

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FINAL minutes for the 25 March 2020 WFPOM meeting.

The meeting was held via conference call. In attendance:

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

1.1. February meeting minutes are pending NOAA review.

**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. [March 2020] Lebanon Counts – ACTION: A special WFPOM call will be scheduled.

3.2. [March 2020] Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie Leaburg Sorter- ACTION: Ziller will send the design information to Jundt.

- 3.3. [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.  
*Status: Taylor sent Walker data and a draft report that Walker will share with the group.*
- 3.4. [January 2020] 19CGR05 MFR Unit Outage** - ACTION: Taylor will check on the status of the long term solution to this occurrence. *Status: The set point for the auto gate opening under speed no load has been adjusted to 1'. Ziller asked what flow it is. Walker will look it up.*
- 3.5. [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. *Status: See 6.0.*

## 4. Updates

### 4.1. North Santiam

**4.1.1.** Marion Forks Hatchery

**4.1.2.** Minto Fish Facility – Grenbemer reported that 23 StW have returned to Minto.

Bennett counts are at 246. The Lower Bennett camera will be installed on 31 March.

**4.1.2.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. – Pierce is the POC for this activity.

**4.1.2.2.** Hopper operation – Couture submitted a job hazard analysis to the Corps. The AHA was returned without comments; Wertheimer corrected that it was approved.

**4.1.2.3.** AWS gate – The gate is in manual mode but is in criteria. With flow levels currently, they can stay in criteria with the AWS in manual.

### 4.2. South Santiam

**4.2.1.** South Santiam Hatchery – Fish health is good. StS smolts will be released on 01 April.

**4.2.2.** Foster Fish Facility - Eleven StW have been trapped and hauled to the River Bend release site. The park is closed but they have worked with the park host for access. The water is low but deep enough for release.

**4.2.2.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed –The maintenance sheet has been updated. ODFW is waiting on crane training. ODFW will be working with Foster maintenance staff to develop job processes and make sure that they are meeting all the contract criteria.

**4.2.2.2.** Ladder and Adult Collection Issue

**4.2.3.** River Bend Adult Release Site

**4.2.4.** Foster Spill Operations – Khan is working on the MOC for spill operations.

### 4.3. McKenzie

**4.3.1.** McKenzie Hatchery – Fish health has improved. The last group of springer smolts will be released next week. Kremers is trying to take advantage of any increase of water supply in timing the releases. All release groups were acclimated for one month. Wertheimer said that in light of the current situation, he would like McKenzie to release fish if good conditions are present even if the QA isn't present.

**4.3.2.** Cougar Fish Facility – The facility opened on 16 March. One bull trout was caught and transported.

**4.3.2.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.

**4.3.3.** Leaburg Hatchery

- 4.4. Middle Fork
  - 4.4.1. Willamette Hatchery – Hatchery operations are going well. Hatcheries are closed to the public.
  - 4.4.2. Dexter Fish Facility – The trap will open in the middle of May.
    - 4.4.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.
  - 4.4.3. Fall Creek Fish Facility – The facility opened on 16 March. Four StW and resident trout have returned to the trap and been transported above the dam. The dewatering flume has been replaced. The contractor replaced the crowding motor. All dam flow is currently coming from the ladder entrance. The contract to finish the remaining repairs will reinitiate after the fish upriver migration season in October.
    - 4.4.3.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.
- 4.5. Bull trout and Oregon Chub (Taylor) – ongoing.
- 4.6. WFFDWG/Research updates (Neuenhoff) – The researchers are proceeding until they are no longer allowed to in the current situation (COVID-19). In looking at passage alternatives in the Middle Fork, the contractor has requested data to inform the simulation modeling on outplant strategy for wild fish once reintroduction has taken place. Neuenhoff asked for any thoughts or suggestions to be sent to her. Mullan is working on reintroduction documents with ODFW looking at one basin at a time. The contractor is looking at Foster as the reference case. Mullan will consult with Neuenhoff after the meeting.
  - 4.6.1. Minto juvenile release pipe – This topic will go to WFFDWG.
- 4.7. Water Quality updates (S. Hart) -
- 4.8. Flow update (Scullion) – In the North and South Santiam, the flow is at 1,200 cfs and is below BiOp targets due to the dry weather. Mullan doesn't want to go below 1,200 cfs because there are a large number of steelhead trying to migrate right now.
- 4.9. Pinniped Update (ODFW) – ODFW has several land based observers at the falls and saw 1 CSL and 1 SSL. A couple of animals have gone up to the falls and turned back. Wertheimer asked if removal of CSL would occur this year. Reis received an email during the meeting saying the COVID-19 prevention procedures is preventing a trapping crew from going up there.
- 4.10. BPA updates – no updates

