

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

January 2, 2019

DRAFT Facilitator's Summary

Facilitator: Emily Stranz; Notes: Colby Mills, 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. Official minutes can be found on the TMT website: <http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/agendas/2019/>

After a round of introductions, Emily noted both NOAA and USFWS' absence from the TMT due to a government shutdown. She asked the group about the impact it might have and any process changes that TMT needs to be aware of. AAs were able to coordinate with both NOAA and USFWS regarding the end of the chum spawning operations prior to the shutdown. However, the process for any further coordination during the shutdown is not yet clear. The AAs will circle back to TMT when more information is available.

Chum Operation

Lisa Wright, Corps, provided an update on chum operations. Per the email notice sent to TMT members on December 21, 2018, Action Agencies shifted from the chum spawning to incubation operations at Bonneville Dam. The change was made as a result of WDFW surveys on December 21, 2018, which showed that chum were no longer present. The incubation operation sets a minimum Bonneville tailwater elevation of 11.3 feet at all hours.

Current hourly data at Bonneville show the current tailwater at an average of 11.8 feet, with yesterday's range between 11.4 - 14.3 feet. Project inflows are currently around 119 kcfs and are forecast to go up this weekend to around 140 kcfs and back down to 126 kcfs at the start of next week. Flows should be sufficient to maintain the Bonneville tailwater at or above the minimum of 11.3 feet for chum redd incubation protection.

Chum spawning ground surveys below Bonneville at the Ives/Pierce Island complex peaked around 365 on November 27, went down to 322 on December 4, and on December 11, 198 lives were observed, with 19 redds. Tony Norris, BPA, and Charles Morrill, WA, noted survey data from after December 11 are not yet posted.

The next TMT meeting is face-to-face on January 16, 2019, at 9:00 AM.

A process meeting will follow for TMT members.

This summary is respectfully submitted by the DS Consulting Facilitation Team. Suggested edits are welcome and can be sent to Colby at colby@dsconsult.co.

Columbia River Regional Forum

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OFFICIAL MINUTES

January 2, 2019

Minutes: Melissa Haskin, FLUX Resources

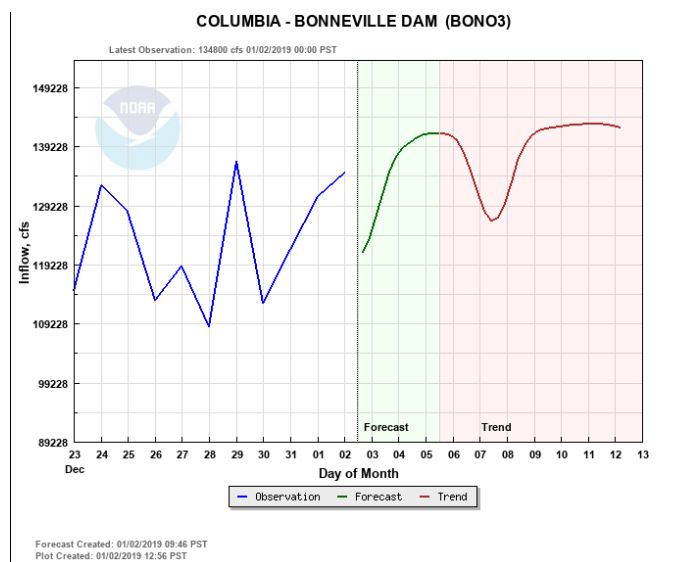
1. Introduction

Representatives of Corps, BPA, Warm Springs, Nez Perce, and others participated in today’s TMT meeting chaired by Lisa Wright, Corps, and facilitated by Emily Stranz, DS Consulting. See the end of these minutes for a list of attendees. Due to a furlough/government shutdown, some federal members of TMT may not be available for TMT meetings and calls. Tony Norris and Scott Bettin, BPA, said they would look into this and how to contact these members should the need arise. NOAA was part of the discussion for the change in the chum operation and no further input is needed today.

2. Chum Operations

Lisa Wright, Corps, updated TMT on chum operations. A full explanation of the operation is available on the TMT website. The report from the field Friday, December 21, was that chum were no longer in the area; therefore the Action Agencies began the chum incubation operation at Bonneville on Friday, December 21, at 1200, and will maintain a tailwater elevation at or above a minimum of 11.3 ft during all hours through emergence. Today’s average tailwater elevation so far is 11.8 ft. Yesterday the range was 11.4-14.3 ft.

The NWRFC inflow forecast at Bonneville is about 119 kcfs today, running up to 140 kcfs this weekend. Next week, the NWRFC forecast shows inflows will reduce to around 126 kcfs before heading up to 140 kcfs again later in the week. There are no foreseeable issues maintaining an 11.3 ft minimum tailwater through emergence.



Spawning surveys at Ives/Pierce Island Complex showed a peak of 365 chum observed on November 27, with 322 observed the following week on December 4, and 198 on December 11 (of which, 19 were redds). Charles Morrill, WA, Tony Norris, BPA, and Scott Bettin, BPA, completed an additional survey on Friday, December 21, and observed no chum.

3. Next TMT

The next TMT meeting is face-to-face on January 16, 2019, at 9 a.m. at the Corps NWD office in Portland, OR. After the regular business meeting, there will be a DS Consulting process meeting.

Today's Attendees:

TMT Members:

Agency	TMT Representative
Army Corps of Engineers	Lisa Wright (Chair)
Bonneville Power Administration	Tony Norris, Scott Bettin
Bureau of Reclamation	Joel Fenolio
NOAA Fisheries	N/A (furloughed)
US Fish & Wildlife Service	N/A (furloughed)
Washington	Charles Morrill
Oregon	N/A
Idaho	N/A
Montana	N/A
Nez Perce Tribe	Jay Hesse
Umatilla Tribe	N/A
Colville Tribe	N/A
Warm Springs Tribe	Jen Graham
Kootenai Tribe	N/A
Spokane Tribe	N/A

Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

Corps – Aaron Marshall, Dan Turner, Alfredo Rodriguez

DS Consulting – Emily Stranz (Facilitator), Colby Mills

FLUX Resources – Melissa Haskin (Note taker)

Columbia Basin Bulletin – Mike O'Bryant

Clearing Up – K.C. Mehaffey

Portland General Electric – Ruth Burris