COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM
August 26, 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 from August 12, and the minutes and facilitator's summary from August 19.

Dworshak Dam Operations
Grant Bell, Corps, reported on operations at Dworshak Dam (DWR). Releases have reduced to about 8.8 kcfs and the forebay elevation was 1,544.2 feet as of 0700 hours this morning. At Anatone, temperatures are steady in the lower 70s°F. Flows at Anatone are running between 10-20 kcfs, natural flows at Orofino are about 1.2 kcfs; both are low for this time of year.

The Lower Granite (LWG) tailwater temperature is in the mid-65°F range. Looking back a couple days, cooler temperatures in the forebay were around the 15-meter mark, but recent warmer weather has shifted stratification / warmer water into the 15-meter zone. Grant confirmed the LWG tailwater is still below 68°F, but the transition in the thermal profile is reflected in the model results.

The RFC weather forecast shows a brief spike above 100°F today, but a cooler system moving in from the north is expected to lower both highs and lows over the next week or so. Lewiston is forecasted to hit 97°F today with lows in the mid-60s°F. Temperatures will drop over the weekend with highs in the mid-70s°F, followed by temperatures mostly in the 70–80°F range. The near-term forecast shows no major heat events in the immediate future.

In the model results from this morning, Grant emphasized the recent change in LWG pool stratification around the 15-meter depth, which is already influencing LWG tailwater temperatures; the tailwater is expected to remain in the 65–66°F range going forward. Forecasted temperatures for natural flows are somewhat warm, with the model showing tailwater temperatures reaching about 67°F by the end of August. Grant noted that observed temperatures may come in a little lower than the model suggests.

Grant noted that starting September 1, operations will transition to the DWR Board's Operational Plan. The DWR Flow Augmentation Water Tracker ("DWR Visualizer") shows the season is nearly complete, with 87% of total estimated water used as of today. By September 1, usage is expected to reach 97% of the 100% allocation. The reservoir is expected to finish above the end-of-month minimum of 1,535 feet. Current expected end-of-month pool elevation is just under 1,538 feet (1,537.7 feet this morning), though this may shift slightly depending on natural inflows. Grant noted this will be the last routine summer DWR update for the season; the Corps can provide project updates in September upon TMT request.

Draft Fall/Winter Spill Priority List
Dan Turner, Corps, reported on the shift from summer spill and introduced the Spill Priority List (SPL) for the fall/winter period. He clarified that the SPL is intended to manage forced spill (driven by lack of load/lack of market), and to spread TDG risk across the system if spill is required. The proposed SPL order is a repeat of last year's and is a working document that can be adjusted in-season.

Tom Lorz, CRITFC/CTUIR noted there are still outstanding issues and several MOCs that could affect the final project ranking; FPAC will submit a ranking recommendation once they have more information from the Corps. Dan emphasized that the SPL is intended to be updated as conditions change through the season; it is expected to remain adaptive. Later in the meeting Nick Bertrand, Corps, followed up on previously mentioned MOCs, he will send a detailed written update on the B2 corner collector maintenance cancellation and any implications for other maintenance/spill-priority work.

Fall Spill Operations
Aaron Marshall, Corps, reported that fall court-ordered spillway weir operations begin September 1. The Corps expects fall flows to decline as Grand Coulee (GCL) and other projects ramp down outflows after the summer draft/augmentation period. Because of flow reductions, there may be periods when low flows and minimum generation requirements prevent operation of some spillway weirs for some or all of the time. The Corps will operate spillway weirs as inflows allow, consistent with Section 4 of the FOP, to maximize the duration of surface spill.

Specifically at John Day (JDA), opening and closing a TSW requires a crew and gantry crane, and must occur during daylight hours when weather allows. JDA cannot respond to hourly flow fluctuations below approximately 80 kcfs without risking violation of minimum generation requirements, or operating pool constraints. Aaron noted that in prior years, even when daily average flow exceeded 80 kcfs, there were still frequent hourly excursions below 80 kcfs because of significant within-day variability from mid-Columbia projects. Based on the current forecast, the Corps expects the JDA surface weirs to become inoperable in early September as inflows drop.

Charles Morrill, WA, asked about the reliability of the ESP median trace for McNary (MCN) inflow in September, given the operational sensitivity around the 80 kcfs threshold. The Corps acknowledged there is significant forecast uncertainty, especially during the transition away from the summer draft and as GCL begins refilling. In response to a query from Tom about the trigger mechanism, Aaron noted that, except at JDA, the Corps will make adjustments based on the previous day's daily average inflow; he clarified the Corps will use the daily average for the prior day, not hourly variation, for those adjustments.

