

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Final minutes for the 30 September 2014 Willamette FPT meeting.

The meeting was held at COMMISSION ROOM, ODFW HQ. 4034 FAIRVIEW INDUSTRIAL DRIVE SE SALEM, OR 97302. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Phone number
Adams	Jim	NWP	503-808-4742
Ament	Jeff	NWP	503-808-4713
Askelson	Sean	NWP	
Budai	Chris	NWP	
Burchfield	Stephanie	NOAA Fisheries	503-736-4720
Graham-Hudson	Bernadette	ODFW	
Griffith	Dave	NWP	503-808-4773
Jundt	Melissa	NOAA Fisheries	503-231-2187
Khan	Fenton	NWP	503-808-4777
Kuhn	Karen	NWP	503-808-4897
Monzyk	Fred	ODFW	
Peterson	Christine	BPA	
Richards	Natalie	NWP	
Ruff	Jim	NWPPC	
Scott	Shane	NWRP	
Taylor	Greg	NWP-WVP	
Walker	Chris	NWP	503-808-4305
Warner	Kathryn	NWP	503-808-4885
Wertheimer	Bob	NWP	
Wills	David	USFWS	360-604-2500

Askelson, Budai, Warner, Peterson, Richards, Walker, Wertheimer, Wills called in.

### 1. Finalized results from this meeting.

1.1. August meeting minutes were approved? Burchfield said she has comments or clarifications for the minutes. **ACTION:** Burchfield will send edits to the minutes to Griffith and Mackey.

1.2.

2. All documents may be found at [http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette\\_Coordination/Willamette%20FPT/](http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/Willamette%20FPT/)

### 3. Action Items.

3.1. [Jul 14] DET Temp/DSP. **ACTION:** Ament will send out a packet of information to the FPT when it becomes available. FPT will have a discussion at a later meeting. **STATUS:** *still working on this item.- will include on Oct FPT agenda*

3.2. [Jul 14] Mods for Minto and Foster. **ACTION:** Griffith will send out a list of proposed mods for the two facilities. **STATUS:** *carry over to next month.*

3.3. [Aug 14] FCR AFF. **ACTION:** Griffith will check with Lightner and Leonhardt about getting this issue buttoned up. **STATUS:** *NOAA is reviewing SLOPES application.*

3.4. [Aug 14] FOS AFF. Burchfield said Ed Meyer had some suggestions but she couldn't remember them off the top of her head. **ACTION:** Griffith will follow up with Meyer. **STATUS:** *carry over to next month.*

3.5. [Aug 14] High head by-pass. Jundt said it would be helpful to clarify how the proposed bypass is different than a criteria by-pass. **ACTION:** Phillips said the team can look at adding a table

showing the criteria and which are or are not being met. **STATUS: Khan said the 90% report was sent out but the table wasn't included. Khan will send it later.**

