

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Final minutes for the 18 March 2015 Willamette HMT meeting.

The meeting was held at ODFW Headquarters, Steelhead Room. Salem Oregon. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Email
Boyd	Brett	ODFW – South Santiam	
Friesen	Tom	ODFW	
Garletts	Doug	NWP- WVP	<a href="mailto:Douglas.f.garletts@usace.army.mil">Douglas.f.garletts@usace.army.mil</a>
Graham-Hudson	Bernadette	ODFW	<a href="mailto:Bernadette.n.graham-hudson@state.or.us">Bernadette.n.graham-hudson@state.or.us</a>
Grenbemer	Greg	ODFW- Marion Forks/ Minto	<a href="mailto:Greg.A.Grenbemer@state.or.us">Greg.A.Grenbemer@state.or.us</a>
Harnish	Ryan	PNNL	
Johnson	Marc	ODFW	
Kruzic	Lance	NOAA Fisheries	<a href="mailto:Lance.Kruzic@noaa.gov">Lance.Kruzic@noaa.gov</a>
Leonhardt	David	NWP-PM-E	<a href="mailto:David.S.Leonhardt@usace.army.mil">David.S.Leonhardt@usace.army.mil</a>
Mackey	Tammy	NWP-OD-TF	<a href="mailto:Tammy.m.mackey@usace.army.mil">Tammy.m.mackey@usace.army.mil</a>
Peck	Dan	ODFW - Willamette	
Sharpe	Cameron	ODFW	<a href="mailto:cameron.sharpe@oregonstate.edu">cameron.sharpe@oregonstate.edu</a>
Thorpe	John	ODFW	<a href="mailto:john.thorpe@state.or.us">john.thorpe@state.or.us</a>
Traylor	Andy	NWP-OD-TF	<a href="mailto:Andrew.Traylor@usace.army.mil">Andrew.Traylor@usace.army.mil</a>
Ziller	Jeff	ODFW	<a href="mailto:jeffrey.s.ziller@state.or.us">jeffrey.s.ziller@state.or.us</a>

Boyd, Friesen, Garletts, Grenbemer, Harnish, Johnson, Kruzic, Leonhardt, Peck, and Ziller called in.

### 1. Finalized results from this meeting.

- 1.1. February minutes approved with edits.
- 1.2. McKenzie unsanctioned fish were released into the river on Monday 16 March.
- 1.3. Out-planting sites.
  - 1.3.1. North Santiam. Lower Log Deck. Desirable site. Need to approach the landowner.
  - 1.3.2. North Santiam. Higher Parish Road. Desirable site for late out-planting.

### 2. The following documents were provided or discussed. All documents may be found at [www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette\\_Coordination/Willamette\\_HMT.html](http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/Willamette_HMT.html)

- 2.1. 150318 HMT agenda (Traylor).
- 2.2. 140218 HMT draft meeting minutes (NWP).

### 3. Action Items.

- 3.1. [Mar 15] Dexter releases to Little Fall Creek. **ACTION:** ODFW will find a truck and coordinate the release.
- 3.2. [Mar 15] South Fork McKenzie adult release site. HMT would like to further explore this potential site. **ACTION:** Traylor will talk with the Forest Service to get their thoughts.

