



# Columbia River System (CRS) Fish Facility Design Review Work Group (FFDRWG) USACE, Portland District (NWP) and Walla Walla District (NWW) March 2026 Written Updates

FFDRWG Files: <https://public.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/FFDRWG/CY2026/>

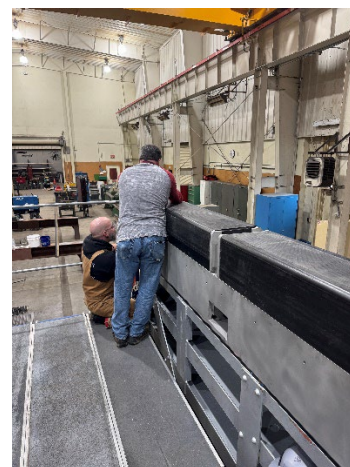
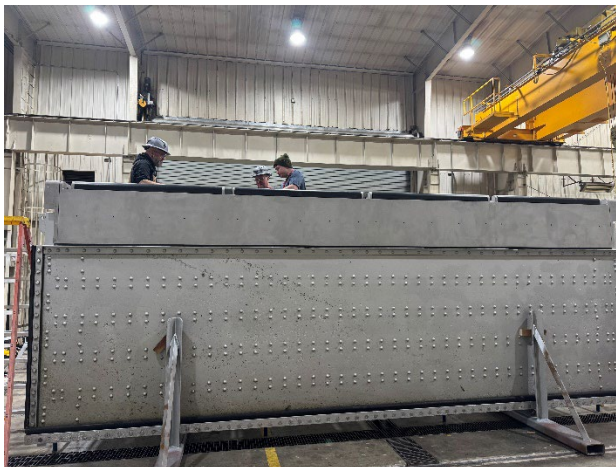
## 1 FFDRWG contact list - \*\* notify Chuck and Jake of any changes

<b>BPA</b>	Laurie Porter (CRITFC)	Mark Leonard	Tucker Gossett (BON)	Sarah Ebner (HD)
Ben Hausmann	Greg Silver (CRITFC)	Scott Livingston	Jase Owens (BON)	Kyle Sautter (HDC)
Carolina Andes	Pete McHugh (CRITFC)	Nicole Tancreto	Becca Cates (BON)	<b>CENWW-PM</b>
Christine Petersen	Aaron Jackson (CTUIR)	<b>CENWD</b>	Eric Grosvenor (TDA)	Chuck Barnes
Josh Ashline	Ralph Lampman (YN)	Doug Baus	Jeff Randall (TDA)	Ryan Ashcraft
Leah Sullivan	Keely Murdoch (YN)	Tim Dykstra	Aaron Young (TDA)	Jeremy Nguyen
Tammy Mackey	Tod Sween (NPT)	Dan Feil	David Miller (JDA)	Karen Kelly
Emily Leake	Jay Hesse (NPT)	Cindy Studebaker	Michael Lotspeich (JDA)	Greg Linklater
<b>NOAA</b>	Lyman Jim (CTWS)	Lisa Wright	Laura Ricketts (JDA)	Karen Robison
Trevor Conder	Casey Baldwin (CTCR)	Sean Tackley	Robert Wertheimer (FFU)	Chris Yane
Kelsey Swieca	Michael Karnosh (CTGR)	Ian Chane	Darren Gallion (FFU)	Kat Hertzog
Chris Magel	Lawrence Schwabe (CTGR)	<b>CENWP-PM</b>	Kyle Tidwell (FFU)	<b>CENWW-OD</b>
Emi Melton	Torey Wakeland (CTGR)	Ida Royer	<b>CENWP-ENC</b>	Chris Peery
Kinsey Frick	<b>NPCC</b>	Erin Kovalchuk	Shari Dunlop (HD)	Tiffany Stoeckig-Dixon
Jesse Lamb	Kris Homel	Mark Bierman	Aaron Litzenberg (HD)	Denise Griffith
<b>USFWS</b>	Kate Self	Jake Macdonald	Chris Motti (HD)	Bobby Johnson
Dave Swank	<b>FPC</b>	Marie Adams	Steve Schlenker (HD)	Deb Snyder
Shelby Fowler	Erin Cooper	David Trachtenbarg	Max Wilson-Fey (HD)	Steven Lee
<b>States</b>	Noah Campbell	Brian Bell	Adam White (DE)	<b>CENWW-ENC</b>
Erick Van Dyke (ODFW)	<b>PSMFC</b>	David Hamernik	Dan Penn (DM)	Jon Renholds
Charlie Morrill (WDFW)	Gordy Axel	<b>CENWP-OD</b>	Erika Mitchell (DM)	Travis Foster
Jonathan Ebel (IDFG)	Gabriel Brooks	Nick Bertrand (ODT)	Adam Jones (DG)	Ryan Laughery
<b>CRITFC/Tribes</b>	Darren Chase	Patricia Madson (ODT)	Nicholas Rillstone (DS)	Brock Winegar
Tom Lorz (CRITFC)	Roger Clark	Jeanette Wendler (BON)	Will Guest (DS)	Andrew Glencross

