COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM
June 24, 2026
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: https://public.crohms.org/tmt/agendas/2026/. Suggested edits for the summary are welcome and can be sent to Colby at colby@dsconsult.co.

Review Meeting Summaries & Minutes
TMT Members approved the official meeting minutes and facilitator's summaries from June 10 and June 17, pending a minor edit to the June 10 summary.

Update on Treaty Flow Augmentation
Tom Lorz, CTUIR/FPAC Chair, had no updates to report. No changes can be made through June; the topic will be re-evaluated at the July 1 meeting to determine flexibility or adjustments for July. Eric Nielsen, BPA, confirmed current operations for flow augmentation: 8 kcfs/day through the end of June, and the remaining balance planned at around 12 kcfs/day for July.

Dworshak Operations
Grant Bell, Corps, provided the first Dworshak (DWR) temperature update of the season. Currently the project is releasing about 3.6 kcfs, with a forebay elevation of 1,599.92 feet (full pool is 1,600 feet); DWR is passing inflow while keeping the forebay in the top 0.2 feet to retain storage for later this season. He highlighted an extra 2,000 cfs being passed downriver while still preserving the pool in the short-term.

The Snake River at Anatone is slightly above 68°F; the Clearwater at Orofino is cooler, around 65°F, which is typical for this time of year. DWR tailwater remains consistent in the low 40s°F, with releases helping to cool the Clearwater, and expected to reach Lower Granite (LWG) today. The LWG tailwater is currently 66–66.5°F, with surface temps in the forebay starting to heat up at 75.9°F yesterday afternoon. Grant noted averages of the 15–20-meter mark can indicate what temperatures will be at the LWG tailwater. The Corps expects pool stratification to strengthen with the incoming DWR water.

The 10-day weather forecast shows basin temperatures today in the 80s-90s°F, with a cooling down tomorrow through the weekend, including some cloud cover and precipitation, not typical for late June. Temperatures near Lewiston will warm towards the end of the 10-day, with highs back into the 80s.

The DWR temperature model is trained on the last 10 days of observed data to project about 10 days ahead; it is best calibrated above 64–65°F. Modeling from this morning indicates LWG tailwater temperatures plateauing briefly, with a rise to 67°F over the weekend and early next week (June 29-30), then cooling down with incoming cooler air and water from DWR. Inflows to DWR are running well below the 50% climatology, which is below average for the season. ESP traces show a scheduled ramp up at DWR around July 4 (3.5 to 6 kcfs) in some traces; operations are flexible and may be delayed if cooler temperatures persist.

Grant summarized that there is no immediate need to increase releases at DWR yet; the team is running daily modeling and will reassess and adjust if conditions change. He will also run additional long-term analyses given the below-average inflows into DWR and report back to the TMT. DWR operations will remain a standing agenda item through the season.

Non-Court Ordered Operations Review
Storage Reservoirs – Chris Runyan, Reclamation, reported on Bureau of Reclamation projects:

- **Hungry Horse (HGH)**: Inflows continue to slowly decline, averaging yesterday at 5.6 kcfs, with outflows at 4.5 kcfs; outflows will increase to 5.5 kcfs today due to forecasted precipitation. Midnight elevation was 3,559.8 feet (0.2 ft from full), and the reservoir filled 1.4 feet since last week. As storm-driven inflows recede, outflows will slowly taper toward 3 kcfs for the summer, to reach the end of September draft requirement of 3,544.1 feet (15.9 feet from full).
- **Grand Coulee (GCL)**: Inflows yesterday were 138.2 kcfs, with outflows averaging 126.1 kcfs; midnight elevation was 1,285.3 feet (4.7 feet from full) and GCL filled about 3.7 feet since last week. The project plans to be near 1,286 feet by July 2 and will maintain draft through Independence Day weekend, refilling to 1,289.4 feet by mid-July (for Lake Roosevelt incremental storage).

