

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FINAL minutes for the 27 May 2020 WFPOM meeting.

The meeting was held via conference call. In attendance:

Last	First	Agency	Email
Buccola	Norm	NWP-ENC	Norm.L.Buccola@usace.army.mil
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Wertheimer	Robert	NWP-ODT -FFU	Robert.H.Wertheimer@usace.army.mil
Ziller	Jeff	ODFW	Jeffrey.S.Ziller@state.or.us

1. Final decisions or recommendations made at this meeting.

1.1. March and April meeting minutes were approved.

2. The following documents are provided or discussed at this meeting. All documents can be found at: http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/

2.1. Agenda, Fish Passage O&M coordination team
 2.2. Coordination forms (MOC/MFR)

3. Action Items

3.1. **[May 2020] Willamette Chinook Salmon Database** - ACTION: Reis will look into the cost of database management.

3.2. **[April 2020] Leaburg counts** - ACTION: Wertheimer will set up a special call on Leaburg fish counts. *Status: Wertheimer did set up the phone call plus a site visit. They were able to set up protocol for accessing the ladders and cleaning the windows. FFU is now reviewing video and the counts will be posted on the WFPOM site. Mackey asked if ODFW would like the counts posted on their website for consistency. Ziller did not think that they have a location for the Leaburg counts. ODFW did post the counts when they did the work but they don't have any need to continue this. Garletts said there is a spot on the WFPOM website*

that has some historic counts. He has discussed with Walker about keeping it updated with Fall Creek and Cougar numbers. Walker wanted to pose the question of ODFW posting the counts because some counts are on ODFW's site and some are on the Corps site. Couture will put a link for the Leaburg counts on the ODFW website that routes people to the Corps site. The ODFW Leaburg count page hasn't been updated since 2017. Ziller said that old weekly counts were valuable to the anglers but they did not have enough staff to continue posting in a timely manner. FFU has agreed to have the counts done in 7 days for both Leaburg and Lebanon.

3.3. [April 2020] Trout releases - ACTION: Wertheimer will set up a call to discuss changes to the trout releases. *Status: Several calls took place and some releases have been modified. Based on ODFW input, the fish are being released in the right locations now.*

4. Updates

4.1. North Santiam

- 4.1.1. Marion Forks Hatchery- Hatchery production is going well. All Chinook have been ponded outside.
- 4.1.2. Minto Fish Facility – Collection is still slow due to the cold water; numbers are CHS 17, STS 14 and STW 217. Mullan asked if there was a smaller percentage using lower Bennett this year. Grenbemer said there does seem to be but it is a low water year. With the lower flows, more adults (both Chinook and steelhead) take the channel leading to Upper Bennett.
 - 4.1.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed – repairs on the finger weir and the crowder arm should be done in the next few days.
 - 4.1.2.2. Hopper operation – ODFW had a trouble report (TR) on the driver's side of the lid truck and is now going to re-submit one for the passenger side. The driver's side safety railing was repaired but the passenger side isn't done yet. Pierce is still working on how to address the safety concerns.
 - 4.1.2.3. AWS gate – There is a TR still on the gate. Maintenance thinks that the problem is condensation in the gate motor.

4.2. South Santiam

- 4.2.1. South Santiam Hatchery – no issues
- 4.2.2. Foster Fish Facility – STW numbers have slowed; the season total is 97 unmarked. Last week, 5 CHS were collected for a total of 9; one was unmarked and released above Foster.
 - 4.2.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed. Couture commented on the fish truck needing repairs. Pierce is working on the hopper hoist issue. The hoist is used later in the season when fish are taken out of the short or long term holding ponds and put into a truck, for instance if there was elevated temps at the release site then fish would wait in the short term ponds until the temperatures come down.
 - 4.2.2.2. Ladder and Adult Collection Issue
- 4.2.3. River Bend Adult Release Site
- 4.2.4. Foster Spill Operations

4.3. McKenzie

- 4.3.1. McKenzie Hatchery – Fish are present in the river but no fish have entered the trap. The average hatchery water temperature is 6° higher than the river. The flow isn't as high as hoped. Most of the juveniles will be moved to Leaburg but a few will stay to help attract adults. Last year, a surge of adult fish came in in June so they are hoping for something similar.
 - 4.3.1.1. Water Supply

4.3.2. Cougar Fish Facility – The first Chinook returned on 18 May. Only one Bull trout has been caught this year. ODFW asked about a lamprey trap. The trap was put in at Fall Creek and will be adding one at Cougar this week.

4.3.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.

4.3.3. Leaburg Hatchery

4.4. Middle Fork

4.4.1. Willamette Hatchery – Hatchery operations are going well

4.4.2. Dexter Fish Facility – The facility should open by the end of the week.

4.4.2.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.

4.4.3. Fall Creek Fish Facility – To date, they have collected 320 non-marked ChS and 64 STW. Fish are two weeks to a month early this year. No lamprey have been caught in the lamprey trap.

