

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: DRAFT minutes for the 28 October 2020 WFPOM meeting.

The meeting was held via conference call. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Email
Bengtson	Dustin	NWP-ODV	Dustin.E.Bengtson@usace.army.mil
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Spear	Dan	BPA	DJSpear@bpa.gov
Walker	Chris	NWP-ODT-F	Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil
Watts	Joel	ODFW	Joel.Watts@state.or.us
Wertheimer	Robert	NWP-ODT -FFU	Robert.H.Wertheimer@usace.army.mil
Ziller	Jeff	ODFW	Jeffrey.S.Ziller@state.or.us

1. Final decisions or recommendations

1.1. September meeting minutes were approved.

2. The following documents were discussed or provided at this meeting.

2.1. Agenda

2.2. Lebanon Fish Counter Presentation

3. Action Items

3.1. [October 2020] Lebanon Counts - ACTION: Wertheimer will set up a meeting to see if a counting system can be installed by 01 May.

3.2. [September 2020] Trout HGMP - ACTION: Kruzic will update trout HGMP. *Status: Mackey believes that it is now up to Kruzic to update the HGMP. Kruzic said that there are two separate proposals that need to be reconciled. Mackey said that the COE was fine with the ODFW proposal except for removing the release sites because that at least some environmental coverage for the trout program. The COE is fine with all numbers in the HGMP.*

4. Updates

4.1. North Santiam

- 4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery – The first egg group were trayed up last week. Engineering visited to examine roofs of the residences.
- 4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility – No update. Wertheimer asked for the number or rough estimate of eggs. Hinnners will follow up with Wertheimer after the meeting. Walker said that the project is borrowing a forklift to replace the one that was burnt up.
 - 4.1.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed – some post fire issues have been remedied like air filters and maintenance on the diesel. The COE has requested additional funds to address some of the bigger losses. Some inspectors came out for further safety items like burnt trees and fences. Bengtson believes that all equipment is functioning. Minto staff are getting prepared for higher debris loads this year.

4.2. South Santiam

- 4.2.1. South Santiam Hatchery
- 4.2.2. Foster Fish Facility – Crews are working the trap twice a week but checking daily. There is ongoing shocking and egg production work at the hatchery. Mullan asked if there are any fish returning to the trap. On the last report, there were a few Chinook, but Hinnners isn't sure about the most recently activity.
 - 4.2.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed – no update
- 4.2.3. River Bend Adult Release Site – no update

4.3. McKenzie

- 4.3.1. McKenzie Hatchery – Hatchery staff has finished spawning. All fish were released from Leaburg, but they were able to recapture enough females and males to spawn. They spawned 253 females. They have an estimated egg count of 1 million. Because they had to take every fish that they could get their hands on, they did get some poor-quality fish. Cogswell Creek watershed, which is the McKenzie Hatchery water source for egg incubation, has been severely burned. The hatchery is keeping about 250K eggs and will test the water supply throughout the winter. This will be the 3rd winter with the canal (the primary hatchery water supply) being down. The new (2020) adult fish sorting station at Leaburg Dam was dismantled and moved to storage on 07 October. The Leaburg Ladder Trap, the Leaburg Hatchery Trap and the McKenzie Hatchery Trap were all shut down on 09 October.
- 4.3.2. Leaburg Hatchery – Hatchery eggs have eyed up. They have sent McK ChS eggs to two other hatcheries to secure production., but Leaburg Lake (Leaburg Hatchery and Leaburg Dam fish ladder water supply) will also be drawn down when the fall and winter rains get started. Around the hatchery, they are still cleaning up fire debris. The domestic water supply has a temporary fix but Kremers isn't sure if it is functioning yet. Wertheimer asked if the collection numbers were from the Leaburg Hatchery trap or the adult fish sorting station. Kremers clarified that the collection was from the trap. The new (2020) fish sorting station did catch some adult fish but needs some tweaks. Kremers thinks the sorter will work better next year when the issues have been worked out.
- 4.3.3. Cougar Fish Facility – The facility was closed on 11 September, a couple of days after the fire started. Mullan asked about the fish in the trap. The fish were released to the river not above the dam due to the active fire. Ziller said that the Forest Service has done redd counts and found 173 redds in the South Fork downstream from Cougar Dam. Kremers said that fish from McKenzie Hatchery were outplanted above Cougar back in July. Mullan asked for the fish return numbers. The season total back to the Cougar adult fish collection facility was 168 fish, all were double Floy tagged and released downstream. Helms transported 90 fish above the dam.

4.3.3.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed – the facility still needs to be winterized for the season. A part for a pump has been ordered but hasn't arrived.