Tom asked if a TSW must be closed, could the Corps could use deep spill to "feather in" flow and stay closer to the target release; Aaron noted that the Preliminary Injunction called for surface spill and not deep spill. Tony Norris, BPA, added that from BPA's perspective, deep spill is not necessarily beneficial for a fish passage objective, especially with smaller gate openings. Tom noted that from a fish perspective, deep spill at 8 kcfs is not a small opening and is beneficial to fish; studies show passage survival is better through deep spill compared to the bypass or turbines. Aaron clarified that the court order specifies surface spill; the Corps will not use deep spill as a replacement for surface spill.

Tom requested information on the Corps' operating plan and asked if there was a teletype available; the Corps did not indicate these could be provided. The Corps confirmed that details of surface spill operations will be captured in the monthly FOP implementation reports and will not be reported out in-season at TMT. CTUIR, WA, and OR expressed disagreement with the Corps' plan to only report on operation changes in the monthly reports, noting that the TMT forum is intended for regional coordination on these types of issues. TMT agenda topics may still be submitted through FPAC, and the AAs will share requested topics with their legal/policy teams; special/unscheduled TMT meetings can still be requested if needed.

Libby Dam Transmission Emergency
Tony reported storm damage to the transmission line serving Libby Dam (LIB) on Saturday around 1720 hours, forcing a rapid reduction in discharge from 9 kcfs to 1.5 kcfs for a few hours. Flow was gradually

restored, reaching 9 kcfs around 0100 hours (total duration ~8 hours). In response to a query from Brian Marotz, MT, Tony clarified that when the line tripped, units were taken to speed-no-load very quickly; a lot of water spilled while units were offline. While units were unavailable, total dissolved gas (TDG) rose to about 111% (WQS is 110%); the elevated TDG lasted for roughly three hours before units were restored. Tom appreciated the quick response of crews and restoring service in a timely manner.

Brian noted that rapid flow drops can cause stranding of juvenile fish, especially if they are left in pools or on exposed banks; the impact depends on duration, exposure, and temperature/desiccation conditions. Because the event was short and conditions were not extremely hot/dry, biological impacts are unlikely from MT's perspective; concerns arise when high TDG persists for many days.

Set Agenda for Next TMT Meeting
TMT Members may send agenda items to Doug Baus or Emily Stranz. A draft agenda will be posted to the TMT website by Monday COB. TMT Members were reminded that starting in September, business meetings will switch to an every-other-week cadence.

1. Non-court ordered Operations Review

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

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

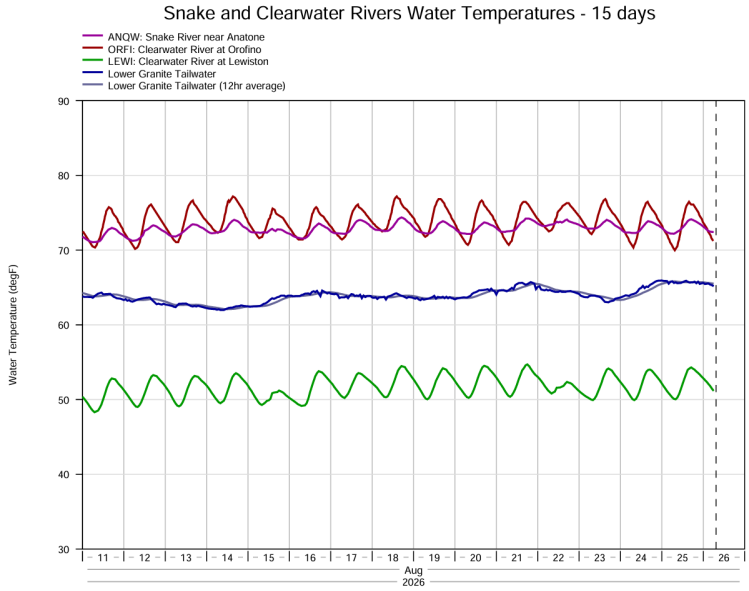
Columbia River Regional Forum
Technical Management Team
OFFICIAL MINUTES
Wednesday, August 26, 2026

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) August 12 Minutes
      - Approved
   b) August 19 Summary and Minutes
      - Approved

