

SCT Notes, Aug 18, 2022

taken by B.Bellerud

Attendees

Blane Bellerud-NMFS

Trever Conder-NMFS

Kelsey Sweica- NMFS

Ida Royer-COE

Ian Chane-COE

Cindy Studebaker-COE

Ben Hausemen-BPA

Steve Juhnke-COE

Shane Scott

Scott Bettin- BPA

Christine Petersen-BPA

Leah Sullivan-BPA

Tom Lorz-CRITFC

Erick Van Dyke-ODFW

Charlie Morrill- WDFW

Jonathan Ebel-IDFG

Opened meeting

1. COE report on near term PIT tag trawl funding. PIT trawl will be funded this year- 2023 trawl ops. Contract being finished up by end of fiscal year. LGR JBS costs went up, contract approved, done by end of fiscal year. LGR JBS move forward. Rest the same. 2023 will have to look at it again, but better budget (3.5 vs 23 mil\$)
 - a. Tom requested sheet with summary of Budget re PIT trawl

- b. Will there be a problem again next year (WA)? Will have to repeat process next year. Pbud larger, but still a lot of demands (COE)
 - c. Will Willamette get first priority (CRITC)? Obligated by court decisions to fund (COE)
 - d. Suggested COE request increased budget, upcoming costs- ladder cooling, etc (NMFS) :All of these are in requested budget (capability). Specific items must be identified and justified. Lots of need so have to defend requests.(COE)
 - e. Have higher levels been briefed? Critical things like PIT trawl almost not getting funded (Trevor): COE Explained request and defense process, Said presentations on need have been made to upper levels, Trying and pushing to inform upper levels and to secure funding we need. (Charlie) Know that you are trying, emphasize need to communicate to COE upper levels. (Scott) is Lamprey included? (Ida) Lamprey is funded.
 - f. (Tom) is there any sort of oversight committee for PIT tag trawl development? NMFS – no formal process. BPA- lots of discussion about directions with PIT tag group
 - g. Everyone agrees that presentation is a good idea, what do they need to continue and improve detections, how could things be improved, how best can money be developed. Ready to pull the trigger. A vision statement is good (Charlie).
 - h. Cindy-ask Sandy (PT tag trawl) how things could be improved? How to integrate various sources of data? Bird data-sooner? (Trevor) Other sources -use returning adults-Steve Smith experimented. Two level approach? Preliminary (for annual management), hypothesis testing- slower- more precision, more sources.
 - i. Pile dikes, etc. what sources tend to favor what fish?
 - j. Concern about coordination between needs for management, plans for ops and development of new approaches, technologies.
2. John Day Cooling structure:
- a. Trevor (NMFS) why wasn't this ranked? Shad mode exploration OK, but should not delay ranking this priority. (Ebel Idaho) are we ranking evaluation or build? Ida (COE) initial was for evaluation, this summer-shad mode evaluation. Review results- develop construction Finish evaluation- fy 2025 budget will be for engineering study, design process, construction later. Trevor- why not do engineering studies in fy 2024? Ida- could be accelerated but fy 2025 is first opportunity for design/construction (3 year process). Trevor- we should move forward in 2024 because of long process, should be done before 2028 if possible. Ida-can put in requests, might be able to speed up. Charlie- should move faster, benefits sockeye, need is justified by information. LGR and Goose show it works, should be able to move faster. Ida- have most of data, need to compile, process time is limited by COE regulations. Charlie-try to initiate process sooner than later. Ida- will try limited by funding cycle, can't happen before 2024. Trevor- should be able to get into the FY 24 budget. COE- might be able to accelerate the process? 3 year normal process time, should be opportunities to accelerate process. Erik – Little Goose accelerated because of LGR. Ida- will send out memo on process. Might be able to accelerate. Trevor- ranked MCN, ICH, and LGO construction, can we do this? Are we funding memo or construction process? Ida- memo is covered, should be ranking construction process. Trevor- always rank John Day cooling and other structures high, has been in multiple biops, all important, how do we rank? Basically all 5. Ida- rank on merits, add prioritization to notes

3. Review of ranking standards Tom led- went over historical suggested priorities, some may have changed. Questions about mandatory? What are they, how are they defined? Ida will provide an updated definition of mandatory items. COE noted contractual and BiOp requirements. Blane- not all BiOp requirements are rated as mandatory re: PIT trawl and cooling structures. Scott (BPA) mandatory sometime during BiOp term, but for that particular year may not be.
4. Review of preliminary rankings-
 - a. Avian island PIT tags- Ida split into two categories tag recovery and report development. COE allows collection of tags without producing predation estimate (no longer required) Erik- concerned that process may be delayed to provide important information. Trevor (NMFS) looks reasonable, but will have Lynne look at it. Ida- add to title "to support lower Columbia survival estimation", Erik-OK. Tom (CRITFC) when are you required to do check-ins? Ida- under discussion, last month COE ranked low because no more predation est required, split to allow separation from predation estimates.
 - b. Reviewed other items