

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

June 29, 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.

Dworshak Operations

Grant Bell, Corps, reported on operations at Dworshak Dam (DWR). He emphasized that this past weekend's storm came in stronger than expected, necessitating a change in operations. The project is at full pool elevation, 1,600 feet. The reservoir took a strong inflow response overnight, and because the reservoir is full, releases increased from about 3.6 kcfs to just over 5 kcfs; DWR is essentially passing inflow, as there is no additional storage space. The plan is to keep DWR full and pass additional water through the dam.

Grant reported that water released from DWR is still around 42.5°F, which he noted as typical. Natural river temperatures dropped significantly from the cooler weekend weather. The Lower Granite (LWG) tailwater is currently about 67.2°F. Cooler temperatures at Anatone and Orofino are expected to reach the LWG tailwater later today, so Grant expects temperatures there to start decreasing. He noted Orofino was down into the mid-50s and Anatone was below 65°F and still falling.

Temperatures in the LWG pool are fairly uniform, with less stratification than usual, but still at or below 68°F even near the top of the pool. The Corps does not expect LWG tailwater temperatures to rise significantly. The 10-day weather forecast shows some continued precipitation today and into tomorrow, with mild temperatures then a gradual warm-up later in the period, but no extreme heat. For Lewiston, temperatures are about 70°F today, and are forecasted to be in the high 80s°F to around 90°F by next week, while nighttime lows will stay in the 50s into early next week, helping to keep the system cooler.

[Model results](#) from Monday June 29 suggest a strong cool-down in the LWG tailwater. Based on current operations and forecasts, the Corps expects LWG tailwater temperatures around July 4 to drop into the low 60s°F to high 50s°F, then begin warming again afterward. Grant also noted the DWR outflow curve is different from NWRFC's, but because DWR is passing inflow, outflow should stay fairly proportional to Clearwater and Anatone flows.

Grant emphasized that the project should not draft the pool and that DWR should remain at full pool through the week; likely through the broader 10-day period. He reiterated that the model is best calibrated around 64–65°F and warmer. Also, because the new cool spell could push the LWG tailwater back into the high 50s°F, he noted this adds some additional model forecast uncertainty.

Finally, Grant clarified that while he previously noted DWR could stay full "through the week," the model suggests DWR could stay full through about July 6, possibly through July 9, depending on conditions.

Sockeye SOR

Trevor Conder, NOAA, presented [SOR 2026-2](#), noted as a 2026-only request for LWG temperature management to help sockeye passage and survival. The SOR requests:

- July 1–12: keep LWG tailrace at or below 66°F;

- July 13–22: return to the usual 68°F criterion;
- July 23–Aug 10: allow temperatures to go up to 69.5°F if needed to conserve water while still meeting end-of-August reservoir goals and supporting the August 18 broodstock collection timing.

The SOR also included language about post/off-season review and future evaluation of temperature-management options. Rationale behind the SOR includes improving sockeye survival by giving fish a supportive thermal window during a key part of the migration; taking advantage of the cooler natural river temperatures following the recent storm, while still using DWR operations to support conditions downstream; providing more certainty and planning guidance for operations through early and mid-summer; and keeping enough flexibility later in the season so there may still be water available for late-summer needs, including fall Chinook broodstock timing.

Charles Morrill, WA, noted that the SOR should explicitly acknowledge the thermal accumulation load on sockeye, beginning with Bonneville (BON) to McNary (MCN), and that the temperature exposure of thermal units accumulated in that portion of migration carries on in the Snake. Trevor agreed this was an important clarification to make, adding that temperature differential in the ladders, and temperature accumulation are very important.

TMT Member Concerns & Questions

- Idaho asked whether NOAA had a strong enough case to require an SOR, since the Corps' DWR modeling suggests the desired conditions would be met naturally without the SOR. They also noted the requested action seems unnecessary if operations are already achieving the goal, and that it may end up needing real-time adjustments anyway; it may be too early to decide.
- Idaho questioned the “2026-only” framing, noting the 2025 SOR. They also questioned some rationale language, including references to egg quality and bubbler timing, noting that some statements lacked references or empirical support.
- USFWS asked if the plan for July 23 – August 10 was essentially to keep temperatures near 68°F if possible, but allow them to rise to 69.5°F if necessary to conserve water; Trevor confirmed yes.
- Oregon asked about modeling for IHR, noting that last year there was uncertainty on how operations impacted Ice Harbor (IHR) water conditions; Grant noted no significant improvements, they are still using similar tools and analyses as last year.
- Some TMT Members emphasized that any decision should be paired with post-season evaluation and broader planning for future temperature management, especially if the SOR may be used as a template again.