## 5. HGMP BiOp T&Cs

- 5.1. Production and Biometrics – included in the hatchery production contracts.
- 5.2. Use of natural origin broodstock – This topic will be discussed later in the year if the triggers are reached.
- 5.3. Bennett Counts (ODFW) – Lower Bennett monitoring will be installed on 31 March.
- 5.4. Lebanon Counts (USACE) – Wertheimer met with the City of Albany and Kruzic from NOAA. The first step is to get an MOU in place with the city for access to the north and south ladder. Wertheimer is looking at alternatives for both near and long term solutions. FFU has underwater cameras that they could use. Some longer term solutions are a count window, box system, floating weir systems, flash boards and others. Reis asked when the monitoring will be implemented. The plan is to have monitoring in place by next year but still trying for this year. Mackey said her understanding is that Kruzic is comfortable not doing the spawning surveys downstream of Foster so that the funding could be used for setting up counts. Reis asked if there is a relationship between the counts and spawning surveys. Mackey was not sure but thought that the spawning surveys would be prioritized lower and funding needs to be freed up. It may be one year without spawning surveys or counts. Jundt would like to be added with correspondence for the alternative analysis for fish count systems. Reis and Mullan would like to discuss funding priority choices. Mackey would like to use the funding for spawning surveys to get counting in place. The Corps needs different equipment for counts than spawning surveys. Once the list of alternatives is generated with

costs then it will be discussed as a region. Wertheimer shared that funding might need to span two fiscal years. **ACTION: Special WFPOM call will be scheduled for next week.**

Wertheimer will generate a list of alternatives before the meeting.

- 5.5. Leaburg Counts (EWEB/USACE) – FFU needs to have a meeting with EWEB and ODFW on download protocols. Jundt requested a meeting summary afterwards.
- 5.6. Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie River – Leaburg sorter. The Corps is working on a contract modification. ODFW met with EWEB on the regional design but found out that the review would take too long under FERC. The design was changed to a land based system with a weir that directs the fish with a pipe fence. The screen shop is ready to build, just waiting on the design. Ziller is cautiously optimistic that it will go in by the end of May. The design as the pontoon boat but it is now land based. **ACTION: Ziller will send the Leaburg sorter design information to Jundt.**
- 5.7. Improving broodstock holding at Willamette Hatchery – This continues to be submitted in the budget every year. Mackey is trying to get a charter and PDT going so the project can be broken up into smaller pieces that are more likely to get funding.
- 5.8. Analyze steelhead genetics (ODFW) – no update
- 5.9. Assess future effects of hatchery summer steelhead in the North and South Santiam Rivers. (ODFW) – no update
- 5.10. Assess genetic pedigree of Chinook salmon (up to 2019 and then every five years after) – The N. Santiam is completed. The analysis will go into the budget on a five year cycle. CRFM is looking at funding the other basins for FY20. Neuenhoff said that they are working it out internally. There is a proposal in the works that would cover pedigree above Fall Creek. Mackey said that NOAA would like Cougar prioritized. Neuenhoff said that the Fall Creek project has a direct application for passage research.
- 5.11. Assess salmon spawning above federal dams – The USACE is looking at funding.
- 5.12. Adaptively manage hatchery salmon outplanting above federal dams – No update. Mackey would like a discussion on the meaning of this term and condition to be sure the USACE understands the intent.
- 5.13. Willamette Chinook Salmon Database – The carcass survey data was sent. Neuenhoff is looking at creating a more centralized database. Sending very large files is limited due to security issues. There are several issues that need to be worked out.
- 5.14. Three year report for NMFS SFD. Report due 2022.

## 6. Willamette Valley Production Contracts

- 6.1. Willamette Hatcheries option year – A new contract will need to be in place by fiscal year 2021.
- 6.2. Trout Production – The contract should be awarded by September. After further review, the Cole Rivers trout contract will no longer be included in the Willamette trout production contract. The Cole Rivers trout production will go into the Cole Rivers contract.

## 7. Coordination/Notification forms (need concurrence/discussion) – these coordination documents have been discussed in previous meetings. There will be a new documents added to the list on holding the North and South Santiam Rivers at 1200cfs. Grenbemer asked if Green Peter will be filled. Mary Karen thinks it is too soon to tell. There is modeling but it is too soon to tell.

- 7.1. 20CGR01 Water supply Issues and Broodstock Collection at McKenzie Hatchery (ongoing)
- 7.2. 20WVP01 Pool Restrictions IRRM (ongoing) -
- 7.3. 20WVP02 MOC\_CHS CoastFk\_LittleFallCr2020 (ongoing)
- 7.4. 20WVP03 MOC Mitigation Trout Release Schedule ODFW 2020 (ongoing)
- 7.5. 20WVP04 Hills Creek Dam Ramp Refill Restrictions IRRM (ongoing)

**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 – Walker is working on the best way to convey the information in a report. Mullan asked if spreading spill at Big Cliff is in the WFOP. Walker said yes. There is a station order in effect for spill.

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

**9.1.** Safety and Environmental corrections – The results of 2018 inspections are in. A PDT has been formed to address the results/deficiencies. ODFW has addressed many of the items already but there are structural needs that need to be addressed.

**9.2.** Asbestos abatement – The contractor will start in April at Marion Forks and Willamette hatcheries for abatement. Surveys will be done at all hatcheries except South Santiam and Leaburg.

**9.3.** Marion Forks pipe and valves - Small projects working on this. One option is to replace the pipe underground pipe so that the isolation valves can be installed prior to the pond valve replacement.

**9.4.** McKenzie Water Supply – A PM has been assigned. The goal is to have some alternatives by the end of the fiscal year. Once the alternatives list is generated, WFPOM will have a discussion on best path forward.