2. **Dworshak (DWR) Operations –** *Grant Bell, Corps*
   a) DWR Current Hourly Data
      - Current Outflows: 8.8 kcfs
      - Forebay Elevation: 1544.2 feet
   b) Snake and Clearwater Rivers Temperature Data
      - Anatone (Snake River):
        - Temperature: ~72°F
          - Holding steady
        - Natural Flow: 10 – 20 kcfs
          - Low for this time of year.
      - Orofino (Clearwater Mainstem):
        - Temperature: 71 – 73°F
        - Natural Flow: 1.2 kcfs
          - Low for this time of year.
      - Dworshak (DWR) Tailwater:
        - Temperature: ~46°F
      - Lewiston
        - Temperature: 50 – 52°F
      - Lower Granite (LWG) Tailwater:
        - Temperature: ~65°F

- Last 15 Days of Temperature



c) Lower Granite Forebay Temperature String

Date	Time	Pool (m)	0.5m	1.5m	3m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m	35m	Battery
08/23/2026	00:00	224.25	71.0	70.9	69.7	68.8	67.4	65.0	61.2	59.7	59.6	59.5	13.60
	01:00	224.24	71.0	70.9	70.1	69.2	67.1	65.1	61.3	59.8	59.6	59.5	13.60
	02:00	224.23	70.4	70.4	70.3	69.5	67.0	65.1	61.1	59.8	59.6	59.5	13.57
	03:00	224.23	70.1	70.0	69.9	69.9	66.9	64.9	61.5	59.7	59.6	59.5	13.57
	04:00	224.21	70.3	70.2	70.0	69.8	67.5	64.8	61.1	59.9	59.7	59.5	13.57
	05:00	224.22	70.2	70.2	70.1	69.7	67.6	65.0	61.7	59.9	59.8	59.5	13.57
	06:00	224.22	70.2	70.2	70.1	69.9	67.3	65.1	61.7	59.9	59.8	59.5	13.57
	07:00	224.20	70.4	70.3	70.2	70.1	67.0	65.1	61.6	60.0	59.7	59.5	13.62
	08:00	224.23	70.4	70.2	70.1	69.8	66.8	65.3	61.5	60.0	59.7	59.5	13.67
	09:00	224.21	70.4	70.4	70.2	69.8	67.3	65.4	60.5	59.8	59.7	59.5	13.74
	10:00	224.21	70.7	70.4	70.1	69.5	66.7	65.0	60.4	59.7	59.7	59.5	13.85
	11:00	224.23	70.8	70.3	69.9	69.3	66.8	64.0	60.9	59.7	59.7	59.5	13.78
	12:00	224.22	70.7	70.6	70.0	69.1	66.7	63.4	61.1	59.9	59.7	59.5	13.78
	13:00	224.22	70.4	70.3	70.0	68.6	65.8	62.5	60.4	59.9	59.8	59.5	13.78
	14:00	224.22	70.0	69.9	69.8	68.6	65.6	62.4	60.9	59.8	59.7	59.5	13.78
	15:00	224.23	69.7	69.5	69.4	68.0	65.1	63.3	60.7	60.0	59.8	59.5	13.76
	16:00	224.22	69.0	69.0	68.8	68.5	65.5	63.0	60.5	60.1	59.8	59.5	13.76
	17:00	224.23	70.1	69.6	68.5	68.3	66.0	63.0	60.7	60.2	59.9	59.5	13.76
	18:00	224.24	69.8	69.6	67.9	67.7	66.0	63.3	60.6	60.2	60.1	59.5	13.76
	19:00	224.24	70.0	68.7	67.7	67.6	65.7	63.9	60.6	60.1	60.0	59.5	13.67
	20:00	224.24	69.7	68.7	68.1	67.9	65.8	64.6	61.0	60.2	60.0	59.5	13.62
	21:00	224.23	69.4	68.8	68.6	68.3	66.5	64.6	61.3	60.4	60.2	59.5	13.60
	22:00	224.20	69.3	69.1	68.3	68.2	66.9	64.5	61.6	60.2	60.1	59.5	13.60
	23:00	224.22	69.3	68.8	68.1	68.1	67.3	64.8	60.9	60.1	60.0	59.5	13.60