## 2 NWP Projects

### 2.1 NWP BON1 Ice & Trash PIT Detection – Mark Bierman (PM), Erika Mitchell (TL), Jeanette Wendler (BON)

- *PSMFC installed the antennas inside the shield the week of 2/23 and prepared the gate for installation on Friday 2/27, pending availability of project support. Prototype system, so additional tuning after initial installation is assumed will be needed (Axel).*





- *PSMFC and USACE swapped out gates for the one with the antenna on 2/27. PSMFC representatives Gabriel Brooks, Gordy Axel, Scott Bettin, Scott Livingston, and Mark Leonard, were present for installation of the new B1 I&T sluice antenna.*
- *Boxes to house the electronics are scheduled to be installed and final tuning will occur the week of March 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

**2.2 NWP BON2 exit channel PIT detection for post-construction evaluation – Erin Kovalchuk (PM), Adam White (TL), Becca Cates (BON)**

- Preliminary results from the 2025 passage season were presented by [Bob Mueller](#) and [Hadley VandeVusse](#) (lamprey) and [Ben Sandford](#) (salmon) at SRWG Annual Review.
- (2/5/26) Conder: Are we keeping the antenna in place for continued evaluation? Axel: Yes. The antenna has been added to the region’s PIT infrastructure as a component of the BO4 array, operated and maintained by BPA/PSMFC. Wendler: No USACE O&M concerns leaving the antenna in place indefinitely.
- *Design and installation are complete, remove NWP BON2 exit channel PIT detection from future agendas.*

**2.3 NWP BON2 Submerged Traveling Screen (STS) Rehabilitation Phase 1a – Karen Kelly (PM), Will Guest (TL), Becca Cates (BON)**

- SCOPE: PDT is developing alternatives to replace or rehabilitate all 24 screens as well as procure one spare. The work envisioned in this project is to review the existing materials, update cost and schedule estimates, and proceed into Phase 1. Uniformity of devices and commonality of parts is a priority (including Bonneville and John Day).
- Current schedule:
  - 30% phase 1a (Constraints & Criteria) phase 1a ~June 2025
  - 60% phase 1a (Alternatives Evaluation) phase 1a ~February 2026
  - 90% phase 1a (Draft Final) report ~March 2026
  - Final phase 1a report complete ~April 2026
- [Overview of Phase 1a criteria/constraints and alternatives](#) was presented at [2/5/26 FFDRWG meeting](#)
- *PDT is wrapping up P1A report and preparing for CWG presentation around April.*

**2.4 NWP JDA North Fish Ladder Elevator Phase 1A – Marie Adams (PM), Adam White (TL), David Miller (JDA)**

- SCOPE: Perform a complete replacement/modernization of the John Day Dam North Fish Ladder Elevator #4 to improve reliability, safety, and compliance with current standards. Its current condition forces personnel to use alternate means like stairs, reducing efficiency and carrying capacity.
- Current schedule:
  - 30% phase 1a (Constraints & Criteria) phase 1a ~February 2026
  - 60% phase 1a (Alternatives Evaluation) phase 1a ~April 2026
  - 90% phase 1a (Draft Final) report ~October 2026

