

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FINAL minutes for the 22 January 2020 WFPOM meeting.

The meeting was held in the Steelhead Room at the ODFW Office in Salem, OR. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Email
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On the phone: Bengtson, Gallion, Garletts, Grenbemer, Hiner, Hudson, Jones, Jundt, Kovalchuk, Kremers, Mullan, Neuenhoff, Royer, Sachs and van der Leeuw.

### 1. Final decisions and recommendations made at this meeting.

- 1.1. The edited minutes were approved. Neuenhoff wanted to add some clarity to 4.12. She was not able to attend the last meeting. For Terms and Condition (3a) assess genetic pedigree of Chinook salmon, RME was able to support the pedigree analysis for the North Santiam from 2015-2019 and collection at all traps. Piaskowski is looking for funding from CRFM but it is up to the steering team. (3b) Assess spawning above dams – Neuenhoff said that the funding has not yet been decided for the year and they are trying to support as much as they can.
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. [January 2020] Water Quality updates - ACTION: Taylor will provide Mullan some data from Kathryn Tackley on how much the TDG changes going downstream at McKenzie.

- 3.2. [January 2020] 19CGR05 MFR Unit Outage** - ACTION: Taylor will check on the status of the long term solution to this occurrence.
- 3.3. [January 2020] 20CGR01 Water supply Issues and Broodstock Collection at McKenzie Hatchery** - ACTION: Ziller will send out the electronic copy of the steep pass trap design to the group.
- 3.4. [November 2019] Terms and Conditions of the BiOp** - ACTION: Mackey will look at how to fund fish counts, removal of hatchery fish at the Leaburg Ladder to both address pHOS as well as broodstock collection for the McKenzie, the short term water supply and brood stock issues, find out if spawning surveys above the dam is CRFM or O&M, see who will fund the analysis of the genetic samples and find out about the database management by the next meeting. *Status: The meeting that would address these issues was canceled in November and December but there is another meeting next week. As soon as Mackey receives feedback from management, she will send out the information to the group.*

## 4. Updates

### 4.1. North Santiam

#### 4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery

**4.1.1.1. Valves** – The small project team recommends replacing the valves on each raceway. Walker verified that he was referring to the valves going to each individual ponds. Couture said the logic behind adding an isolation valve was so that you can work on the pipes one at a time. Right now, the entire water source has to be brought down to work on any valve. Grenbemer said that you can isolate one intake but then you would have to replace all the valves at once and it would be very difficult to find the funds for that. Mackey said that if the isolation valve cannot be added without replacing the pipe, she suggested inspecting the pipes at the same time. Couture thought the pipe inspection requires the pipe and the creek to be dry. Grenbemer and Walker have had a hard time finding someone to inspect the pipe. Walker said there may be a potential with the dive team. The access to the pipe is 6” and maybe a camera would work. Couture said that the head of the pipe has no access which is also why they need the isolation valve. Taylor has a camera from Foster. Walker thinks that the isolation valves is still the way to go and then inspect the pipe. The discussion has come full circle. FFU has an underwater camera but not with a 1/4mile cord.

**4.1.1.2. Asbestos** – Walker said that surveys are occurring at several hatcheries and doing abatement at Marion Forks but he doesn’t know the current status. Couture said that the valve replacement and the asbestos are related. The plan is to scrape the pipes but the pipes are quite old and scraping could cause small holes. After the scraping of the asbestos, the pipes may need to be replaced. ODFW engineers suggested coating the asbestos to encapsulate it which is standard at their facilities.

#### 4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility

**4.1.2.1. Compressor** – A 1970’s model compressor was brought to the facility to serve as the backup. It is a gas powered model with some battery issues. The new compressor at Big Cliff has been installed but it needs to be wired up. Grenbemer would like to know when it will be wired up so he can get the other compressor back. Walker doesn’t have an update on the date.

**4.1.2.2. AWS gate** – the initial broken gate wasn’t really fixed and then another one broke. Mechanics tried to isolate the second gate to put it back into

auto but it didn't work. The gate remains in manual. Water is coming up through the conduit of the housing. Eichmann is looking to see if it is a design flaw.

**4.1.2.3.** Juvenile Release Pipe – Walker has been in talks with Ryan McCormack about the drawings. The drawings need to have engineering stamps on them.

#### **4.2. South Santiam**

**4.2.1.** South Santiam Hatchery

**4.2.2.** Foster Fish Facility

**4.2.2.1.** Ladder and Adult Collection Issue – An SOR will be coming out soon about the special spill operation earlier than last year. Khan is still vetting the MOC with BPA and RCC. Mullan asked if there are any issues with steelhead but Taylor said it would be hard to know if that was the case.

**4.2.3.** River Bend Adult Release Site – Walker will be putting together a document on the alternatives for release sites.