Polling on SOR 2026-2

TMT Members were polled on the SOR, with some providing rationale for their polling response:

TMT Member	Polling Response	Rationale (<i>Optional</i>)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Support	NOAA had no additional rationale from the initial SOR presentation.
Oregon	Object <i>[Facilitator's Note: OR's</i>	Given Dworshak water management is using the established operation and modeling approach over the next 10 days, it seemed a moot point to poll on July 1-12 components. This is because this brief period is not

	<i>polling response and rationale were provided in writing after the meeting.]</i>	predicted to be an issue, and continues to recognize Lower Granite tailwater temperature that fit the established state water quality standard of 68 °F. The period July 13-22 also is moot because it too manages to the established state water quality standard of 68 °F. However, the July 23-August 10 relaxation of the state water quality standard is objectionable and concerning. A more emergent trend of relaxing sovereign regulation is not supportable. If the CRS operations exceed the state standard the process established to regulate such an occurrence should be maintained and followed.
Washington	No Objection	WA noted caution on this SOR; they appreciated the information and are listening to their colleagues.
The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	Abstain	CTCR had nothing further to add.
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	No Objection	CTUIR noted that based on conditions, they don't see this SOR causing big issues from their perspective, they look forward to end-of-season discussions on a long-term strategy on this issue to avoid continued SORs.
Confederated Bands and Tribes of the Yakama Nation	No Objection	CBTYN noted that from their perspective, the concept is sound. Balancing the water is difficult, they hope the TMT learns from this, and to incorporate evaluation into this operation. They look forward to a planning session to integrate this into normal operations as best possible.
US Bureau of Reclamation	Support	Reclamation had nothing further to add, they support the Corps and NOAA.
US Army Corps of Engineers	Support	The Corps had nothing further to add.
US Fish & Wildlife Service	Support	USFWS noted bull trout are not a major concern this time of year; from their perspective the SOR supports hatchery operations, especially LWG trap timing for August 18.
Idaho	Object	ID noted that from their perspective, the SOR is unnecessary because the goal is already being met naturally, the operation is likely to require real-time changes, the justification is not well-supported by references, and the discussion is too early and premature. They emphasized that meaningful actions for sockeye this year may be focused on LWG trapping operations in August and that TMT should not finalize prescriptive temperature actions before clearer forecasts; Idaho formally objects to this SOR.
Nez Perce Tribe	Support	NPT appreciated the post-season discussion commitment, the support for fall Chinook broodstock collection starting

		August 18, and the broader push for temperature-management structures across the system.
Bonneville Power Administration	Support	BPA had nothing further to add.
<i>The Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Montana, The Spokane Tribe of Indians, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes were not present to register a polling response.</i>		

Action Agency Implementation

Doug Baus, Corps, noted the Corps would implement the SOR. Grant confirmed that DWR will target 66°F through July 12 in the LWG tailrace; he will revise temperature modeling to reflect that new target and update all related materials. They will keep monitoring DWR water supply and pool level closely and provide seasonal outlooks as mid-July approaches for the later July 23 – August 10 period. The Corps also noted this likely means no immediate operational change this week or early next week, but they will set the new management target going forward.

Jonathan Ebel, ID, noted that Idaho will discuss elevating the Corps' decision to implement the SOR to their RIOG representative.

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. Potential FPAC Treaty Flow Augmentation Request (*standing agenda topic*)
2. Dworshak Updates
3. 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
MONDAY, June 29, 2026**

Today's Unscheduled 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. Dworshak (DWR) Operations – *Grant Bell, Corps*

a) Overview

- It was an interesting weekend at DWR; the storm came in stronger than expected so operations changed from what TMT had talked about last week.