4.4. Middle Fork

4.4.1. Willamette Hatchery – Hatchery staff are working on handrails for the trout ponds. Hatchery operations are ongoing. Staff is also working on the recirculation building.

4.4.2. Dexter Fish Facility – no update.

4.4.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed – no update.

4.4.3. Fall Creek Fish Facility – The facility was closed on 15 October. Final return numbers – 834 non-marked Chinook, 520 males, 310 females and 4 jacks. Crews also transported 64 STW and 2 PL upstream. Reis asked if the ratios are typical for males to females. Garletts said yes, but last year, there were a higher number of jacks. Garletts has not heard from Oregon State about the spawning survey results.

4.4.3.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. – Pipe lining water supply contractor has arrived on site and has started working.

4.5. Bull trout and Oregon Chub (Taylor) – all documents were submitted and approved.

4.6. WFFDWG/Research updates (Neuenhoff) – no update

4.7. Water Quality updates (C. Walker) – There is a unit outage at Big Cliff causing high TDG right now, specifically between the dam and Minto. Mullan asked if the TDG monitor at Minto was lost in the fire. Walker doesn't know. He has reached out to Grembemer already but hasn't heard.

4.8. Flow update (S. Hart) – no update

4.9. Pinniped Update (ODFW/USACE) – Wertheimer said that there are 35-68 SSL per day at BON tailrace. On 15 October, crews from ODFW started removing sub-adult SSL at BON. This is a pilot study and took the animals with the lowest weights.

4.10. BPA updates – no update

4.11. Willamette Fish ladder improvements – Walker asked if the fish ladder improvements had any success. Reis said that there were some high fish numbers immediately after it was re-opened. Reis will follow up and report out next month.

5. HGMP BiOp T&Cs

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

5.2. Use of natural origin broodstock. – Walker left this topic on to get specific numbers in the minutes. McKenzie spawned 21 NOR males and 13 NOR females. They tried to spread the males out by spawning them with numerous females. They had a couple more fish that had to be released due to the fires. Mullan looked on the website and it has counts through 17 September for N. Santiam. There were 45 non marked and 400 marked reported on the website. Kelley said that she wasn't sure if that information was correct since they had to release some NORs because of the fires. Kelley reported 45 NOR were spawned at Minto. However, 10 had to be culled due to BKD and another 10 had to be culled due to tray sharing. The eggs had to be moved to Roaring River. Couture can give an updated next month.

5.2.1. MOC: 20WVP08 Integrate Natural Origin Chinook Salmon Adults into North Santiam and McKenzie broodstock

5.3. Bennett Counts (ODFW)

5.4. Lebanon Counts (USACE) – Wertheimer explained where we are at in this project before the presentation. FFU did a pilot evaluation with underwater video. The ladder was dewatered, and four cameras were installed on weir #8. There was one camera on each orifice and two covering the 3x5 slot. The scope of the project included the determination of natural or hatchery origin for spring Chinook returns. For both orifices, the imagery was good, and they were able to differentiate between origins. However, the slot was not clear. The turbidity was high and lots of bubbles. They started looking at different alternatives that they could install. After looking at several systems, they went with the VAKI Riverwatcher system for the slot.

The housing matched the size they needed for the slot. They decided then to look at funneling all the fish through the slot for one count. They came up with a couple of in-ladder alternatives. After meeting with NMFS and several others, it was concluded that there was potential that NMFS criteria would not be met with an in-ladder system. The PDT was formed to generate and evaluate alternatives. The project is getting complex and expensive. Gallion agreed with Wertheimer's assessment of the issue and added that there are also debris/sediment issues to deal with. Mullan said that Jundt who is not present at the meeting has been in contact with Kuryachy about this project. The deadline for installation is 01 May.

