**Columbia River Regional Forum**

**System Configuration Team Meeting**

**December 19, 2019**

**DRAFT**

Representatives of Corps, WA, BPA, NOAA, and others participated in today’s SCT meeting facilitated by Blane Bellerud, NOAA and chaired by Ian Chane, Corps. See the last page of these minutes for a list of attendees at today’s meeting.

1. FY20 CRFM Updates:

The PBud for this year is $21.6 million for all of CRFM including the Willamette, the Columbia, and lamprey. The carry-in this year is $5.8M, thus the total available for the program is $27.4M. The CR ends December 20 and the Corps did get a request to provide a CR budget estimate through March. The Willamette has been allocated $12.61M. Lamprey is at $142M (all of this is carry-in from FY18 or earlier). The budget calls for no new construction in FY20 and no work that would lead to new construction. The FY19 carry-in is intended to keep Detroit and Cougar moving.

Ian took SCT through the line-by-line budget, which is available on the SCT website. A few highlights include:

**Line 11 John Day Mitigation** – Is in wrap-up and the Corps is not planning to allocate CRFM funding for this project in FY21 or beyond.

**Line 7 The Dalles East Fish Ladder Emergency Auxiliary Water Supply** – Scott Bettin, BOA, would like to know the total spent on this project.

* ***Action: Ian Chane, Corps will look the project’s total cost over time.***

There is an interest in completing a more robust test once the AWS is on. The Corps would like to take the commissioning plan and O and M plan to FPOM. In the meantime, it would like to proceed with commissioning. The fish units will not go down until 2023-2024.

**Line 51, the McNary Steelhead Overshoot** – Is at $100M. Ricardo handed the project over to Joe Norton. Initial testing is complete and repairs on a transfuser have been completed as well at Unit 10. March 1, should still be doable. They will be looking at prioritizing involuntary spill through the TSW and changing unit priorities from 1-14-13 to 10.

* ***Action item: Charles Morrill, WA asked for an update about what the researchers saw in fall. Ricardo said he would reach out.***

**Line 33 Columbia River System Operations (CRSO) EIS** – Ian reminded SCT that the budget for line items is made 2 years prior. Thus the budget for this line item was made in 2018 when the presidential memo that accelerated the schedule. This means there is a higher capability and need for CRSO this year. Ian has a meeting in January to discuss what the need is for this project and how it can be funded. He should have more information at the next SCT.

**Line 17 Lower Monumental Outfall Primary Bypass Pipe Expansion Joint Deficiency Correction** – Work is scheduled to start January 21 and should be complete by February 28.

2. Update from the Corps on the future of mitigation funding required under the CRSO and 2020 BiOp

Trevor Conder, NOAA noted that the agency will begin drafting a biological opinion on December 20. This begs the question – what is the future of mitigation funding and the program? Ian Chane, Corps said that until there is a tangible budget, it is really a “wait and see”-type situation.

3. Next SCT:

The next SCT will be the third Thursday in January. The meeting may be canceled if Ian has no budget changes.

4. Today’s Attendees:

Alice Roberts, Corps (filling in for Margie McGill)

Blane Bellerud, NOAA

Brad Eppard, Corps

Charles Morrill, WA

Christine Petersen, BPA

Erick Van Dyke, OR

Ian Chane, Corps

Jacob Macdonald, Corps

Leah Sullivan, BPA

Melissa Haskin, BPA (CONTR) [note-taker]

Ricardo Walker, Corps

Scott Bettin, BPA

Tom Lorz, Umatilla/CRITFC

Trevor Conder, NOAA

*Minutes by Melissa Haskin, Flux Resources LLC, Contractor for Bonneville, mahaskin@bpa.gov*