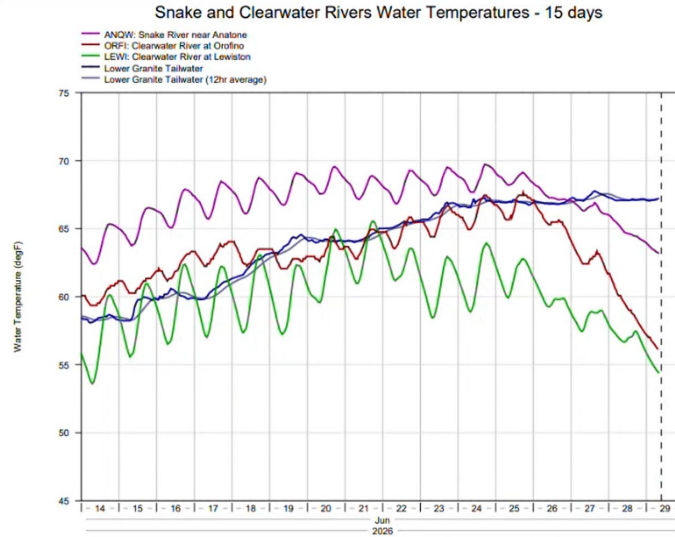
b) DWR Current Hourly Data

- Forebay Elevation: 1600 feet
 - Full Pool
- Operations:
 - There was a strong inflow response from the storm, so generation flow has increased from 3.6 kcfs to >5 kcfs, following inflow.
 - There is no space left in DWR reservoir so any water that comes in is passing through DWR.

c) Snake and Clearwater Rivers Temperature Data

- Note: Anatone and Orofino temperatures have been decreasing from the cold weather over the weekend. The river temperatures are expected to continue to decrease over the next day or so. Significant cooldown in river temperatures due to this weekend's event.
- Anatone (Snake River):
 - Temperature: ~63°F
- Orofino (Clearwater Mainstem):
 - Temperature: ~56°F
- Dworshak (DWR) Tailwater:
 - Temperature: ~42.5°F
- Lower Granite (LWG) Tailwater:
 - Temperature: ~67.2°F

- Last 15 Days of Temperature



- The cooler natural temperatures measured at Anatone (pink) and Orofino (red) will start reaching LWG tailwater today (June 29) and LWG tailwater temperatures will decrease.

d) Lower Granite Forebay Temperature String

- The stratification from the bottom of the pool to the top of the pool is fairly uniform.
- It is less stratification than what the Corps typically aims for but with these temperatures even at the top of the pool is just at or below 68°F right now.
- Even if we lose a little more of the stratification over the day, the Corps was not expecting LWG forebay temperatures to increase significantly.

e) 10-Day Regional Weather Forecast

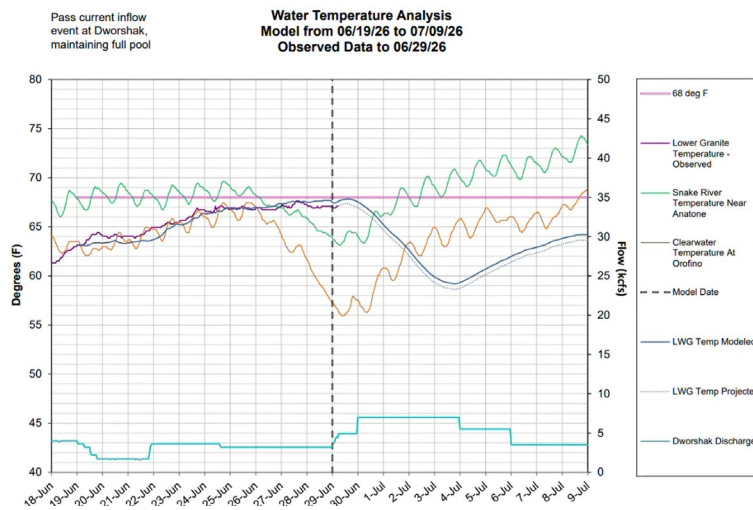
- Precipitation
 - June 29 - 30: There is still precipitation for the basin.
 - Less precipitation is expected after June 30.
- Temperature:
 - Mild temperatures currently.
 - Through the rest of the 10-day there is a warmup, but we are not expecting hot temperatures as is typical for this time of year.

