

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Final minutes for the 24 July 2024 WFPOM meeting. The meeting was held via WebEx and call in.

1. Introductions and agenda updates

Last Name	First Name	Email
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Walker	Chris	Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil
Wertheimer	Bob	Robert.H.Wertheimer@usace.army.mil

2. Approve W-FPOM minutes (June)

Approved

3. Action Items

NA

4. Updates**4.1. North Santiam**

4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery - Lessard – Currently we are marking brood year 2023 spring Chinook, we had issues with some of the smaller fish last year and are using a different marking trailer, the trailer we are using this year is able to cull out some of the smaller fish. Fish are healthy and looking good overall. There are 48 of 56 ponds running, using both intakes. Due to issues with the Marion Creek intake, growth may be a concern with cooler Horn Creek water.

4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility - Couture – No update.

4.1.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. No update

4.2. South Santiam

4.2.1. South Santiam Hatchery - Couture – We are still collecting both Steelhead and Spring Chinook. There is a large number of fish holding in the tailrace. To date 2,865

summer steelhead collected, 2,304 Spring Chinook collected, only 72 NOR Chinook, all NOR Chinook were outplanted.

- 4.2.2.** Foster Fish Facility Couture – 300 pairs (300 male 300 female) of ChS have been outplanted in the Middle Fork South Santiam. 100 pairs remain to be outplanted in Quartzville Creek.
Thompson – Is there a temperature sensor in the Foster ladder?
Taylor – We do have data for the ladder, but it is not available live. Once we drop below spillway gates at Green Peter, we will have temperature drops downstream.
Couture – The Foster crew manually reads the temperature at the fish facility.
Taylor – Once we drop below spill gates at Green Peter, we will be pulling from deeper in the reservoir and temps will drop some downstream. Without a major modification to the ladder intake, temperatures will continue to be a challenge.
- 4.2.2.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. No update.
- 4.3. McKenzie**
- 4.3.1.** McKenzie Hatchery - Couture – We are in the summer dry period; the facility is dewatered. The spring Chinook have been moved to Willamette Hatchery.
- 4.3.2.** Leaburg Hatchery - Couture – We are currently operating the sorter and collecting Chinook broodstock. We are seeing low returns currently, some of which could be due to the lack of 5-year-old fish affected by the 2020 Holiday Farm wildfire. Adult broodstock is being held at Minto, we are currently short on brood and fish for outplanting.
Wertheimer – We are on track to meet production for the McKenzie for brood year 2023.
Proffitt – We had good news from marking the McKenzie, a few extra fish will be able to be moved to the Coast Fork release.
- 4.3.2.1.** Abatement pond pipe. - Walker – We are working with the small projects team, some funding is available, currently waiting on a response from small projects.
- 4.3.3.** Cougar Fish Facility - Helms – 43 Chinook and 35 summer steelhead, we have captured and transported 13 Bull trout.
- 4.3.3.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. No update.
- 4.4. Middle Fork**
- 4.4.1.** Willamette Hatchery - Proffitt – Marking is complete for Spring Chinook. For the McKenzie we ended up with 50k extra fish, this allows us to move fish from the Willamette stock out of the Coast fork release and into the Middle Fork release. We are currently marking rainbow trout, which have some cold water disease that is being treated.
- 4.4.2.** Dexter Fish Facility - Proffitt – 750 pairs of adult spring Chinook have been taken to Foster, the numbers of Chinook have been low this week, temps at Dexter have stayed cool with the draw down. The attracting water has been shifted to the south bank with the cofferdam being placed, away from the fish ladder.
Thompson – How many NOR fish have returned to Dexter?
Proffitt - 47 NOR females and 60 NOR males taken to Foster for broodstock.
Sachs – How long will the Dexter ladder be open for?
Proffitt – Until September 1st this year.
- 4.4.2.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. Dexter rebuild ongoing.
- 4.4.2.2.** Dexter Fish Facility Header Pipe
- 4.4.3.** Fall Creek Fish Facility - Helms - 190 NOR Chinook taken above the Dam and 20 Summer Steelhead returned to the tailrace.
- 4.4.3.1.** Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. No update.