Alexis Mills, Corps, reported on Corps of Engineers projects:

- **Libby (LIB)**: Current elevation is 2,433 feet, with average inflows yesterday of 25 kcfs and outflows of 12 kcfs while the sturgeon pulse ramps down. The project will hold the current release rate through the weekend to evaluate inflow response to forecasted precipitation, then likely ramp down to bull trout minimum (9 kcfs) in early July.
- **Albeni Falls (ALF)**: Current elevation at Hope is 2,062.4 feet, with average inflows yesterday at 39 kcfs and outflows of 35 kcfs. The project is holding the normal summer operating band.
- **DWR**: No further updates.

Fish – Kelsey Swieca, NOAA, reported that juvenile passage is dominated by sub-yearling Chinook, typical at this time of year. The LWG passage index is averaging 7,000/day; Little Goose (LGS) about 3,500/day. For adults, summer Chinook, steelhead, and sockeye are passing Bonneville (BON); sockeye counts especially have been increasing, with over 5,000 passing yesterday. Some sockeye are entering the Snake River; six passed Ice Harbor (IHR) this week. High numbers of shad are present in the lower Columbia and Snake Rivers.

Dave Swank, USFWS, reported that juvenile lamprey passage is minimal, as is typical this time of year. Adult daytime counts at BON have picked up but remain around 47% of the 10-year average for daytime window counts; significant night passage continues.

Jonathan Ebel, IDFG, reported that due to low water supply above LWG (Snake near Anatone is the 10th driest since 1949), IDFG will implement sockeye trap-and-transport at LWG from June 29-July 23 to secure broodstock and mitigate poor upstream survival/egg quality seen in recent low-water years. IDFG will not alter trap operations in other upstream locations but will collect at LWG for transport.

Power System – Tammy Mackey, BPA, had no updates to report from Tony Norris' team.

Set Agenda for Next TMT Meeting
The group requested the following agenda items for July 1, TMT Members may send additional items to Doug Baus or Emily Stranz. A draft agenda will be posted to the TMT website by Monday COB.

1. FPAC Treaty Flow Augmentation Request *(standing agenda topic)*
2. DWR Operations
3. Any Operational Changes for LIB/HGH (based on precipitation/inflow response)
4. Other

Questions or Comments from Non-TMT Members

There were no questions or comments from non-TMT Members.

The next TMT meeting will be on July 1 at 9AM PDT.

Columbia River Regional Forum
Technical Management Team
OFFICIAL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Today's TMT meeting was held via Microsoft Teams and conference call, chaired by Doug Baus, Corps, and facilitated by Emily Stranz, DS Consulting. Minutes were collected by Andrea Ausmus, BPA (contractor, CorSource Technology Group). A list of today's attendees is available at the end of these minutes.

1. **Review Meeting Summaries & Minutes** – *Emily Stranz, DS Consulting*

   a) June 10

   - Chris Runyan, BOR, said that on page 2 of the Facilitator Summary's report out on Grand Coulee's elevation '1289.4' needed to change to '1279.4'.
   - Approved with Runyan's change.

   b) June 17

   - Approved

2. **Update on Treaty Flow Augmentation** – *Tom Lorz, CTUIR/FPAC Chair, and Eric Neilsen, BPA*

   a) FPAC Update

   - Lorz said that they cannot change the operation until July 1. The plan is to continue the operation and reassess on July 1 to see if we have any flexibility to change things.

   b) BPA Update

   - Flow Augmentation Release: 8 kcfs/day through June 30
   - The balance of flow augmentation will be released in July. At this point, it will be 12 kcfs/day for the month.

   Stranz said that TMT would have this on the July 1 meeting to check in and see if there was anything, any tweaks that need to be made.

3. **Dworshak (DWR) Operations –** *Grant Bell, Corps*

   a) Overview

   - Bell said that today was Walla Walla District's first DWR update of the season.
   - The schedule and links would be equivalent to what was shared last year.

