

Columbia River Regional Forum
System Configuration Team Meeting
June 18, 2026
DRAFT Official Notes

Representatives of Corps, ODFW, WDFW, BPA, NOAA, and others participated in today's SCT meeting facilitated by Ida Royer and was hosted via Microsoft Teams.

Draft and final SCT notes are available on the COE's TMT website under the FPOM link. See the final page of these minutes for the list of attendees of today's meeting.

1. April and May Minutes Review – Royer

- Charles Morrill, WDFW, said that he had not had a chance to look at the notes.
- Royer said that she would give SCT until the end of next week before considering them final so that they are not lingering.

2. Agenda Topic Requests

- Morrill requested information about why McNary (MCN) Avian was not on the list for FY27 as it was on the list for FY26.

3. FY27 PBud – Royer

- The Corps is only able to share what is publicly available and should be reflected in the SCT spreadsheet.
 - It was a more select group of projects.
 - The Corps (as mentioned last month) do not officially have capability above the PBud so they would not be sharing information beyond the PBud.
 - Royer suggested last month that if SCT members had projects that were not included in the PBud, but they still felt were important we could include them on the FY27 list and Royer would denote that.
 - SCT could then go through and then follow the ranking process for all projects.
- MCN Avian Response

- MCN Avian was in FY26, and it is not included in the FY27 President's Budget.

Morrill said that the Corps cannot address it and cannot answer questions. He said that he wanted Royer to understand that _ He said that he thought that Royer explained that the decision to fund the projects that are on the FY27, SCT cannot address that and that was made at a higher level than what was done in the past. He said that it certainly **shows** the frustration and disappointment that MCN Avian was not included in the FY27 PBud.

Royer said that was noted.

Tom Lorz, CRITFC, said that they were planning on lobbying in DC. He asked if funding was made available how would the Corps deal with that.

Royer said that she would tell him what happened this year because that felt like a safer landscape for her. She said this year CRFM got a plus up for an earmark and then they had some vertical discussions about how that funding would be allocated, they got alignment and then she shared that out with SCT. She said that if that happened again, she imagined it would go through a similar process.

Lorz said that the question then was, if there were additional funds/capabilities and we have things on a list, like Avian Deterrence at MCN, if the Corps was able to get alignment would they be able to then move forward on that. He said that his Policy group was asking him questions like, if they are going to lobby and get these guys more money do we have assurance that it would go where we kind of where we think it needs to go or is there any way that we could work on that.

Royer said that she would say yes, there is the possibility that we could then move forward.

4. FY27 Ranking – Royer

- Royer suggested that SCT members relay could relay the projects the region felt were important.
 - Royer said one of the things that SCT could do is share their requests and she would 'add' them to the FY27 list so that we could score them and we would be able to have that in our back pocket.
- Royer said that it was up to the region if they wanted to do that. She would then collect, compile, and resend it to SCT. It is what the region wants to do.

- Members have the sheet and they can fill it out and send it back to her. That is one possibility for moving forward.

Morrill said as Lorz inquired, if there was an effort for the region to go back and request earmarks. He asked if we did get an earmark, then those funds could support and identify the MCN Avian as a primary desire. The Corps could identify that as the desire if they get an earmark.

Royer said that was a potential, yes.

5. Budget Process

- Royer said that the budget process is long, but she had shared two earmarks currently proposed by Senators Murray and Merkley.
 - The Senate is behind the House in the process.

Morrill asked if Royer know what the earmarks were that were being considered by Murray.

Royer said that she went to her website, evidently Senator's are required to publish their Congressional earmark requests on their personal websites. She said that you can go to her website and look it up. There is a line item for CRFM on there and it lists a dollar amount, possibly around \$20M.

- The Senate will propose their bill and that needs to be consolidated into one Senate bill. They will then need to conference with the House and agree on a proposed Appropriations Bill. The bill needs to then pass and be signed by the President.
 - Early in the process but it is promising that we are starting the process.
- Royer said that if the SCT members would like to send in their proposed requests for the FY27 budget she would collect those and then she would compile and send out what she receives.

6. Useful Information:

FY27 PBud CRFM: \$15.25M

President Budget Project Breakout is publicly [available](#).

[FY27 Congressional Directed Spending \(CDS\) Tracker](#)

[ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT \(Community Project Funding\)](#)

[Senator Patty Murray CDS Disclosure](#) (Line item for CRFM)

[Senator Jeff Merkley CDS Disclosure](#)

7. Chair Expectations

- Royer said that she would keep the monthly check-ins on the calendar. If SCT thinks that it is not worth checking in at some point let her know, otherwise she would keep it on there even if it is just a ten-minute meeting.
- When Trevor Conder was chairing Royer would check in and ask if he wanted to keep the meeting. Without that kind of check-in, she would keep the meeting.
- Royer said that she was still trying to figure out the Chair position. She asked if SCT members had any feedback on how SCT meetings are conducted let her know.

Next meeting: July 16, 2026

Agenda Topics:

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Today's Attendees:

Name	Affiliation
David Trachtenbarg	Corps
Charles Morrill	WDFW
Tammy Mackey	BPA
Christopher Yane	Corps
Charles Barnes	Corps
Kate Self	NPCC
Sam Popenoe	Corps
Ida Royer	Corps
Erick Van Dyke	ODFW
Carolina Andes	BPA
Christine Peterson	BPA
Ralph Lampman	Yakama Nation
Tom Lorz	Umatilla/CRITFC
Andrea Ausmus	BPA Notetaker (<i>recording only</i>)

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