- 3.6. [Aug 14] HHBP. Burchfield asked NWP to lay out what the steps are and how long the process will take. Ament suggested the path forward is dependent on results. Burchfield said a biologist can write up such plans. At this point Ament suggested Khan could write it up and Wertheimer said a simple flow chart could be drafted. **ACTION: Khan will write t his all up. STATUS: This is included in the 90% report.**
  - 3.7. [Aug 14] **Outplanting at Cougar.** Griffith asked about outplanting females at Cougar. Garletts said only repeat offenders are double floy-tagged and taken upstream. **ACTION: Griffith will contact ODFW and find out the details. STATUS: 121 males, 117 females above. 213 fish have come back to the facility. ODFW<sup>[SB1]</sup> said 317 hatchery females were also released above Cougar and x males? Taylor will send out a spreadsheet.**
  - 3.8. [Aug 14] **Adult Outplanting.** Traylor is working on a standardized spreadsheet for reporting adult numbers. **ACTION: Traylor will provide a draft for review by mid September. STATUS: NWP will put together a straw-man data sheet to track all of the adult returns. This will be carried over until next month.**
  - 3.9. [Sep 14] Review of August meeting minutes. **ACTION: Burchfield will send edits to the minutes to Griffith and Mackey.**
  - 3.10. [Sep 14]. Minto/ FOS AFF. **ACTION: Budai will send a list of contract mods to Griffith.**
  - 3.11. [Sep 14] HHBP. **ACTION: Khan will send study proposal for FPT review in October.**
  - 3.12. [Sep 14] FCR drawdown. **ACTION: Taylor will convene a smaller group to discuss the fine-tuning of the drawdown.**
  - 3.13. [Sep 14] Fall Creek drawdown. **ACTION: Griffith will send out the presentation with the meeting minutes.**
  - 3.14. [Sep 14] **Turbine Rehab/Fish Friendly Turbines.** The group discussed the possibilities of improving turbine survival. Griffith noted that the Foster turbine mortality study found that these are the second worst Kaplan turbines in the Northwest for juvenile fish survival. **ACTION: Petersen will find out where Foster is on the rehab schedule and report back.**
  - 3.15. [Sep 14] Foster Downstream Passage. **ACTION: ODFW and NMFS will provide more official comments on FOS DSP in a couple of weeks (17OCT14)**
  - 3.16. [Sep 14] Dam passage and concrete survival. Survival estimates for fry seem much lower than what was observed during the tower construction monitoring. **ACTION: Greg Taylor will look for the data collected during the drawdown for tower construction**
  - 3.17. [Sep 14] Field trip to the Clackamas to view fish passage facility improvements. **ACTION: Jundt to look at best dates.**
4. **PDT Updates. (more detailed handouts are available on the website)**
- 4.1. FCR AFF. Richards reported the team is working on the comments. The plan is still issuing a notice to proceed in May 2015. Burchfield said she sent comments on the 30% Plans and Specs.
  - 4.2. DET Temp/DSP. Ament reported NWP is working with HDR on the contract. October will likely be the earliest for FPT review of the data. Dam safety has provided some direction for the temperature control structure. The stand alone structure could go forward and the plan is to figure out how to design it. The team is still working on the cost estimates for both stand alone and an attached structure. FSO = floating surface outlet. FSS = floating surface screen. Askelson asked if everyone understood the alternatives. Burchfield said she wanted to make sure the fish passage alternatives included some that were plumbed to the SWS. Askelson said the team is looking at the possibility of including a screen structure but it will depend on loads and resistance to the loads. He talked through some of the potential difficulties with stand alone and attached structures. **This will be a larger discussion item for the October FPT meeting.**
  - 4.3. DEX AFF. Corps responses to 90% comments have been sent back to NMFS. As reported previously, the Corps has decided to shelve the Dexter adult facility rebuild plans until further notice.
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- 4.4. FOS AFF.** Budai reported the contractor is finishing the seeding and planting. A follow-on contract is in the works. The scope of work was due on 30 September. The team expects the work to be completed in Spring 2015. **ACTION: Budai will send a list of contract mods for Foster and Minto to Griffith, who will distribute to FPT.**
- 4.5. FOS DSP.** In-depth discussion later in the agenda.
- 4.6. HHBP.** The full 90% alternatives report has been sent out to FPT. Comments are due on 10 October. Khan said the appendices were sent separately. Burchfield said three weeks is not enough review time, and she expects NMFS' comments to be about a week late. She appreciates NWP accommodating the late comments from NOAA. Khan said the test study plan is coming in the next two weeks, and he will send out for review in October. He recommended the study plan be included as a separate agenda item at a future FPT. Taylor asked for a quick review of what kind of study test is planned. Khan said the team is looking at using a Normandeau study design and testing four pipes at different pool elevations. Fish would be collected downstream and examined for injury. The first step is to get fish through the four bypass pipes. The study would be conducted before the end of the June. **ACTION: Khan will send study proposal for FPT review in October.**
- 4.7. MFW Temp/DSP.** Ament reported there was a meeting on 11 September to discuss temperature targets for the MFW. Ament said the temperatures coming out of Hills Creek are likely now creating a thermal block for adult migration. One alternative that came out of the Sept 11 meeting was to use Hills Creek for temperature control, improving the habitat in the MFW above LOP, and then providing downstream passage at LOP. Jundt asked if fish would still be put above Hills Creek. Taylor said there are reasons for putting fish above Hills Creek. He also said that it would be really difficult to attain spawning temperatures below Dexter even with SWS at Hills Creek and LOP, and that area wasn't used historically for salmon spawning. Ruff asked if Hills Creek is one of the projects that NWP lacks authority to put in temperature control. Ament said NWP lacks authority to put in temperature control at any project but that doesn't mean we couldn't pursue getting authority.
- 4.8. Minto.** Budai said the completion date of December may be at risk.
- 4.9. PFFC.** Budai reported that the in-house team is working to get a contract together and awarded so work could be started in the December/January timeframe. The goal is to have the facility available for operation in February. The major issues are the focus right now. Wertheimer asked about the re-positioning and getting the structure to the original design. He wanted to know if the re-positioning will occur first and then what steps will be taken to return the PFFC to original design. Budai said the two contracts will be combined so re-positioning will occur after the PFFC has been retro-fitted. The anchors for re-positioning will be installed while the PFFC is getting retro-fitted. Budai added that in-house dive team will not be available so that work will need to be contracted. Taylor said they are collecting a few Chinook as water temperatures are dropping, but the holding module of the PFFC is too warm, so fish are dying. He is trying a simple fix that would move the pump to pull water from deeper in the reservoir to get cooler water. Griffith stated that with the uncertainties around the follow on work the RM&E will need to be adaptive and that at this point it is likely there will only be the trap monitoring and PIT tag releases (no JSATS).
- 5. Fall Creek Drawdown.** Document WATER concurrence with operation. Griffith asked if anyone objected to the drawdown. There was no objection but the NMFS and ODFW want to see other passage actions during other times of the year to allow fish to outmigrate during spring and early fall. Wertheimer noted that the population seems to be adapting to the local conditions, and at pre-project levels, and since there are bigger issues to address in the BiOp further improvement to FCR is likely to not be as high a priority. Burchfield agreed with the priority of other passage structures first but she would still like to see further improvements passage at Fall Creek. Burchfield didn't feel that the current passage was the most ideal situation, and wanted to make sure the notes reflect that. Taylor said he feels that the operation may be fine tuned. He said there will always be an element that relies on environmental conditions but lessons have been learned over the years. Oregon requested monitoring of the impacts of flushing predators downstream, which the Corps is currently doing
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through the O&M Fish and Wildlife program (Taylor). **ACTION:** Taylor will convene a smaller group to discuss the fine-tuning of the drawdown.

