

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
January 07, 2014, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Paul Sparks	Washington Council, Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

John Serl	WDFW
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Kirk Kessler	Tacoma Power
Debbie Carlson	BPA
Pat Frazier	LCFRB
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting, Inc.

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Feb. 4, Feb. 25 (conference call to plan March public meeting), 1:00, Mar. 4, Apr.1, May 6, June 3, Jul. 1, Aug.5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2  
Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**2014 Public Meeting Dates and Topics**

- March 12, 2014 Cowlitz Annual Project Review (APR), Centralia College
- April 24 APR
- There may also be a September meeting (evening, rainbow trout stocking plan or other topic, location to be determined).

**Action Items**

Announcements and Planning for Next Meeting

- Lyn: Poll FTC on potential of meeting March 6 instead of March 4.
- Mark: Send out the draft upper basin reach categorization study for review and FTC be prepared to discuss at the February meeting.
- Pat: Ask presenters of Upper Cowlitz River Salmon Recovery Plan to come in time for lunch at noon and present from 12:45-2:15.

Annual Project Review (APR) - Public Meeting

- Mark: Work with Lyn and Tom Santee to revise agenda for March meeting and send out for review prior to the Feb. FTC meeting.

- Mark: Send out draft PowerPoint presentation along with revised agenda.

#### Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund Plan

- Mark: Send out final plan. Also re-send and post the draft cover letter to FERC for review.
- All: Review and send any comments on plan / cover letter to Mark by Jan. 22, otherwise it will be submitted as-is to FERC.
- Michelle: Check to see the cover letter is still relevant from NMFS perspective by Jan. 22.

#### Mayfield Lake Fall Chinook Net Pens

- Cindy: Discuss this revised recommended approach with her organization and let the FTC know if it is supported.

#### DAMW Updates

- All: Send any additional comments on 60% design documentation for the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector to Kirk by Jan. 10.
- Kirk: Send out completed spreadsheet including all comments and corresponding Tacoma responses on Jan. 13.

#### Annual FTC Work Plan

- Mark: Send out / post the newly revised FTC work plan for review.
- Mark: Table 1: Develop the CRR Fund Plan implementation steps for review.
- Mark: Table 2: Expand to include timelines by topic; when distributed, how long of a review, when comments due back and when filed with FERC.

#### 2014 CFD Study Protocol

- Matt: Revise decision document template and send to Mark to distribute and post for review.
- Matt: Revise the 2014 Cowlitz Falls Dam FCE study protocol as discussed and send out / post.

#### Rainbow Trout Stocking Plan

- The FTC agreed to discuss this topic by this summer.

#### Action Items from Prior Meeting(s)

- Keith - Draft letter to FERC re FHMP Update for FTC review.
- Cindy - Discuss Blue Creek ADA site management with user groups. Use APR process in 2014 for a decision.

#### **Announcements**

- Mayfield Downstream Migrant Survival Study Update: The results will be available in early February. We are seeing less than 95% survival. Tacoma is evaluating whether this may be related to a design issue. They are still waiting on the Chinook data. Tacoma will send out a recommended plan between now and our next meeting for FTC review and feedback. The FTC will engage in a fuller conversation on this and look at making a decision on this at our February meeting.

- Upper Cowlitz River Basin Reach Characterization & Identification Study: The draft upper basin reach categorization study has been posted to the password-protected website and will be distributed for FTC review.

---

### **Annual Project Review (APR) Public Meeting**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Agree on concept, meeting structure.*

Tacoma has committed to a public process for the Annual Project Review in 2014 (and beyond). There may be three meetings in 2014. The first two are scheduled for March 12 and April 24. Feb. 25 (tentatively) there will be a conference call to walk through the plan for the March 12 meeting. We want to let everyone know we are starting an annual review of hatchery production levels and let them know how this information impacts harvest decisions. We will make the technical information as accessible to the public as possible.

The FTC walked through the proposed meeting format and discussed how this initial meeting will build toward the second meeting. The first meeting may be more informational and the second may be more interactive. We will work to ensure meeting participants come to each meeting with clear expectations of the purpose of the meeting, when and how we will be seeking their input and how all that translates to a decision making process. At the initial meeting we will outline how the public can interact with and help shape future decisions.

Next steps: Mark, Tom Santee and Lyn will revise the draft agenda taking into consideration FTC feedback and send it out for review prior to the next FTC meeting.

---

### **Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund Plan**

**Presenter: Lyn Wiltse / All**

*Purpose: Perform line-by-line review and finalize the plan.*

**Decision: The FTC finalized the plan.**

Next steps: Tacoma will send the final plan and the draft cover letter to FERC out for review by absent FTC members.

---

### **Mayfield Fall Chinook Net Pens - Status Report**

**Presenter: Cindy LeFleur**

*Purpose: Review new information about options 5a, 5b, and 6 to help inform TP role.*

The FTC reviewed the new proposal Cindy sent out. Discussion followed:

- There was concern about the 200K fish released into Mayfield Lake potentially being handled all at once at the Mayfield counting house. In addition, there may be a problem with holding in the secondary separator.
- The NMFS survival metric for downstream migrants does not distinguish between NOR and HOR fish.
- There was a question about the marking plan. The only differentiator is mortality (harvest). Segregated fish need to be marked separately so they are not incorporated into the integrated brood stock.
- The program is currently integrated only at 12% so most brood stock are hatchery fish.

Cindy thanked everyone for their feedback and asked if FTC members could support the 5b option (pump from net pens, release into the lower river) without tagging the segregated program. WDFW would pay all additional costs associated with trucking and Tacoma would pay for the costs of ad-clipping the fish.

**Decision: There was agreement to support Tacoma Power's role as described above.**

Note: After talking with Mark J, Cindy proposed that, out of the 2 million segregated fall Chinook program, they double CWT (cheek and nose) 200K fish. Then before they use them in the brood stock they would wand them. This would need to be spelled out clearly in the WDFW adult handling protocol. The cost of this would be assumed by WDFW.

Paul offered a dissenting opinion in that he feels it is wrong to ask the tax payers to pay for something that is not necessary. With the below-the-dam option (7) there would be no cost to the tax payers. He is also concerned with the disease issue and the fact that it concentrates waste at the dam that otherwise wouldn't be there.

Next Steps: Cindy will discuss this revised recommended approach with her organization and get back to the FTC.

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenters: Matt Bleich and Kirk Kessler**

*Purpose: Present updates and review comments on 60% design doc.*

### Upper Riffe Collector status

Tacoma has a contract in place with R2. There was great rejoicing. They are moving through design exercises. The location will be 1000 ft downstream of CF Dam. A draft 30% design will be ready for review at the next DAMW meeting on Jan. 22. Following that review it will be presented to the FTC at their March meeting. Tacoma still intends to implement this trap beginning in July of this year and will consider fishing it through September, 2014.