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	02:00	224.20	72.1	72.0	71.6	70.4	69.2	66.7	65.3	61.1	60.5	60.0	13.57
	03:00	224.20	71.8	71.7	71.5	70.1	69.3	66.6	64.5	61.0	60.5	60.0	13.57
	04:00	224.19	71.9	71.7	71.5	70.5	69.4	66.7	64.5	61.6	60.4	60.0	13.57
	05:00	224.19	71.6	71.6	71.5	70.4	69.2	66.9	64.8	61.9	60.4	60.0	13.57
	06:00	224.19	71.5	71.5	71.0	70.3	69.1	66.9	64.9	61.7	60.5	60.0	13.57
	07:00	224.16	71.2	71.0	70.7	70.1	69.7	66.8	65.1	61.2	60.5	60.0	13.62
	08:00	224.18	71.0	71.0	70.9	70.5	69.6	66.7	64.9	61.4	60.4	60.0	13.69
	09:00	224.18	71.1	71.0	70.5	70.3	69.1	66.8	64.7	61.6	60.3	60.0	13.74
	10:00	224.17	71.3	71.3	70.6	70.2	69.9	66.7	65.0	60.9	60.4	60.0	13.85
	11:00	224.18	71.1	71.0	70.9	70.7	69.9	67.1	65.0	61.4	60.4	60.0	13.76
	12:00	224.19	71.5	71.3	70.8	70.3	69.6	67.4	64.9	61.1	60.5	60.0	13.76
	13:00	224.20	71.9	71.0	70.6	70.3	69.5	67.4	65.1	61.4	60.3	60.0	13.74
	14:00	224.20	71.4	70.9	70.7	70.5	69.6	67.1	63.6	61.5	60.2	60.0	13.74
	15:00	224.21	71.8	71.2	70.7	70.3	69.7	66.9	63.8	61.2	60.4	60.0	13.71
	16:00	224.20	74.2	71.7	71.0	70.4	69.8	66.3	63.3	61.1	60.5	60.0	13.71
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	03:00	224.19	72.0	71.5	70.6	70.3	69.2	65.9	62.2	60.7	60.6	60.1	13.57
	04:00	224.18	71.9	71.3	70.6	70.3	69.2	66.0	62.8	60.8	60.6	60.1	13.57
	05:00	224.17	71.8	71.4	70.7	70.3	69.3	66.1	63.2	60.8	60.5	60.1	13.57
	06:00	224.17	71.6	71.5	70.7	70.3	69.3	66.2	62.5	60.8	60.5	60.1	13.57
	07:00	224.17	71.5	71.5	70.9	70.2	69.0	66.3	62.3	60.9	60.6	60.1	13.62
	08:00	224.17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- June 23 – Cool temperatures at the 15m-mark
- Current – The warmer temperatures came in and allowed warmer water to move down to the 15m range.
- Lower Granite tailwater temperatures are still well below 68°F.
- The transition is seen in the model results due to the stratification.

d) RFC 10-Day Regional Weather Forecast

- Temperatures:

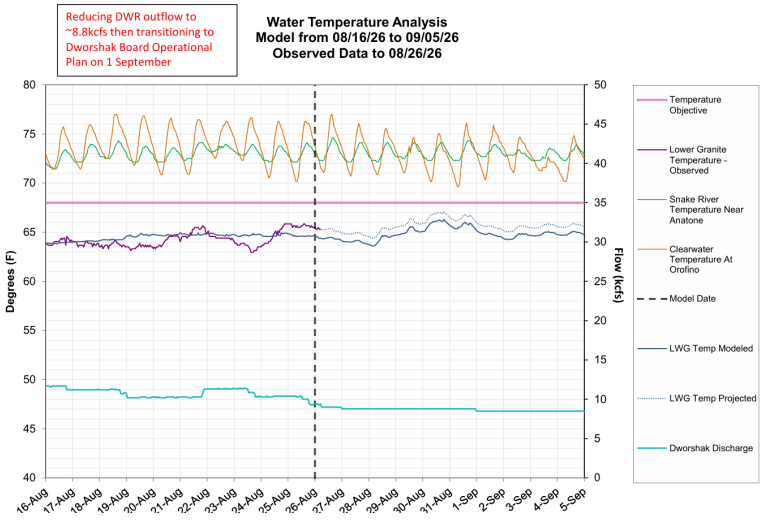
- Today temperatures include highs in the 90 – 100°F with a few areas >100°F.
- Later in the forecast cooler air is expected to move in from the North and both high and low temperatures are expected to drop over the next week or so.