#### **4.3. McKenzie**

**4.3.1.** McKenzie Hatchery (water supply) – The water supply is stable now. It has been fluctuating with rain quite a bit. Cogswell Creek was high and ended up redistributing gravel in their favor. The natural coffer dam, material that has entered the canal from Cogswell Creek, is still in place. They are taking 7 cfs out of the creek. They have 5 ponds of smolt on site for acclimation. The long term forecast has rain. They will release smolts on 3 February and then bring in the next group of smolts. Crews are getting ready to pond fry.

**4.3.2.** Cougar Fish Facility – Maintenance is ongoing and the facility will start again in mid-March. Mullan asked if they could track bull trout going through the RO. Taylor said the tracking equipment is still in place which makes the monitoring continual. There are always bull trout present. Ziller said that the antenna at the RO wasn't working but there is an antenna at the I-beams. The tailrace is being monitored but they don't know how many bull trout they missed at the RO due to the spill. Ziller stated any fish that were killed going through the RO earlier in the year would not have been detected.

**4.3.3.** Leaburg Hatchery (lease/use) – There are no lease issues and Leaburg is still being used to hold the fish for McKenzie. Mackey reported that there may be language in the WRDA bill that could facilitate disposal.

#### **4.4. Middle Fork**

**4.4.1.** Willamette Hatchery

**4.4.2.** Dexter Fish Facility

**4.4.3.** Fall Creek Fish Facility – The facility will restart in mid-March.

**4.5.** Bull trout and Oregon Chub – Taylor reported that the COE is in the early stages of a new contract.

**4.6.** WFFDWG/Research updates – PME has sent out a couple of pre-proposals to RME. The first is a study from USGS to look at prior modeling work and adding a covariant of mortality. This study will help identify different sources of mortality within the reservoir. The study has the potential to become a third year LOP survival study. The Fall Creek post-construction evaluation is an important study now that the trap is operational. The other two proposals are on copepods and those studies have already been ranked. Mullan asked if the Jim Peterson was working on these studies or a different one. Neuenhoff said it was one of the studies she mentioned.

**4.7.** Water Quality updates – Mullan asked about the location of the TDG meter at McKenzie below the RO and if there is any way of checking TDG closer to the RO. Taylor said that the

meter is not right at the dam but has data indicating that the TDG levels should be very close. **ACTION: Taylor will provide Mullan some data from Kathryn Tackley on how much the TDG changes going downstream at McKenzie.**

- 4.8. Flow update – Next week the dams will be transitioning to refill depending on inflows. Out flows will drop accordingly. Ziller asked what the refill targets are. Taylor said that there are a couple of changes at Look Out Point and Hills Creek.

Sub-basin	Dam	Minimum Flow (cfs)	Current Flow (cfs)	Primary Use
North Santiam	Big Cliff	1,200	1867	Chinook incubation
South Santiam	Foster	1,100	5405	Chinook incubation
SF McKenzie	Cougar	300	1027	Chinook incubation
McKenzie	Blue River	50	937	Chinook incubation
MF Willamette	Hills Creek	400	1025	Migration & rearing
MF Willamette	Dexter	1,200	3156	Chinook incubation
MF Willamette	Fall Creek	50	1077	Chinook incubation

- 4.9. Pinniped Update (ODFW) – No update for ODFW on Willamette Falls. At BON, the sea lion numbers have decreased. FFU monitors the tailrace for abundance. The draft 2019 ODFW sea lion management report is out.
- 4.10. Fish Counts (Bennett/Leaburg) – At Bennett, there have been 9 winter steelhead and none at Minto. There is no counting currently occurring at Leaburg. Mullan noted an increase this week of over 500 fish at the falls.
- 4.11. BPA updates – no update
- 4.12. Hatchery BiOp –Mullan asked about the pedigree studies. Neuenhoff reiterated that RME was able to support the pedigree analysis for the North Santiam for years 2015-2019 and collection at all traps from CRFM. At a minimum, collection will take place but if they can afford to do analysis for this year, they will. Mackey said that she is having discussions with management about what O&M can do to support the terms and conditions. Mullan will bring it up at RM&E because they hearing conflicting information on funding.

## 5. Willamette Valley Contract Status

- 5.1. Willamette Hatcheries (ODFW) – The option year is due in August.
- 5.2. Trout (Desert Springs) – The full 277lbs was awarded on time. A new contract will be in place late in the fiscal year. The new contract will be broader and more encompassing. Mackey explained that a multiple award task order contractor (MATOC) will allow multiple contractors to produce under the same contract. The last contract was a single contractor.
- 5.2.1. 2020 Trout Stocking Schedule – Stocking to begin week of February 3 (see change form 20WVP03 discussion)
- 5.3. Monitoring and Evaluation (spawning surveys) – This contract could change to include fish counts but the amount of money for the contract has not grown. The original Willamette BiOp required below dam spawning surveys but the 2019 BiOp specifies that the above dam spawning surveys and fish counts are a much higher priority compared to below dam surveys. Mackey said that there may need to be discussion about what can and won't be funded. Mullan said that the stakeholders for water resources at lower Bennett are looking at getting a grant for improvements and could include lower Bennett counts. Couture said that both upper and lower Bennett are video counts but lower Bennett is turned off for the winter.

