CENWP-OD 04 August 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: DRAFT minutes for the 04 August 2015 Willamette FPT meeting.

The meeting was held at the 3B Conference Room in NWP Headquarters at Block 300, Portland OR. In attendance:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Last** | **First** | **Agency** | **Phone number** |
| Adams | Jim | NWP |  |
| Askelson | Sean | NWP |  |
| Brown | Jeff | NOAA Fisheries |  |
| Burchfield | Stephanie | NOAA Fisheries | 503-736-4720 |
| Chane | Ian | NWP |  |
| Hall | Elizabeth | NWP-WVP |  |
| Helms | Chad | NWP-WVP |  |
| Jundt | Melissa | NOAA Fisheries |  |
| Khan | Fenton | NWP |  |
| Kuhn | Karen | NWP |  |
| Mackey | Tammy | NWP |  |
| McAfee | Nicholas | NWP - intern |  |
| McCurdy | Derek | NWP |  |
| Monzyk | Fred | ODFW |  |
| Patel | Ribha | NWP |  |
| Petersen | Christine | BPA |  |
| Piaskowski | Rich | NWP |  |
| Prusi | Joel | NWP |  |
| Richards | Natalie | NWP |  |
| Schlenker | Steve | NWP |  |
| Schwabe | Lawrence | Grande Ronde |  |
| Scott | Shane | PPC |  |

Hall, Monzyk, Petersen, Schwabe, Scott called in.

1. **Finalized results from this meeting.**
   1. **Fall Creek 90% Plans and Specs -** The PDT will take the comments from the Region and review or re-design some aspects of the AFF. Comments are due to the Corps by 24 August.
      1. PDT will consider different design for cleaning ladder system (screens/racks).
      2. Add spray nozzles to entrance of pipes to sort pools.
      3. Add inspection ports on helix.
2. (150804 FPT part 1 audio file) **Fall Creek Adult Fish Facility 90% Plans & Specs Review – “Plan-in-Hand” meeting to provide an overview to facilitate WATER review of the 90% package.**
   1. Schlenker walked through the design of the AFF.
   2. The dewatering screens are currently cleaned about once a month. It is anticipated that the new screens would be cleaned twice a month. This would require dewatering the fish ladder. Dewatering the ladder should not be required during the fish passage season, so this was not seen as a reasonable action by Regional reps. Chane noted that the flow in the river is coming through the facility. Richards recommended taking this issue back to the PDT to figure out a reasonable solution. The PDT meets on 6 August.
   3. FPT discussed potential solutions such as building a bypass and including a debris screen in the pipe, as well as ways to clean that screen. The concerns about juveniles getting caught in the water supply came up, however NMFS noted that is a secondary concern since monitoring indicates very few juveniles enter the water supply intake (Fish Horns). Further discussion stressed the need to focus on how to address screen cleaning and reducing the need/frequency of dewatering the facility for cleaning to avoid impacts adults and other fish using the ladder.
   4. Distance from the fish handling station to the holding tank pipe: Jeff deferred to WVP bios but he had concerns about having to hand carry the fish rather than sliding them. The WVP bios suggested it provides more flexibility and works well at Cougar. There is still the option of bypassing the anesthetic tank if needed in the future.
   5. Fish horns will be refurbished between October 2015 and January 2016.
   6. Burchfield noted it is important to consider the need for flexibility for potential future improvements for juvenile fish passage. If the annual reservoir drawdown is found not to be sufficient for juvenile downstream passage sometime in the future, then considering a different system, including use of the Fish Horns may need to be considered.

**BREAK**

1. (150804 FPT part 2 audio file) **Foster Dam Downstream Fish Passage EDR 30% discussion.**
   1. Adams thanked everyone for providing comments. Those comments will help modify the report. There will be formal responses to each comment.
   2. Burchfield asked about the idea of an imbedded NOAA person to work on the alternatives. Chane said that the decision is resting with upper level management. Burchfield expressed concern about the timeliness of getting that decision before the 60% report is completed.
   3. Burchfield asked about the bypass channels. Adams said the channels will be included as a potential alternative. The 60% report will include the evaluation of alternatives and a preferred alternative. Burchfield asked about how this alternative was developed. Adams said it came from a design charette. He noted that we do not have data on such a design but there was rumor that a similar structure is being planned at Cle Elum dam. Khan noted that there will be a presentation on this at the 2015 Annual AFS meeting. He will get a copy of the presentation and provide it to FPT.
   4. Chane brought up the comments on screening. He said there are the big four… Jundt interjected that this is a very different structure. Chane said he believes we should follow the BiOp. Jundt said she feels NWP is making assumptions about how expensive the facility might be. Chane said he feels this is a fairly cost effective fix and is successful on the Columbia. Burchfield said she is concerned NWP might spend money on something they will later regret. Jundt said she feels we will have to agree to disagree and that it would be responsible to look at a range of alternatives. Piaskowski noted that the COP has looked at costs for a range of passage alternatives, and noted Foster Dam is a run-of river project similar to the Columbia dams where we have successfully improved juvenile fish passage via spill weirs. Jundt reiterated that she does not believe there is a range of alternatives on the table.
   5. Piaskowski asked if there are concerns with the alternatives that are on the table. Burchfield said we do not have the data. We didn’t have a good year for testing the spillway but it may be that we wouldn’t need to modify the weir. Khan said right now the data is pointing to a structural fix. Jundt said she isn’t going to argue with NWP anymore; her comment still stands and she wants it in the record.
   6. Chane said we are looking at operations and weir mods. There may be a good combination. Burchfield said if the data shows really good passage with a weir then that is great but she believes “really good passage” is defined differently by NOAA and by NWP.
   7. Adams noted that the 30% report is not committing to any one alternative. The 60% will be completed in September and be ready for discussion at the 6 October FPT meeting. However, studies are ongoing, and Adams said choosing a preferred alternative could be delayed if additional data is deemed important.
   8. Khan added that the data collection is being done with the idea that the current conditions may be the future conditions. Jundt asked about future actions if flows were to be low again. Khan said the plan would need regional concurrence but an idea might be to shutdown a turbine unit to run the spillbay weir.