5.4.1. Presentation by Small Projects Team. (11:00) Kuryachy is the PM and gave an update of the project. The steel frame variant is the preferred alternative. The frame will be made from steel or aluminum and be coated to prevent corrosion. The frame will fit between the bulkhead piers and support the picket leads. Access for maintenance will be from the top. There are concerns that the amount of horizontal bracing beams on the downstream side might be too much and the angle of the funnel sides is too steep. If the angle is reduced, then the funnel will stick out further. The ease of installation and cost makes it a best alternative. It is still more expensive and complex than originally expected. The 01 May installation date is not possible. The PDT thought they could install with the ladder operating but it isn't possible. They need a hoist and design review which cannot be off the shelf type products. It will require a custom installation as well. In addition, a coffer dam will have to be built for the frame to rest on. Although the schedule has increased, Kuryachy said that it is an aggressive schedule. The 60% review is scheduled for December and the 90% in February. It will take another month to finalize documents and generate the government cost estimate. The contract solicitation will be in April and take a week to award. The NTP will be issued in June. Associated work like fabrication will be all summer of 2021. Walker asked if there is any excavation required or installation of pilings. There is a potential excavation due to need of a grout pad but no piling installation. Kelley asked for clarification of when the installation of the counting system would occur. Installation would occur in late August. Once the structure is built, it needs a welding inspection, added coating and a coating inspection. This installation is just the south ladder. Wertheimer said they can count fish through the orifice. This project is to funnel all fish through one location. Wertheimer asked if the orifice could be monitored and add the VAKI to the notch. Kelley would be fine with using cameras on the orifice and adding the VAKI to the notch if it doesn't change the dynamics of the ladder. The video review would take additional time but over time, it may save the project considerable funds. Kuryachy said that if fabrication was reduced, then it would be a considerable cost savings. Kelley said it might make sense to have a meeting with ODFW and NMFS to review the system if the box being placed in the orifice doesn't impact fish or flow. Watts said that if fish are leaping over the notch, then he would not want fish leaping onto the box. Wertheimer doesn't want to miss the opportunity to count fish this year. Kovalchuk asked for clarification on if he wants to meet with the task group to look at passage for next year while the PDT is working on a bigger system or look a different alternative to the PDTs preferred alternative. Since the PDT is at a decision-making step, Wertheimer wants to make sure that we are on the right path. Kruzic said that the schedule is difficult and wants to maintain a start date to 01 May. He would like some of the design work to be done immediately. Kruzic gave the example of the Leaburg sorter and how fast it came together. He suggested using the ODFW screen shop to save time and money. Walker said that with the current design, installation would not be until August which doesn't meet the needs of this coming year. Kuryachy said that if the frame design was an off the shelf product then it would shave off considerable time, but any design work would require the whole timeline. If there was a simplified mounting in the ladder, then there would be less time. Kelley asked if there was anyone with VAKI experience. Gallion said no, he hasn't worked

with them before. He has sent the company drawings of the ladder and has been working with them on best location for installation. A post construction study would be part of the process. Kelley asked if she should ask within her agency if anyone has used VAKI. Wertheimer would appreciate all input on the VAKI system. Kruzic asked where the VAKI would be installed. Wertheimer said that he is recommending Weir 8. FFU has been monitoring in this location already. The structure might fit well into the 3x5 but there is a small picket funnel leading to the system. It would most likely be between weirs 7 and 8. **ACTION: Wertheimer will set up a meeting to see if a counting system can be installed by 01 May.**

5.5. Leaburg Counts (EWEB/USACE)

5.6. Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie River - Leaburg sorter

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 funding used for the pedigree analysis fell through, so they had to scramble to get the contract together using a different funding source. They were successful in getting the contract. Wertheimer asked if 2020 was included in the scope. Neuenhoff believes that the contract will include 2020. The North Santiam contract is funded by FY19 money. The contract was expanded to cover all the sub basins and goes through 2020.

5.11. Assess salmon spawning above federal dams – no update

5.12. Adaptively manage hatchery salmon outplanting above federal dams.

5.13. Willamette Chinook Salmon Database.

5.14. Three year report for NMFS SFD. Report due 2022.

6. Willamette Valley Production Contracts

6.1. Willamette Hatcheries option year – The option year was awarded, and the new contract needs to be issued by the end of August of 2021.

6.2. Trout Production – The contract for 2022 deliveries was awarded to ODFW. It is a one-year contract. Walker will start on the next contract that will be awarded in calendar year 2021 for future deliveries.

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

Ongoing:

7.1. 20FOS04 Passage Enumeration at Lebanon Dam

New:

7.2. 20BCL04 MFR Turbine Unit Forced Outage-Wildfires – comments are due 05 November.

7.3. 20DET05 Downstream Fish Passage Operation – There is a change in the MOC. It states that during times of spill, station service will be operated but this is not correct. Mullan asked for clarification that there will be spill until the 1541 elevation is reached and then the RO will open. Walker said the operation starts on 01 November and water routed to the RO is considered spill. If the water is routed through the RO, then there will be no turbine operation at all.

8. Fish Operations Plan: WFOP homepage: Walker asked if people have changes to get them in sooner rather than later so the group has time to consider them.

http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/WFOP/

9. Task Group/PDT Updates.

9.1. Safety and Environmental corrections (PDT) – The PDT had a site visit and came up with a list of items to be corrected. They are trying to get funding to address the issues found.

9.2. Hatchery Non-routine maintenance/repairs (PDT) – no update.

9.3. McKenzie Water Supply (PDT) – The PDT was active last FY and still working on funding for this FY.

Next meeting is the week of Thanksgiving. Walker will be out that week. December also falls on holidays. A new meeting combining November and December will be scheduled.