20:00	224.16	69.2	69.2	69.1	69.1	68.2	67.9	67.3	66.2	65.4	65.9	13.81
21:00	224.17	69.1	69.1	69.0	69.0	68.2	67.9	67.1	66.3	65.4	62.0	13.82
22:00	224.17	69.0	69.0	69.0	69.0	68.2	67.9	67.1	66.2	65.2	62.3	13.82
23:00	224.16	68.9	68.9	68.8	68.8	68.2	67.7	67.2	66.2	65.2	62.4	13.60
Date Time Pool (m) 0.5m 1.5m 3m 5m 10m 15m 20m 25m 30m 35m Battery												
06/28/2026	00:00	224.15	68.9	68.8	68.8	68.8	68.2	67.8	67.2	66.3	64.7	13.60
01:00	224.16	68.7	68.7	68.7	68.7	68.2	67.7	67.2	66.1	64.8	61.8	13.60
02:00	224.15	68.6	68.6	68.6	68.6	68.5	67.8	67.1	66.2	64.9	61.5	13.57
03:00	224.15	68.5	68.5	68.5	68.5	68.5	67.7	67.1	65.9	64.7	61.4	13.57
04:00	224.16	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.4	67.7	67.1	66.0	64.6	61.4	13.57
05:00	224.15	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.4	67.6	66.8	66.2	64.7	61.5	13.57
06:00	224.17	68.4	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.4	67.6	66.9	66.1	65.2	61.6	13.60
07:00	224.17	68.4	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.3	67.7	66.9	66.1	64.8	61.3	13.62
08:00	224.17	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.3	68.3	67.8	67.1	65.6	64.8	61.8	13.76
09:00	224.19	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.2	68.2	67.7	66.9	66.4	64.6	61.7	13.95
10:00	224.19	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.2	68.0	67.7	67.0	66.4	65.2	61.7	13.92
11:00	224.20	68.2	68.2	68.2	68.1	68.1	67.8	67.1	66.2	65.0	61.6	13.83
12:00	224.22	68.2	68.2	68.1	68.1	68.1	67.7	66.8	66.1	64.9	61.6	13.83
13:00	224.22	68.2	68.2	68.1	68.1	68.0	67.8	66.8	65.9	64.8	61.5	13.81
14:00	224.23	68.2	68.2	68.1	68.2	68.0	67.8	67.1	66.2	64.4	61.5	13.81
15:00	224.25	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.1	67.7	67.1	66.3	64.5	61.6	13.81
16:00	224.25	68.4	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.0	67.8	67.0	66.1	64.2	61.7	13.78
17:00	224.25	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.0	67.8	66.8	66.2	64.6	61.5	13.81
18:00	224.26	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.0	67.8	66.7	66.3	64.8	61.4	13.81
19:00	224.26	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.1	67.8	66.8	66.1	64.4	61.3	13.78
20:00	224.25	68.3	68.2	68.2	68.2	68.1	67.7	67.0	66.3	64.8	61.3	13.64
21:00	224.24	68.2	68.2	68.1	68.1	68.2	67.9	66.8	66.3	65.0	61.4	13.60
22:00	224.24	68.1	68.1	68.1	68.1	68.2	67.9	66.9	66.1	64.3	61.4	13.60
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03:00	224.22	68.1	68.0	68.0	68.0	68.0	67.9	66.8	66.4	64.8	61.4	13.57
04:00	224.22	67.9	67.9	67.9	67.9	68.0	67.7	66.9	66.5	64.9	61.4	13.57
05:00	224.23	67.9	67.9	67.9	67.9	67.7	67.5	67.3	66.5	65.4	61.3	13.57
06:00	224.23	67.9	67.9	67.8	67.8	67.9	67.4	67.2	66.6	66.1	61.3	13.60
07:00	224.24	68.0	67.9	67.9	67.9	67.9	67.7	67.2	66.4	65.7	61.6	13.67
08:00	224.24	67.9	67.9	67.8	67.8	67.9	67.8	67.3	66.2	65.3	61.6	13.81
09:00	224.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

f) Weather Report for Lewiston, ID

- Temperature:
 - Highs
 - June 30: 70°F
 - Next week: mid 80s to low 90s
 - Lows
 - Will still be in the 50s until early next week.
 - Should keep things cooler in the system.

g) Model Results – *Updated Monday 6/29 at 8:45am*



- Model
 - When compared to what was forecasted in the [model](#) last week there is a nice cool down in river (natural) temperatures. This plus needing to release additional water at DWR just to maintain full pool means that we are expecting a pretty strong cooldown at the LWG tailwater.
 - LWG Water Temperature expectations with current operations and forecasts:
 - July 4: Low 60s/High 50s
 - Temperatures are expected to increase starting July 4
 - Note:
 - This is a good warm up in natural river temperatures.
 - DWR outflow forecast has a different shape than the current RFC. The Corps tested a couple different scenarios and they found that because DWR is passing inflow, the total release out of DWR will stay proportional to natural Clearwater flows as well as correlated to Snake River at Anatone flows.

- If the shape changes as DWR responds in real-time, the natural flows are going to also respond fairly similarly. If this shape changes throughout the week the Corps expects the other flows to respond proportionally.
- The Corps did not see a large difference in their model results based on the specific shape and the specific inflow event here.
- Operation:
 - This operation is not expected to draft the pool at all, and the Corps expects to remain through the week with DWR at full pool.
 - Operation is to keep DWR full and to pass additional water straight through DWR.