### Adaptive Management Plan status

Chapters 1-4: Matt reported having received comments and passed them onto Meridian Environmental to incorporate into the document. Chapter 5: Matt announced this chapter is now complete in its draft form and is out for DAMW review. They have already provided comments for the first half of the chapter. By the end of this week comments are due on the last half of the chapter (includes all the studies). They will then incorporate those into the document. Then Tacoma will conduct an internal review and hope to have a final document ready to share with the FTC in April, 2014.

### 60% design for CF North Shore Collector

Kirk announced that he received comments on the 60% design from Ed Meyer and John Serl. He put them in the spreadsheet using the format suggested by Ed. Other comments and questions will be incorporated by the end of the week and he will send out and have Mark post the completed spreadsheet, including Tacoma's responses on Monday, Jan. 13. This will be reviewed in more detail at the February FTC meeting.

---

### **Annual FTC Work Plan**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Review/finalize*

The FTC walked through the draft 2014 Work Plan and agreed on edits. This document will be reviewed and edited on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Mark will follow up with Bob, Lou Ellyn and Jim who were unable to attend the meeting.

We agreed that it would be helpful to include more detail in the plan. This will help ensure we make timely decisions.

Next steps: Mark: Develop the CRR Fund Plan implementation steps for the 2014 plan and send out for review. The intent will be to find the right level of detail to include in the plan. This will become the model for how we will add similar detail to other elements of the plan.

### FTC Protocols

The FTC edited the protocols and integrated them into the Annual FTC Work Plan.

---

### **2014 CFD Study Protocol**

**Presenter: Matt Bleich**

*Purpose: Review / finalize template and 2014 CFD study protocol*

At our last meeting Peggy suggested we create a formal process / template to memorialize FTC decisions. This document would facilitate a timely and informed

decision making process. Matt walked through an example of just such a document using the example of 2014 Cowlitz Falls Dam Fish Collection Efficiency study plan

Tacoma proposed leaving the weir box and existing flumes operational during the 5 week period between July 8 and August 10, 2014. This would preclude performing the blocked studies.

**Decision: The FTC approved the new decision document template with edits. We agreed to try this out and continue to edit it as appropriate.**

**Decision: The FTC approved Tacoma proposal. This affects the 62% of the run that migrates during this period.**

The FTC is comfortable with making this decision based on the following rationale:

- Chinook collection will already be poor without a weir box.
- We need to test the weir box.
- We will have the Upper Riffe Collector (prototype) in place as back-up collection.
- We are in the beginning stages of a reintroduction program in the upper basin and the population is not self sustaining at this time.

---

### **Rainbow Trout Stocking Plan**

**Presenter: Cindy Le Fleur / Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Discussion with an eye toward gaining input at public meeting in the fall.*

Stocking will happen in 2014. In 2015, Tacoma will be looking at the existing contract and will need to make contract decisions in 2016.

The FTC will address this by summer 2014 as per the 2014 FTC Work Plan.

---

### **Review / Approval of December 3, 2013 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn Wiltse**

The meeting summary was approved with minor edits and will be posted for public review. The status of the Actions Items was reviewed and updated.

---

### **Handouts**

- Draft January 7, 2014 meeting agenda
- 2014 APR meeting agenda – proposal
- WDFW-Mayfield net pens option, 1/7/2014
- Draft 2014 FTC Work Plan
- Draft meeting summary for the December 3, 2013 FTC meeting

### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Consider having John Skalski present with HTI (as data come in, early, 2014)
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC

### **Potential February 4 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Decisions: - *Mayfield Downstream Fish Passage Study (agree on path forward)*  
 - *Approve Mar. 12 APR agenda and plan for Apr. 24 meeting*  
 - *60% design review for Cowlitz North Shore Collector (resolve conflicts)*

### Morning

#### Welcome / Announcements

- Cowlitz M&E Plan
- Mayfield fall Chinook net pens
- BPA Access Agreement Update

#### Mayfield Downstream Fish Passage Study (90 min.)

*Aim: Present data and agree on path forward*

#### APR Process and Agendas (30 min.)

*Aim: Approval of March meeting agenda and plan for April meeting*

### Afternoon

#### Upper Cowlitz River Salmon Recovery Plan measures (90 min.)

*Aim: Provide information to inform FTC on priority habitat recovery actions in the Upper Cowlitz basin (above Mayfield Dam)*

#### Upper Basin Reach Characterization Study (20 min.)

*Aim: Provide feedback to contractor.)*

#### DAMW Updates (40 min.)

- Upper Riffe Lake collector design
- Update on Adaptive Management Plan schedule
- Update on 2013 FCE reports
- 2014 Study Status Update

#### 60% Design Documentation for Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector (45 min.)

*Aim: Approve design*

#### Review Action Items / Finalize Jan. 7 meeting summary

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
February 04, 2014, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Bob Rose	Yakama Nation
Paul Sparks	Washington Council, Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

John Serl	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Mark Johnson	WDFW
Ed Meyer	NMFS
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Kirk Kessler	Tacoma Power (by phone)
Shannon Wills	Technical rep to Yakama Nation
Debbie Carlson	BPA
Pat Frazier	LCFRB
Jeff Breckel	LCFRB
Steve Ralph	CardnoENTRIX
Melissa Klungle	CardnoENTRIX
Jenna Scholz	CardnoENTRIX
Sky Miller	CardnoENTRIX
Derek Booth	CardnoENTRIX (by phone)
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting, Inc.

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Feb. 28 (WebEx call to plan initial APR meeting) at 10:00 am, Mar. 6 (rescheduled from Mar. 4), Apr.1, May 6, June 3, Jul. 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**2014 Public Meeting Dates, Topics**

- March 12<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM: 2014 Cowlitz Annual Project Review (APR), Centralia College, Corbett Theatre
- Apr. 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM (location TBD).
- There may also be a meeting in the fall (location to be determined).

**Action Items**



### Mayfield Dam Downstream Migrant Survival Study

- Mark will let the FTC know when that discussion is scheduled and all are invited to attend.

### Annual Project Review (APR) Public Meeting

- Mark: Send out draft PowerPoint presentation along with revised agenda and set up the Feb. 28 WebEx call.
- Lyn: Check with Tom to arrange for microphones for presenters.

### Draft Plan to Abandon Volitional Passage and Cover Letter

- Mark: Send out *Plan to Abandon Volitional Passage* along with cover letter to all.
- All: Review and send any comments on draft plan and cover letter.
- Michelle: Check to see the cover letter is still relevant from NMFS perspective.

### DAMW Updates

- Matt: Send Adaptive Management Plan to FTC for review in April.
- Kirk: Work on 90% design document for CF North Shore Collector in April.

### Annual FTC Work Plan

- Mark: Table 1: Flesh out CRR Fund Plan implementation steps for all to review.
- Mark: Table 2: Expand to include when topic is introduced, when out for FTC member review, when comments due back, etc.

### Upper Basin Reach Characterization Study

- All: Send Mark comments on study approach and draft study (posted on FTC website) by Feb. 18.

### Rainbow Trout Stocking Plan

- We agreed to discuss this summer.

