

Columbia River Regional Forum
System Configuration Team Meeting
February 19, 2026
Official Notes

Representatives of Corps, ODFW, WDFW, BPA, NOAA, and others participated in today’s SCT hybrid meeting facilitated by Chris Magel (in place of Trevor Conder) and hosted via Microsoft Teams.

Draft and final SCT notes are available on the COE’s TMT website under the FPOM link. For copies of documents discussed, contact Bonnie Hossack at Bonnie.Hossack@noaa.gov. See the final page of these minutes for the list of attendees of today’s meeting.

1. Welcome/Announcements

- Trevor Conder, NOAA, announced that the February 19 SCT meeting would be his last meeting co-chairing.
- NOAA is in the process of prioritizing roles and is moving away from roles such as chairing meetings. NOAA has lost around 40% in their Westcoast Region.
- Ida Royer, Corps, will take on the Chair position.

2. Review Minutes

a. December Minutes

- Approved

3. FY26 Update and Spreadsheet – Royer

- Royer shared that the FY26 appropriations passed for the Corps with a portion earmarked for the CRS.
 - FY26 total: \$56.78M
 - CRS portion: \$38.73M
- Royer shared that the Corps is currently going through vertical briefings to determine the allocation of funds.

- Royer shared that she would be able to share out a plan on how they will execute the funds in a few days, she was unable to share on that during the February 19 meeting.

There was a group discussion about what information was currently available to the region. Conder asking specifically about if there was a spreadsheet available. Royer said that she did not have the actual numbers available yet and when that was available, she would be able to share that information. Morrill asked about the PBud amounts. Royer said that the PBud provided \$12M and with the additional money CRS is around \$38M.

4. FY27 Update – Royer

- The FY27 PBud is expected to come out in March.
- Royer said that she would be able to discuss it more in the future after the PBud was released.

5. Discuss Future Priorities

There was a discussion about discussing future FYs and the potential for greatly reduced funding. Royer said that SCT could revisit priorities at any point, but it might be more helpful to have a more frank discussion in a month once she could talk more freely. Lorz asked if the discussion was held later if it would be challenging for the Corps to execute the funding before the end of the FY.

Royer explained that her ability to move money around does not exist as it had before. She said that the Corps is working to have more regular meetings to discuss alignment and there is less possibility to make changes. She said that she would not be able to talk about this until next month.

There was more discussion about determining whether the plan would be based on the Corps' priority or the regional priorities. Royer said that she shared the list of Projects and it was the baseline used for when she discussed budget plans.

Conder said that it was interesting too that JDA was not funded and LMN was funded. Royer said that this was because it was what was in the PBud, with the earmarks the Corps will be able to fund more projects, but she was not able to share specifics of that during this meeting. She said that the Corps was taking a

‘no man left behind’-approach so she did not think that it would be useful for SCT to working on informing any of the Corps’ discussions at this time.

6. Other

- Spreadsheet for ranking FY27 (Morrill)

Charles Morrill, WDFW, asked about a spreadsheet for ranking FY27. Royer said that she was able to share the FY27 spreadsheet until after the PBud comes out. She said that they are already talking about ideas for FY28 and the Corps would need to submit them this month, but SCT can propose anything not currently on the spreadsheet.

Tom Lorz, Umatilla/CRITFC, shared that the lawsuit makes it difficult to do their jobs normally. Royer agreed and said that she cannot really talk about anything. She said that the region can engage with the Division level and have any of those types of discussions. Lorz said that he was not sure who to talk to. Ian Chane, Corps, said that Sean Tackley would be the POC.

Lorz shared that the earmarks did not come in magically and if the Corps would like help to get more it would be helpful if he did not have to make up numbers. He said that the Corps should look at working more with their partners in the region. He said that \$17M to \$38M may not be amazing but it is the right direction. He said, “help us help you”.

Royer said that she would relay this, but they are in a challenging and awkward process.

- Lamprey

There was a discussion about lamprey. Royer said that they are not included in the PBud for FY26 or in the earmarks. She said that the earmarks were specified for the Columbia Region.

- Litigation

Tom Iverson, Yakama Nation, said that he echoed Lorz in that the Fish Managers are not enemies. He said that there were some issues he was interested about with the pending court order. Royer said that she was not involved in the litigation conversations and would circle back later when she was able to share. Iverson asked specifically about the BON stilling basin. Royer said that she would reach out via email once she was sure of what she could share.

- Appropriation Requests FY27

Iverson also shared about the CRITFC report which identified funding needs. He said that he would continue to work asking for capability requests and he hoped that the Corps would continue to go beyond what was needed. Royer said that was received and thanked Iverson.

- **BON Rock Mitigation**

Lorz asked about the BON Rock Mitigation not being on the spreadsheet anymore. There was some discussion about where it would fit best. Royer was not sure if it belonged in joint or O&M, Lorz and Jake McDonald, Corps, both thought it was CRFM. Lorz said that it was new construction as it was a new structure. Royer stated that it was not CRFM. Conder said that there might be some miscommunication as there were two separate Rock Mitigation projects.

- **Cap of Corps' Ability**

Morrill asked if there was a cap for the Corps' ability or capability. Royer said that there was no cap. Morrill asked specifically about the capabilities on the Corps' staffing. Royer said that would be something that the Corps would need to take into account and they would commit to what they could manage by identifying what they have including contracts. She said that there was no yearly cap.

There was more discussion about capabilities and lobbying. With a question about having a better understanding of the Corps' capability. Royer said that she was not sure how it would work moving forward. Historically they were able to share capabilities externally. This year it will be different and she was not sure how it would work.

Next meeting: March 19, 2026

Agenda Topics:

1. FY26 Spreadsheet

2. FY27 PBud

Today's Attendees:

Name	Affiliation
Ida Royer	Corps
Charles Morrill	WDFW
Trevor Conder	NOAA
Tom Lorz	Umatilla/CRITFC
Erick Van Dyke	ODFW
Tammy Mackey	BPA
Ben Hausmann	BPA
Christine Peterson	BPA
Christopher Yane	Corps
Chris Magel	NOAA
Sean Tackley	Corps
Kate Self	NPCC
Tom Iverson	Yakama Nation
David Trachtenberg	Corps
Jacob McDonald	Corps
Andrea Ausmus	BPA Notetaker

Minutes by Andrea Ausmus, CorSource Technology Group LLC, Contractor for Bonneville, amausmus@bpa.gov (503-230-4439).

Please send any requested edits to [Ida Royer](mailto:Ida.Royer@usace.army.mil), USACE, Ida.M.Royer@usace.army.mil.