Erick Van Dyke, OR, asked Bell when he said through the week if it was through July 6 as shown on the chart or was it a different date. He wanted to make sure that he remembered how many days a week was.

Bell said for this operation through the week, they were not expecting to need to increase releases through July 6 and most likely through July 9. He said that he was saying through the week just to be conservative. He said that you could see that the Corps was still modeling only about 64°F through the 10-day. With current conditions, this model run shows holding DWR full throughout this period. That being said, there is always a little uncertainty at the end of the 10-day which is why he had only said through the week. But this shows through the 10-day, DWR would remain at 1600 feet (full pool).

Van Dyke said that the critical dates are 3, 7, and 10 for the modeling on how to interpret all the details. He said that he was trying to think back on all of the conversations and the factors involved. He said generally there is a 3-day that we are pretty certain about, a week is putting us into less certainty, and then the 10-day definitely is that spot where we start to lose sight of certain forecasts. He asked if that was correct.

Bell said that he would say that Van Dyke was correct. He said that the other thing he would say, and he had touched on it last week, is that this model is best calibrated for a LWG tailwater of about 64 – 65°F and above. So with the much cooler water dropping temperatures at the LWG tailwater back into the high 50s, that induces more model uncertainty into our forecast. He said that he would say that Van Dyke's times were correct and he would also just keep that other fact in mind when interpreting these results.

Van Dyke said that he was trying to and he appreciated the extra. Just looking at these two model runs from last week and today, July 3 stands out as being much cooler than what was in the previous forecast so environmental conditions that helped create a cooling event throughout the region seem to have had quite an influence on the model outputs here. He said that he appreciated Bell for putting this together so we could see that.

2. Sockeye SOR - Trevor Conder, NOAA

a) [SOR 2026-2 – Posted Monday 6/29 at 9:55am](#)

Conder said that a lot of the SOR was occurring naturally and then some which is good news for Sockeye.

- To improve Sockeye survival or help Sockeye with some of the lower conversions that we have seen in the past few years. We are trying to have a higher probability of good survival through the system.
- Request:
 - July 1 – 12: Lower Granite Dam (LWG) tailrace temperature not to exceed 66 °F.
 - This is a couple of degrees cooler than the typical 68°F during that period.
 - Provides good conditions at LWG and also down at some of the lower projects through the Snake River.
 - July 13-22: Return to the 68°F criteria.
 - July 23 – August 10: Temperatures could exceed 68°F up to 69.5°F, if necessary.
 - This is to have enough water to both hit an elevation of 1535 feet at DWR at the end of August and to be able to transition on August 10 back to a tailrace temperature of 68°F to support the Fall Chinook broodstock collection that starts on August 18.
- The SOR has justification language that had been vetted a little by the FPAC group.
- There is also some specific language about ladder cooling structures and timing.
- There is also some language about having an offseason meeting to come up with an evaluation process and to come up with some operations that balance this particular Sockeye issue with impacts to Fall Chinook and Steelhead, minimizing those to the degree possible so that everything is migrating through and doing as well as possible.

Emily Stranz checked in and asked if TMT members had a chance to look through this SOR in its entirety. Tony Norris said that the Action Agencies (AA) had. Tom Lorz said that the Fish Managers (FM) did at 9:00 AM in the morning and they just gave them edits. He said that they were just looking to see if it included the edits. They were doing that in real-time.

b) SOR 2026-2 – TMT Comments and Discussion

| *Charles Morrill 10:20 AM*

| *Needs an acknowledgment of accumulated effects of temperature exposure in the lower river ... not just focused on the Snake ... continued exposure to higher temperatures is a known element of survival and reproductive success*

Charles Morrill, WA, said that he and Conder had a quick chat and he had posted what he thought needed to be acknowledged in the SOR. Conder had already sent it out. Morrill said that we simply need to acknowledge that the thermal accumulation load that the Sockeye experience begins with Bonneville up to McNary and the more temperature exposure, thermal units, they accumulate in that portion of the river migration, that

carries on in the Snake River. He said that he thought that needed to be acknowledged and Conder had agreed.

Conder thanked Morrill. He said that he definitely agreed with that. We can add that to overall temperature; high temperature exposure, temperature differential in the ladders, and that temperature accumulation are all very important.

Dave Swank, USFWS, said that he apologized for missing the FPAC meeting but his one question that he would have probably asked was for the July 10 – August 23 time period. He said that he assumed that we were just going to keep an eye on temperatures and the reservoir levels and try to keep it at 68°F, if we can, but it would be allowed to go up to 69.5°F, if we have to. He asked if that was the general idea.