- Final phase 1a report complete ~February 2027
  - [Overview of Phase 1a criteria/constraints](#) was presented at [2/5/26 FFDRWG meeting](#)
  - (2/5/26) FFDRWG requested a drawing/sketch of the elevator shaft and pertinent structural components around it to illustrate the space constraints the PDT identified. [Drawing number JDD-1-4-2/33, Monolith 3 Sections and Details](#) is available on the FFDRWG website. Adam White will walk FFDRWG through the drawing at an upcoming meeting.
  - *NWP JDA North Fish Ladder Elevator Phase 1A PDT should be prepared to present alternatives to FFDRWG around April or May.*
- 2.5 NWP BON1 B-Branch Stabilization Phase 1A – Greg Linklater (PM), David Hicks (TL), Becca Cates (BON)**
- Scope: This project is to evaluate the portion of shoreline at Bonneville adjacent to spill bay 18 and provide recommendations for corrective actions with greater longevity than previous repair efforts.
  - Current schedule:
    - 30% phase 1a (Constraints & Criteria) report ~February 2026
    - 60% phase 1a (Alternatives Evaluation) report ~May 2026
    - 90% phase 1a (Draft Final) report ~August 2026
    - Final phase 1a report complete ~October 2026
  - *NWP BON1 B-Branch Stabilization Phase 1A PDT should be prepared to present their constraints & criteria to FFDRWG around March or April.*
- 2.6 NWP BON1 Fishway Diffusers Phase 1A – Karen Robison (PM), Will Guest (TL), Jeanette Wendler (BON)**
- Scope: This project will restore reliable operability to the diffuser gates and AWS valves that need to operate to maintain criteria and permanently close any fish gates that are not necessary to maintain criteria.
  - Current schedule:
    - 30% phase 1a (Constraints & Criteria) report ~March 2026
    - 60% phase 1a (Alternatives Evaluation) report ~June 2026
    - 90% phase 1a (Draft Final) report ~October 2026
    - Final phase 1a report complete ~March 2027
  - The Hydraulic Evaluation of Lower Columbia Adult Bypass Systems (HELCRABS) reports from the early 2000's provides much of the basis for this project. [100% Bradford Island 'B' Branch Adult Fishway Evaluation \(2004\)](#) and [80% Bradford Island A Branch Interim Evaluation Report \(2003\)](#) are available on the FFDRWG website for reference.
  - [Overview of Phase 1a criteria/constraints](#) was presented at [1/8/26 FFDRWG meeting](#).
  - **Limited number of alternatives to evaluate.**
  - *NWP BON1 Fishway Diffusers Phase 1A PDT will present their recommended and next best alternatives to FFDRWG on 2-April.*
- 2.7 NWP TDA Fishway Diffusers Phase 1 – Karen Robison (PM), Will Guest (TL), Eric Grosvenor (TDA)**
- Scope: This project will restore reliable operability to the diffuser gates and AWS valves that need to operate to maintain criteria and permanently close any fish gates that are not necessary to maintain criteria.
  - Limited alternatives, so proceeding to phase 1, starting with constraints and criteria and enough design work to develop class 3 estimates for the recommended and next best alternatives.
  - Current schedule:
    - 30% DDR (Constraints & Criteria) milestone ~March 2026
    - 60% DDR milestone ~August 2026
    - 90% DDR milestone & CWG check-in ~October 2026
    - Final DDR complete ~March 2027
  - The Hydraulic Evaluation of Lower Columbia Adult Bypass Systems (HELCRABS) reports from the early 2000's provides much of the basis for this project. [90% The Dalles Dam North Fish Ladder Hydraulic/Operational Evaluation \(2005\)](#) is available on the FFDRWG website for reference.
  - [Overview of Phase 1 criteria/constraints](#) was presented at [1/8/26 FFDRWG meeting](#).
  - *NWP TDA Fishway Diffusers Phase 1 PDT will present their recommended and next best alternatives to FFDRWG on 2-April.*
- 2.8 NWP TDA Spillway Gates 1-9 MMR/Phase 1A – Martin Evans (PM) Erika Mitchell (TL), Eric Grosvenor (TDA)**

