

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: DRAFT minutes for the 16 August 2017 HMT meeting.

The meeting was held as a conference call. In attendance:

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Email</b>
Boyd	Brett	ODFW – South Santiam/Foster	<a href="mailto:brett.h.boyd@state.or.us">brett.h.boyd@state.or.us</a>
Couture	Ryan	ODFW – Fish Propagation	<a href="mailto:ryan.b.Couture@state.or.us">ryan.b.Couture@state.or.us</a>
Garletts	Doug	NWP-OD-V	<a href="mailto:Douglas.F.Garletts@usace.army.mil">Douglas.F.Garletts@usace.army.mil</a>
Grenbemer	Greg	ODFW- Marion Forks/ Minto	<a href="mailto:Greg.A.Grenbemer@state.or.us">Greg.A.Grenbemer@state.or.us</a>
Helms	Chad	NWP-OD-V	<a href="mailto:Chad.K.Helms@usace.army.mil">Chad.K.Helms@usace.army.mil</a>
Sharpe	Cameron	ODFW - HRME	<a href="mailto:Cameron.Sharpe@oregonstate.edu">Cameron.Sharpe@oregonstate.edu</a>
Taylor	Greg	NWP-OD-V	<a href="mailto:Gregory.A.Taylor@usace.army.mil">Gregory.A.Taylor@usace.army.mil</a>
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Walker	Chris	NWP-OD-TF	<a href="mailto:Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil">Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil</a>

[http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette\\_Coordination/](http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/)

## 1. Action Items.

**1.1. [June 16] Willamette/Dexter - ACTION:** There were designs and plans made for the new brood pond in 2012 and Walker will send out to the group. *Status: Completed.*  
Update: Couture reviewed the plans with Willamette Hatchery manager, Dan Peck. They discussed the designs and the extent of the improvements, specifically increased water supply and intake updates. It is likely that this project will need to be completed in phases over a number of years. Couture reported that the current broodstock pond uses 25% of the water flow of what the new design recommends. New holding ponds would either need a reuse system to recycle water, or an increased supply, which would necessitate improvements at the intake. Taylor asked about the current water right and supply. Couture reported that the current water right is 85cfs but it appears water availability is not a problem.

Aside from water consumption considerations, Couture said the designs still appear relevant. He suggested that some of the pond dimensions could be tweaked. Instead of 3 larger ponds, 6 half-sized ponds might be more beneficial, similar to the design at the Foster Fish Facility.

Taylor urged that environmental folks from the USACE should get involved early on. He explained that some amount of consultation will be required and this should be jump-started as soon as possible. Walker mentioned that under the cooperative agreement it was a little easier to utilize ODFW resources (engineering/construction) to help complete similar tasks, but this will be more difficult under a contract. Couture mentioned that ODFW engineering staff are currently stretched thin on a number of high priority tasks and will only be able to provide very limited assistance.

The group decided to keep this action item on the agenda as the project progresses to provide updates on funding availability and timing/schedule.