### Action Items from Prior Meeting(s)

- Keith - Draft letter to FERC regarding FHMP Update for FTC review.
- Cindy - Discuss Blue Creek ADA site with user groups and use APR process in 2014 for a decision.

### **Announcements**

- Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement Update: Keith reported they met on January 16 and are close to finalizing the agreement. It is now in the hands of the lawyers to clean up the details. He expects all to sign the agreement in late February or early March. This will be an Agreement in Principle (AIP) and contingent on FERC easement approval. By October 2014 the agreement should be fully implemented.
- CCA Meeting: Keith and Mark met with the Lewis County and State leaders from CCA in January. They were appreciative of Tacoma's time and Tacoma gained a better understanding of their perspectives in support of the Mayfield Net Pen program. CCA supports summer-run steelhead recycling in the lower river. Tacoma has committed to work with CCA to help them to find opportunities to expand activities beyond Tacoma's responsibilities.

- Mayfield Fall Chinook Net Pens:
  - Cindy reported WDFW cannot do a double tag in the Mayfield net pen fish. The Mayfield fish will received a CWT-100K of them with a unique tag. They will also be AD clipped so they would be available to harvest. WDFW will try to collect extra NORs to compensate for diluting the integrated returns. When they return we could sort them at the separator for the brood program.
  - Regarding the net pens - WDFW is pursuing an internal approval, pursuing a bid, permitting, etc. There are some timeline issues. They will keep the FTC informed.
- Winter Steelhead Integration Program: Beginning on Feb. 1 WDFW has begun collecting NORs for brood stock at each weir. HOR brood stock will be collected at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery (CSH). If only ripe NOR females are encountered at the weirs before April 1 they will be taken back to their stream of origin. They will live spawn all the fish. The ISIT model will be used to evaluate the proper integration rate once the weir data is available (NOR population and stray HOR steelhead). Main stem spawning will be addressed in the coming months.
- Steelhead Gene Bank: Cindy reported there have been a couple of meetings about setting up gene banks to create wild fish sanctuaries in the lower Columbia River region. WDFW proposed three different rivers, including the North Fork Toutle/ Green River. Keith is concerned that this puts additional angler pressure on the Cowlitz.
- Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage: The FERC Order gave Tacoma the green light to file a plan to abandon volitional upstream fish passage on the Cowlitz River prior to year 14 of the License. Tacoma has prepared a draft plan which includes the CRR Plan that we have been working on. Mark emphasized that the CRR Plan is only a component of the plan to abandon volitional upstream fish passage. Tacoma is nearly ready to send out the cover letter and the plan for FTC review.
- Cowlitz M&E Plan: Mark announced he is going to the Utility Board next week to get approval for funding to contract with WDFW for 2014 M&E activities. There will be a significant increase in their scope of work (as per Appendix J of the FHMP Update).

## **Mayfield Dam Downstream Migrant Survival Study**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere and Matt Bleich**

*Purpose: Present data and agree on a path forward*

Mark and Matt walked us through a PowerPoint presentation of the preliminary 2013 study results of Mayfield Dam Downstream Migrant Survival Study. Mark reported they achieved the goal of releasing tagged fish throughout the outmigrant periods. The study assumptions included no tagging bias and fish detections at both gates. Both assumptions were violated in 2013.

In lieu of continuing with an overall dam survival study in 2014, Tacoma recommends focusing on the juvenile bypass system (JBS) and evaluating survival via the passage routes. Tacoma will be working with the consultants on how to plan the paired release study for this year.

Ed suggested a direct release into the louver downwells. He also has concern about adding a third gate (direct vs. delayed mortality issue). Matt responded that a third gate would increase the precision of the study. Tag life is also an issue. Tacoma will investigate re-programming the tags to decrease ping rate and increase lag life.

**Decision: The FTC agreed that Tacoma should focus first on evaluating the juvenile bypass system, and agreed to support Tacoma's intent to plan for a third gate if it passes the dead fish test.**

Next Steps: The final 2013 study will be out for FTC review in early March. Tacoma will meet with HTI (Skalski) and bring back to the FTC further recommendations / solutions regarding the study design on March 6. The goal is to address two issues; coho holding above the Barrier Dam and the louver bay releases.

---

## **Annual Project Review (APR) Process and Agenda**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Approve March 12 meeting agenda*

Tacoma Power the Cowlitz FTC have committed to a public process for 2014 (and beyond). There may be three meetings in 2014. The first meeting is scheduled for Mar. 12th in the Corbett Theater at Centralia College.

Mark presented a revised meeting agenda and discussed how this initial meeting will build toward the second meeting. Tacoma will work to ensure meeting participants come with clear expectations of the purpose of the meeting, when and how we will be seeking their input and how all that translates to a decision making process. We will open the meeting with remarks from various dignitaries. Keith will step in for Pat McCarty as he is no longer available to attend.

Tacoma will also ensure there are microphones for the presenters.

**Decision: The FTC approved the revised draft agenda as discussed and also to change the Feb. 25 WebEx conference call to Feb. 28 at 10 AM to walk through the PowerPoint and presentation format for the Mar. 12th meeting.**

Next steps: Mark will send out the revised agenda to all and send out a draft PowerPoint for all to review at the Feb. 28 WebEx call.

---

## **Upper Cowlitz River Salmon Recovery Plan**

**Presenter: Jeff Breckel (LCFRB)**

*Purpose: Provide information to inform FTC on priority habitat recovery actions in the Upper Cowlitz basin (above Mayfield Dam).*

Jeff walked us through the background, membership, and scope of the recovery plan. The plan covers nearly 3,000 anadromous river miles from the mouth of the Columbia to Little White salmon and five ESA threatened species. The plan covers three areas:

- Salmon recovery
- Habitat projects
- Three watershed planning units

The goal is healthy and harvestable populations across all three regions as defined by NMFS: Coast, Cascade, and Gorge. They built the recovery plan on a body of information that all parties agreed to. This is also an all-H plan (Hydro, Hatcheries, Habitat [access, protection, and restoration], Harvest, and Ecological Interactions).

They did an integrated watershed assessment and looked at a variety of key indicators critical to their habitat conditions. They did this based on root cause analysis. Protection (preservation) of existing habitat conditions is the driver in some instances and restoring habitat conditions is the priority in others. He explained how they approach their reach level analysis. He also described how they do site-specific reconnaissance. They help organizations find prospective sites that they can do further feasibility assessments to see if it makes sense to do a restoration project at the site. In cases where an acquisition is being considered, they ask: Is there an extraordinary contribution that habitat is making? Is there an imminent risk to the habitat? Have they looked at less than fee acquisition prospects? If so, pursue that first.