- Scope: Complete a combined Major Maintenance Report (MMR) and Phase 1A Report consistent with HQUSACE guidance to “maintain the function of the structure to provide reliable navigation conditions, to mitigate potentially unsafe conditions caused by the deterioration of the original structure, and/or to provide a sustainable operations and maintenance approach to the project.” This may include measures needed to meet current design standards and account for changes in load requirements.
  - Current schedule:
    - 30% P1A (Constraints & Criteria) milestone ~February 2026
    - 60% P1A (Alternatives Evaluation) milestone ~August 2026
    - 90% P1A (Draft Final) milestone ~March 2027
    - Final P1A complete ~May 2027
    - Phase 1 kickoff ~October 2027
  - *NWP TDA Spillway Gates 1-9 MMR/Phase 1A PDT should be prepared to present their constraints & criteria to FFDRWG around March or April*
- 2.9 NWP TDA North Fish Ladder Rockfall Repair (P&S/phase 1) - James Ettleman (PM), Chris Motti (TL), Eric Grosvenor (TDA)**
- Scope: Project objective is to stabilize the rocks cuts along the North Fish Ladder between Weir 77 and Weir 132 through a combination of scaling, rock anchors, and small concrete retaining wall.
  - [The Dalles Dam North Fish Ladder Rock Wall Stabilization 90% \(Final\) DDR \(2015\)](#) and a [2024 trip report from Alex Baumann and Bob Cordie \(with pictures\)](#) are available on the FFDRWG website.
  - Current Schedule:
    - P&S (incl. BCOES): Apr 2026 – Jul 2027
    - Contract Solicitation and Award (IFB): Jul 2027 – Sep 2027
    - Construction (Onsite; IWWW): Dec 2027 – Feb 2028
    - Contract Closeout: Feb 2028 – June 2028
- 2.10 NWP TDA Backup AWS debris management – Marie Adams (PM), Mehdi Roshani (TL), Eric Grosvenor (TDA)**
- [Final \(pre-BCOES\) DDR](#) completed April 2025. See [2025 FFDRWG files](#) website for final (pre-BCOES) design package.
  - *We have been given the direction to restart and move towards BCOES and Construction. (Adams, 2/20)*
- 2.11 [paused] NWP JDA South fish pumps - Tim Ernster (PM), Marina Reilly-Collette (TL), David Miller (JDA)**
- Short-term interim repairs = O&M/FPOM | Long-term full replacement of all three pumps = CRFM/FFDRWG
  - Short-term repairs are going forward, see FPOM for current status.
  - Long-term replacement project did not receive FY26 CRFM funds in PBud. On hold just shy of 30% design review.
- 2.12 NWP JDA Turbine Replacement – Dave Hamernik (PM), Curtis Lipski (TL), David Miller (JDA)**
- Preparing to solicit a design build contract for 12 new turbine runners (6 adjustable, and 6 fixed) and generator rewinds.
  - On-site work scheduled to start in March 2035 and continue through at least 2050.
- 2.13 [paused] NWP BON Spillway rock mitigation – Marie Adams (PM), Adam Jones (TL), Becca Cates (BON)**
- Results of ROV spillway tailrace inspection completed 9/3/25 showed low volumes of debris in the stilling basin and no need for rock removal this year.
  - [DDR/Plans & Specifications](#) for rock barriers on the apron is paused at 90% (pre-BCOES). See [2025 FFDRWG files](#) website for 90% design package.
  - BON rock mitigation did not receive FY26 CRFM funds in PBud.
- 2.14 [paused] NWP BON Bradford Island and Cascades Island LPS pump upgrades - Erin Kovalchuk (PM), Adam White (TL), Tucker Gossett (BON)**
- equipment/supplies for upgrade have been procured. BON Project will perform the installation work, pending availability of Project personnel and funding.
  - LPS pump upgrades project did not receive FY26 CRFM funds in PBud.

### 3 NWW updates

- 3.1 NWW MNA Turbine Replacement – Jean DesJarlais (PM), Jon Renholds (TL)**
- Renholds presented the [most recent fixed blade ERDC results and update on U14 outage](#) at the [1/8/26 FFDRWG meeting](#).

- 3.2 NWW IHR Turbine Cooling Water Exclusion - Karen Kelly (PM), Chuck Barnes (Bio)
- 3.3 NWW LLA Adult Ladder Turn Pool Gate - Greg Linklater (PM), Chuck Barnes (Bio)
- 3.4 NWW MNA Avian deterrence – Karen Kelly (PM), Ryan Ashcraft (Bio)
  - [Final alternatives analysis report](#) distributed to FFDRWG September 2025.
  - NWW MNA Turbine Replacement did not receive FY26 CRFM funds in PBud.
- 3.5 NWW MNA PIT Detection – Kat Herzog (PM), Chuck Barnes (Bio)
  - [Final scoping report \(EDR\)](#) distributed to FFDRWG September 2025.
  - Discussed selected alternative and concerns FFDRWG has with our selection at [2/5/26 FFDRWG meeting](#).
  - ODFW provided additional written comments in a memo to Herzog and Barnes on 2/11.
- 3.6 NWW John Day Dam and Snake River Ladder Cooling – Karen Kelly (PM), Ryan Laughery (TL), Ryan Ashcraft (Bio)
  - [Final alternatives analysis report](#) distributed to FFDRWG September 2025.
  - [1/8/26 “bubbler” presentation \(Laughery\)](#).
  - [2/5/26 “bubbler” presentation updated with CFD movies \(Laughery\)](#).
  - Installed first bubbler system at the north side of Lower Monumental on 2/17/26. See [2/17/26 installation photos](#) on the [2026 FFDRWG files](#) site.
  - Installing second one on the south side of Lower Monumental in mid-March. NWW will invite interested FFDRWG representatives to witness installation of the second system.

#### 4 *Upcoming meetings and field trips*

- 4.1 **Fish Facilities Design Review Work Group (FFDRWG)**
  - first Thursday of every month (contact Jake Macdonald and Chuck Barnes if you need an invitation).
- 4.2 **Fish Passage Operation & Maintenance (FPOM) Work Group**
  - second Thursday of every month (contact Patricia Madson and Chris Peery if you need an invitation).
- 4.3 **Studies Review Work Group (SRWG)**
  - FY25 SRWG Annual Review presentations:  
<https://public.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/SRWG/SRWGAnnualReview/>
  - FY 2026 Planning Cycle: <https://public.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/SRWG/FY26AFEPplanning/>
  - FY27 planning cycle will kick off around March 2026.