- 3.3. [Mar 15] Steelhead HGMP work group.** Meeting needs to be rescheduled from 25 March and draft HMGP needs to be provided for HMT review. **ACTION:** Leonhardt will provide the draft HGMP to HMT and reschedule the meeting.
- 3.4. [Mar 15] Foster pre-sort jumping.** Foster has a jumping issue at the pre-sort pool. Mortalities have been found. **ACTION:** Garletts will send Boyd photos of their cover.
- 3.5. [Mar 15] Lookout Point Tainter Gate rehab.** This project has not been coordinated with the Region. **ACTION:** Traylor will draft a MOC explaining the schedule and impacts to temperature control.
- 3.6. [Mar 15] Alternate out-plant strategies based on temp/flow.** **ACTION:** Caudill will be asked to speak to HMT in April about a potential study. Sharpe will work internally to figure out triggers for making management decisions. Sharpe requested the Rogue plan. **ACTION:** Kruzic will send a link to the reports from the Rogue.
- 3.7. [Feb 15] McKenzie HGMP.** **ACTION:** USACE to provide an update on current status. **STATUS:** Joyce Casey is working with Rob Jones this week to find resolution.
- 3.8. [Feb 15] Release strategies for O. mykiss.** **ACTION:** Thorpe, Boyd, and Sharpe will brainstorm some ideas for how to reduce residualization. Sharpe will develop a study and provide a rough budget for the study to Walker and Traylor. It is believed this study would be O&M funded. **STATUS:** ODFW is looking at changing feed. BioDiet is the new feed Boyd is experimenting with. This is for fish leaving the raceways. Sharpe would like to look at passive tagging for 2016 with PIT tag detection at Lebanon and Willamette Falls. Previous work found RT fish released low in the river were found dead higher in the river. This may have been due to predation. Traylor asked about reducing feed at the end of the rearing period. Boyd said he is doing that now. His fish are larger than they need to be so they are on a four day a week feed schedule and will be reduced further after 19 March. Boyd said he has noticed a degraded quality in the fins due to the aggressive nature of hungry fish. Traylor asked if Bio Supreme was used before. Boyd said he had used it before but the rep said it has been reformulated and it is recommended for use six weeks prior to release. Due to late delivery of feed, Boyd will be feeding only three weeks prior. He also noted that WDFW hatcheries use this feed and have been happy with it. Traylor and Sharpe agreed to use 2016 brood fish with results coming in about two years later. The PIT detector will be installed later this spring. Thorpe asked about the cost to tag the 2015 release. Friesen said the cost to ODFW for tagging is about \$2.30 for each tag and does not include tagging. NWP can get tags for \$1.25 and tagging by BioMark would cost \$8200/10K fish. Kruzic asked about putting together a proposal and getting it in to the hatchery RM&E cycle for funding for this year. Cost for tagging for the study will run about \$25K. Thorpe said his concern is the residualization of steelhead and the focus on that issue. He said it would be better to get information sooner rather than later. HMT would like to pursue tagging 2015 brood fish. Kruzic asked if that was doable. Sharpe said "absolutely".
- 3.9. [Feb 15] Leaburg trapping.** **ACTION:** Sharpe will write up the operation and submit to the Region for review by the April HMT.
- 3.10. [Feb 15] Leaburg trapping.** **ACTION:** Kremers will talk with EWEB to see if they can operate in a way that is conducive to trapping fish. **STATUS:** EWEB would like to operate the middle spillgate. The left gate will be open but most of the water will come from the middle gate.
- 3.11. [Feb 15] McKenzie unsanctioned fish releases.** **ACTION:** Walker and Traylor will figure out the Action Agencies' position on the Lower Columbia River releases. ODFW will scope a plan for mainstem releases. This action needs to be completed prior to 2 March. **STATUS:** The fish were released into the river on Monday 16 March. Traylor said there may be some legal issues for NWP. Only 360,000 federally funded fish were to be released into the McKenzie. All fish at McKenzie are federally funded. Kruzic suggested NWP review the

judgment. Traylor said Legal did review the order and he wasn't sure they are aware fish were released.

**3.12. [Feb 15] Dexter releases into Little Fall Creek. ACTION:** Thorpe said he will remind Marx a decision is needed. **STATUS:** Thorpe said he hasn't gotten an answer back. Friesen said there is a rough plan to move unmarked fish into Little Fall Creek in 2015. USFS will provide the personnel for the transport. The transport vehicle is still uncertain. ODFW is trying to find a tank and truck. The largest number of fish returning in 2014 was 35 fish. A 400 gallon tank would be big enough. Sharpe said ODFW has transported 20 fish in a 300 gallon tank with no problems. Grenbemer said his tank could be used depending on timing. He said the trouble with his tank is that there is a baffle and fish need to be netted. Thorpe said the 1000 gallon tank that is used in Bandon would work fine. It has no baffle and a large enough outlet. HMT was excited about this decision to release fish in Little Fall Creek. **ACTION: ODFW will find a truck and coordinate the release.** The 1000 gallon truck may be problematic if it requires a CDL. Garletts said NWP has a tank on a trailer if a truck can be found.

**3.13. [Feb 15] Adult release sites. ACTION:** Traylor will report back to HMT about improvements to the adult release sites. **STATUS:** Traylor provided photos. North Santiam and South Fork McKenzie do not have adequate release sites.

**3.13.1. North Santiam. Grenbemer and Traylor looked at sites on the North Santiam. One site is the Lower Log Deck. This one was originally considered but due to the need for an agreement with a private landowner, this site was not pursued. Marion Forks Investment Inc is the owner. Traylor explained how a temporary pipe could be installed during release season and removed when releases are complete. It may have been an old rainbow release site. There is already a road, though overgrown. There is about three or four foot drop from the road bed to the water elevation. The pipe only needs to be about 10 feet. It is a highly desirable site. The next step is to approach the landowner.**

**3.13.2. North Santiam. There is another site higher in the basin. \Parish Lake Road used to be a release site but was abandoned. This site may be a good location during "normal" water years but not so much during low water years. This site is above rainbow stocking sites. There should be no fishing. There are several miles of suitable habitat. There is a road that goes almost to the pool. This would be another site for temporary pipe during the release season. This site is about 10 miles above the hatchery. The bridge and riprap was replaced a couple of years ago. No one knows why this site was abandoned but it may have been due to the bridge construction. Sharpe said there may be some fallback because they don't like the smell. HMT was in agreement about using this site as a late out-plant site.**