The LCFRB used three categories to evaluate projects:

1. Benefits to fish:
    - a. Targeting a tier 1 or 2 reach. A key population? How many populations are in that reach? Key life history within that population in the reach?
  2. Certainty of success
    - a. Technically, socially, legally, culturally appropriate? Extent of coordination with other protection and restoration efforts, community and land owner support.
  3. Cost
    - a. No formal cost/benefit analysis – use costs of prior, similar projects. Is the cost reasonable given the anticipated benefits? How creative in bringing in other resources? Have they clearly justified those cost estimates?
-

## **Upper Basin Reach Characterization Study**

### **Presenter: Stephen Ralph (CardnoENTRIX)**

*Purpose: Provide feedback to contractor*

Any recovery of salmon is a product of understanding the areas that are high functioning from a geomorphic standpoint and those that are not. CardnoENTRIX has been contracted by Tacoma to evaluate the upper Cowlitz, Cispus, and Tilton rivers. They reviewed and synthesized existing data as largely a desktop exercise with some ground truthing. Priority reaches were identified that can provide suitable, intact aquatic habitat for salmonids and would be readily used by winter steelhead, spring Chinook and coho.

General prioritization criteria included:

- Multi-threaded channels
- Tributary confluences
- High in-stream sediment storage capacity
- Extensive seasonal connectivity to floodplain surfaces, including wetlands and side channels
- Diversity of emergent, riparian, and floodplain vegetation

CardnoENTRIX has identified 27 reaches as suitable for protection. For each reach they developed a comparative chart including indicators such as river reach, meander bends, tributary junctions, ownership, zoning, parcel numbers, current human use, threat of development, species present, EDT reach identification, EDT reach rating and preservation value, etc.

Steve suggested the FTC is in a good position to protect upper Cowlitz tributary reaches proactively as a lot of the upper main stem river has not been significantly impacted. Protection/restoration may include the reconnection of side channels that have been impaired through long-term sedimentation activities or through some land use activities that are no longer active. Reconnection of side channels might be as simple as removing sediment blocks. Jenna reminded all that the intent and costs are very different from preserving sites to restoring them. It is good to look at the ecological benefit you want to get from each site. In general, longer reaches are better than shorter. It is also important to look at opening up blocked-off side channels and installing LWD to create scour pools and resting places for Chinook and steelhead.

Bob suggested they also consider parcel density and access. Access to LIDAR is also extremely helpful if it is available. Including a number and a weighting of the various values can aid the evaluation process. He would also like to see the parcel lines actually put on the reaches so we can evaluate the densities.

Next steps: CardnoENTRIX will integrate Tacoma Power and FTC feedback into the final draft of the study.

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenters: Matt Bleich and Kirk Kessler**

*Purpose: Approve design and path forward*

### Adaptive Management Plan Status

Matt acknowledged the hard work of several members of the FTC in putting this together. He distributed the table of contents for the Adaptive Management Plan for Collection System at Cowlitz Falls Dam. They hope to have a “final” document ready to share with the FTC in April 2014. He anticipates presenting the plan for FTC approval shortly before seeking approval of the 90% design for CF North Shore Collector.

Matt briefly described the contents of each chapter. He will be specifically seeking FTC feedback on Chapter 2 and Chapter 5. John and Michelle agreed these chapters will be of greatest interest to the FTC.

### Upper Riffe Collector Status

After the DAMW members review the design (2-3 weeks), it will be presented to the FTC at the March meeting. Tacoma still intends to install this trap by July 8<sup>th</sup> and will fish it through September 2014. Design comments are back from the DAMW team by tomorrow. R2 will be integrating comments into the design and then going out for HPA and shoreline permits by Feb 17th. They will complete the design between March and April, fabricating between June and July

### Update on 2013 FCE Reports

DAMW will have a month-long review of this report after an internal Tacoma review and then it will go to the FTC in early April.

### 2014 Study Status Update

Tacoma determined that hydraulic evaluation of weir box slots does not make sense to do for the 2014 season due to interference with LCPUD survival studies, etc. They will consider this in future years.

---

## **60% Design for CF North Shore Collector**

**Presenter: Kirk Kessler**

*Purpose: Approve design and path forward*

All comments and responses were posted on the FTC password-protected website. The next design is supposed to be out April 27. It looks like it may not be out the end of May. This will not affect the construction schedule.

Ed touched on the following comments:

- #2: Will simulate the flow and velocity at 750 and 1000 cfs.

- #6: Will have a thorough write up on the design basis memorandum (show where the water comes in, how it ponds up near the entrance, etc.) Tacoma will show how they will crowd and remove fish if they drain it.
- #10: How to seal the screen panels. Frank will follow up with Ed on this. Ed is concerned that many caulk jobs will not last the season. Have screen panels backed up by seals or a hard panel against steel? The important thing is a water path through.

John expressed concern about:

- #24: How to replace J bulbs.
- #25: Will probably be a lot more debris coming in than currently. Matt agrees and suggested that some of that will be accommodated by a trash rack with automated cleaners, traveling screens with screen cleaners. Have incorporated capacity for a future automates system, as needed.

Next Steps: Tacoma will send out a compare document so it is easy to track the changes in the newest edits.

**Decision: The FTC gave Tacoma the green light to proceed to 90% design.**

---

## **Review / Approval of January 7, 2014 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn Wiltse**

The meeting summary was approved with minor edits and will be posted for public review. The status of the Actions Items was reviewed and updated.

---

### **Handouts**

- Draft February 4, 2014 meeting agenda
- 2014 Lower Cowlitz Late Winter Steelhead Integration Plan (WDFW)
- March 12<sup>th</sup> APR meeting agenda
- Mayfield Dam Downstream Migrant Survival Study, PowerPoint presentation
- Salmon Recovery in the Lower Columbia Region, LCFRB
- Lower Cowlitz River and Floodplain Habitat Restoration Project Siting and Design, LCFRB
- WA Lower Columbia Salmon Recover and Fish & Wildlife Sub basin Plan, May, 2010, Vol II. – Chapter F Upper Cowlitz Sub basin, LCFRB
- WA Lower Columbia Salmon Recover and Fish & Wildlife Sub basin Plan, May, 2010, Vol II. – Chapter G Lower Cowlitz Sub basin, LCFRB
- An Adaptive Management Plan for Collection System at Cowlitz Falls Dam. Downstream Adaptive Management Workgroup. Draft Table of Contents, January 23, 2014.

### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Consider having John Skalski present with HTI (as data come in, early, 2014)

- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC

### **Potential March 6 Meeting Agenda Items**

Decisions: *Approve Mar. 12 APR agenda and plan for Apr. 24 meeting*  
*Approve 2014 Mayfield Survival Study Plan*

Welcome / Announcements

- Mayfield Net Pens
- FHMP Update Status
- Tri Party Access Agreement Update
- Ad Hoc Group

Review Draft Decision Documents from Feb. 4th meeting

Upper Basin Reach Characterization Study (60 min.) in the morning, when we are fresh  
*Aim: Review the plan and discuss how to implement this plan.*

Mayfield Downstream Fish Passage Study (45 min.)

*Aim: Present 2014 study plan and approve*

APR Meeting and Agenda (60 min.)

*Aim: Approval of agenda and review PowerPoint. Plan for April meeting*

DAMW Updates (10 min.)

