenzie Hatchery Water Supply Task Group - Task Group meeting minutes are separate.