Conder said exactly, that would be managed as best as we could in season to keep it as close as to 68°F as possible and we sort of pick and choose the period of time that we would go above that if we had to.

Jonathan Ebel, ID, said that he was reviewing the SOR this morning, and also was not at FPAC. He said that he had a number of questions about the SOR. He said that he was just going to stick to the obvious one to him. He said that we just got some information from Walla Walla District that shows that the goal of this SOR is going to be achieved, at least for the near future, without this SOR. Given that this says it is for 2026 only, did NOAA have a strong argument that we need to put this SOR on the books, or have the disposition that the Corps *SHALL* implement, the Corps will implement right now.

Conder said that it is good news that we have these lower temperatures and higher flow forecast right now, and he did think that most of the SOR will be achieved naturally. He said that he thought that a greater release today could result in a little lower temperature potentially early on and give some buffer and mean that we do not have to release so much later and go so cold. He said that it does give us more certainty. Conder said that he thought that the forecasts are not certain but as that period warmed up there was still some benefit there to capturing the lower temperature period after July 4. This gives us a little more certainty about that.

Ebel said that it looked like we are going to get that anyway. He asked Conder if he could speak to the “2026 only”. He said that one thing he noted was that he was seeing a buildup of offseason workgroups that NOAA had committed to. He said that if FMs could get a list of those that would be great. He said that this one in particular he thought we had said it last year too because of the weather forecast that it, and actually he thought that someone had predicted that we would see this one again in future years last year. He said that he would have to really question that 2026 only part because clearly it is not. He said that he did not believe that this was necessary to decide upon today. He said that he thought it could use some pretty serious further vetting and maybe some references because he could see an add-in that this operation would “improve egg quality”, that was not on anybody’s radar until our TMT last week when Ebel had brought it up, and there are no references to that of how that temperature would do that. He said that he guessed that he was raising some questions about some of the veracity of some of the statements and the justifications as well as whether it was justified to make a decision on this today.

Conder said that NOAA was committed to having that meeting in the off-season and this SOR is a one-year operation. He said that was not to say that some colder releases of water would not be something that NOAA would not support in the future. This

particular operation is a one-year operation and NOAA does intend to have that meeting and discuss this more holistically.

Stranz asked if there was any more deliberation on the SOR or if there was anything from Walla Walla that they would like to add about implementing an SOR like this in terms of operations.

Bell said in terms of operations the way that the SOR is written is fairly straightforward and works well with Walla Walla's current modeling that they have so it should be easy to implement. He said that he would reiterate, as of right now (today), operations would not necessarily change likely through the week into next week, based on whether or not this was implemented in today's meeting or possibly even Wednesday's meeting.

Ebel said that he appreciated Bell's comment and that Idaho was happy that DWR was going to be full over July 4. He said that was a win. He thanked Walla Walla District for some really good management over the past runoff season up to today. He asked Bell given this weather, a lot of rain really fast, if it had moved the needle at all with respect to what we may predict might be very low base flows later in the Summer above DWR, above the reservoir.

Bell said that was a good question and it was something that Walla Walla was looking at right now. He said his initial answer was that he would still likely expect base flows to be a little lower, but they could provide additional information on that moving forward. He said that he thought the biggest benefit from this was being able to hold DWR at full pool a little longer.

Ebel agreed and said that he would imagine that a lot of times that we get rain really fast and the soils were not exactly soaked, some of it gets soaked but not a lot of it is going to go into an area where it would be dribbled out, it probably just moved out or moved downstream as surface water. He said again, that was what he was thinking about for TMT. He said that we have talked a lot with respect to some SORs and he had heard when you are prioritizing some species at the expense of others. He said that he was a proponent of actually doing that, it is management, but this one requires some really careful thought because of the nature of what happens if we run out of water.

Van Dyke said that he appreciated the conversation. He asked Bell if there were any advancements in the modeling to help us understand what happens at Ice Harbor. He said last year we were less certain about what we get there. He asked if the modeling has advanced at all to help us understand that better. He asked if we were still a little behind the curve.

