

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

December 21, 2016

DRAFT Facilitator's Summary

Facilitator: Emily Stranz, Notes: Tory Hines, DS Consulting

The following Facilitator's Summary is intended to capture basic discussion, decisions and actions, as well as point out future actions or issues that may need further discussion at upcoming meetings. These notes are not intended to be the "record" of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

Chum Operation

Charles Morrill, WA, shared an update on chum operations. He noted that adult numbers remain unchanged since the last TMT meeting (December 14). The WDFW crew surveyed the Ives/Pierce Island Complex and observed no live chum as of yesterday; additionally 8 redds were observed in the higher elevations of the side channel. Today, BPA and WDFW will conduct another survey to help inform the tailwater elevation needed during incubation. Charlie suggested setting an interim protection level of 13ft until the next round of survey data is available and TMT can meet to discuss, which is expected to be on January 4th. Doug Baus, COE-NWD, asked if the protection level would be set at 12.9ft rather than 13ft, per BPA's recommendations yesterday of a 12.9ft tailwater. Scott Bettin, BPA, clarified that typically BPA pads the minimum tailwater, thus 12.9ft would realistically be closer to 13ft. Charles asked that tailwater elevations be set at 13ft based on his discussion with Tony; Scott shared that BPA is fine with a 13ft elevation. **TMT will revisit the chum operation at the next TMT meeting on January 4th.**

→ **ACTION:** The Corps will implement the interim chum protection elevation with a 13ft minimum tailwater elevation at Bonneville Dam, effective on December 21st at 1400 for all hours. TMT will revisit this operation at their meeting on January 4, 2017.

Dworshak Update

Doug reminded TMT members of the delay in the Dworshak Unit 3 overhaul. He shared that due to unexpected maintenance issues, the project has been delayed and is expected to return to service in early July or mid/late August. Doug thanked the Salmon Managers for providing recommendations to the Corps, specifically the suggestion that the Corps seek a TDG waiver as an operational adjustment for the extended outage. Doug noted that the Corps is committed to working with the region on this issue and feedback or recommendations are welcomed. Tom Lorz, Umatilla, asked that this topic continue to be a future agenda item for TMT meetings. **TMT will continue discussions on how to best minimize impacts at their January meetings.**

With that, Emily thanked the group for joining the call and the meeting was adjourned.

The next TMT meeting will be a conference call on January 4th at 9:00AM

Columbia River Regional Forum
TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OFFICIAL MINUTES

December 21, 2016

Minutes: Pat Vivian

1. Introduction

Representatives of USFWS, Washington, Montana, BPA, BOR, COE, Yakama Nation, Idaho, CRITFC and others participated in today's TMT conference call. Doug Baus, COE, chaired the meeting with Emily Stranz, DS Consulting, as facilitator.

2. Chum Operation

The adult count of 47 live chum is unchanged since the last TMT meeting on December 13, Charles Morrill, Washington, reported. Yesterday WDFW survey crews observed no live chum in the Ives Island area the fish have been using for spawning. This year, chinook spawned in the side channel instead of chum, but 8 chum redds have been established in an upper portion of the channel called the stranding pool.

Today BPA and WDFW are conducting a telemetry survey of chum redd locations which will help to define the minimum tailwater elevation needed for incubation. The telemetry data will be available January 1. Meanwhile, BPA and Washington agreed that an interim protection level of 13 ft in the Bonneville tailwater should provide adequate protection until more is known.

BPA requested that protection for chum incubation start as soon as possible and Washington agreed. There was discussion of whether to set the protection level at 12.9 ft per an emailed request from BPA, which would in effect be 13 ft; it was agreed that operating to 13 ft is adequate instruction to project operators. Effective as of 1400 hours today, December 21, the COE will issue a teletype calling for the Bonneville tailwater elevation to be maintained at a minimum of 13 ft elevation to keep the chum redds inundated. TMT will revisit this operation on January 4 when telemetry data are available.

3. Dworshak Update

As reported by Steve Hall at the last TMT meeting, the schedule for rehabilitating Dworshak unit 3 has been significantly delayed. The original return-to-service date of May 1 has been extended to early July or (worst-case scenario) mid to late August. Baus acknowledged the COE has already received a suggestion from FPAC to seek a waiver of other operational requirements in order to accommodate the extended outage. The COE will continue to welcome

such dialogue with the region on effective strategies for operating Dworshak while unit 3 is out of service. This will be a regular TMT agenda item in 2017 with ongoing updates.

4. Next TMT Meeting

TMT will meet next on January 4, with the chum operation and Dworshak unit 3 outage on the agenda.

Name	Affiliation
Dave Swank	USFWS
Charles Morrill	Washington
Jim Litchfield	Montana
Scott Bettin	BPA
Tony Norris	BPA
Peter Cooper	BOR
Doug Baus	COE
Aaron Marshall	COE RCC
Julie Ammann	COE RCC
Laura Hamilton	COE RCC
Wayne Jousma	COE Walla Walla
Alfredo Rodriguez	COE Walla Walla
Tom Iverson	Yakama Nation
Michael Bryant	CBB
Emily Corrigan	Energy Synergy
Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Tom Lorz	CRITFC