- Precipitation:
  - Indications of a chance of light showers.
  - Conditions in the basin at this time of year are variable, especially in terms of precipitation.

e) Weather Channel Forecast for Lewiston, ID

- Temperatures:
  - Today
    - High: ~97°F
    - Low: mid-60s
  - Temperatures are expected to cool down over the next few days to mild temperatures.
  - This weekend highs are expected to be in the 70s and back up into the 80s.
  - No large peaks are immediately forecasted.

f) Model Results – *posted August 26 at 8:45am*

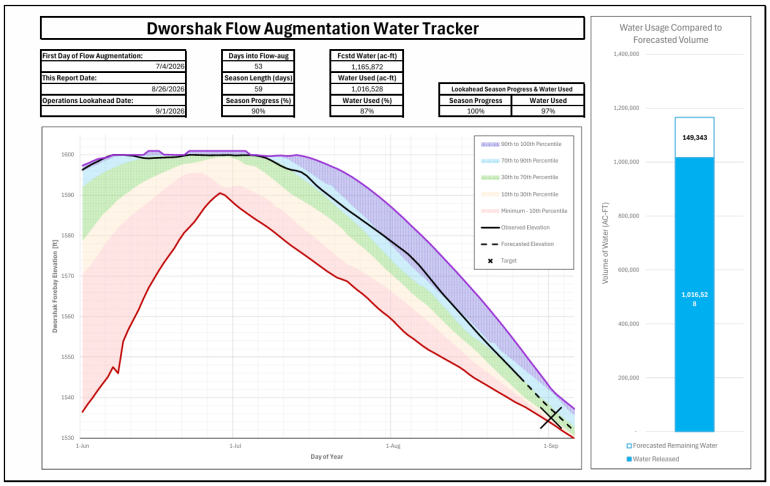


- Conditions:
  - Change in stratification around the 15m mark shown in the purple line with the warmup in LWG tailwater temperatures.

- Operations:
  - Temperatures are expected to stay within the 65 – 66°F range.
  - Forecasted temperatures for the natural flows are a little on the warm side in the model run. Although it shows reaching up to ~67°F in the LWG tailwater, actual observed temps may come in lower.

- September 1 DWR will be transitioning to the Dworshak Board Operational Plan.

g) Dworshak Visualizer Flow Augmentation Water Tracker – *posted August 26 at 8:45am*



- Forebay Elevation:
  - Current:
    - Water Used: 87%
  - September 1:
    - Water Used: 97%
- September 1 Minimum Elevation: 1535 feet
- September 1 Expected Elevation: 1537.7 feet
  - Elevation can adjust up/down slightly due to natural flows.

3. Draft Fall/Winter Spill Priority List – *Dan Turner, Corps; Tom Lorz, FPAC Chair/Umatilla*

a) Spill Priority List

- Time of year that we shift away from Summer Spill to manage forced spill (specifically lack of market or lack of load spill) to allow the spreading of TDG over the System during the fall/winter.
- The draft order is what was used last year, Turner will update with feedback from TMT.

b) FPAC Response

- Lorz said that FPAC had talked about this yesterday and there were some outstanding issues and MOCs that might affect what the rankings would be, depending on how that works out Fish Managers will send in a ranking and provide change requests for the list.

Stranz asked Lorz if he had any sense of timeframe on that or should TMT just wait and see.

Lorz said to ask people from the Corps. He said that FPAC needs information from them and once they get that information that can inform their decisions.

Turner said that this list is intended to be updated as conditions change, so we can adjust as needed in the season.

Later in the meeting, Nicholas Bertrand, Corps, said that Lorz alluded to some MOCs that the Corps is still dealing with. He said that he was assuming at the top of that list for him is the B2 Corner Collector at Bonneville Dam. He had an update on that, and he would have a more detailed written response that should go out later today. He said that this changed this morning but in evaluating the ability to do maintenance on two of the out of service units in Powerhouse 2, the dewatering pumps do not have the capacity to do both that maintenance and the corner collector maintenance, so the corner collector maintenance was cancelled as of this morning. He said that he would have a more detailed response to the region, but if that was holding up any other work on some of the responses to the Spill Priority List, he did not want to hinder anybody else being able to do work on that.

