

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Final minutes for the 24 May 2023 WFPOM meeting. The meeting was held via WebEx and call in.

1. Introductions and agenda updates

Last Name	First Name	Email
Couture	Ryan	Ryan.B.Couture@odfw.oregon.gov
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Wajtyna	Lee	Lee.E.Wajtyna@odfw.oregon.gov
Ziller	Jeff	Jeffrey.S.Ziller@odfw.oregon.gov

2. Approve W-FPOM minutes (February and April)

February approved

Review of the April minutes ongoing.

3. Action Items –

3.1. [May 23] ACTION: Wertheimer will get a formal update on genetic pedigree of Chinook salmon for June WFPOM.

3.2. [May 23] ACTION: Wertheimer will work to facilitate group meeting on McKenzie Water Supply Task Group/PDT.

4. Updates**4.1. North Santiam**

4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery (Couture) – Production and early rearing going well.

4.1.1.1. Marion Creek intake – (Wertheimer/Couture) USACE is seeking FY24 work plan funding to address.

4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility (Couture) – Five steelhead for a total of 64 so far, no ChS.

4.1.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. (Pierce) – Quote received for new hoists and trolley.

4.2. South Santiam

4.2.1. South Santiam Hatchery – Trout planting started, 1-3 loads going out into Quartzville Creek, Foster, Green Peter, and the North Santiam. Steelhead fry are growing well,

reservoir filled can use the upper intake, some cold water disease prevalent, we are starting treatment today. Setting ponds up to receive ChS from Willamette

- 4.2.2. Foster Fish Facility - 55 Summer, 79 winter Steelhead transported upriver, 139 Spring ChS have been collected.
 - 4.2.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. – No concerns.
- 4.2.3. Green Peter Dam outplanting/spawning surveys (Wertheimer) – Outplanted fish moved upriver after release. Working through contracting, last year’s MOD to the contract was to transport 800 HOR above Green Peter, 600 in the MF S. Santiam, and 200 in Quartzville Creek. Spawning surveys were conducted in Quartzville Creek due to issue with access in the MF S. Santiam. We are working on access to these areas replicating last year’s MOD as well as another Task Order for spawn surveys.
- 4.2.4. McKenzie Hatchery (Lee) – No fish on site due to 63-degree water temps required movement of all three ponds of brood year 2023 Chinook up to Leaburg Hatchery. Research monitoring fish were moved also.
 - 4.2.4.1. Maintenance – Rain Country Refrigeration doing a revamp of the chiller system as it is losing refrigerant. Cost of \$800-\$900 a bottle for replacement refrigerant.
- 4.2.5. Leaburg Hatchery – The first ChS were jumping in and out of the trap. Couture said there has been three in the vicinity. Modifications have been made to the trap to create better holding conditions.
- 4.2.6. Cougar Fish Facility (Helms) – Handful of trout and a few white fish. The RO has been operating which attracts fish over to the RO channel. RO is off now they expect to see some fish soon.
 - 4.2.6.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. Pierce – We are trouble shooting why the propane generator did not start during recent BPA outage.
- 4.3. Middle Fork
 - 4.3.1. Willamette Hatchery (Peck) – Marking of ChS started this week. Transferring South Santiam fish to S. Santiam tomorrow. Moving Willamette fish to Dexter next week. Fish are in good health.
 - 4.3.2. Dexter Fish Facility (Peck) – All smolts have been released, all raceways are dried up. Dexter rebuilds have been awarded.
 - 4.3.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. No update.
 - 4.3.3. Fall Creek Fish Facility (Garletts) – Facility is now operational, collection so far is 9 Spring Chinook, 50 winter steelhead, 1 Pacific Lamprey, and 1 hatchery CH that was returned to stilling basin.
 - 4.3.3.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. Crew is working on crowder issue.
- 4.4. Bull trout and Oregon Chub (Taylor) – No updates. Waiting on contracting award. Need to award to decipher final budget for the FY to be able to apply to other maintenance needs.
- 4.5. WFFDWG/Research updates (Laird) – No updates.
- 4.6. Water Quality updates (S. Hart) – No updates. Ziller mentioned there is a flow call tomorrow.
- 4.7. BPA updates – No update.
- 4.8. Pinniped Updates – (Reis) – As of 19 May, Pinniped Survey from Willamette Falls to St Johns bridge – recorded 3 ZCA at Willamette Falls and no other pinnipeds. Wertheimer-Pinnipeds have left the BON tailrace.
- 5. HGMP BiOp T&Cs
 - 5.1. Production and Biometrics – included in the hatchery production contracts.
 - 5.2. Use of natural origin broodstock.
 - 5.3. Bennett Counts (ODFW) – No update.