**3.13.3. South Fork McKenzie. Frissel Crossing Campground. Sharpe asked if this site would be for hatchery releases or Cougar fish. Cougar fish are released at Hardrock. If this is for hatchery releases, those occur twice a year. May not want to invest a lot for a site that gets used only twice a year. Traylor said this site would help keep hatchery fish away from unclipped releases. This site addresses distribution and allows for more flexible for releasing fish within the basin. USFS would need to approve this release site. The campground would need to be altered a little. NWP proposes moving rocks, moving a picnic table and possibly installing a fence. Temporary pipe could be used. If a six to eight foot flume could be used, then limited site alteration would be needed. Garletts asked if the site is in an actual campsite. Traylor said it is located right at a campsite. Kruzic expressed concern about displacing campers since another release site eliminated a campsite and we do not use it. Ziller agreed that this was a better option than the bridge and there are not other good locations up that far. Garletts mentioned that campers are disrupted at Hardrock. He said there is generally good support and excitement when the truck**

releases fish. Traylor said the campground has two good sites; the first site and the last site. Signage could be used to inform campers where the truck goes. **ACTION:** Traylor will talk with the Forest Service to get their thoughts.

- 3.14.** [Jul 14] Steelhead Work group. **ACTION:** Leonhardt will put BPA in contact with Johnson to discuss the summer steelhead HMGP. **ACTION:** HMT will form a steelhead work group. **STATUS:** pending until a draft HGMP is available for review. A tentative meeting had been scheduled for 25 March but that will need to be rescheduled. The draft HGMP still needs to be provided by Peven prior to the meeting. **ACTION:** Leonhardt will provide the draft HGMP to HMT and reschedule the meeting.

#### 4. Updates.

- 4.1. Marion Forks/Minto** (Grenbemer). Everything is going well. Snow equipment converted to lawn maintenance. Final group of Chinook smolts released on 15-16 March. 90% left the first day, just a few leftover. Released at about 10.3 fish/lb. Steelhead genetics were collected and fish were released above Minto.
- 4.2. South Santiam/Foster** (Boyd) Higher steelhead fry loss than normal. Other than that, fish are feeding well. Chinook are doing well. Stopped summer steelhead smolts. Released last group of Chinook smolts. Ordering parts for the Hatch House. Working with ODFW Engineering to get new header pipe installed in the adult holding/new rearing pond. Foster crew has been replacing guards on equipment. Checking trap a couple times a week. Have 19 winters and 2 summers. Having a problem with fish jumping out of the pre-sort pool. Had a summer steelhead mort and an unidentified new mort. Traylor suggested checking out the Cougar pre-sort pool. **ACTION:** Garletts will send Boyd photos of their cover.
- 4.3. McKenzie** Thorpe reported that all 2013 brood have been released. All is going fine.
- 4.4. Leaburg** Thorpe reported that trout releases have started. Truck drivers are hard to find right now. Sharpe asked if there is a trout HGMP. Kruzic said there is one but it is likely outdated now.
- 4.5. Cougar Trap** Garletts reported that the trap will open on Thursday 19 March. He expects a few Bull Trout to show up. Fall Creek was opened on 17 March and it was full of steelhead. Full being a couple dozen fish. Sharpe asked if Garletts takes DNA samples. Garletts said he has samples that have stacked up on his desk. Sharpe said ODFW would like to restart analysis of DNA samples. ODFW would like to see a DNA sample archive. Garletts said Mike Hoganson would be the person to talk to about older samples.
- 4.6. Willamette/Dexter** (Peck) Dexter has two more releases of Chinook and one summer steelhead still scheduled. Willamette is going well. Fish are several weeks ahead of schedule. Fry are on schedules to avoid overgrowth before marking. Received early eggs from Boyd; steelhead currently at 400/lb. May discontinue Oak Springs fish next year.
- 4.7. Fish counts at Bennett and Leaburg** (Sharpe/Friesen) Nothing unusual to report. Bennett counts are distributed but many HMT members said they haven't seen the counts from Leaburg.

- 5. Cougar Adult Trap Operations.** Ziller asked if the Cougar trap has a return pipe. Garletts said there is a return pipe from the recovery tank. Ziller said he is still considering options. This will remain an agenda item but will not be discussed until the genetic data is available. Ziller said he is still waiting on 2014 genetic data before making a solid decision.