4.4.3.1. Maintenance activities needed or recently completed.

4.5. Bull trout and Oregon Chub (Taylor) – no update

4.6. WFFDWG/Research updates (Neuenhoff) – 02 June is the next meeting

4.6.1. Minto juvenile release pipe – Pierce asked what the discussion will be about. Mackey said that we need to look at the information that we have and to make sure we are following the Corps process on issues. If it is a design flaw, then the issue should start in FFDRWG.

4.7. Water Quality updates (S. Hart) – Spilling at Green Peter started on 26 May to warm the Foster fish ladder and downstream of Foster. The operation will continue to 16 June. The spill is 60% of the total outflow. They have already observed 10° warmer water downstream and it should reach Foster in about a week. The Foster fish weir operation should start 08 June. The Detroit spill starts on 01 June. The City of Salem who monitors the algae bloom has reported a current bloom which typically occurs in mid-summer. The City is starting to get concerned but it is not toxic. Grenbemer asked if there was a target of less 5° per day of temperature change because the water is pretty cold right now. Hart said that currently they just have targets to reach but they have the ability to start slow and ramp up to a temperature target. Buccola said they just need to know what the ramp rate should be. Currently, the forebay level is ~ 15' above spillway crest. ODFW thinks it would be best to slowly warm over a few days. Walker suggested putting it into the fish operations plan. Reis thought this operation has value. Hart wants to discuss the targets to achieve. At Foster, there is a current night time spill operation; the fish weir will be used starting on 08 June.

4.8. Flow update (S. Hart) – Flows at Salem are a little above the BiOp target. The rain has been helpful for them to store water. The water situation is looking very good especially considering what they started with. Mullan said that there were 7 days in May where the targets in Salem were not met. Hart will have to look back and provide more information at the next flow meeting.

4.9. Pinniped Update (ODFW) – No sea lions were observed over the weekend at the trap or the Falls; the animals are leaving. The season typically ends 01 June. The maximum count of CSL was 8-10 which was compared to 40+ before the removals started. The maximum count of SSL was 10 and they have been gone for a week. BON has 2 SSL and 1 CSL remaining in the tailrace. Wertheimer reiterated that there hasn't been a CSL problem this year at BON but plenty of SSL.

4.10. BPA updates – no update

5. HGMP BiOp T&Cs

5.1. Production and Biometrics – included in the hatchery production contracts.

5.2. Use of natural origin broodstock – Ziller said that the counts at Leaburg are only up to 69 wild fish so they are too early in the season to make any recommendations. Couture agreed that the same applied to all the subbasins.

5.3. Bennett Counts (ODFW) – CHS clipped 570 and 266 unmarked; STS 41 and STW 991. Mackey reported that the MOA between the Corps and ODFW regarding the counts has been reviewed by the office of council and she believes that they are almost at agreeable language for approval. Grenbemer said that the Bennett counts are 32% of the run. Mullan asked if the percentage in the Bennett counts affect the use of non-hatchery brood stock incorporation. Couture said the number in the hatchery BiOp table regarding incorporating wild brood is based on the minimum escapement at Bennett. Kruzic said that the minimum run of unclipped at Bennett is 650 before incorporation. Kruzic clarified that incorporation numbers are based on the Bennett counts not Minto. Wertheimer asked with the number of hatchery origin returns coming back, will the capacity of spawning grounds be reached between Minto to Big Cliff. Kruzic has concerns. Production in that reach has been limited. Kruzic would like to put natural origin fish above Detroit but is waiting on the genetic pedigree analysis. Grenbemer said that there were 332 non-marked females put above Minto last year. Spawning surveys did occur but the results and the final report haven't been posted to the website yet. The data can then be accessed by anyone.

5.4. Lebanon Counts (USACE) – Wertheimer is working with the City of Albany. The gear has been mobilized but they are waiting on the city to dewater the ladder for installation. Flows should be lower which will help but there are also COVID-19 issues preventing the dewatering.

5.5. Leaburg Counts (EWEB/USACE) – The counts will be posted to the website. Ziller asked about the non-Chinook counts. Non target species are being counted as well. ODFW requested that FFU record the time on any lamprey moving in the ladder for a lamprey study. No lamprey have been counted so far and FFU will make notes on any they see.

5.6. Reducing pHOS in the McKenzie River - Leaburg sorter – The contract mod is moving forward. The target date of award is still June 1. The sorter device is being constructed in the screen shop. The trailer to transport the device has not arrived. Ziller is hoping to install the sorter the week of 08 June.

5.7. Improving broodstock holding at Willamette Hatchery – Mackey is trying to get this issue in a non-routine hatchery construction PDT instead of waiting for Operations funding.

5.8. Analyze steelhead genetics (ODFW)

5.9. Assess future effects of hatchery summer steelhead in the North and South Santiam Rivers. (ODFW)

5.10. Assess genetic pedigree of Chinook salmon (up to 2019 and then every five years after) Mullan heard that there is funding for McKenzie as well as Detroit.