4. **Fall Spill Operations** – *Aaron Marshall, Corps; Tony Norris, BPA*

a) Corps Update

- Fall Court Ordered Spillway Weir Operations begin September 1.
- Conditions Update
  - Current streamflow forecasts suggest there may be times when low flows and minimum generation requirements preclude the operation of some of the spillway weirs, some of the time.
  - Flows are expected to decrease at Grand Coulee (GCL) as other storage projects ramp down outflows following the Summer draft requirements.
- Corps will operate the spillway weirs as inflows allow consistent with Section 4 of the FOP to maximize the duration of surface spill.
- John Day (JDA)
  - Specifically at JDA, opening and closing the TSW requires a crew and gantry crane that must be done during daylight hours and as weather allows.
  - JDA cannot respond to hourly flow fluctuations below ~80 kcfs by closing the TSWs without violating the minimum generation requirements or operating pool constraints.
  - In past years, even when daily average flows were well above 80 kcfs, there were frequent hourly excursions below 80 kcfs due to significant within day flow fluctuations from the Mid-Columbia Projects.
  - The Corps anticipates that the JDA surface weirs will be inoperable starting in early September as inflows significantly decrease.

- FOP Implementation Reports
  - Details of the Surface Spill Operations will be described in the monthly FOP Implementation Reports.
  - The Corps will extend the reports this year to cover the months of September, October, and November.

b) BPA Update

- Low flows are expected in September as we start to refill GCL to recover from the Summer Augmentation Draft.
- Expect that the flow in the Lower Columbia to get into this zone within the first week of September.

Charles Morrill, WA, said that the McNary (MCN) inflow on the ESP median increased. He asked if they expect that those projected inflows for September are reasonably accurate.

Norris said that it is a modeled streamflow so accurate is not an appropriate term.

Morrill said he guessed not accurate but relevant because they do show us getting down to the 80s and Marshall just described it, when you get into that range, you can see hourly variation that would impact the operation of the TSWs at JDA.

Marshall said that there is a significant amount of uncertainty with those streamflow forecasts, especially in the transition from the summer draft and then especially with GCL turning the project around and starting to refill in advance of the Chum operation so there is some forecast uncertainty there.

Lorz said if he was trying to understand that correctly they are worried about the hourlies. He asked what their trigger point would be, like if they look a day ahead or something like that, and they think they are going to have an hourly less than they would shut off the TSWs and then, he assumed, they are going to have a teletype ready to go. He said that he was trying to figure out the trigger mechanism.

Marshall said that they will be making the adjustments based on the previous day's average inflow, except at JDA. The Lower Snake and MCN projects will be based on the previous day's average inflow.

Morrill asked if on the previous day average inflow, if they would be looking at hourly variation when doing that or would they be looking at the daily average of the previous day.

Marshall said that they would be using the daily average for previous day.

Lorz said since it takes time to close a TSW, he assumed that they would close one TSW and could still maintain one TSW and it still keeps you at 70. He said that he did not think that flows would go below 70. He asked if they would use deep spill to feather in to try to keep close to what they are supposed to be doing.

Norris said that they would be closing one TSW and not providing deep spill.

Lorz said that he was struggling with why they would not provide deep spill if you could augment the deep spill to whatever it needs to be. He asked if you are at 78 and you could do one TSW and do 8 deep spill, why would you not do that.

Norris said that he did not think that deep spill was helpful for the target species for what this spill is for, steelhead overshoots, and so deep spill with small gate openings is not necessarily beneficial for fish passing the project. He said that it had been his understanding.

Lorz said that he would be wrong. Deep spill at 8 kcfs is not shallow, the gate opening is actually pretty big, and all the studies show that fish falling back through deep spill are vastly superior to the bypass or through turbines, so while deep spill is the not the preferred alternative it is still wildly better than the alternatives that the Action Agencies are presenting.

Norris responded saying that the court order was for TSW spill, and if we cannot provide the TSW spill, there was no guidance to provide deep spill.

Stranz said that it sounded like from Lorz' perspective was that it would be beneficial if you are not able to keep both TSWs open to augment with the deep spill. She said that may be something that the Action Agencies could take internally for conversation.

Marshall said that he wanted to respond. The court order specified surface spill so they would not be using deep spill as a replacement.

Lorz asked if there would be notifications that they are doing this or was that going to just be monthly reports.

Stranz said that she thought she had heard monthly reports. She asked if that was accurate.

Marshall said that was correct. He said that they would have all the details of the operations in the monthly FOP Implementation Report. He said that he wanted to get ahead of this a little bit because those adjustments would occur during September or are currently expected and he did not want TMT to have to wait until mid-October for the September monthly report to come out.