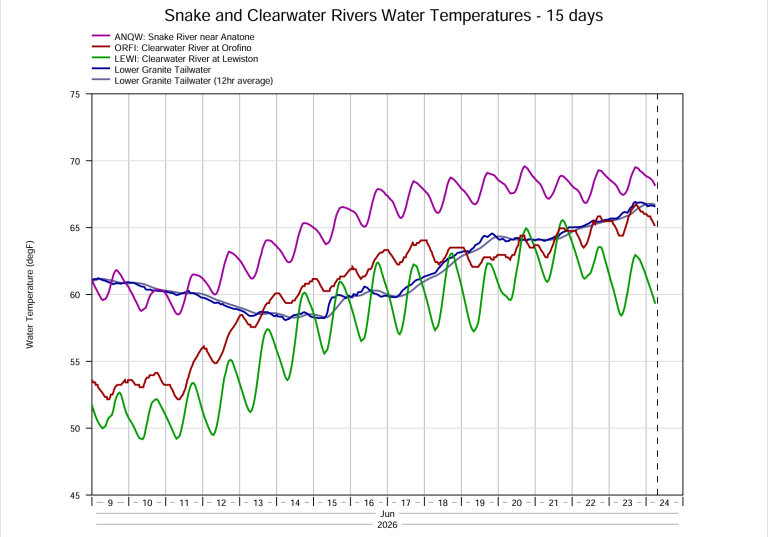
   b) DWR Current Hourly Data

   - Current Outflows: 3.6 kcfs
   - Forebay Elevation: 1599.92 feet
     - Full Pool: 1600 feet (June 21)
   - Operations:
     - Passing inflows, keeping the forebay in the top two-tenths of a foot.

- There is an extra 2 kcfs heading downriver while keeping DWR full in the short term.

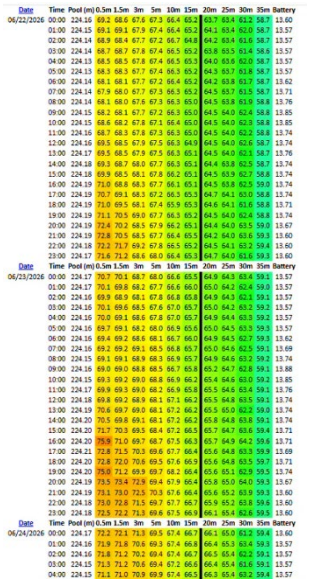
c) Snake and Clearwater Rivers Temperature Data

- Anatone (Snake River):
  - Temperature: ~68°F
- Orofino (Clearwater Mainstem):
  - Temperature: ~65°F
  - It is typical for Orofino to run cooler than Anatone at this time of year.
- Dworshak (DWR):
  - Temperature: 40°F
- Lower Granite (LWG) Tailwater:
  - Temperature: ~66.5°F
- Last 15 Days of Temperature



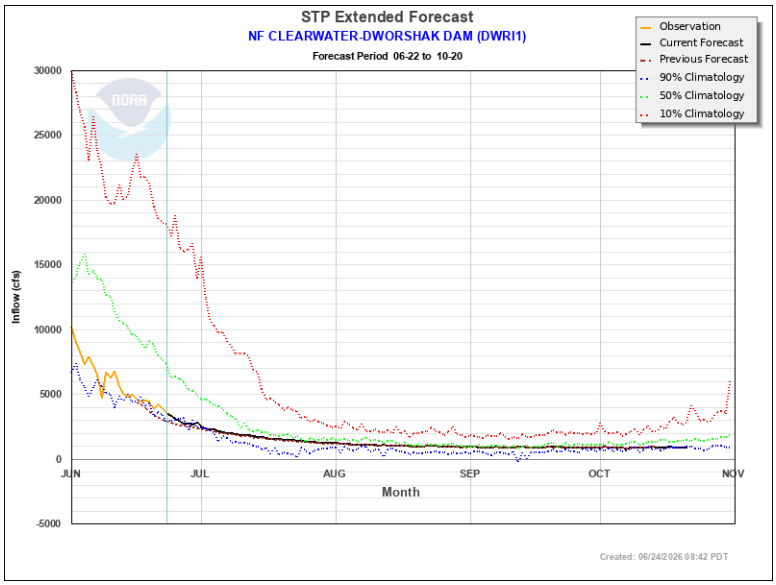
  - Snake River temperature at Anatone has remained steady.
    - Temperature: mid – high 60°F
  - Orofino temperature at Clearwater has been rising but combined with the DWR releases. Clearwater River at Lewiston (green line) is starting to cool from the extra water being sent down from DWR.
  - Walla Walla District is expecting that water to reach LWG today and we will see a little bit of a response from that water.