## 2. Updates.

- 2.1. **Marion Forks/Minto** (Grenbemer) Marion Forks has completed all marking. The hatchery is still very smoky due to all the forest fires in the area. Numbers and sizes are on track for all groups of fish at the hatchery. All the high lakes trout stocking has been completed for the season. At Minto, collections have been steady. To date counts are: 2589 marked Chinook, 392 non-marked Chinook. 752 marked Chinook have been outplanted above Detroit Dam into the North Santiam and 243 into Breitenbush. Crews are utilizing the Breitenbush Hotsprings Resort site for now, as the upper Breitenbush site is closed due to the fire.
- 2.2. **South Santiam/Foster** (Boyd) – All juveniles at the hatchery are doing well. The summer steelhead did get cold water disease but one treatment seemed to take care of it and mortality is dropping back down to normal levels. At Foster, the summer steelhead adult returns are quite low, with only 440 adults collected so far. Clackamas, Sandy and several other hatcheries are saving adults for South Santiam to make the necessary brood numbers. Foster was having some issues with the treatment equipment in a few of the ponds, but repairs have been made and crews were able to treat brood for the past two weeks. Counts to date are: 4915 marked Chinook, 212 non-marked Chinook. Returns are noticeably down for non-marked spring Chinook at Foster. Boyd reported that the Foster Facility usually sees about 12-14% of the non-marked run (over Willamette Falls) but year is sitting at 4%.
- 2.3. **McKenzie** (Kremers) – Surprisingly, no adults were collected last week, but the season total is currently 5,344 Chinook, which is more than double last year's return. Sharpe indicated that trap improvements and opening the trap earlier likely have something to do with this. Bruce (hatchery technician) has retired and the hatchery is currently interviewing to backfill the position. Sharpe reported that outplanting activities have been hampered by forest fires in the region. There is very limited access to the South Fork McKenzie above Cougar, except for the Hardrock site, which remains accessible for the time being. If appears that the Box Canyon Fire is nearly cleared up, after which crews will be able to access the Frissell Bridge site from the South thus avoiding the Rebel Creek fire.
- 2.4. **Cougar Trap** (Helms) – Helms reported that the facility is fully operational after some recent outages due to very warm temperatures and air conditioning units being unable to keep temperature down in particular rooms housing sensitive equipment. During this period, crews had to release some captured adults into the tailrace because the post sort pools were out of commission. Thus far, 171 adults have returned to the facility. Of those, 167 are non-marked. The majority of the non-marked adults have been released below Cougar dam at Forest Glen with a double floy tag. 64 double floy tag adults have returned a second time to the Cougar Facility and were placed above the dam.
- 2.5. **Fall Creek** (Garletts) – A total of 285 non-marked and 52 marked Chinook have returned thus far. Outplanting is going well and despite the local fires, crews are still able to access the "Site C" outplanting site. Construction on the new facility continues.

- 2.6. Willamette/Dexter** (Peck) – Couture reported that brood holding is going well so far. Some furunculosis was detected in a few of the adults that were transferred to Smith Farm, so the hatchery decided to re-inject the brood with florfenicol last week. Middle Fork Willamette River returning adults being held at McKenzie are doing well, but not quite as well as the McKenzie River returning adults held at McKenzie. Outplanting is ongoing with survey crews helping with sampling at Dexter during outplanting days. 600-700 adults have been outplanted in the North Fork Middle Fork and above Hills Creek dam so far.
- 2.7. Leaburg** (Couture) – The hatchery is down to minimal staff but no fish issues to report. Unfortunately, one employee sustained a hip fracture during a fall while liberating trout and is out on medical leave.
- 2.8. Fish counts at Bennett and Leaburg** (Sharpe) – As of August 12<sup>th</sup>, combined Bennett dam counts show 4,111 marked Chinook and 793 non-marked Chinook have passed. Sharpe is currently working on some data analysis of fish timing between the Bennett dams and Minto. As of August 12<sup>th</sup>, Leaburg counts show 1,229 unmarked Chinook and 300 marked Chinook have passed. Based purely on fish counts, pHOS above Leaburg is just under 20%. Through some regional coordination last week, water flow through Leaburg dam was adjusted to attract more fish towards the left bank ladder. Sharpe is hopeful this will help trap and remove the pulse of marked Chinook passing the dam routinely observed in August and September.
- 2.9. Spring Chinook HMGP**s – Four HMGP's went out for public review and comments. The comment period is now closed. NOAA is working on the EIS but the NEPA process takes a long time. NOAA is hoping to get the EIS out for review in late summer.
- 2.10. Trout Contract Update** – The COE contracting office received trout contract proposals and evaluated them. The technical team completed their report on their findings. The next step is for the small business advocate to revise that portion of the report. After the report is completed, the contracting office will make the final decision. The target is for the contract to award at the end of the month.
- 3. Fish Counts.** The group briefly discussed fish counts in the Willamette per some recent email traffic around the subject. Traylor reported that there are additional reporting requirements in the upcoming contract that will assist in collecting and distributing fish counts from traps and hatcheries. He intends to distribute a fish count spreadsheet in the first week of each month, showing counts for the previous month.