

**Willamette Action Team for Ecosystem Restoration (WATER)
Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E)**

April 25, 2019

http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/Willamette%20RME/RME.html

FINAL Facilitator's Summary

[Edits provided by Corps, NMFS]

ACTION	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?
Send out briefing materials for the Managers Forum to the Managers and Steering Team	Emily	4/25
Provide edits to the 3/28/19 and 4/9/19 meeting summaries	RM&E Team	5/3
Provide RM&E team with data on spill at LOP	Fenton	ASAP
Follow-up on Action Steps related to FY19 Sub-basin Planning Chart Update (see table below).	RM&E Team	ASAP

Document Review Tracking ([Click here for Master "tracking" Spreadsheet](#))

Document Name	Document Type	Comments Due By	Comments received / forthcoming from
Investigation of spring Chinook salmon fish passage alternatives for the Middle Fork (APH 19-01 MF)	Status: Request for proposal has been sent out.		
Evaluation of Foster Adult Fish Trap Performance, 2019 (APH-15-05-FOS)	Pre-Proposal	November 2	CTGR, ODFW and NMFS
	Status: On hold; PDT presented on design fixes at 3/5/19 WFFDWG meeting.		
Evaluation of Foster Adult Holding and Transport (APH -19-XX-FOS)	Concept	November 30	NMFS provided comments
	Status: Comments suggested revising concept to a "synthesis"; Corps is identifying researcher to conduct syntheses. Revised concept needs ranking by Steering Team.		
Evaluation of a spring and summer spill at LOP (JPL-19-01-LOP)	Concept	TBD	COE provided comments
	Status: RM&E and Steering Team will hold joint meeting to discuss management purpose and information needs.		
Passage and Survival of Chinook Salmon at Lookout Point Dam, Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 (PNNL)	Draft Final Report	March 22	ODFW and NMFS provided comments
2018 Pilot Copepodid Field Sampling Update and Associated Data Collections (OSU)	Draft Report	March 22	ODFW provided comments; NMFS reviewed/no comments
"Effectiveness of a Trap and Transport Program to Boost a Threatened Population of Steelhead (U of I)	Draft Final Manuscript	March 22	ODFW and NMFS provided comments
Spring Chinook Salmon Spawning Surveys in the Upper Willamette River Basin in 2018 (Normandeau)	Draft Report	March 25	ODFW provided comments
Fall Creek adult trap post-construction evaluation (APH-19-02-FC)	Proposal	April 4	ODFW reviewed/no comments; NMFS and USFW provided comments
Development and application of an integrated population model for Chinook salmon in the Willamette River basin	Draft Report	May 1	

Participants in the Room: Leslie Bach (NWPC), Diana Dishman (NMFS), Mike Hudson (USFWS), Fenton Kahn (USACE), Christine Peterson (BPA); **Participants on the Phone:** Rachel Neuenhoff (Corps), Dave Jepsen (ODFW), Jim Meyers (NMFS), Lawrence Schwabe (CTGR), Kelly Reis (ODFW);

Facilitation Team: Emily Stranz and Nancy Pionk (DS Consulting).

Welcome, Housekeeping, and Updates

Emily welcomed the group and conducted a round of introductions. The team approved the 2/7/19 and 2/28/19 meeting summaries. Team members will review the 3/28/19 RM&E Team meeting summary and the 4/9/19 Joint RM&E/Steering Team summary and provide any edits by May 2, 2019; summaries will be approved via email.

→ **Action:** RM&E team will review and provide edits to the 3/28/19 and 4/9/19 meeting summaries by 5/2/19.

Update on Foster Fish Weir Interim Operations for Spring Passage

Fenton provided an update on the Special Spill Operation approved for fish passage at Foster this spring while the PDT is working on design improvements to the new fish weir. He noted that the special spill operation was scheduled to end 4/26/19. However, Fenton worked with Corps Water Management internally and with BPA to extend the spill operation through 6/15/19 under the same operating conditions (spill at for fish passage from 7 PM to 7 AM with limited turbine operation for Station Service, and operate the turbines for power during the day from 7 AM to 7 PM with no spill.). The Corps also considered whether the continued spill operation would create a concern regarding higher TDG levels; however, after reviewing prior study data regarding TDG effects and speaking with the researchers, the Corps determined that continuing the spill operation with turbine operation would not create high TDG. Fenton noted that a previous study indicated that spill alone at high pool did create some higher TDG levels. However, spill plus turbine use for Station Service (according to the special operation) did not result in high TDG levels.

Follow-up on Lookout Point (LOP) Study Needs/SOR

Fenton noted that the Corps' water management is currently reviewing the SOR submitted by fish managers. The Corps has revised the SOR to include specific information needed for implementation (i.e. timing, gate opening, amount of flow etc.). Once the Corps' internal review is complete, the Corps will send it to BPA for review and then circle back to the Steering Team.

Fenton noted that spill has been occurring across all projects for several weeks due to the high water event. Spill will continue as needed to bring the projects back to rule curve. RM&E Team members requested more information on the duration and amount of spill that has occurred.

→ **Action:** Fenton will gather specific information on spill (# of days/amount of spill) that is occurring and provide that to the RM&E team.

Study Updates

The Corps reported that the study related to Copepods in UWR Reservoirs (*JPL-19-03-SYS*) and the Fall Creek adult trap post-construction evaluation (*APH-19-02-FC*) are being held up in contracting and are at risk of not being implemented in FY19. If the funding does not come through in time, the studies will have to be implemented as part of the FY20 study cycle. The "drop-dead" date for the Fall Creek study is May 3; the "drop-dead" date for copepod work is mid-June.