- Update on 2013 FCE reports
- 2014 Study Status Update
- Formal review of Adaptive Management Plan

Review Action Items / Finalize Feb. 4th meeting summary and set agenda for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Meeting Evaluation**

- Got through a lot of information
- Still feel a little wishy-washy about decisions – need to start using the decision document
- 60% design review
- Add conference phone number on top of every agenda and bottom of every email
- We seem to be more focused in our discussions
- Good soup
- Matchin' shirts



**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
March 06, 2014, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WA DOE

**Other Participants**

Peggy Miller	WDFW
Ed Meyer	NMFS
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Shannon Wills	Technical rep to Yakama Nation
Debbie Carlson	BPA
Pat Frazier	LCFRB
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting, Inc.

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Apr. 1, May 6, June 3, Jul. 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**2014 Public Meeting Dates, Topics**

- March 12<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM: 2014 Cowlitz Annual Project Review (APR), Centralia College, Corbett Theatre
- Apr. 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Centralia College).
- There may also be a meeting in the fall (location to be determined).

**Action Items:**

Annual Project Review (APR) Public Meeting

- Mark: Send out revised PowerPoint on Monday, March 10
- Cindy: Consider explaining current flow regime at Blue Creek ADA site and that WDFW is considering modifications and seeking feedback.
- All: Review and send comments / edits back to Mark by noon, March 11.
- All: Plan to arrive at 4:00 for this meeting at the Corbett Theatre at Centralia College on March 12.

Cowlitz M&E Plan

- Mark: Send out more detailed study plans as they become available.

## Decision Document

- Mark: Add numbering system to these documents.

## WDFW Ad Hoc Group

- Keith: Follow up with Jim Scott on Tacoma Power attendance at the meetings.

## DAMW Updates

- Matt: Send Adaptive Management Plan to FTC for review in May.
- Kirk: Work on 90% design document for CF North Shore Collector in June.
- Matt: Create a decision document for the CWT plan that reflects FTC consensus to stay the course.

## Annual FTC Work Plan

- Mark: Table 1: Flesh out CRR Fund Plan implementation steps for all to review.
- Mark: Table 2: Expand to include when topic is introduced, when out for FTC member review, when comments due back, etc.

## Rainbow Trout Stocking Plan

- We agreed to discuss this summer.

## **Action Items from Prior Meetings:**

### Draft Plan to Abandon Volitional Passage and Cover Letter

- Mark: Send out *Plan to Abandon Volitional Passage* along with cover letter to all.
- All: Review and send any comments on draft plan and cover letter.

### FHMP Update

- Keith - Draft letter to FERC regarding FHMP Update for FTC review.

## **Announcements**

- Cowlitz Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan: Tacoma has approved an increase in WDFW funding for 2014 targeting the lower river NOR populations. Mark distributed a handout outlining the eight M&E tasks in the plan for this year.
  - **Action Item:** Mark to send out more detailed study plans as they become available.
- Mayfield Fall Chinook Net Pens: Cindy reported the bathymetric survey was completed and found no issues. The nets have been out for bid. Bids for the pens closes today. They are on target for having the pens installed in mid- April and stocked with fish. They have received the reservoir structure use permit from Tacoma Power. WA DOE waived the Water Quality permit for this project. Blue Creek ADA Site: Mark reported WDFW has been awarded a grant to upgrade the ADA fishing site at the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery outfall to better accommodate wheelchair-bound anglers. This will include paving and dealing with erosion issues. They will install 3 additional cement platforms to create more room for the ADA anglers. Cindy reported there has been talk of changing the CTH outfall schedule to allow more fish to return to this ADA site. WDFW will experiment with some potential modifications, e.g., doing 50/50 during some timeframes.

- **Action Item:** At the public meeting Cindy will (potentially) explain current operation at the ADA Blue Creek site and say WDFW is considering modifications and that they are seeking feedback
  - WDFW Ad Hoc Group: This group will continue to meet approximately a couple of times a year. Tacoma Power has requested an invitation to attend the meetings.
    - **Action Item:** Keith will follow up on this with Jim Scott.
  - Winter-run steelhead brood stock collection: Cindy announced there are two lower Cowlitz River NORs to date. The Tilton River brood stock will be close to 100% NORs. The upper Cowlitz River brood stock will be approximately 30% NORs and they will backfill with HORs.
  - CCA Meeting: WDFW and Tacoma Power met with CCA on February 21. WDFW provided an update on Mayfield net pens and summer-run steelhead recycling. The CCA brought up the possibility of NOR fall Chinook harvest in the Lower Cowlitz River (which Cindy said was not an option due to the issue of ESA coverage for take). The CCA also suggested a spring Chinook rearing proposal. Lots of information was shared. WDFW will review this proposal.
  - Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement update: This is in the hands of the lawyers to review and is on track for ownership transfer to occur on October 1, 2014. This will be an Agreement in Principle (AIP) and contingent on FERC easement approval.
  - Final Upper Basin Reach Characterization Study: Mark reported FTC comments were received and are being addressed and incorporated into the final study which will be posted and distributed by the end of March.
  - Lewis County Water and Sewer District Letter: Peggy gave a brief background on this and explained that FERC required Tacoma Power to ensure that the sewer district has accident insurance to cover anything that might adversely affect the hatchery downstream. The sewer district is asking that the insurance requirement be waived since there have not been any issues over the last ten years. There was strong sentiment among FTC members that this insurance requirement *not* be waived.
- 

## **Decision Documents**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Present example of memorializing key FTC decisions and get feedback.*

Mark took the decisions from our February meeting and put them into the new template that we agreed to try out. All agreed they look good. These will be posted in draft form on the FTC website. After FTC approval they will be posted on the public website.

**Action Item:** Mark will add a numbering system to the decision documents.

---

## **Review Annual Work Plan**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

The decision document will be included in the annual FTC Work Plan. Mark will do his best to complete the requested edits to the work plan document in time for review at our April meeting.

---

## **Annual Project Review (APR) Process and Agenda**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Approve March 12 meeting agenda*

We had a very productive WebEx meeting on February 28 to review the agenda including talking points and the PowerPoint presentation. We agreed to change the data in the presentation to better represent angler interests. Cindy agreed to send Mark more data and Tacoma Power would create the new graphs for the PowerPoint slides. The FTC has committed to a public process for 2014 (and beyond). There may be three meetings in 2014. The first meeting is scheduled for Mar. 12th in the Corbett Theater at Centralia College from 5-8pm. All are encouraged to arrive at 4:00. FTC members will sit in chairs at tables on the raised stage. There will also be a podium with a microphone on the stage, two wireless microphones and a couple of standing microphones for audience members to use during the public comment portion of the meeting. One of the purposes of these meetings is to hear public comment and questions and to build trust through education.

### Handouts:

- Agenda (with Tacoma website)
- PPT
- 20 copies of the glossary from the SA
- May 2013 meeting Q&A
- TP Hydro Project Description
- FAQ on the FHMP
- Settlement Agreement CDs (?)