d) Lower Granite Forebay Temperature String



- Surface water temperatures are starting to heat up.
- Black line shows, in typical LWG operations, by averaging the 15m and 20m mark a good indication of what the temperature would look like downstream at the LWG tailwater.
- Water Temperatures:
  - 0.5m mark: 75.9°F (6/23)
  - 15m/20m mark: 66 – 66.5°F
- Expect the stratification from the top of the pool to the bottom to reinforce slightly with the cooler water from DWR.

e) DWR STP Extended Inflow Forecast



- DWR is running well below the 50% Climatology.
  - Expecting some fairly below typical inflows this season.
  - Should not be a surprise with how quickly flows dropped off in the Spring.
- Walla Walla District is running an analysis of what this could look like longer term.
  - The Corps is keeping an eye on this and will be doing additional analysis over the next couple weeks.
  - They will continue to keep everyone up to date on this.

f) 10-Day Regional Weather Forecast

- Temperature:
  - June 24: Warm temperatures, 80s – 90s in the basin.
  - June 25: Temperatures begin to cool.

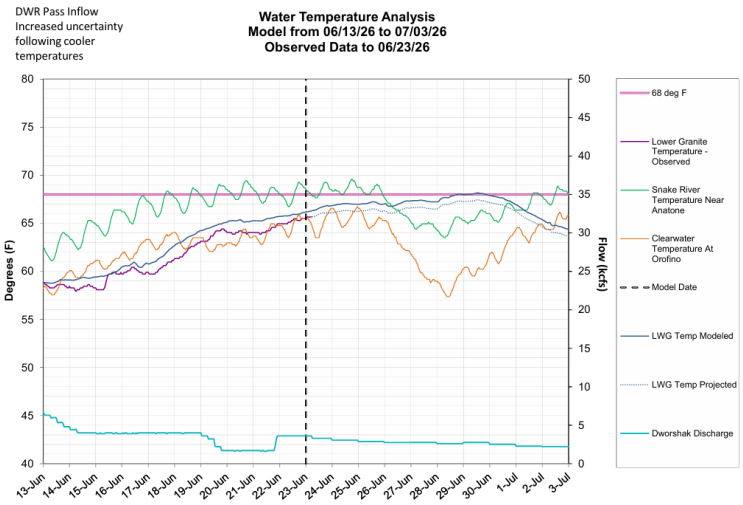
- July 4: Temperatures warm again, ~80°F

- Precipitation
  - June 25: Some precipitation will begin to come to parts of the basin.
- There will be more cloud cover and precipitation, and cooler temperatures than what we have been seeing. Much cooler temperatures than we typically see in late June.
- At the end of the ten-day temperatures are expected to be warmer, but typically we see additional risk with air temperatures in the 90s or especially the 100s. Temperatures are warming but they are not getting hot at this point.

g) Weather Report for Lewiston, ID

- High Temperatures:
  - Today (6/24): 93°F
  - Sunday (6/28): 64°F
- With the cloud cover on Sunday that is a 30° swing in high temperatures, fairly substantial swing at this point.

