

**Willamette Action Team for Ecosystem Restoration (WATER)
Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E)
September 24, 2020
CONFERENCE CALL/WEBEX**

http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/Willamette_RME/RME.html

**FINAL Facilitator’s Summary
[Edits provided by: Corps]**

ACTION	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?
Meet with Steering Team representatives regarding prioritization needs.	RM&E Team	10/6 Steering Team meeting
Follow-up with the duty scheduler regarding station service power (JPL-XX-21 Detroit Dam juvenile passage (IM#5))	Christine	10/22
Provide a revised concept for JPL-XX-SYS Interim Measures Passage and Survival to the RM&E team	Anne	10/22
Provide more detail on the timing and process for potential future contract modifications for JPL-XX-SYS.	Fenton	10/22
Send out the proposal for JPL-XX-21 Detroit Dam juvenile passage (IM#5)	Fenton	When received
Provide comments on proposal for JPL-XX-21 Detroit Dam juvenile passage (IM#5)	RM&E Team	ASAP after received
Provide a write up regarding the information needs for more frequent pedigree analysis	CTGR, NFMS, ODFW, and USFWS	Post 2020 pedigree analysis

Present for all or part of the meeting: Leslie Bach (NPCC), Fenton Kahn (COE), Anne Mullan (NMFS), Dave Jepsen (ODFW), Jim Myers (NMFS), Rachel Neuenhoff (COE), Christine Petersen (BPA), Kelly Reis (ODFW), Ida Royer (COE), Lawrence Schwabe (CTGR);

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

Welcome and Housekeeping

Emily welcomed the group and conducted a round of introductions. Team members approved the July 23, 2020 RM&E meeting summary. The August 4, 2020 and August 27, 2020 Joint Steering and RM&E meeting summaries were approved by the RM&E Team; these summaries must still be approved by the Steering Team and Emily will circle back with the RM&E team if Steering Team members suggest additional edits.

Update on FY20 Studies

Fenton reported that most of the FY20 studies have been funded and are moving forward as planned, including the High Head Bypass study (field work for this study will be conducted this fall). There have been some challenges with getting the contract in place for the pedigree analysis, however, the Corps has shifted their contracting approach and is now working through USGS to fund the study. The Corps is also working to get the screwtrapping contract awarded. Fenton reminded the RM&E Team members that any budget questions should (i.e. whether FY20 or FY21 funds will be used for specific studies) should be directed to Ian Chane at the Steering Team.

FY21 Concept Follow-up from Joint Meeting

RM&E Team members continued discussions on aspects of the FY21 concepts that were identified at the 8/27/20 Joint Steering/RM&E Team meeting as needing more RM&E conversation. The discussion on each concept follows below:

<p>WQTM-XX-21 Big Cliff TDG_IM#6</p>	<p>Joint Meeting Questions: Clarify: 1) what is intended by “as result of modified operations” as part of this concept; and 2) the anticipated changes at Big Cliff that could result from operations at Detroit.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>1) Fenton clarified with the concept author John Rerecich that the language “as result of modified operations” had been carried over inadvertently from a previous concept draft and will be deleted. He noted that the concepts were written specifically for the interim measures and monitoring related to those measures would occur throughout the year. Anne suggested removing the language “under the new proposed operations” in relation to monitoring; she was concerned that monitoring not be limited to a certain time frame. She noted that the operation that the concept describes is not a new operation and describes what is supposed to be happening (for example, NMFS’ expectation is that TDG monitoring would occur throughout the year, regardless of whether this operation were implemented). Anne was agreeable to deferring further discussion of these concerns until after a proposal is received.</p> <p>2) The team deferred discussion on the second question regarding the anticipated changes at Big Cliff that could result from operations at Detroit and would like to better understand the need underlying this question.</p>
<p>JPL-XX-21 Detroit Dam juvenile passage (IM#5)</p>	<p>Joint Meeting Question: Clarify what data can be gathered in 2020 with screw trap?</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>RM&E team members discussed the data that will be collected from screwtraps. Team members were interested in learning more about the plans for the screwtraps such as whether installation will occur before the change in turbine operations. If so, it was suggested that it would be helpful to gather data before the operation, during the operation and as elevation changes. Christine offered to follow-up with the duty schedulers to get information on what “station service power” means in terms of turbine operation.</p> <p>Fenton noted that this is the first year of a multi-year effort. This year, the plan is to install the traps and collect information on timing, size, mortality, injuries, and trap efficiency data. It was noted that it is challenging to get good trap efficiency in this reach. ODFW would like to have a PIT Tag array system in place downstream of the project and have fish released above the dam, to shed light on passage timing. Anne also noted that timing is crucial for this study and asked if ODFW could begin to identify and suggest possible upstream sites where fish could be released.</p> <p>Fenton noted that the team will be able to comment on the research proposal and build upon the information that is being gathered in future years.</p> <p>→ Action: Christine will follow-up with the duty schedulers to get information on what station service power means in terms of turbine operation.</p>