### Action Items:

- Lyn: Bring index cards, flip chart pads, markers, and prepare flip charts of:
  - Agenda
  - Meeting ground rules
  - Common acronyms
  - List of topics to be covered at April 24 workshop
- Mark: Bring handouts, sign-in sheet (with option for participants to specify snail mail or email address for meeting materials), name tags, pencils, and make sure the TP website is on the handouts.

The FTC discussed how to revise the PowerPoint so the presentation is as understandable and meaningful as possible for the participants. The FTC will all work to

ensure meeting participants come with clear expectations of the purpose of the meeting, when and how we will be seeking their input and how all that translates to a decision making process.

---

## **2013 Mayfield Downstream Fish Passage Study**

**Presenter: Mark and Matt**

Mark walked us through a PowerPoint presentation of the 2013 study results. It is clear from this year's study that we missed a large number of fish. Might a radio tag (RT) or PIT-tag study be a better approach to evaluate facility survival of coho, Chinook, and steelhead? The Pacific Northwest National Lab is developing tags that are "injectable." This uses the same JSATS technology they have now.

At the April meeting the FTC will discuss the specifics of the 2014 study design. Plans for the 2014 study include; expanding the assumptions for survival model to include a full range of sizes of fish, adding a third date above the barrier dam (about .5 mile above the barrier dam), and focus on survival through the bypass system by doing releases directly into bypass areas where the fish are committed through gravity or velocity.

Next steps: Tacoma will send out a list of 2014 study goals and sample size table.

---

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenters: Matt Bleich and Kirk Kessler**

### Coded Wire Tag Plan

Matt is coordinating with John Serl for the coming season - upper vs. lower basin juvenile fish marks. There will be a shared labor agreement whereby BPA provides for actions at CFFF and Tacoma Power provides for the CWT machines and the wire. Dan Thompson, WDFW recommends sticking with agency-only tags for the time being.

### **Action Item:**

- Matt will create a decision document that reflects FTC consensus to stay the course.

### Update on 2013 FCE Reports

These studies used PIT-tag information along with RT data for behavior around the weir box. The USGS report will be appended to the FCE report. The DAMW will have a month-long review of this report after an internal Tacoma review and then it will be posted for FTC review in mid-April.

### Upper Riffe Collector

Tacoma just got the design back from the consultants (a permit-level design). Tacoma will be taking on the final design and fabrication role going forward. Tacoma is working on purchasing the nets. Permit applications are about to be submitted - JARPA for the

HPA and Shoreline Permit through the County (will likely get a shoreline exemption). No permit through Ecology as no pollution is expected.

#### Adaptive Management Plan Status

The DAMW hopes to have a “final” document ready to share with the FTC in May 2014. It is being reviewed at many levels within Tacoma Power. Then it will go to the DAMW for final review. Matt anticipates presenting the plan for FTC approval shortly before seeking approval of the 90% design for CF North Shore Collector.

---

#### **Review / Approval of February 4, 2014 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items Presenter: Lyn Wiltse**

The meeting summary was approved with minor edits and will be posted for public review. The status of the Actions Items was reviewed and updated.

---

#### **Handouts**

- March 6 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft February 4, 2014 meeting notes
- List of 2014 Cowlitz M&E Tasks
- March 12<sup>th</sup> APR meeting agenda
- Draft Decision templates for decisions made at Feb. 4 FTC meeting
- Mayfield Dam Downstream Migrant Smolt Survival Draft Study – ppt slides.

#### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC

#### **Potential April 1 Meeting Agenda Items**

Decision: *Approve agenda and plan for Apr. 24 public meeting*

- Welcome / Announcements
- Review FTC Work Plan
- APR debrief of March 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting. Agenda for April workshop
  - Set up planning meeting for Apr. 24 workshop
- Mayfield 2014 Downstream Fish Passage Study (45 min.)
- DAMW Updates (15 min.)
  - Update on 2013 FCE reports
  - 2014 Study Status Update
  - Formal review of Adaptive Management Plan
- Update on CRR Plan
- Review Action Items / Finalize Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting summary and set agenda for May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
April 01, 2014, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WA DOE
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

Peggy Miller	WDFW
Ed Meyer	NMFS
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical Consultant to Tacoma Power
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting, Inc.

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

May 6, June 3, Jul. 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**2014 Public Meeting Dates, Topics**

- April 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Centralia College) with focus on the ISIT model.
- June meeting (date and location to be determined).
- Fall meeting (date location to be determined).

**Action Items:**

Annual Project Review (APR) Public Meeting

- All: Plan to attend the next meeting on April 24 from 5:00 – 8:00, in room 121 of the Science Center at Centralia College.
- Cindy: By April 4 draft answers to all questions (24 flip chart questions and 17 unanswered 3x5 card questions) and send to Mark to distribute to the FTC to review.
- Mark: On April 4 send out draft Q&A to all.
- All: By April 11 review Q&A and send edits to Mark so he can send out final to all prior to April 24 meeting.
- Mark: Create a list of ISIT inputs and send to Pat to “translate”.
- Pat: List constraints in laymen’s terms.

## Announcements

- The Upper Cowlitz River Fisheries and Watershed Science Annual Conference will be April 10, 1 PM at the Chehalis Veteran's Museum. There will be presentations on the topics of fish collections at Cowlitz Falls Dam, weir box results, reservoir trout planting and survival studies, the lower Cowlitz River steelhead recycling study, the adaptive management plan, and the new collector. This is a great opportunity to get updates and also to interface with the public on these topics. Future conferences could be expanded to a full day and include the whole basin and FTC sponsorship.
- Cowlitz Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan: The contract is in place. Activities are underway. New staff has been hired. Mara Zimmerman with WDFW is the project lead.
  - **Action Item:** Mark to send out more detailed study plans as they become available.
- Mayfield Fall Chinook Net Pens: Cindy reported they are facing some hurdles (permits) to having the pens installed in mid-April. The Washington Department of Ecology said the net pens should be considered "substantial development" under the Shoreline Act and WDFW would need a Conditional Use Permit from Lewis County. Lewis County is now requiring a Conditional Use Permit, a shoreline permit, and a building permit. The permitting process calls for public review and appeal periods. The timeline for permit issuance is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Designs for the gangway and spars are moving forward. The nets are being constructed.
- Decision Documents and Meeting Summaries: Mark has numbered and posted decision documents and posted them to Tacoma Power's public website with corresponding links in the password-protected page.
  - **Action Item:** Mark to add a link to the password-protected page that leads to final meeting summaries when they are posted on the Tacoma public page.
- WDFW Ad Hoc Group: This group will continue to meet approximately a couple of times a year. Tacoma Power has requested an invitation to attend the meetings.
  - **Action Item:** Keith will follow up on this with Jim Scott.
- Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement update: There is a tentative agreement signing date of April 30. The easement continues to be a sticking point (must come from FERC).