Managers Forum briefing on FY19 Middle Fork RM&E Plan Check-In

At the 4/9/19 Joint RM&E/Steering Team meeting, the Steering Team agreed to adopt the RM&E proposal (see 4/9/19 Joint RM&E/Steering Team meeting summary) regarding the May 30, 2019 briefing to the Managers. The proposal is to use the April meeting to tee up a later, more comprehensive 2019 Middle Fork check-in during the September Managers Forum. The RM&E team will use the summer workshop to identify the objectives that will be provided as part of the fall check-in. Diana, Fenton and Rich were tasked by the Steering Team to prepare materials for the April 30th Managers Forum. They compiled materials for the briefing from the COP and the draft 2018 Middle Fork RM&E Plan, including the GAANT chart, the list of data collected and the schedule for RM&E efforts.

- **Actions:** DS Consulting will send out the briefing materials for the Managers Forum to the Managers and Steering Team. Steering Team members will be asked to brief their Managers on the materials; Managers will be asked to come prepared to give input on the proposed path forward for a fall Middle Fork check-in.

Middle Fork Workshop Series Concept

The RM&E Team reviewed the written description of the concept for the Middle Fork workshops. Rachel pulled language from the Middle Fork RM&E plan to draft the written description, she noted that the concept/description is not final and input from RM&E team members is welcome. Additionally, it is expected that the WATER partners will work together to develop the workshops; the initial workshop will focus on drafting a problem statement, which will help shape the series. The workshops will include all of the data that the Middle Fork RM&E Plan indicates is to be considered at the FY19 check-in and the contractor will be made aware of those elements. There was a request, specifically by ODFW and other RM&E Team members, to schedule the workshops as far in advance as possible and to hold the workshops in a central location (e.g. Salem) to make it easier for participants to commit to multiple days.

FY20 Sub-basin RM&E Priorities

The group reviewed and updated the North and South Santiam, McKenzie, and Basin-wide RM&E planning charts. [Note: Edits were made in real-time via Webex and provided to the group for further revision, see *FY20 Willamette RM&E Planning_Draft as of 4-25-19* and link <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AD7ovgoZFxfdz5RcJa7vGUwWE8hMQCnD6XVoe4c48nc/edit?usp=sharing> . Additionally, the group identified follow-up actions, which are listed on the table below, as well as on the planning charts.

Sub-Basin	Planned or Ongoing Action/Issues	4-25-19 RM&E Team Action Step
North Santiam	Interim operation of Detroit Dam for temperature target	RM&E Team will review Keefer/Univ of Idaho et.al) study and double-check on any data gaps with PDT and ODFW (confirm temperature targets with Elise Kelley).
North Santiam	Release of adult wild fish in the North Santiam BEFORE fish passage is improved at Detroit Dam	ODFW (Dave) will check with Elise Kelly and Cam regarding whether there is a need for data to inform outplanting.
North Santiam/ McKenzie/ Systemwide	High Head Bypass (JPL-18-03-HHB)	The Corps is seeking to do field study in Fall 2019 that will test stress levels of truck and transport vs. fish passage via pipe. Fenton will send a revised concept paper to the RM&E team by 4/30/19. The RM&E Team will review and discuss via a conference call on May 6, 10 -11:30 AM. If there is support for concept, Fenton will move forward with requesting a draft proposal for

		review, prior to 6/4/19 Joint RM&E/ST meeting where concept will be ranked.
South Santiam	Complete reintroduction of wild spring Chinook salmon and wild winter steelhead above Foster Dam Habitat improvements above Foster to support spawning	NMFS identified a possible data need regarding habitat relating to brood failure. Follow-up suggested with USFS/ODFW to determine what data is known regarding habitat restoration and if there is a data gap. This may fall within Habitat Technical team parameters rather than RM&E team.
McKenzie	Rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon	Fenton will check in with Rich (the SWIFT team) for overlap with SWIFT work to see if concept needs to be re-submitted. If so, the Corps will revise FY19 concept (<i>FMWQ-18-02</i>) for FY20.
McKenzie	Construction Planning	Are there data needs relating to outplanting of fish before and during construction? Follow-up needed with fish managers regarding whether there is a plan for the interim period and any study needs to inform fish disposition.
Systemwide	Operational changes for flow and water temperature management discharged from WVP dams	Fenton will follow-up with Rich to determine what studies have been funded. If SWIFT identifies data needs, the Corps will draft concept paper.
Systemwide	Mainstem and tributary habitat for wild Chinook and steelhead	Fenton will follow-up with Rich to determine what studies have been funded. If SWIFT identifies data needs, the Corps will draft concept paper. Diana will review Stan Gregory's report on juvenile habitat use. If data needs are identified, a concept paper will be prepared.
Systemwide	Latent Mortality	Diana will prepare a concept paper.

Next Steps and Closing

The team agreed to schedule a conference call on May 6, 2019, from 10:00 - 11:30 AM to discuss the revised concept for JPL-18-03-HHB, which the Corps is seeking to move forward this fall. Pending RM&E team support for the concept, Fenton will request a draft proposal for review prior to the 6/4/19 Joint RM&E/ST meeting, so that the team can use that time to rank the concept and move the proposal forward.

→ **Action:** Fenton will send a revised concept paper to the RM&E team by 4/30/19. The RM&E team will review and discuss via a conference call on May 6, 2019.

With that, Emily thanked the group and concluded the meeting.

A conference call with the RM&E team is scheduled for May 6 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM
The next face-to-face RM&E Team meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2019 from 9:00- 1:00 PM

This summary is provided by DS Consulting. Suggested edits are welcome and can be provided to Nancy Pionk (nancy@diconsult.co).