h) Model Results – *Updated Tuesday, June 23, at 3:30pm*



- Model
  - The Model trains on the last ten days of observed data and can project LWG temperatures about ten days into the future based on the results.
  - Lines
    - Orange/Green: Diurnals of Temperatures at Orofino/Anatone
    - Teal: DWR Release Schedule
    - Purple: Observed LWG Tailwater Temperature
    - Solid Blue: Model run for LWG Tailwater Temperatures
    - Dotted Blue: Correction model based on real-time conditions

Lorz said that the dotted line (the projected line) is based on the model line, but it has a correction factor. He asked if the model over predicts or under predicts.

Bell said that the model can over predict or under predict. The model essentially starts, in this case, at June 14 and runs up until real-time. He said that you can see there is a slight discrepancy between where the model ends up and where the observed temperature is. There is just a correction factor between those two. This is the same as the last few years, but they add the correction factor at the end because we are a few tenths lower than the model would say that we are on June 24 otherwise. Bell also noted that this model is best calibrated for temperatures above 64 – 65°F so you see a little discrepancy between the blue and purple lines. This is common for this time of year as the model is ingesting some training data below 60°F. It is what we are dealing with this time of year and explains why there is a little bit more of a spread that we sometimes see between those two lines.

- Temperatures
  - Temperatures will plateau over the next couple of days due to the cooler water from DWR making its way through LWG.
  - Temperatures at the LWG tailwater get up toward 67°F over the weekend and into next week on June 29 and 30 and then will start to cool down.
  - This temperature response at Snake and Clearwater has been seen before, there is a decent amount of variability in what sort of response we see based on how the weather and precipitation come in.
  - Bell said that he would say that the cool down after June 30 might change based on what we see.
- DWR Outflows
  - This is a conservative estimate of passing inflow.
  - Bell said that they are expecting inflows to drop a little over the near future.
  - They have been tracking a little higher than forecasted inflow so there is a chance that DWR will be able to send a little more water than we are currently seeing.
- Major Takeaways
  - There is no need to go up at DWR at this time, however we are in the period of the year that Walla Walla is running this model daily and reassessing daily.
  - If anything changes Walla Walla might adjust their plans and will keep everyone up to date if they do so.
  - We should be just fine continuing to pass inflow; we should see a cooldown in the river as the cooler weather moves in and that should get us into next week where we will be looking at everything again.

Jonathan Ebel, ID, thanked Bell for the update and that it was very helpful. He said that he wanted to point out that he was glad to hear that Walla Walla is looking at an alternative way to look into the future in terms of inflows into DWR this Summer because there is a general consensus based on this qualitative assessment that we are going to see some pretty low inflows. He said that he was glad to hear that they are trying to tackle that and he is curious to see what they come up with.

Bell thanked Ebel and said that they would be keeping everybody up to date as they discover more.

Charles Morrill, WA, said looking at the ESP traces he thought that Bell had scheduled that it was going up on July 4 from 3.5 kcfs to 6 kcfs to gradually work their way up to 10 kcfs. He asked if there was any chance as they watch this, if we see cooler temperatures prevail for a bit that they could push that back a day possibly.

Bell said yes, absolutely. He thanked Morrill for bringing that up. He said that it was something that he should have mentioned in the presentation. He said that we would have a better idea early next week where we are at from these temperatures. With this model, we are only looking about ten days out in terms of operations. Past that there is a lot greater uncertainty. He said that they do have their long-term model which with the low inflows they will be running a lot more analysis soon. In terms of the ESP trace, they are looking at the next ten days and everything after that has a high degree of variability. At this point in the season, they are operating about ten days out, anything longer than that published in the ESP should be taken with a bit more of a grain of salt.

Morrill said that he understood and thank you.

Bell added context for TMT that these operation will change quickly and they will be targeting below 68°F in the Lower Granite tailwater and will adjust DWR accordingly.