	<p>→ Action: Fenton will send out the proposal for this concept as soon as it is received; RM&E team members will prioritize review of the proposal.</p>
DET Pedigree Analysis	<p>Joint Meeting Question: Clarify expectations and needs for data beyond 5-year schedule.</p> <p>Discussion: Fenton noted that the 5-year schedule for pedigree analysis is based on the 5-year schedule in the Hatchery BiOp. Kelly noted that the BiOp’s 5-year schedule is a maximum time frame and that the BiOp may provide for more frequent analysis depending on the need. ODFW is interested in doing an annual analysis to inform the near-term disposition of fish. Fenton noted that it would be helpful to have a write up from fish managers of what the data needs are and why it would be helpful to do the data analysis more frequently (i.e. how would the data inform decisions?). It was noted that analysis of this year’s returns will make the data set more complete and could help inform what additional information is needed.</p> <p>→ Action: The fish managers (CTGR, NFMS, ODFW, and USFWS) will provide a write up regarding the information needs for more frequent pedigree analysis.</p>
Systemwide	
JPL-XX-SYS Interim Measures Passage and Survival	<p>Joint Meeting Question: Clarify expectations and needs for data.</p> <p>Discussion: Fenton noted that after the Joint meeting, the Corps and NMFS met to discuss this concept. While the Corps considers some of the information needs to be useful, they are not yet ready to rank the concept and requested that NMFS provide a revised concept paper.</p> <p>Fenton confirmed that the Corps will be contracting with one single contractor who will be implementing the screw traps at the different dams. Mike appreciated the monitoring that has already been identified for the interim measures and noted that the team can have ongoing discussions on how to improve monitoring that are not limited to the annual concept prioritization process. Fenton noted that there is some ability to modify the screw trap contract for future years; however, every contract modification must go through the appropriate process and has limitations.</p> <p>→ Action: Anne will provide a revised concept to the RM&E team meeting before the October meeting.</p> <p>→ Action: Fenton will provide more detail on the timing and process for potential future screw trap contract modifications.</p>
Research Summaries	
JPL-XX-21 Foster Dam Adult Passage Operations_TDG_IM #10	<p>Joint Meeting Question: Clarify expectations and needs for data.</p> <p>Discussion: Fenton noted that the Corps believes there is sufficient data to inform the interim measures and was not intending to do additional monitoring. There will be an annual report prepared on the operations, which will include fish counts, TDG, and temperature. Fenton has incorporated the language regarding the annual report in concept summary.</p>

	Mike noted that the annual report would meet USFWS needs for data for this measure at this time.
JPL-XX-21 Foster Dam Juvenile Passage_Spill Ops_IM#9	Joint Meeting Question: Clarify expectations and needs for additional monitoring. Discussion: Fenton noted that the Corps believes there is sufficient data to inform the interim measures and was not intending to do additional monitoring. He suggested that team members identify any additional monitoring needs in a concept paper. Anne suggested that future RM&E could consider what the expectations for collecting fish might be long-term (for example, how this operation might collect fish from Green Peter).

Closing and Next Steps for FY21 process

The team discussed next steps noting that the team will review any additional or revised concepts. RM&E members were encouraged to circle back to their Steering Team representatives regarding today’s conversations and prioritization needs. Fenton noted that the FY21 funding is uncertain at this time and the federal fiscal year will begin with a continuing resolution through December 11, 2020. Proposals will not be requested until the funding for RM&E becomes clearer.

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

The next RM&E meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2020

This summary is provided by DS Consulting. Suggested edits are welcome and can be provided to Nancy at nancy@dsconsult.co

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

Document Name	Document Type	Comments Due By	Comments Provided By
Investigation of fish passage alternatives for spring chinook salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>) in the Willamette Valley Project with focus on the Middle Fork Willamette River	Draft Final Report	October 13, 2020	
DET Pedigree Analysis	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20; RM&E discussed further at 9/24/20 mtg. Fish managers to provide write-up regarding information needs.		
FY19 APH-19-02-FC - Fall Creek_AFF_yr2.	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20; Moving forward		
FY20 JPL-20-01 - Spatiotemporal sources of mortality in juvenile reservoir-reared Chinook salmon.	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20		
FY21 APH-21-01 - Rapid Genetic Sorting.	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20		
FY21 JPL-XX-21 - Detroit Dam Juvenile Passage_IM#5.	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20; RM&E discussed further at 9/24/20 mtg. Proposal being requested.		
FY21 WQFM-XX-21-BCL - Big Cliff TDG_IM#6.	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20; RM&E discussed further at 9/24/20 mtg		
FY20 JPL-XX-SYS - Interim Passage and Delayed Mortality.	Concept Paper	7/29/2020	
	Status: Ranked 8/27/20; RM&E discussed further at 9/24/20 mtg. Anne will provide a revised concept.		
FY21 JPL-XX-21 - Foster Dam Juvenile Passage Spill Ops_IM#9.	Research Summary	7/29/2020	
	Status: No Ranking; RM&E to discussed further at 9/24/20 mtg		
FY21 JPL-XX-21 - Foster Dam Adult Passage Operations_TDG_IM #10.	Research Summary	7/29/2020	
	Status: No Ranking; RM&E discussed further at 9/24/20 mtg		