---

## Annual Project Review (APR) March 12 Public Meeting Debrief and Plan for April 24 Meeting

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Debrief March 12th meeting and agree on how to handle list of questions*

### Debrief of March 12 Meeting

The meeting was well attended. One of the purposes of this meeting was to hear public comment and questions and to build trust through education. Another was to ensure



meeting participants come with clear expectations of the purpose of the meeting, when and how we will be seeking their input and how all that translates to a decision making process. We want the PowerPoint presentation to be as understandable and meaningful as possible for the participants. One of the challenges with the meeting is the attendees were more interested in the results than the process. We need to speak the same language as the audience (avoid use of technical lingo). There were many interruptions to the presentations with questions. The 3x5 note cards worked well for submitting questions. This led to a more focused discussion the last part of the meeting. At the first part of the meeting we started *reacting to comments vs. seeking clarifying questions*. Perhaps someone could be up front assisting the facilitator in distinguishing between the two.

#### Plan for April 24 Public Meeting:

The next meeting will be April 24 from 5:00 – 8:00, in room 121 of the Science Center at Centralia College. Mark announced that Tacoma Power has DJ Warren and Associates back on contract for 2014. They will be assisting us in creating a user-friendly public presentation of the ISIT model outputs for the APR. At the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting we could run through an example of some of the data needs / inputs for a single species such as lower river coho. We could discuss the limiting factors and model conditions before and after the FHMP.

#### Draft Agenda:

- 5:00 – 5:15 Welcome, review purpose, agenda, norms, and expectations  
Announce June meeting
- 5:15 – 5:20 Perception Check: Here's what we have heard from you...\*
- 5:20 – 6:00 Review Constraints, Inputs to the ISIT Model  
Clarify where we have input and where we don't  
Demonstrate ISIT Model with one species
- 6:00 – 6:10 Describe process through which we applied the constraints and ISIS  
Model for all species (Ad Hoc Group, FTC, Modeling, Data updates, Public  
Meetings, etc.)
- 6:10 – 6:20 2013 Hatchery Production and 2014 Process, June Meeting
- 6:20 – 6:30 Break
- 6:30 – 7:30 Q&A: Review Answers to March Meeting questions (handout)  
Additional Questions (use 3x5 card process)
- 7:30 – 8:00 June Meeting date and topics (incl. Blue Creek ADA Site and Steelhead  
recycling)  
Closing

#### \*List to include:

- You are angry
- You are tired of being baffled by our “bologna”
- You don't believe our data
- You think we are trying to trick you by changing scales in our graphs
- You don't think Tacoma Power and WDFW are responsive to public concerns
- You feel like decisions that affect you are being made without your input

- You are frustrated that what was once a world class fishery is now gone
- You want fishing opportunities for your kids in the future

#### Logistical Action Items:

- Lyn: Bring index cards, flip chart pads, markers, and prepare flip charts of:
  - Agenda
  - Meeting ground rules
  - Common acronyms
- Mark: Bring handouts, sign-in sheet (with option for participants to specify snail mail or email address for meeting materials), name tags, pencils, and make sure the TP website is on the handouts.
- Tom S: Bring water, cookies, and nametags

#### Handouts for Apr. 24 meeting:

- Agenda (with Tacoma website)
- PPT
- 20 copies of the glossary from the SA
- March 12, 2014 meeting Q&A
- FAQ on the FHMP

## **FHMP Amendment and Annual Reporting Due Date Proposals**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Present suggested proposals and get FTC feedback.*

Pat McCarty (Tacoma Power) plans to make a presentation at the National Hydropower Association meeting the end of April advocating that FERC does not need to be involved in the FHMP Update process. The long delay to approve the Cowlitz FHMP that is on a five-year update cycle shows that FERC does not bring value to the process. In the absence of FERC approval the Cowlitz stakeholders are moving forward with implementation of the FHMP Update in a spirit of good will. Tacoma may propose an amendment to the Settlement Agreement to support only a local approval process for the FHMP updates.

There is an annual FHMP report due to FERC annually on May 15th. Previous reports have primarily consisted of the Cowlitz evaluation data. With the transition to a Cowlitz Monitoring and Evaluation program, Tacoma would like to petition FERC to push out the annual FHMP report timeline to the fall (or end of the year for the APR process) instead of May 15, as many of the data won't be available from WDFW until July.

#### **Action Item:**

- Mark will develop a draft extension request and propose to permanently change the annual report due date when FERC approves the FHMP Update. FTC approval of this request will either be a decision document or captured in a final FTC meeting summary.

---

## **2014 Mayfield Downstream Fish Passage Study**

**Presenter: Mark and Matt**

Mark introduced Tacoma Power staff members Jamie Murphy, Missy Baier, and Scott Gibson who will be working to implement this study. We reviewed the specifics of the 2014 study design which was created in consultation with the contractor, HTI and their subcontractors - John Skalski and Rich Townsend. Plans for the 2014 study include: expanding the assumptions for survival model to include a full range of sizes of fish through the juvenile bypass system (JBS), adding a third gate approximately 0.5 miles above the Barrier Dam, and focusing on survival through the bypass system by releasing fish directly into bypass areas where they are committed through gravity and/or velocity.

Mark explained that the new gate will be installed at the upstream edge of the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery property with two hydrophones installed upstream from there. There will be a repeat of the fish survival study during the week of April 7.

Assuming there are no detections at the new array, it will become the permanent (third) station for the 2014 study. The survival model requires a fish be detected at two of the arrays before it can be counted as a survivor "past the concrete" (of Mayfield Dam). The read range of the telemetry equipment (zone of influence) is such that it can distinguish the difference between the different arrays (no overlapping). The UW is on hand to help validate our assumptions about the additional information that will be gained by adding the third gate. They will conduct a tag life concurrent with this study's fish releases.

The 2014 study will focus the releases at peak times of the year for each run, and use visible implant elastomer (VIE) tags to supplement the acoustic tags to create a larger sample size. Matt emphasized that the increased number of sample sizes strengthens this study considerably over the original design. This study will allow us to measure the percent survival of the various JBS section reaches. All of the VIE tagged fish will be recovered at the Mayfield counting house. This will allow us to determine survival by each particular reach.

Ed suggested adding a hydrophone in the tailrace. Tacoma will investigate this for 2014 and/or this is something that may be done in future years of the study if the existing design doesn't end up yielding the anticipated data.

### **Decision Confirmed:**

**The Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) agreed by consensus that Tacoma should focus first on evaluating the juvenile bypass system, and agreed to support Tacoma's intent to plan for a third gate if it passes the survival model assumptions.**

---

## **Update of Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Plan**

**Presenter: Mark**

Mark reminded all that the CRR Plan was developed as part of an effort to allow the ending of volitional upstream passage efforts during this license period and instead replace it with the CRR plan. Questions discussed by the FTC included - Do we want to begin to outline our process for moving forward? Could we start to outline our priorities? Do we want to coordinate with the HAG on this? What percentage of land do we want to purchase for restoration activities vs. purchasing land to keep it from being developed? We agreed to pick this up again at the June 3 FTC meeting.