5.11. Assess salmon spawning above federal dams – Mackey is continuing to look for ways to get this done in the future but it will not be done this year

5.12. Adaptively manage hatchery salmon outplanting above federal dams – NOAA has a draft reintroduction plan for McKenzie that will be sent out in early June. Mullan will work on the others throughout the year.

5.13. Willamette Chinook Salmon Database – Walker said that the database is nice to have but we need to figure out who the champion is of this data. Walker is posting the spawning survey results on the WFPOM website. ODFW historically updated the database as part of the ME contract which included several other metrics but now they have not been funded to continue maintenance. Kruzic said it would be better for ODFW to maintain the data. Walker said that the information is easy enough to continue to post but there are additional concerns with the database management. Reis will reach out to the old database manager on how to manage it. Walker said that we need to formally figure out funding, resources and who is the right person to do this work. Couture said that in the last discussion, ODFW said that they could do the work but requires funding from the Corps. Mullan suggested attaching the funding to pedigree work. Walker doesn't know how much it costs. **ACTION: Reis will look into the cost of database management.**

5.14. Three year report for NMFS SFD. Report due 2022.

6. Willamette Valley Production Contracts

6.1. Willamette Hatcheries option year- The contract is scheduled to be awarded by the end of August. It is sole sourced to ODFW.

6.2. Trout Production – This year is the final year of this contract. The new contract will be a MATOC (Multiple Award Task Order Contract). The Corps will be requesting proposals soon.

7. Coordination/Notification forms (need concurrence/discussion)

7.1. 20CGR01 Water supply Issues and Broodstock Collection at McKenzie Hatchery (ongoing)

7.2. 20WVP02 MOC_CHS CoastFk_LittleFallCr2020 (ongoing) – Walker reported that at internal Corps meetings, there is general agreement with this action but the timeframe is in question. Ziller said it is for three years of releases and one has already happened so two more years. The BiOp gives ESA coverage but the NEPA coverage is from the 1980s which is very out of date. Office of Council would like a letter from NOAA to the Corps and ODFW with an update of the HGMP that includes the Little Fall Creek release with the same timeframe as the ODFW proposal and an endpoint that is clearly documented. NOAA went through the NEPA EIS process for the hatchery program for the approval of the HGMP in 2019. Mackey will look into if the Corps can use the NOAA coverage. Kruzic said the 1980 coverage is very outdated. Ziller would be the ODFW contact for the letter.

7.3. 20WVP03 MOC Mitigation Trout Release Schedule ODFW 2020 (ongoing) – Mackey is waiting on feedback from Office of Council on this. Kruzic asked if these are the ODFW changes or additional ones. Walker said these are the same.

7.4. 20CGR01 Cougar Dam Unit 1&2 outages - AFCF outage (update) - The second unit out is expected to return to service tomorrow.

7.5. 20FRN01 Fern Ridge outflow (new)

7.6. 20WVP07 MFR Trout Stocking Fish Loss (new) - Wertheimer is working with the contractor for better protocols. Ziller reported that Desert Springs immediately brought the replacement fish out. There was a problem with the oxygen regulator on a truck which was taken out of service until it was repaired. There was an additional incident where anglers were netting the trout which is illegal in the state of Oregon.

7.7. 20HCR01 MFR Ramp Rate Minimum Flow (new)

7.8. 20DET01 Marion Forks Hatchery Pipe and Valve Leaks (new)

7.9. 20FOS03 Fish Weir Summer Operations (new) – discussed under 4.7.

7.10. 20GPR01 Spill Test for Foster Fish Facility Ladder Temperatures (new)

8. Fish Operations Plan: WFOP homepage:

http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/Willamette_Coordination/WFOP/

8.1. Fish facility inspections and reporting - Walker and Pierce are working on this.

8.2. Work windows – Pierce said that the outage windows are difficult. If an issue is found during the preventative maintenance window but the parts to repair it need to be ordered then an additional outage is required to make the repairs when the system should be running. If the inspection is done earlier than parts could be ordered and installed during the work period. Maintenance cannot always be completed in one day. Mackey suggested writing a change form.

9. Task Group/PDT Updates.

9.1. Safety and Environmental corrections – The PDT was originally smaller in scope but it will be larger and more programmatic to bring the hatcheries meet safety and environmental standards. The OCAs are posted on the website. Pierce asked if the trucks would be looked at

as well. This PDT is focused at the hatchery facilities. Items within the fish facilities would still be under OM and need to be addressed individually.

9.2. Asbestos abatement – Abatement was completed at Marion Forks and Dexter fish facility. Walker is waiting on the results from the asbestos samples taken at various locations within the facilities.

9.3. Marion Forks pipe and valves - The Corps will purchase the pipe wrap and ODFW will install. Small projects should purchase it in the next day or two.

9.4. McKenzie Water Supply – The PDT has just started.