Stranz thanked Bell and said that TMT would keep this as a standing agenda item moving forward this season.

4. Non-Court Ordered Operations Review

a) Storage Reservoirs

Reclamation – Chris Runyan

- Hungry Horse Dam
  - Inflows (6/23): 5.6 kcfs
  - Outflows (6/23): 4.5 kcfs
  - Midnight Elevation: 3559.8 feet
    - From Full: ~0.2 feet
    - Filled last week: ~1.4 feet
  - Columbia Falls (6/23): 14.9 kcfs
    - Still slightly elevated.
  - Conditions:
    - Inflows have continued to slowly decline.
    - A precipitation event is expected for this weekend, and inflows are projected to increase a little bit.
  - Operations:
    - Increasing outflows to 5.5 kcfs today.
    - As inflows recede after the next storm outflows from the dam will slowly taper into HGH's flow augmentation release.

        - Summer flow augmentation: ~3 kcfs
        - End of September Draft: 3544.1 feet
            - 15.5 feet from full
- Grand Coulee Dam
    - Inflows (6/23): 138.2 kcfs
    - Outflows (6/23): 126.1 kcfs
    - Midnight Elevation: 1285.3 feet
        - From Full: 4.7 feet
        - Filled last week: ~3.7 feet
    - Operation:
        - Plan is to be near the 1286' range by July 2 with no net draft through the big 250th Independence Day holiday weekend.
        - After that GCL will do their final refill to elevation 1289.4 feet by mid-July.
            - The 0.6 feet from full at GCL accounts for the Lake Roosevelt Incremental Storage Program.

Corps – Alexis Mills

- Libby Dam (Lake Koocanusa)
    - Midnight Elevation: 2433 feet
    - Avg. 1-Day Inflows: 25 kcfs
    - Average Outflow: 12 kcfs
    - Operations:
        - The Sturgeon Pulse ramp down will continue.
        - The release rate will likely continue through the weekend to evaluate the inflow response to the forecasted precipitation.
        - Following LIB will ramp down to near Bull Trout minimums in early July.

Brian Marotz, MT, asked for a reminder of what the ramping down to Bull Trout flow was calculated out to be this year.

Mills said that it was 9 kcfs this year.

- Albeni Falls (Hope Gauge)
    - Midnight Elevation: 2062.4 feet
    - Avg. 1-Day Inflows: 39 kcfs
    - Current Outflow: 35 kcfs
    - Operations:
        - ALF will continue holding the normal summer operating band.

b) Fish

Salmon – Kelsey Swieca, NOAA Fisheries

- Juveniles
  - Subyearlings (Passage Index Average)
    - Passage is primarily comprised of subyearling Chinook, typical for this time of year.
    - Lower Granite: 7,000/day
    - Little Goose: 3,500/day
- Adult Salmon Counts
  - Bonneville
    - Summer Chinook, Steelhead, and Sockeye are passing Bonneville Dam.
    - Sockeye (6/23): >5000 individuals
      - Numbers are ticking up
  - Ice Harbor (Snake River)
    - Sockeye (week total): 6 individuals
  - There are also large numbers of Shad in both the Lower Columbia and the Snake Rivers.

