

**Columbia River Regional Forum  
System Configuration Team Meeting  
January 21, 2021  
Final Notes**

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

## **1. Budget Update**

Andy shared that there have been no major budget updates since the last meeting. He added some project updates:

- The B2FGE contract has been awarded. It came in under budget for this year. Unit 15 will be completed this fall, followed hydraulic testing in spring. The Corps should have the results in summer 2021. The contract terms do not prohibit the contractor from working 7 days a week, so it is possible the contractor could be working every day of the week. They still have to follow the fatigue guidelines and as of yet the Corps has not requested they work weekends. They plan to work 5 to 10 hour days.
- Line 11 John Day Mitigation: there have been discussions about a new alternative. If it is feasible, it may be added to the report that has already been drafted. This would increase the line item costs for this item over the course of the year. However, the alternative option would use infrastructure already in place, which would decrease the overall project cost.
- Doug Newton reported on a few Walla Walla projects including the Ice Harbor Turbine Passage Survival Program, which will be delayed 1 year due to COVID. Testing is dependent on when Unit 3 is restacked and operational. Even though this has caused a change in the contract, the budget for the line item will remain the same (the Corps was able to shift some funding around to cover the contract changes, since it got favorable bids that came in lower than anticipated on other projects).
- Lower Granite Spillway PIT Tag Detection - Post Construction Monitoring: The only remaining piece of work is fabrication of an access platform. Otherwise the system is fully installed and operational and seems to be working as designed.
- McNary Top Spill Weir (TSW) Permanence: This is on track to be installed next week and should be set for February 15 testing.
- McNary Steelhead Overshoot Study: The contract was awarded at the end of last year. Testing will occur this FY and a report will follow.

## **2. Discussion of potentially finding funding for BON WA shore ladder PIT tag antenna installation**

Charles Morrill, WA, wondered if there is any money anywhere in the budget to support this since it will cost less than \$20k. Completing the work later will come at a larger cost, he said. Ian replied that unfortunately moving money around in this case is against fiscal law. He clarified that once a project has switched to O & M funding from CRFM, it is nearly impossible (illegal) to switch it back to CRFM funding. Some SCT members asked if this counts as a redesign, and, if so, if that changes the rules. Ian said he can look into the history of the line item and see if there is anything he can do. Trevor Conder, NOAA, noted that it is important to his agency that there is adequate and expected PIT-detection at Bonneville for adults.

## **3. Other**

Andy Traylor, chair of this meeting, will be moving from the Corps to BPA on February 1. At that point, Ian will pick up SCT again until a replacement can be found.

## **4. Today's Attendees:**

Andy Traylor, Corps

Jonathan Ebel, ID

Blane Bellerud, NOAA

Charles Morrill, WA

Erick Van Dyke, OR

Ian Chane, Corps

Doug Newton – Corps

Jacob Macdonald, Corps

Leah Sullivan, BPA

Melissa Haskin, BPA (CONTR, Flux Resources LLC)

Scott Bettin, BPA

Tom Lorz, Umatilla/CRITFC

Trevor Conder, NOAA

*Minutes by Melissa Haskin, Flux Resources LLC, Contractor for Bonneville, [mahaskin@bpa.gov](mailto:mahaskin@bpa.gov). Edits to these notes should be sent to [kathy.ceballos@noaa.gov](mailto:kathy.ceballos@noaa.gov).*