Bell said that he would say unfortunately right now we are still a little behind the curve. He said that Walla Walla District acknowledged that this is somewhere where we would like to have more information but in terms of last year versus this year, they are still working with fairly similar tools and analyses.

c) SOR 2026-02 – TMT Polling (*Support, Object, No Objection, Abstain*)

Agency	Poll
NOAA	Support
OR	<i>Connection Lost</i>
WA	No Objection
Colville	Abstain

Umatilla	Object
Yakama Nation	No Objection
BOR	Support
Corps	Support
USFWS	Support
ID	Object
Nez Perce	Support
BPA	Support

d) SOR 2026-02 – TMT Response

Agency	Poll
NOAA – <i>Trevor Conder</i>	Rationale was provided above.
OR – <i>Erick Van Dyke</i>	<i>Connection Lost</i>
WA – <i>Charles Morrill</i>	I just want to be a bit cautious on this one but appreciate the information and listening to my colleagues. Thank you.
Colville – <i>Dennis Moore</i>	<i>Nothing to add</i>
Umatilla – <i>Tom Lorz</i>	Looking at the conditions and stuff we do not see this as a big issue. We look forward to discussions at the end of the season and trying to figure out a long-term strategy, so we don't have to do SORs all the time.
Yakama Nation – <i>Tom Iverson</i>	I kind of agree with Tom Lorz. I think we got lucky here. I think the concept is sound, what we are trying to achieve, balancing the water of course is difficult and so I'm hoping that we can learn from this and get some evaluation incorporated into this operation. And we look forward to a planning session so that we can integrate this into normal operations.
BOR – <i>Eric Rothwell</i>	Just listening and supporting the Corps and NOAA.
Corps – <i>Doug Baus</i>	<i>Nothing to add</i>
USFWS – <i>Dave Swank</i>	For our species, bull trout should be out of the mainstem Snake River by this time of year. We tend not to see many passing the dams in July and August, they're more Spring migrants, at least the majority of them, so we're not too concerned about that. And then in terms of hatchery operations, our obvious concern (along with many others) is making sure that we're able to operate the Lower Granite trap starting August 18 and I think NOAA's done a pretty good job of emphasizing that in the specifications so that should be fine.
ID – <i>Jonathan Ebel</i>	So, this requested action is not going to be any different from the background operations, which means that the SOR essentially isn't doing anything. But what it does do is it is setting up a schedule that there is a good chance that it will require adjustment for real-time conditions so it's prescribing an operation that's probably going to have to be altered through more discussion. And so, across the board, because of how this weather pattern has played out,

	it's, at the present time, meaningless. It is achieving its goal without ever being implemented at all. And I find that problematic because it's just putting something on paper that while, from Idaho's perspective, we have seen this too many times, where it's this year only and we've also written that in SORs but not to the level and also not repeatedly. We heard this last year as well. Without going too far into a lot of the details of, you know, hey that bubbler system and the cooling bubbler system on July 20, that is too late to help Snake River Sockeye. All efforts should have been made to get those in earlier so to use that as a justification within this context is of questionable intent. And two, the addition of what this will actually do for Sockeye in the justification without providing any evidence or references or citations or evaluations or anything like that to it is also contrary to, I mean they're just statements, they're statements that are belief, they are pretty squishy from an empirical perspective. And finally, it's just too early. We could discuss this next week, and I may have a different answer because we can't see far enough in the future to be able to prescribe this specification in this scenario, in terms of temperature management at the Lower Granite tailrace and an attempted temperature management of the Snake River as a whole. So, Idaho is going to be trapping at Lower Granite Dam, the temperatures look good for that. That is probably the most meaningful action for Sockeye this year given what we're seeing at the last third of their migration upstream of Granite. And this discussion is premature at best, completely unnecessary at worst. And so, you know, it's a pretty strong objection to this at this time. Thanks.
Nez Perce – Jay Hesse	Appreciate the SOR's commitment to having that post-season discussion and exploration of holistic options and figuring that out for future years. That's really important. Appreciate the SOR including the acknowledgement and efforts to support Fall Chinook broodstock collection starting August 18th and the efforts to support the best possible migration conditions for those fish in the week or so leading up to the 18th and understanding that it takes some time and good conditions for fish to get through the Lower Snake to that point. And the last thing is I hope that in the post-season discussions and in any other forums that this SOR heightens the urgency for getting in the temperature management structures in all of the fish ladders, not just the Lower Snake, but also the Lower Columbia projects. So, temperature management throughout the System, Lower Snake and Lower Columbia, is complex and likely

	to become an even more important factor in the future years. And so, we need to be looking at <i>all</i> of the options for managing temperatures, just not how to squeeze the Dworshak lemon more or differently. And I think this also starts to set that up. So, I appreciate those components of this approach. Thanks.
BPA – Tony Norris	<i>Nothing to add</i>