Erik Van Dyke, OR, asked if we would continue to have TMT meetings and would this information be updated during those meetings.

Marshall said that we would continue to have TMT meetings, but they would not be giving any updates on the surface spill operations. during those TMT meetings He said that they would save those for the monthly reports.

Van Dyke asked if they were still able to provide agenda topics for the meetings.

Marshall said absolutely; to submit recommendations for TMT agenda topics through FPAC and as usual the Action Agencies will run that by their legal and policy folks for decision on whether or not that topic would be included in the TMT agenda.

Van Dyke asked if special meetings would be allowed during this period.

Stranz clarified if he meant like an unscheduled TMT meeting.

Van Dyke said yes, the normal routine where we have an issue we would like to address or bring up.

Marshall said absolutely, they would take those requests when they come in.

Van Dyke thanked Marshall for that clarity.

Morrill thanked Marshall for sharing that. He said that he was curious that we only have two TMT meetings in September because we go to every other week so that the Corps

could not provide any updates on the operations that are ongoing or have occurred. And that the Corps can only report in a monthly report.

Marshall said that the hourly data would remain available for review, but the Action Agencies would not be giving updates during TMT meetings. They would save all the details of the implementation for those monthly FOP reports.

Morrill said that he understood.

Stranz said that it was not necessarily what everyone wanted to hear but thanked TMT for hearing the Corps and BPA out on this one and for the comments and questions as well.

Lorz said that Umatilla disagrees with this strategy that the Corps was implementing. He said he thought that we should be using TMT to address these issues and that was what the original forum was for and that was what the Corps had stated its use would be for. He said that they are perplexed that we are not going to utilize it in that manner. He said that he had talked to Umatilla's policy folks and they are scratching their heads at why TMT is not being used for the functionality it is intended and he was sure going forward there would be some more discussions.

Van Dyke said that Lorz' input had hit directly into the spaces that either Oregon or FPAC would be supporting in his view.

Morrill said that Washington shares that same perspective.

5. **Libby Dam Transmission Emergency –** *Tony Norris, BPA*

- Report out that there was some storm damage that interrupted the line service out of Libby (LIB) on Saturday, August 22, around 5:20PM. Discharge had to be dropped down to ~1.5 kcfs for a few hours and then it was slowly ramped up and was back up to 9 kcfs by 1:00AM the following day, around eight hours.

Brian Marotz, MT, asked how fast the flows were dropped then. He asked if that was abrupt.

Norris said yes, absolutely. He said that when the line tripped, he thought LIB went to speed no load on three units very quickly, from 9 kcfs to 1.5 kcfs. He said that it was about two hours at 1.5 kcfs and then another couple of hours at 4.7 kcfs and then by 1:00AM, LIB was back at 9 kcfs.

Marotz said that he was unaware of this and thanked Norris.

Lorz asked Norris to thank the crews for their diligence in getting it back online in a timely manner.

Norris additionally shared that a lot of that was spill so there were about three hours where TDG got up to ~111% for about 3 hours until LIB was back online with the units.

Marotz said to put it in a biological perspective, when we drop the flows that fast, we cause stranding, depending on where the fish are at any given time small fish can sometimes be trapped in either pools or on the bank, which is something we try to avoid. He thanked Norris for the report. He said that this was one of those things when a storm trips the equipment and you have to drop, that is what happens, but the consequences are fish stranding. Fortunately, it was such a short period of time that unless it is really hot and dry, which we had a little bit more mild, it was not quite as hot as it has been. The material on the bank can desiccate rapidly in the summertime. And then when the flows come back you still have lost productivity and it takes roughly six weeks, maybe a little

longer, for that to become productive again in that zone. He said that these are things that occur in a hydropower system, but biologically it is not something that does not cause harm it just depends on how long it is desiccated to describe how much harm it does create. He thanked Norris for the report. He said that he was glad the TDG only got to about a little bit over 110% TDG which is the state standard. Typically, when we have things that occur like that, we do not see a great deal of impact from a short-term bump in TDG, it is when we have ten days of supersaturated water, where we really start to see impacts. He said that he did not expect to see anything from that short-term bump in TDG, but warm temperatures in the summer in that ecosystem, that is something that we can avoid is always great. He thanked Norris for the report.

Morrill asked Marotz if MT have a team assembled or prepared in the event something like this happens to kind of do an assessment of the impacts in terms of stranding.

