

## COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

May 4, 2022

Facilitator's Summary

Facilitation Team: Emily Stranz & 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; it is not intended to be the "record" of the meeting. Official minutes can be found on the TMT website: <http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/agendas/2022/>. Suggested edits for the summary are welcome and can be sent to Colby at [colby@dsconsult.co](mailto:colby@dsconsult.co).*

*[Facilitator's Note: Today was Claire McGrath's, NOAA, final TMT meeting, she thanked the group and TMT Members offered many well wishes in her next endeavor.]*

**Review Meeting Summaries & Minutes** - TMT Members will finalize the official meeting minutes and facilitator's summaries from April 20 and 27 at the May 11 TMT meeting.

**Lower Monumental Dam** – Chris Peery, Corps, reported that bays 6 and 7 are repaired at Lower Monumental Dam. Bay 7 was operational on Monday, and bay 6 will be returned to service as soon as possible, likely this morning. Once bay 6 is returned to service there will be 6 functioning bays. Bay 2 is scheduled next for repair, during which bay 3 will be closed as well when workers are in Bay 2.

Dan Turner, Corps, reported updated data on spill caps, spill levels, and resulting TDG from different operations at Lower Monumental. He noted that TDG did get up to 124% over the weekend but did not exceed 125%, so no spill reductions were needed.

Chris shared photos and videos of the Lower Monumental tailrace, to better explain the repair work and to show tailrace conditions. He reported that with 5 bays open yesterday, fish counts passing the project increased (to almost 900), helping to improve the conversion rate from Ice Harbor to Lower Monumental.

**Adult Passage** - Jonathan Ebel, ID, reported that FPAC is watching the lower Snake adult passage situation closely, and will reconvene on Friday morning to assess passage and conversion through Lower Monumental. A TMT meeting was scheduled for Friday May 6, at 10:00AM, to assess options if the passage situation does not continue to improve.

- **ACTION:** Jonathan will contact Doug Baus, Corps, after Friday's FPAC meeting if the TMT meeting is no longer needed due to passage improvements.

**May 11, 2022 TMT Meeting** - Doug noted that there will be a sturgeon pulse SOR at the next scheduled TMT meeting (May 11); he asked TMT Members to attend to provide their polling responses to the SOR. Additional agenda topics include operations review, water supply forecasts, Snake River adult passage (LMN, LGS), and flow augmentation prospects in the Upper Snake.

**Questions or comments from members of the public** - There were no questions or comments from members of the public

**The next scheduled TMT meeting is an unscheduled meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup>;  
The next regularly scheduled TMT meeting is on May 11 at 9:00 AM.**

## **Columbia River Regional Forum**

### **Technical Management Team**

### **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**May 4, 2022**

**Minutes: Melissa Haskin, BPA (contractor, CorSource)**

Today's TMT meeting was held via conference call and webinar, chaired by Doug Baus, Corps, and facilitated by Emily Stranz, DS Consulting. A list of today's attendees is available at the end of these minutes.

#### **1. Personnel Update**

Today will be Claire McGrath's last day with TMT as the NOAA representative. She has taken a position with Reclamation in Boise, ID. Trevor Conder, NOAA, will fill in as the NOAA TMT representative in McGrath's absence. TMT representatives expressed gratitude and appreciation for McGrath's work over the past 3 years.

#### **2. Review of Meeting Minutes and Summaries**

Charles Morrill, WA, asked for additional time to review the 4/20 and 4/27 meeting minutes and summaries.

#### **3. Lower Monumental - Chris Peery, Corps NWW, and Dan Turner, Corps NWD**

Chris Peery, Corps NWW, shared that Lower Monumental spillbay 7 was returned to service on Monday. Work on bay 6 was completed yesterday. The crew was removing the stop logs when the wind picked up and they had to stop work. Once the stop logs can be removed, bay 6 will be returned to service, at which time there will be a total of 6 bays open. The crews will work on bay 2 next. Bay 3 must be closed during the work but will be re-opened when work isn't being done in bay 2.

Peery showed the group videos and photos of the Lower Monumental tailrace, taken yesterday. He also shared some charts showing that the fish count increased significantly yesterday (about 900 yesterday, compared to about 100 on Monday). On Sunday, hourly counts stayed low while work was being done on bay 6 and there were only three spillbays open. Then counts picked up significantly when bay 7 was returned to service that afternoon. On Monday, however, counts did not pick up in the afternoon when bay 7 was returned to service. This was due to the fish barge transiting the tailrace at the same time, which required all spill off except one bay and counts dropped to nearly zero. Yesterday, the bulk of the fish passed later in the day even though 5 bays were open all day.

Dan Turner, Corps NWD, reported on TDG at Lower Monumental Dam. Dan ran the SYS-TDG model to estimate the spill cap for 125% TDG under different scenarios of spillbay availability. The results are available in a PowerPoint attached to today's agenda. They are based on a series of assumptions and there is uncertainty in that. Looking at observed data, TDG hit 124% this past weekend but did not go over 125%. No spill cap reductions were required.

#### 4. Adult Passage - Jonathan Ebel, ID

Jonathan Ebel, ID, noted that FPAC is monitoring the adult conversion rates and has a meeting scheduled for Friday. An additional TMT is scheduled following the FPAC meeting to discuss options to improve adult passage, should they be deemed necessary by FPAC.

➔ A TMT meeting has been scheduled for Friday, May 10 at 10 a.m. PST.

#### 5. Other

Doug Baus, Corps, reported that the group should expect a sturgeon pulse SOR at the next scheduled TMT meeting on May 11, 2022.

#### Today's Attendees:

Agency	TMT Representative
Army Corps of Engineers	Doug Baus (Chair), Lisa Wright, Julie Ammann
Bonneville Power Administration	Tony Norris, Scott Bettin
Bureau of Reclamation	Joel Fenolio
NOAA Fisheries	Claire McGrath, Trevor Conder, Kelsey Swieca
US Fish & Wildlife Service	Dave Swank
Washington	Charles Morrill
Oregon	Erick Van Dyke
Idaho	Jonathan Ebel
Montana	Brian Marotz
Nez Perce Tribe	Jay Hesse
Umatilla Tribe/CRITFC	Tom Lorz
Colville Tribe	
Warm Springs Tribe	Jen Graham
Kootenai Tribe	
Spokane Tribe	

#### Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

Corps – Aaron Marshall, Alexis Mills, Leon Basdekas, Scott St. John, Dan Turner, Jon Roberts, Chris Peery

DS Consulting – Emily Stranz (Facilitator), Colby Mills

Oregon DEQ – Marilyn Fonseca, David Gruen

Chelan PUD – Jay Finch, Kate von Reis Baron, Melissa Lesser

Snohomish PUD – Mike Shapley, Jesse Price