

**Willamette Action Team for Ecosystem Restoration (WATER)
Steering Team Meeting
May 22, 2018**

http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/

Facilitator's Summary

ACTION	By Whom	By When
Coordinate regarding Managers Forum presentation, including follow-up with Brad Eppard.	Toby, Melissa, Marc	ASAP
Consult with Jeff Ament and Chris Budai for input on high head piped bypass presentation.	Ian and Kelly	ASAP
Consult with Diana, Anne, Melissa at NMFS for input on high head piped bypass presentation.	Kelly	ASAP
Provide feedback to Kelly and Jeff regarding the high head piped bypass presentation.	Steering Team Members	ASAP
Prepare a draft Managers Forum agenda and circulate to the Managers and Steering Team for feedback.	Donna	ASAP
Submit recommendations on the Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Plan. Contact Lawrence if your agency is willing to share comments or participate in a joint response.	Steering Team partner agencies	September 14, 2018

Participants in the Room: Joyce Casey (USACE), Ian Chane (USACE), Mike Hudson (USFWS), Marc Liverman (NMFS), Dan Spear (BPA), Kelly Reis (ODFW), Karl Weist (NPCC);

Participants on the Phone: Toby Kock (USGS), Melissa Jundt (NOAA), Tammy Mackey (USACE), Eric Peterson (USACE), Lawrence Schwabe (CTGR), Jeff Ziller (ODFW).

Facilitator: Donna Silverberg; **Summary:** Nancy Pionk, DS Consulting

Welcome and Meeting Purpose

Donna conducted a round of introductions with the group and noted that this meeting's purpose was to review and refine the Facilitator's agenda for the June 7, 2018 Managers' Forum. Team members noted that it was important to identify the strategic purpose for the agenda item and the outcome that is expected from managers. A draft facilitator's agenda was created as a result of this meeting (attached as a separate document) and this summary describes the group's discussion of agenda items, in the order listed in the draft facilitator's agenda.

High Head Forebay Collectors: The Latest and Greatest Thinking!

The group agreed that the purpose of this agenda item was to provide managers with the most up-to-date information on high head forebay collectors. The intent was to provide managers with a shared understanding of the collectors' effectiveness and efficiencies, issues, and lessons learned relative to the Cougar and Detroit decisions. Toby Kock, USGS will present on USGS data through 2017 regarding forebay collectors, including the factors that influence efficiencies and lessons learned regarding collectors that had a higher performance. Keith Kirkendell and/or Melissa Jundt will provide information on how the Lewis and Round Butte facilities are performing relative to Spring Chinook, Steelhead and

other fish (i.e. why the facilities may be performing differently for different species and any challenges relating to the different species). It was also suggested that this presentation include NMFS' criteria for surface collectors.

→ **ACTION:** Toby and Melissa will coordinate to avoid overlap in presentations. Marc/Melissa will be a resource to Toby regarding his presentation. Toby and Marc will also check-in with Brad Eppard regarding the presentations.

Cougar Downstream Passage: A Path Forward?

The group agreed that the purpose of this topic was to request that managers prioritize an evaluation of the feasibility of high head piped bypass concurrent with the current Trap and Haul design process underway. The Steering Team previously had discussed Jeff Ziller's conceptual idea of piped bypass at their May 1, 2018 meeting and agreed to elevate discussion of the concept to the Managers Forum. Today, the group agreed that the presentation should include: 1) an update by Ian clarifying the Corps' current approach; 2) Jeff's presentation of the piped bypass concept (including why); and 3) a request that the managers prioritize a tandem/concurrent approach to evaluating passage at Cougar that includes evaluation of the feasibility of piped bypass.

All agreed that the presentation should clearly articulate the importance of making a decision at this time and the biological benefits of this concept. The group noted that time was of the essence to consider the feasibility of piped bypass so that design elements (and funding) for piped bypass could be incorporated into the final structure and implemented when feasible. It was noted that cost-savings are likely if high head piped bypass could be incorporated into the structure with the current design, and it may be challenging to get funding for this concept later.

The group stressed the importance of Steering Team members preparing their managers on this topic ahead of time and encouraging them to be ready to make a decision. It was suggested that managers could also call Kelly for additional information. Ideally, managers may be able to make a decision at the 6-7-18 meeting or, if more information was needed, decide via a conference call within 4-6 weeks, or make a decision at the September Managers Forum.

All members were encouraged to provide more feedback to Kelly and Jeff regarding their presentation. It was suggested that Kelly get input from Jeff Ament and Chris Budai, project managers on the Project Delivery Team, about project details, and to anticipate cost and timing questions. Diana Dishman, Anne Mullan and Melissa Jundt at NMFS are also willing to work with Kelly regarding the biological benefits.

- **ACTION:** Ian will connect Kelly with project managers Jeff and Chris. Kelly will consult with Diana, Anne, Melissa at NMFS. All Steering Team members are encouraged to provide additional feedback to Kelly and Jeff regarding the presentation.

A View from the Air: WATER Team/Project Updates

Ian will present a handout to the managers that will provide a pictorial view of what has been accomplished in the Basin regarding downstream passage.

Brief Updates from the COE

It was suggested that Kevin Brice could provide a brief update to the managers regarding:

- Middle Fork RM&E: close the loop on the Lookout Point Deep Drawdown Authority issue and provide an update on the memoranda regarding the draft decision.
- Detroit Downstream Passage Construction: update the managers on what the Corps is hearing about economics and downstream municipal water supply issues.

- Willamette Basin Review-Provide an update on the status and timeline, including whether consultation will be folded into the re-initiation.

Federal Approach to BiOp and Litigation

The managers will share information, as they are able, regarding the current status of the litigation and the BiOp.

Willamette Falls

The group discussed the information needs for the managers regarding issues related to Willamette Falls: The team suggested managers should hear about the process and plan for the Pinniped Task Force and ODFW's latest thinking with regards to the PVA Analysis for Chinook. If time allows, updates on fish ladder status (structural performance) and Willamette Falls Lock can also be provided.

- **ACTION:** Donna will prepare a draft agenda from this discussion and circulate to the Managers and Steering Team for feedback.

Request for Recommendations to Amend NPCC's 2014 Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Program

Karl Wiest circulated this Request for Recommendations among Steering Team members, which is part of the Power Plan update. He noted that the amendment period closes on 9/14/2018 and the program must be adopted by 9/14/19. The Fish and Wildlife Program currently has a sentence about the Willamette BiOp and this amendment period is an opportunity to enhance or alter the language in the program. There is currently \$800K funding in the program for HTT to prioritize habitat. Comments by the federal agencies and tribes take precedence. Lawrence indicated that the tribes usually submit comments; if other agencies are considering submitting comments, he is willing to take the lead on coordinating a joint response

- **ACTION:** Steering Team partners should submit any recommendations on the Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Plan by September 14, 2018. Contact Lawrence if your agency is willing to share comments or participate in a joint response.

Agenda Topics for June 5, 2018 Steering Team Meeting

- Budget overview for FY18
- TDG in North Santiam
- FY 19 RM&E Planning Tables
- WATER Guidelines Review
- Managers Forum agenda check-in (if necessary)
- PVA information by NMFS/ODFW

With that, Donna thanked the group and adjourned the meeting.

The next Steering Team meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2018 from 12:30-4:30. Location TBD.

This summary is respectfully submitted by DS Consulting. Suggested edits are welcome and can be sent to nancy@dsconsult.co