Morrill said that he just wanted to say that this is a framework for a plan really largely based on natural events. He said the point that he really wanted to make was that it is still going to take due diligence throughout the season with the modeling effort to look at what we need to do to meet the proposed objectives. And so, whatever the Corps, Bell and the crew do for their modeling, that is still going to be very important to us in making decisions to how we adjust, how we react in real time using water from DWR because we are still facing a concern, do we have enough water to meet all the needs, that does not go away. We have been given a break and an opportunity to achieve lower temperatures and that is a good thing. Morrill said that he still thought it was going to take due diligence on TMT's part to monitor that and see how it plays out.

e) SOR 2026-02 – Corps' Implementation

- Baus said that the Corps plans on implementing the SOR and would defer to Bell for any additional comments.
- Bell said moving forward Walla Walla would be adjusting their temperature modeling efforts to target 66°F through July 12.
 - This is going to make no difference this week and potentially early next week but this would set their new target.
 - Walla Walla will update all of their materials appropriately on that.
- Walla Walla will continue to keep close attention to remaining water out of DWR like typical.
- Walla Walla will provide seasonal outlooks as we get a little closer to mid-July on the remaining water for the additional discussions on temperature in the July 23 – August 10 timeframe.

Stranz thanked Baus and Bell. She said that a question came through chat regarding whether or not today's ESP projection would reflect the results of this SOR and the response from the Corps was yes, we will use the SOR to guide the ESP forecast.

- | *Noah Campbell 10:45 AM*
- | *Question, not sure for whom: should we expect today's ESP projection release to reflect the results of this SOR?*
- | *Hamilton, Leah C CIV USARMY CENWD (USA) 10:46 AM*
- | *Yes, we will use the SOR to guide the ESP forecast.*

Ebel asked Bell if he would provide runs for both the *66°F NMFS Criteria* as well as the *68°F Previous Criteria* so that TMT could assess whether operations actually had to change up until July 12 to achieve this goal, the new objective.

Bell said that they should be able to provide runs for both 68°F and 66°F and be able to track that difference moving forward.

Ebel said for transparency he was going to discuss elevating the Corps' decision to RIOG with his RIOG representative.

Stranz thanked Ebel for that awareness.

Ebel said that it was because he thought that the direction to assess as well as the sideboards on the discussion on the discussion for out year actions for temperature management belongs with RIOG not with NMFS.

Hesse asked to go back to the response on the ESP forecast. He said what he heard was that the ESP forecast that came out today was inclusive of this SOR. He asked if he heard that correctly. He asked if that was because the ESP forecast and the past operation were the same given what Grant said.

Hamilton said that the Corps had not issued the ESP forecast today, so they will take what they learned from this meeting. She said that it is a forecast and temperature modeling is even harder than the flows that we see, and we see the ESP change every week. But they will use the information to guide what is in the ESP later today.

3. Agenda Items

Next Meeting Scheduled: Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams

Next Week's Agenda Topics

- DWR Operations and Conditions
- Treaty Flow Augmentation Update

Future Agenda Topics

- Adult Passage Assessment of LMN and JDA
- DART Presentation

Lorz said that he was wondering, not that he does not love to have meetings, but if nothing is really changing, do we need to have a Wednesday meeting. He said unless Ebel pulls together a RIOG or weather changes dramatically one way or the other and we need to make big significant changes. He asked if the Corps could take a look at that Tuesday afternoon and there is nothing to talk about on Wednesday as much fun as Lorz has having meetings, if we do not have to have one, do we need one.

Stranz said that they would take a look. She said that she did not recall what TMT had for that agenda, but we would take a look and if TMT did not need to have a meeting, we would not have a meeting.

Today's Attendees:

Agency	TMT Representative(s)
NOAA Fisheries (NMFS)	Trevor Conder, Kelsey Swieca
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, Keely Murdoch
Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)	Eric Rothwell,
Army Corps of Engineers (COE)	Doug Baus (Chair), Aaron Marshall, Lisa Wright
US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Dave Swank
Idaho	Jonathan Ebel
Montana	
Spokane Tribe (STOI)	
Nez Perce Tribe (NPT)	Jay Hesse
Warm Springs Tribe	
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)	
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)	Tony Norris

Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

COE – Grant Bell, Jessika Solleder, Megan Biljan, Leah Hamilton, Tiffany Dixon, Chris Peery, Catherine Dudgeon, Michelle Yuen, Kenneth Sears

Washington Ecology – Thomas Starkey

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

CorSource – Andrea Ausmus (BPA note taker, Contractor)

FPC – Noah Campbell, Erin Cooper