- 4.5. Bull trout and Oregon Chub (Taylor)
 - 4.6. WFFDWG/Research updates. - Walker - August and September meetings canceled, meeting will be held in October.
 - 4.7. Water Quality updates. - Stewart – No update.
 - 4.8. Flow update. - Stewart – We are 70% full in Willamette. Currently augmenting mainstem flow with Lookout Point. Detroit, Big Cliff and Cougar have temperature operations ongoing. Taylor – We are not operating differently in the Middle Fork then last year, we just have more water stored this year. Warmer temps are coming, we are pulling the pool down hard now and it will look similar to what we saw last year with the draw down.
 - 4.9. BPA updates. No update.
 - 4.10. Pinniped Updates. - Wertheimer – We have less than 5 pinnipeds in the Bonneville tailrace now. In previous years the 14 of July was the earliest they returned; this was a week later then the earliest date. However, pinnipeds returning in the late summer/fall has become an issue the last few years. No Willamette Falls update (Reis)
5. HGMP BiOp T&Cs
- 5.1. Production and Biometrics – included in the hatchery production contracts.
 - 5.2. Use of natural origin broodstock. - Kruzic – We have received the proposal from ODFW, we are sending our concurrence after this meeting.
 - 5.3. Bennett Counts (ODFW) Walker – Counts will be going through October.
 - 5.4. Lebanon Counts (USACE) – PIT antenna update - Walker – Planning to repair the antenna in early fall.
 - 5.5. Leaburg Counts (EWEB/USACE) - Sachs – Counts are ongoing but are slow at this time. Currently only counting the right bank due to the sorter install.
 - 5.6. Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie River. - Romer – As of July 18th, 127 HOR broodstock collected 645 NOR Chinook over the dam, pHOS is now below 10%. A total of 2700 steelhead, we have marked some of them and had recounts from fallbacks.
 - 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) – Walker - FY24 funding available now. The agreement with OSU and USGS is now signed.
 - 5.11. Assess salmon spawning above federal dams. - Walker – Will be putting in for funding for FY25.
 - 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 2025.
6. Willamette Valley Contracts
- 6.1. Willamette Hatcheries
 - 6.1.2 ODFW SATOC (Willamette Hatcheries, bull trout PO) - Walker – Current schedule to get an agreement in place is fall 2024. No agreement in place for bull trout at this time.
 - 6.1.4 BY2023 Chinook shortfall and CWT tag purchase, otolith removal from contract? Wertheimer – 1.1m fish on hand out of a target of 1.8m. Working on options with ODFW.
Walker – We need an email from NMFS to remove otolith marking from the contract.
Lance – Will get and email back to the group.
 - 6.2. Trout Production (new contract) – Award FY24 for trout stocking (2026) Walker – The contracting office has sent a solicitation and is fielding questions from potential contractors. Couture – Is there any more information for 2025 releases?

- Walker – The 2026 solicitation has the ability for releases in 2025, funding is a different issue. For 2026 to 2030 there will be the ability to order ahead of time. We will have a formal response from the contracting office.
- 6.3.** Green Peter spawning surveys – Sachs – We have outplanted all 600 fish in the Middle Fork and will outplant in Quartzville in September. We have held our first meeting with the survey contractor, and they have submitted a work plan. If anyone has information on access to the Middle Fork, I would like to share it with the contractor.
- 7. Coordination/Notification forms (need concurrence/discussion)**
24DEX02 MFR Stock 24H release in MF Willamette – No additional comments.
24DEX03 Dexter Reservoir Boat Ramp Repair – Walker – Comments due Aug 7th.
- 9. Task Group/PDT Updates.**
- 9.1. Willamette Valley Operational Fish Passage Measures (PDT)
 - 9.2. Safety and Environmental corrections (PDT)
 - 9.3. Hatchery Non-routine maintenance/repairs (PDT)
 - 9.4. McKenzie River Hatchery Water Supplies PDT – Walker – The PDT will look at options for the McKenzie due to the removal of Leaburg Dam. We currently do not have funding but have made a request and have created a charter for a PDT that is in review. PM TBD.
 - 9.5. Willamette Basin Independent Science Review - Wertheimer – We have been talking for about a year about reaching out to the Northwest Power Planning Council on an independent science review. NWPPC is funded through congress so this would not affect O&M funding. We have shared a draft letter and have starting to get some feedback. Any interested parties should provide feedback to Wertheimer. After the August or September WFPOM we can hold a meeting to work through the process and make sure we are all aligned.
- 10. Fish Operations Plan:** WFOP homepage:
http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/WFOP/
Walker – I have sent out the comment responses. We should a meeting to work through some of the more complicated details, particularly in regards to temperature management.