- 5.4. Lebanon Counts (USACE) Wertheimer – PIT detection capability is there now. Due to budget constraints does this (PIT detection) meet the intent? Need a follow-on, a task group may be the appropriate place.
- 5.5. Leaburg Counts (EWEB/USACE) –Initiating counting there. Sachs - NVR to be installed. Working on getting new cameras and fiber optic for the left bank ladder. Couture asked about funding source, counting and how it relates to the sorter operation. Couture asked about lumping sorter counts with ladder counts. Ziller added that for the 5-6 months counting with video it makes sense to incorporate sorter counts in that data stream. Couture said the video counts are not as useful when the sorter is running. Sorter operation is not going away in the short term. Perhaps add an additional objective to sorter work for video counts. Kuzic said the counting and sorting are tied together in the hatchery BIOP. Wertheimer said contracting process is the issue here as it may not be as simple as a MOD.
- 5.6. Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie River - Leaburg sorter (Ziller) - Sorter crew has been hired. Crew will be installing this week and next with a target starter date of 1 June. Will be evaluating recordings to decide when it needs to be run. They need to know what percent of hatchery fish coming over the ladder. Grates will be dropped into the Right bank for smaller fish and larger fish forced to the Left bank where the sorter will be deployed. Fish returns delayed due to colder river temps. The number of fish coming over the falls is split fairly evenly between hatchery and wild.
- 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) – No update. Trachtenberg said Ida is planning to fund some pedigree work in FY24. More to come on scope and which projects. **Action:** Wertheimer will get a formal update for June W-FPOM.
- 5.11. Assess salmon spawning above federal dams
- 5.12. Adaptively manage hatchery salmon outplanting above federal dams.
- 5.13. Willamette Chinook Salmon Database.
- 5.14. Three-year report for NMFS SFD. Completed. Reis said this has been finished and sent out. 5.14 can be *greyed out*. Kruzic wants to *reactivate* 5.2 Use of natural origin stock. If ODFW has a proposal for NOR brood, we need to review and to ensure we are meeting the BIOP. Mullan wants to know if there will be outplanting above Detroit. Kruzic said review of recent pedigree and any changes to summer outplanting need to be done. Wertheimer said we need to identify proper forum to discuss and asked for suggestions. Mullan said perhaps RM&E.
- 6. Willamette Valley Production Contracts**
- 6.1. Willamette Hatcheries (Wertheimer) – The option year has been awarded. The MOD is being developed to include outplanting above Green Peter in the Middle Fork Santiam and in Quartzville Creek, per the Injunction. Mullan asked about the number Bob said it will remain the same as last year, 800 ChS. Discussion on transfer of 172,000 juvenile CHS from production contract to RM&E to be used for trap efficiency trials is being held. Rearing space issues at Willamette could come into play as there may be an 80,000 fish overlap.
- 6.2. Trout Production (Wertheimer) – We need to award the last option year by 30 September. The Contract will be going out for bid after last option year is award. De-obligation coming in and we appear on track. Couture inquired about the 155,300 steelhead transfer to the trout contract. Wertheimer said to be discussed at the trout contract meeting tomorrow.
- 7. Coordination/Notification forms (need concurrence/discussion)**

Ongoing:

- 7.1. 21CGR02 Cougar Butterfly Valve Replacement (2024?) -No updates/comments
- 7.2. 22DEX02 MOC Fish Facility Rebuild IWW periods – No comments
- 7.3. 23WVP01 FY23 FW budget shortfall – No comments
- 7.4. 23BCL01 MFR Circuit Breaker XJ31 Outage returned on 21st at 8:23. Full repair to be done during July outage.

New:

- 7.5. 23LOP01 MOC LOP Geotech Drilling – No additional comments as of 5/26, operation will proceed as described in the MOC.

9. Task Group/PDT Updates.

- 9.1. Willamette Valley Operational Fish Passage Measures (PDT) – No updates.
- 9.2. Green Peter Out planting Task Group – No updates
 - 9.2.1. Quartzville Creek Trout stocking discussion (21P0130). No update.
- 9.3. Safety and Environmental corrections (PDT)
- 9.4. Hatchery Non-routine maintenance/repairs (PDT)
- 9.5. McKenzie Water Supply Task Group/PDT – Update on hold. *To be greyed out.* Couture said this is the time for discussion about options and alternatives moving forward. **Action:** Wertheimer will work to facilitate group meeting.
- 9.6. Willamette Basin Independent Science Review – Discussed the value of an Independent Scientific Review to assess potential trout impacts to Outplanted Spring Chinook in Quartzville Creek. This review will enhance the credibility of USACE directing actions that appear to conflict in purpose. Kruzic wants to know the intent. Wertheimer said ecological interactions and a variety of other questions. Kruzic said we need to be specific on the questions we are asking. Couture asked, is the context of the review is ESA and not litigation? Wertheimer said prior to the Injunction, outplanting of Chinook adults was not occurring in Quartzville Creek. Mullan said there are no counts or spawning surveys above Green Peter in the Middle Fork Santiam. Need to dial in the questions for this independent review. Kruzic thinks that a variety of aspects of the Hatchery Program as opposed to one aspect makes more sense for the review. A larger scope beyond the reintroduction at Green Peter with a more holistic view.

10. Fish Operations Plan: WFOP homepage:

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