

WATER Steering Team Meeting
Tuesday, January 7, 2020
Fireside Room, USACE Portland District

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

FINAL Facilitator's Summary
[ODFW provided edits]

ACTION	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?
Resend April and October 2019 Manager Forum meeting summaries to Steering Team.	Nancy	ASAP
Request edits on the April and October 2019 Manager Forum meeting summaries from Managers; send edits to Nancy (nancy@dsconsult.co).	Steering Team	February 4, 2020

Participants in the room or on the phone (for all or part of the meeting): Ian Chane (USACE), Brad Eppard (USACE), Nancy Gramlich (ODEQ), Marc Liverman (NMFS), Dan Spear (BPA), Kelly Reis (ODFW), Lawrence Schwabe (CTGR), Karl Weist (NPCC).

Facilitator & Summary: Nancy Pionk, DS Consulting.

Welcome, Introductions, & Housekeeping

Facilitator, Nancy Pionk, welcomed the group to the meeting and conducted a round of introductions. Steering Team members approved the November 5, 2019 meeting summary.

Additional time was requested to review the April and October 2019 Managers Forum meeting summaries with managers. Nancy will resend the summaries to Steering Team members. They will review and provide any suggested edits or comments by February 4.

- **ACTION: Nancy will resend the April 2019 and October 2019 Managers Forum meeting summaries to Steering Team members. Steering Team members will provide edits by February 4.**

Updates on FY20 Planning

Brad reported that the Corps has requests for proposals out for some RM&E studies; however, due to the holiday break, he was not able to confirm specifics with Fenton. Brad confirmed that the contracting is in process for the wild fish surrogate program.

FY20 Budget Update

Ian provided an update on the FY20 Budget (see handout titled *CRFM Budget Master 12_11_19*, a separate document). He noted that the total budget for FY20 is \$27.4 Million; this includes \$5.8 Million in carry-over funding. The specific breakdown is as follows:

- \$2 Million for Detroit Downstream Passage design work
- \$3.5 Million for Foster Fish Weir repair
- \$1 Million for the Foster Adult Fish Facility
- \$3 Million for Cougar Downstream Passage
- \$300,000 for Cougar Downstream Passage Alternative Re-evaluation
- \$400,000 for Fall Creek Adult Fish Facility
- \$2 Million for High Head Bypass Prototype

- \$5,268,000 for SYS- RM&E
- \$958,449 for Program Coordination.

These budget allocations are subject to change; the CRSO project will be requesting more funding (approximately \$3 Million) and funding may be shifted from the Willamette budget (most likely RM&E funds) to the CRSO. Ian noted that the group should continue to identify study proposals as there may be opportunities for additional funding in the future. He also noted that they expect to have an update on the reallocation of line items shortly (as discussed by Kevin Brice at the October 2019 Managers Forum). Ian noted that the Corps has been considering funding of the HGMPs, and current thinking is that the spawning ground surveys would be funded through Hatchery O & M.

Finally, Ian noted that the Corps is also working to refine the FY21 Budget and develop the FY22 Budget. Ian will report back to the group regarding any changes or additional budget allocations at the February Steering Team meeting.

WATER Process Planning

Steering Team members reviewed and discussed a draft template for a 2020 WATER meeting plan (see *WATER-Annual Work Calendar 2020 Draft Plan*, a separate document). The group discussed when to schedule the Spring Managers Forum; one proposal was to schedule it in March to update Managers on the Presidents FY21 budget (which is expected to be released in February). It was suggested that this information could also be provided by email if there were no other topics ripe for a Managers meeting. The group agreed to revisit this question at the February Steering Team meeting.

Other calendar considerations that the group discussed included:

- Next steps regarding the Middle Fork Check-in. It was noted that several structured decision-making workshops are scheduled for 2020. Ian said that the next area of focus will be the FY21 decision point and that the teams can continue to provide updates to the Managers on the Middle Fork in 2020.
- With regard to RM&E planning for FY21, Brad suggested that it may be premature to begin planning in March and that April may be more realistic.
- Karl noted that the Solicitation Announcement for FY21 Habitat Technical Team Projects will be out on January 10 and that key dates could be added to the work calendar.

As next steps, DS Consulting will revise the work calendar and ask the RM&E team to review and provide input.

Regional Updates

- BPA – Nothing to report.
- CTGR – Nothing to report.
- NMFS - Marc reported that the hearing on the Motion for Summary Judgment in the pending BiOp litigation is scheduled for February 19, 2020.
- NPCC – See notes on Solicitation Announcement of Habitat Technical Team projects above. The solicitation will include projects in the mainstem and tributaries.
- ODEQ – Nancy reported that EPA denied approval of the mercury TMDL and has released its own TMDL which is currently open for public comment; the EPA's TMDL provides more production for certain areas.
- ODFW – Kelly reported that the FY22 solicitation for Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program opens February 3, 2020. There is also a water supply issue at the McKenzie Hatchery and an interim measure is being considered to collect fish at Leaburg Dam.

ODFW will be coordinating with Tammy Mackey on a cost estimate for the interim measure.

- USACE – Ian reported that due to repairs to the spillway gate at Detroit Dam, the reservoir elevation will be lower than normal. For dam safety, interim restrictions have also been imposed at Lookout Point (5 feet below normal) and Hills Creek (10 feet below normal). The summer conservation pool will also be lower than normal. This is not expected to have a significant impact based on the current forecast. Additionally, the Corps will be proposing interim operation measures for FY20 at Foster, while efforts to repair the weir and ladder are continuing

Closing and Next Steps

Steering Team members noted that the Willamette Basin Science Review is scheduled for February 11-12 and suggested that at the March Steering Team meeting, team members could discuss key takeaways for the region from the review.

With that, Nancy thanked the Steering Team and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Steering Team meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2020.

*This summary is respectfully submitted by the impartial facilitation team at DS Consulting.
Suggested edits are welcome and can be sent to Nancy@dsconsult.co*