

Willamette Action Team for Ecosystem Restoration (WATER)

RM&E Team Meeting Summary

January 4, 2022

Via Conference Call/WebEx

[Edits provided by Corps, USFWS]

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

Participants: Leslie Bach (NPCC), Mike Hudson (USFWS), Rachel Laird (Corps), Anne Mullan (NOAA), Jim Myers (NOAA), Christine Peterson (BPA), Kelly Reis (ODFW), Jeremy Romer (ODFW), Lawrence Schwabe (CTGR), Luke Whitman (ODFW). **Facilitation Team:** Emily Stranz & Nancy Pionk, DS Consulting.

December 7, 2021 Joint Steering Team/RM&E Meeting Summary: The RM&E team reviewed and approved the summary. Pending review by the Steering Team (and no substantive edits), the summary will be considered final.

FY21/FY22 Studies: Rachel reported that the Lookout Point desktop modeling exercise is moving forward. The Corps has received a draft copepod report; the draft report will undergo internal review by the Corps and then be distributed to the WATER RM&E Team for review. The Corps continues to work on Injunction RM&E measures.

Screwtrapping Updates: ODFW sought to clarify whether the screwtrapping contract has been modified to include additional locations, specifically, sites above Cougar and Green Peter (for when fish are outplanted). ODFW is interested in collecting fry upstream of Cougar to raise for evaluation of fall interim operations, given the limited supply of broodstock available for research fish at this time. Anne recalled that a screwtrap was anticipated to be placed upstream of Cougar for spring operations; however, a permit request has not yet been received by NOAA. ODFW also inquired whether it was possible to expand the timing for screwtrap operations to year-round? It was noted that year-round data would provide more complete information and support future studies. Mike noted that the current screwtrap operations are based on the Court's requirements and suggested that the Corps consider going beyond what is required by the injunction. Rachel indicated that the Corps is meeting this week to discuss Injunction RM&E Measures and she will bring these requests to her team's attention; however, she was not able to speak to the requests or the likelihood of the requests being entertained.

→ **Action:** Rachel will share with the Corps Team the request for additional screwtraps (upstream of Cougar and Green Peter), as well as the request to extend the duration of operating the traps to year-round. The Corps will follow-up with the RM&E Team at the February meeting.

Surrogate Program: No coordination was needed at this time. ODFW requested that the Corps provide an updated table showing details of the planned surrogate program.

→ **Action:** Emily will reach out to Fenton regarding the surrogate table and ask for an update for the February meeting.

Team Member Updates: ODFW, USFWS and NPCC reported that their offices re-opening are delayed. Leslie shared that this is likely her last year of work, otherwise, there were no further updates. Jim encouraged the group to keep track of the Injunction RM&E as it is conducted and consider ways to build off the research once the injunction measures are no longer required. Mike agreed and encouraged the group to consider how any monitoring set up under the injunction might be carried forward as part of a long-term basin-wide monitoring effort.

The next Joint Steering/RM&E Team session is on February 1, 2022 at 3:00 PM.

The next RM&E Team session is on February 1, 2022 at 4:00 PM.

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