- 5.3.1. USACE/ODFW Coordination (Wertheimer) – EAS is working on a draft copy of spawning survey data and the COE will send a copy to ODFW when they can. The goal is to be ready for the Science Review.

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

- 6.1. 19CGR05 MFR Unit Outage – No comments were received. Ziller asked what the long term solution is to prevent the same situation. Taylor said there has been a lot of internal discussion. The gates are open in auto and the unit was off but there was no visual check that the gates were actually open. HDC is involved to prevent this occurrence from happening again. **ACTION: Taylor will check on the status of the long term solution to this occurrence.**
- 6.2. 19DET01 MFR Rehabilitation of Spillway Gates – The reservoir was drawn down to rehabilitate the spill gates. Detroit is currently at minimum conservation pool.
- 6.3. 20CGR01 Water supply Issues and Broodstock Collection at McKenzie Hatchery – ODFW came up with a design that did not interfere with the EWEB ladder by adding the structure to the left bank fish ladder. The project is similar to the steep pass trap at the Deschutes. The water source for McKenzie won't be available until 2022 according to EWEB. The direct cost estimate is \$120K. The biggest cost is the pump rental and it may be cheaper to buy a pump. The unit can be constructed quickly. **ACTION: Ziller will send out the electronic copy of the steep pass trap design.** Couture talked to Whooshh about adding a sorter system but their cost is too high. Jundt said that NOAA needs to be involved if a Whooshh system will be used. At this time, it is not a consideration due to the cost. Without a sorting operation in place, it is likely that broodstock collection goals will be impacted, which will impact smolt releases in 2022. An additional impact will be the inability to collect adequate adult Chinook to outplant above Cougar Reservoir.
- 6.4. 20FOS01 Outage of Turbine Units – Outage to remove research equipment.
- 6.5. 20WVP01 Pool Restrictions IRRM - Hiner who works for dam safety gave an explanation for the proposed actions. Dam safety is conducting issue evaluation studies at the WV projects. The risks involved are high since several towns and cities are below. The studies look at loading in great detail like extreme flooding or seismic events. At both Hills Creek and LOP, the spill gates should be able to pass extreme flooding but the seismic testing results weren't as clear. Hills Creek is still being studied but the team is implementing some interim risk reduction measures immediately. A 10' pool restriction is recommended for Hills Creek to provide greater free board during the high pool season. This measure will give greater security during a seismic event. The pool restrictions do not impact flooding risks but do impact the summer conservation pools. The potential for consequences are very high if the reservoir goes over the top of the dam or a breach. The team is still looking for a permanent solution. LOP has been reclassified as moderate risk. During an earthquake, the spill gates could be over stressed. In order to reduce the risk, the team is recommending a pool restriction of 5' on an interim basis. Hiner stressed that these are interim risk reduction measures while they look for a long term solution. They are looking at the impacts to the Bi Op requirements and impacts to the other authorized purposes of the dams. The volume being reduced is ~3% during high flow year and during drought years, the forebay would not reach these elevations. Royer did modeling to look at the biological impacts. Temperatures were not impacted very much but TDG increased for several days. Spring months had the most significant findings. The MOC has all the detailed results. The forebay restriction would not affect the BiOp flows. Mullan asked if the restriction is in all years. Royer said yes, the maximum conservation pool elevation would be reset to this elevation. In flood years, the dam would store flood waters above that elevation but they would then prioritize the evacuation of that water over other dams. Mullan said that this will change storage levels. The ongoing study at LOP is looking at the permanent changes which could involve

operational or structural changes. Hills Creek is still being studied but on a different time scheduled.

6.6. 20WVP02 MOC\_CHS CoastFk\_LittleFallCr2020 – Change form to move some spring Chinook releases to other locations (e.g. Little Fall Creek). ODFW has wanted to do this operation for a while and the timing was right to do it this year. The fish ladder is at river mile 12 on little Fall Creek.

6.7. 20WVP03 MOC Mitigation Trout Release Schedule ODFW 2020 – Office of Counsel’s initial response is not to go above the HGMP limits. They are still reviewing the MOC. Walker understands the time window is closing. Ziller said that the basic change is ODFW taking over the fish releases into the McKenzie River. Ziller said that the river guide association was in agreement. This MOC is to create a contract modification for this operation. NOAA gave concurrence through their letter to ODFW. Kelley is working on an HMGP amendment. ODFW went through all the steps to get concurrence from NOAA. Walker said that the NOAA letter probably needs to go to the COE in addition to ODFW. The stocking schedule is coordinated with four different hatcheries. The release numbers do not go above the HGMP numbers until late in the year.

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 – Push for annual change forms due 15 February, 2020. However, change forms can be submitted at any time.

8. **Task Group Updates.**

8.1. SWIFT, Flow task group (Piaskowski)