- 5.1. Funding for Cougar pedigree study (2014 samples).** Ziller asked how long it will take to read the samples. Johnson said it can take quite awhile, at least two months. The hang up in getting started is funding. Traylor said Dave Griffith was the lead on getting funding but he has taken a detail so there are no answers yet. Leonhardt asked if there is a time crunch. Ziller said the data needs to be analyzed by 1 July. Without funding in place soon, the 1 July deadline may be missed.

- 6. Comments on PNNL report.** Leonhardt explained why the report did not go through Regional review prior to finalization. Harnish has provided written comments to each of ODFW's comments. He called in to respond to comments at HMT. Kruzic asked if the peer review was included in the contract. Leonhardt said that is always included but he lost six weeks and NWP simply didn't have the time. Harnish said he thought the comments were very good and thoughtful. He will do his best to incorporate the comments into the report, though that will need to be done on his own time since the contract has concluded. Graham-Hudson said she doesn't want to go through each comment over the phone. Her concern was that the report hadn't gone out for review but since Harnish is going to address the comments in an updated report she is fine with that. Leonhardt requested comments be addressed now. Harnish addressed the bigger questions at the meeting and will provide written comments. These comments will be posted to the HMT website, along with the ODFW comments.
- 7. Gate repairs at Lookout Point.** Traylor said this is the type of event that would require a coordination form. No one believes a form was completed for this work. Gate rehab will begin in mid-July. The third gate will be rehabbed from mid-September 2016 to mid-November 2016. The reservoir will be lowered to about 58' below normal summer elevation; 867.5' is the target. Current elevation is 843.6' after eight days into the filling schedule. Normally the elevation would be 892' at this time of year. Peck asked if the plan is to fill and draft or to hold at 867.5'. Traylor will include that information in the MOC. Temperature management will be difficult, if not impossible. Graham-Hudson asked if the reservoir will remain low throughout the year until the final gate is repaired in the fall of 2016. **ACTION: Traylor will draft a MOC explaining the schedule and impacts to temperature control.** Sharpe expressed concern about the need for medicated feed but there needs to be a need. Peck said it wouldn't be until late summer until the feed would be needed. He said he has enough medicated feed on hand to treat twice but if he needs to treat fish several times or more then he doesn't have nearly enough. Traylor will expect a request for funds for medicated feed in late summer if fish show signs of disease. Sharpe suggested there may be options out there to move fish. These options will need to be explored further, once the MOC comes out and details can be reviewed.
- 8. Alteration to outplant strategies (temperatures/flows).** Sharpe said one of the purposes of the study was design a model to predict out-plant strategies and potential outcomes based on those management decisions. HMT agreed that all tools should probably be used, especially this year which is shaping up to be a low flow year. Sharpe asked if we should implement a study on long-term holding this year. Kruzic said he wants to make sure we spread the risk but we need to proceed with caution. Peck said adults were transported to McKenzie due to high temps in 2001. Sharpe would like to engage University of Idaho and explore the potential to get permits to operate in a manner different than normal. Kruzic added that fish may show up earlier due to the warmer water and fish may be held longer than normal anyway. **ACTION: Caudill will be asked to speak to HMT in April about a potential study. Sharpe will work internally to figure out triggers, permit needs, etc for making management decisions.** Sharpe will talk to Colvin about the status of the model. Kruzic suggested we look at temperature and flow management control for adult spring Chinook migration. He said NWP has good management protocols in the Rogue but there is nothing for the Willamette. Sharpe said there is a predictive model for pre-spawn mortality based on thermal exposure. There are triggers for using alternative strategies to help mitigate pre-spawn mortality. Sharpe requested the Rogue plan. **ACTION: Kruzic will send a link to the reports from the Rogue to HMT.**
- 9. PIT antennas at Fish Collection Facility ladders.** Fenton Khan provided a written update.

  - 9.1.** Foster fish weir PIT antenna has been out of service since the end of October. It is in the shop getting repaired. It is scheduled to go back on the weir and back to collecting data on

Wednesday 18 March. Khan will let everyone know when it is back to collecting data. Data will continue to be uploaded to PTAGIS.

- 9.2.** Khan is working on securing funding for the PIT antennas for the ladders at Foster and Minto AFFs. He expects to be working on the contracts over the next few months and if all goes well the plan is to install the antennas in the ladders this winter during the winter maintenance period. This is all in the early stages. Khan will update HMT as things progress. ODFW will need to manually interrogate fish with the wand, however, this should be the last year they will need to do this.
- 9.3.** The PIT antenna infrastructure at Bennett and Stayton dams are working well and data is uploaded to PTAGIS daily.
- 9.4.** The PIT antenna infrastructure at Lebanon Dam is in the works. ODFW (Derek Faber) will be installing antennas on the two ladders and bypass pipes during March and April. Data is uploaded to PTAGIS daily once the antennas go into operation. ODFW will install the spillway antennas during summer when flows are low.