Lamprey – Dave Swank, USFWS

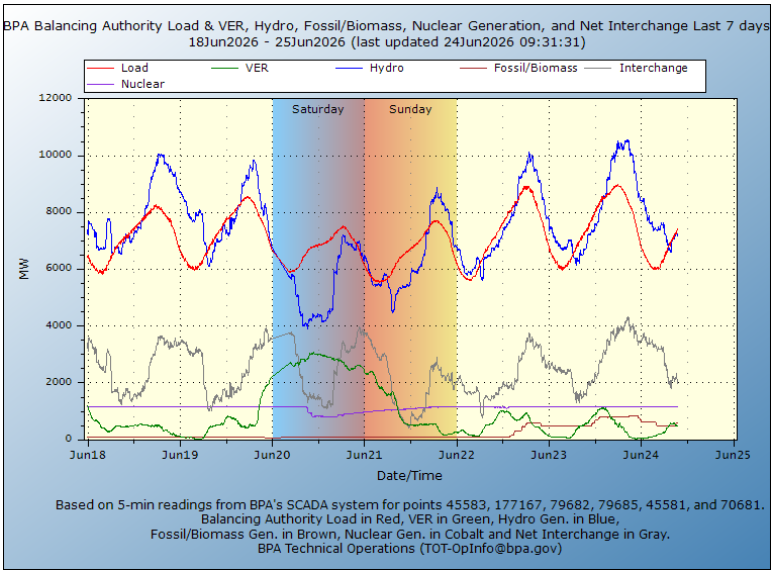
- Juveniles
  - There is a trickle of juveniles passing in Bonneville.
  - It is not unusual for this time of year.
  - They have an extended passage season.
- Adult Lamprey
  - The counts at Bonneville have picked up over the last couple of weeks.
    - Still a below average Lamprey run.
  - Daytime Window Count: 47% of ten-year average
    - Many adults are passing at night as is common with Adult Pacific Lamprey.

IDFG Update – Jonathan Ebel, ID

- Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has been assessing conditions through the hydrosystem and particularly upstream, looking forward and applying lessons from the past.
- IDFG will be implementing Sockeye trap and transport at Lower Granite Dam starting June 29, going through July 23.
- IDFG is transporting because of the low water supply above Lower Granite, the Snake (near Anatone) is the tenth driest since 1949.

- They have also observed the last few years when comparing fish trapped and transported versus those that survived to the Stanley Basin and are trapped up near Stanley, ID, the egg quality and consequently egg up rates from those fish are much different. The egg quality is much lower in the fish making it in river all the way to Stanley Basin.
- IDFG is hedging bets in terms of brood collection and will not be altering trap operations to trap Sockeye but will be collecting them at Lower Granite .

c) Power System – Tammy Mackey, BPA



- Nothing new to report.

5. Agenda Items

Next Meeting Scheduled: Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Next Week's Agenda Topics

- DWR Operations
- Treaty Flow Augmentation Update

Future Agenda Topics

- Adult Passage Assessment of LMN and JDA
- DART Presentation

Today's Attendees:

Agency	TMT Representative(s)
NOAA Fisheries (NMFS)	Kelsey Swieca, Trevor Conder
Oregon	Erick Van Dyke
Washington	Charles Morrill
Kootenai Tribe	
Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation	Dennis Moore
Umatilla Tribe (CTUIR) & CRITFC	Tom Lorz, Pete McHugh
Yakama Nation	Tom Iverson
Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)	Chris Runyan
Army Corps of Engineers (COE)	Doug Baus (Chair), Aaron Marshall, Lisa Wright
US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Dave Swank
Idaho	Jonathan Ebel
Montana	Brian Marotz
Spokane Tribe (STOI)	Brent Nichols
Nez Perce Tribe (NPT)	Jay Hesse
Warm Springs Tribe	
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)	
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)	

Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

COE – Tiffany Dixon, Leah Hamilton, Chris Peery, Grant Bell, Dan Turner, Eric Chow, Oscar Espinoza, Alexis Mills, Kenneth Sears

BPA – Tammy Mackey, Eric Nielsen

DS Consulting – Emily Stranz (Facilitator), Colby Mills,

CorSource – Andrea Ausmus (BPA note taker, Contractor)

Washington Ecology – Thomas Starkey

Oregon DEQ – David Gruen

Clearing Up – K.C. Mehaffey

AVA – Patrick Maher, Steve Lentini,

PGE – Phil DeVol

FPC – Erin Cooper, Noah Campbell

GCPUD – Eva Stites

PSE – Jessica

Energy EPS – Joshua Rasmussen

NPCC – Kate Self