Marotz said that MT assembles a team when it is something that it is a lot easier to do when they know that it is coming, but they assemble a team to evaluate. He said that he would be contacting them just to see what they saw on the ground. They will discuss whether it is worth assembling a team because what they have learned is past events is that it is very difficult to assess impacts even if you have acute damage to fish and if we have a mortality. Marotz said that they have actually tagged dead fish and let them go below the dam. He said that they knew where they were because they had a tag and they even sent divers down and it was amazing how fast the river recycles those dead fish carcasses. It takes almost no time before they are covered with either debris or fungus or something and you would not notice them swimming by. So, what they have done in the past, usually for spill events when we have gas supersaturation that extended for ten days or more, they have found more impact in the Macrozoobenthos than the fish. Although, to summarize, when they recapture fish, when they did a lot of work on this, a lot of the damage was split fins and sometimes bubbles in the fish's eyes from gas supersaturation. Those split fins will heal rapidly and when the bubbles go away you see like an echo of the bubble inside the eye, even though the bubble is gone the vitreous humor shows impacts for a while, but even that goes away quickly. They have not been able to determine if that affects the fish as far as sight-feeding and that sort of thing. He said that he went past what his question was, but he will find out if they have the time within their schedule to do anything now, or it they are willing to do anything now, but this was such a short-term event it is very unlikely that we would discover something huge out there. He did not think that the impact would be that great.

Morrill thanked Marotz and said that he guessed his takeaway from him from what he said was obviously there is an impact from the short draw down, drop in water levels and the impact there, but apparently from what Marotz had done, the greater concern is long periods of high TDG. He asked if that was a fair assessment.

Marotz said yes, as long as we are following the ramping rates that were established. He said that was a lot of work to figure out how much the flows could fluctuate safely and that is why we have the established ramp rates and typically if we follow those and then keep the gas within reason, we are okay. But obviously in a situation like this, where a storm comes in, the load is dropped, flows must drop and then go to spill just to keep the river wet, the trade off there is keep the river as safe as possible, keep the flows as high as possible, avoid the sudden drops and we will be okay, but things like this happen.

Morrill agreed that they do, and thanked Marotz for sharing the information.

6. Additional Questions/Comments

Van Dyke said that he would like to hear more about how the system is operating and what low flows are at TMT meetings.

Doug Baus, Corps, said to add clarification, TMT will have Non-Court Ordered Operations Review for the TMT meeting scheduled on September 9. He said that was the only agenda item at this time.

Stranz asked Van Dyke if that was what he was asking for or if he was asking about something else.

Van Dyke said that it would be of interest to know if changes had occurred in the operation because of low flow, if that comes out in the Ops Review that is great.

7. Agenda Items

Next Meeting Scheduled: Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams

Meetings will change to alternating weeks in September.

Next Week's Agenda Topics

- Non-Court Ordered Operations Review

Future Agenda Topics

- 2026 SR Sockeye Review (?)
- 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
Yakama Nation	
Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)	Chris Runyan, Eric Rothwell
Army Corps of Engineers (COE)	Doug Baus (Chair), Aaron Marshall, Lisa Wright
US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	
Idaho	
Montana	Brain Marotz
Spokane Tribe (STOI)	
Nez Perce Tribe (NPT)	
Warm Springs Tribe	
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)	
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)	Tony Norris, Ben Hausmann

Other Attendees (non-TMT members):

COE – Megan Biljan, Chris Peery, Dan Turner, Grant Bell, Nicholas Bertrand, Brian Majeran, Tom Conning, Tony Garcia Morales, Michelle Yuen, Steven Lee, Catherine Dudgeon, Patricia Madson, Kasi Underhill, Sean Tackley

BPA – Eric Nielsen, Tammy Mackey, James Vanden Bos, Milli Chennell

BOR – Ryan Fosness

Washington Ecology – Thomas Starkey

Oregon DEQ – David Gruen

DS Consulting – Emily Stranz (Facilitator), Colby Mills

CorSource – Andrea Ausmus (BPA note taker, Contractor)

Clearing Up – K. C. Mehaffey

PGE – Phil DeVol

EKI – Eve James

Energy EPS – Joshua Rasmussen

AVA – Patrick Maher, Mike Dillon, Steve Lentini

NPCC – Kate Self

FPC – Erin Cooper

Unaffiliated – Eric Wood