**5.1.** Kathryn Warner joined the meeting and provided a presentation. The conclusions: the drawdown operation has improved the downstream fish passage especially with the larger openings and discharge rates. The fish move out quickly during the drawdown and the non-native fish populations have been reduced. NWP recommends this become a permanent operation. The EA is out for public comment. The Water Quality plan would be updated after the public comment period. Monitoring will be funding dependent. Griffith asked what documentation is needed from the FPT for concurrence. Kathryn said the meeting minutes or a memo would suffice. **ACTION:** Griffith will send out the presentation with the meeting minutes. See attachment.

**6. Foster Downstream Passage.** Kuhn and Adams presented on the current Foster structural and operational downstream passage alternatives that were sent out by F. Kahn (see attached). Foster PDT was looking for feedback on both. In general the feedback from WATER was that there was both insufficient time to review the package, a lack of agency engagement in developing alternatives, and a lack of detail to provide meaningful feedback. Adams also pointed out that the “alternatives” are actually measures that will be combined into the preferred alternative for taking to the DDR phase. Notable details from discussion:

**6.1. FSC NMFS** would like to know the scale of this alternative (PFFC vs. Baker sized FSC). USACE has not developed this info.

**6.2. Modify Fish Weir NMFS** – Need more detail on measures and would be good to be more engaged on development of measures. USACE – Details will be developed in DDR. NMFS – Strongly disagrees with details being developed in DDR after preferred alternative is selected. NWPPCC – Is the weir adjustable? USACE – Yes, different combinations of stop logs can adjust the weir elevation.

**6.3.** The group discussed the possibilities of improving turbine survival. Griffith noted that the Foster turbine mortality study found that these are the second worst Kaplan turbines in the Northwest for juvenile fish survival. **ACTION:** Petersen will find out where Foster is on the rehab schedule and report back.

**6.4. Change Turbine Priority.** Already being done under an electrical reliability upgrade. Turbine #2 priority has improvements for both upstream and downstream passage. For upstream passage it has the turbine discharge adjacent to the main fish ladder entrance. For downstream passage it likely reduces entrainment risk into the AFF FWS by establishing a sweeping velocity on the trashrack louvers. Also will help reduce trashrack debris loading. Using Turbine #2 (closest to Spillway #4 where fish weir is installed) can be used for attraction flow towards the active fish weir. Unclear if this is an alternative that the PDT needs to further develop since it is already being done.

**6.5.** Griffith asked whether the team is examining using bay 4 as a regular spillbay for passing fish at low pool and only installing the weir during high pool. This is based off of recent HA study results. Kuhn replied there is not currently an alternative looking at directing more fish to the weir or spillway.

**6.6.** NMFS asked if the team was examining a spill only alternative. Jundt recommended the PDT add an alternative that would shut off the turbines for four months in the spring, and spill only.

**6.7. Evaluation Criteria.** PDT presented the evaluation criteria table and asked for FPT feedback.

**6.7.1. General feedback:**

- A. Need to be explicit about how the measures will be combined
- B. ODFW- How will the categories be weighted?
- C. Biological criteria are too broad and lack detail

**6.8.** Group then discussed how to proceed

**6.8.1. ACTION:** ODFW and NMFS will provide more official comments on FOS DSP in a couple of weeks (17OCT14)

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7. **CGR Downstream Passage.** Fish Benefit Workbook Run of River Simulation.
    - 7.1. **Simulation back ground** – PDT asked by COP to explore year round run of river simulation. This would be an operation similar to what is done at Mud Mountain Dam on the White River, WA. Reservoir would be maintained at a level of ~1300 ft MSL except when catching flood flows.
    - 7.2. **After USACE presentation FPT discussed and provided feedback on the parameters and model**
      - 7.2.1. **Run timing and life histories**
        - A. Will be very different from current dam passage
        - B. Need to carefully consider fry/sub run timing
        - C. With lack of better info model should use head of reservoir timing
      - 7.2.2. **Dam Passage and Concrete Survival**
        - A. Survival estimates for fry seem much lower than what was observed during the tower construction monitoring **ACTION: Greg Taylor will look for the data collected during the drawdown for tower construction**
        - B. Model assigns passage to flows which has a strong positive relationship to elevation and hence a negative relationship with survival. DPE (dam passage efficiency) should be increased to 90% at base flows.
        - C. Fish that don't initially pass as dam catches flood would likely "keg up" until pool was evacuated to lower level
        - D. Griffith suggested looking at passage rates tied to elevation rather than flow
  8. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**
    - 8.1. Team should look into a field trip to the Clackamas to see recent improvements to up and downstream passage facilities **ACTION: Melissa Jundt to look at best dates.**
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