---

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenters: Matt Bleich and Kirk Kessler**

### Update on 2013 FCE Reports

The internal Tacoma review is nearly complete. Then it will be reviewed by the DAMW and will be posted for FTC review in mid-May.

### 2014 Study Status Update

Matt reported they are moving forward with this. Tacoma Power is hiring its seasonal crew and coordinating with BPA and WDFW regarding FCE studies for steelhead and coho. Once the weir box is deployed this July, they will test it for effectiveness with Chinook.

### Upper Riffe Collector Design

Tacoma Power is purchasing the major components (pontoons, nets, etc.). Peggy has been helpful in moving the process forward on the permitting for the HPA. Matt received the Lewis County Shoreline exception.

### Coded Wire Tag Plan

Matt presented a draft decision document for us on this. There will be a shared labor agreement whereby BPA provides for actions at CFFF and Tacoma Power provides for the CWT machines and the wire. Dan Thompson, WDFW recommends sticking with agency-only tags for the time being.

### **Decision Made:**

**The Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) agreed by consensus that all juvenile coho, steelhead and cutthroat captured at Cowlitz Falls Dam and transported downstream will be marked with Coded Wire Tags (CWTs) bearing the WDFW agency code (063) during 2014. The FTC will revisit this decision annually. This fulfills the need described in FHMP Update Table 2-10.**

### Formal Review of Adaptive Management Plan Schedule

The DAMW hopes to have a “final” document ready to share with the FTC in May 2014. It is being reviewed at many levels within Tacoma Power. Then it will go to the DAMW for final review. Matt anticipates presenting the plan for FTC approval shortly before seeking approval of the 90% design for CF North Shore Collector. Matt will keep us posted.

---

**Topic: NOR Steelhead**

**Presenter: John Serl**

John reported there were fewer than 100 NOR steelhead returning to the Upper Cowlitz River so far this year. Is the demographic risk of a small population more risky than putting hatchery fish in the upper basin? The NORs have only been differentiated since 2009. Since then the NOR returns have been between 350-600 fish. The fitness assumption in the ISIT tool is already floored for this population.

After some discussion we agreed to have Mark draft a decision document addressing the pros and cons of releasing a total of 200 – 250 HOR fish upstream.

**Action Item:**

- Mark to draft and send out draft decision document (2014-5) for FTC to approve.
  - All to respond by Tuesday, April 8.
- 

**Review / Approval of March 6, 2014 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn Wiltse**

The meeting summary was approved without edits and will be posted for public review. The status of the Action Items was reviewed and updated.

---

**Handouts**

- April 1, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft March 6, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- March 26, 2014 East County Journal article: Cowlitz fish meeting brings discussion – by Buddy Rose
- Questions from March 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting (from the flip charts and index cards)
- Draft press release for April 24<sup>th</sup> public meeting.
- PowerPoint-2014 Mayfield Dam Downstream Migrant Smolt Survival Study Plan
- Decision Documents: 2014-4 and 2014-5

**Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

**Potential May 6 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements (45 min.)

- Debrief of April 24 public meeting
  - Follow up on unanswered questions
  - Plan for June meeting
- Main Topic: ISIT results
- Review Action Items / Finalize Apr. 1 meeting summary and set agenda for June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
May 6, 2014, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WA DOE (via phone)
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

John Serl	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical Consultant to Tacoma Power

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

June 3, Jul. 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**2014 Public Meeting Dates, Topics**

- June 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Centralia College)
- Fall meeting (date and location to be determined).

**Action Items:**

Annual Project Review (APR)

- All: FTC members are invited to the ISIT Work Session on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Mayfield office, 9 AM.
- All: Plan to attend the next APR public meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 8:00, at Centralia College.
- All: Review hatchery production table and PowerPoint slides at June 3<sup>rd</sup> FTC meeting.

**Announcements**

- Mayfield Fall Chinook Net Pens: Tacoma Power has issued the Land Use Permit and WDFW is in process of obtaining a Conditional Use Shoreline Permit from Lewis County. The fish will be stocked into the net pens this year, barring any permit hang-ups.
- Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement update: Agreement signing still on track although they did not meet the target signing date of April 30.

- Wild Fish Conservancy (WFC) suit against WDFW: This issue does not apply to the Cowlitz River due to the termination of the Chambers Creek early winter-run steelhead program at the Cowlitz Complex. The sport fishing community has some strong opinions regarding the Puget Sound issue as evidenced by recent articles published in *The Reel News*.

**Action Item:**

- Paul to provide a list of monthly PNW fishing publications.
- 

**Annual Project Review (APR) April 12th Public Meeting Debrief and Plan for June 19th Meeting**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Debrief April 24th meeting.*

The meeting was not well attended – only five members of the public attended. The meeting was held in the Science Center in anticipation of a smaller crowd. Even with the small attendance the outcome was very good as there was an excellent exchange of information and lots of follow-up questions to the presentations. John Serl and Mark LaRiviere presented the annual Project Review (APR) process, and the in-season implementation model (ISIT) model demonstrated with the lower Cowlitz River fall Chinook population. The Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife had many staff members present and were very helpful in answering questions and contributing to the topic discussions.

Plan for June 19th Public Meeting:

In a debriefing session following the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting the PowerPoint presentation was proposed to be repeated at the next APR meeting. The meeting will be at Centralia College, but the venue/presentations have not been finalized yet. FTC members suggested to offer a range of alternatives by population and show why, or why not, those alternatives will work under the existing sideboards (HSRG criteria, etc.). More detail and suggestions for the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be proposed following next week's ISIT Work Session. We want to figure out a way to promote and encourage stronger attendance.

---

**FHMP Annual Reporting Due Date Extension Request**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Present draft extension request letter and get FTC feedback.*

Tacoma shared a draft letter requesting an extension of the annual FHMP report due date until October 31 annually. This report date will comport with the Cowlitz Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) program. Tacoma also asked FERC to establish an annual report due date (October 31<sup>st</sup>) that works with the Fisheries and Hatchery Management Plan



(FHMP) Update M&E program. FTC members offered comments and edits on the draft letter.

**Action Item:**

- Mark to re-do the extension request letter prior to sending to FERC.
- 

**DAMW Updates**

**Presenter: Matt Bleich**

2013 FCE Report

The final draft 2013 FCE report was provided to DAMW for 30 day review beginning 5/2/2014. Following comment resolution the report will be posted on the FTC site.

2014 Study Status Update

Releases of PIT tagged steelhead groups have begun in coordination with BPA and WDFW with the baffle panels in the C-slot configuration. PIT tagged coho will also be released in this configuration. Coordination is underway with LCPUD and BPA to conduct concurrent dam passage survival studies and prototype weir box and prototype Upper Riffe Collector studies during the Chinook outmigration period in 2014. LCPUD and BPA have decided to shift their study efforts from the steelhead and coho season to the Chinook season due to their installation schedule for radio telemetry detection equipment. Initial meetings have resulted in solutions that appear to benefit both studies. Follow up meetings are being scheduled by LCPUD.

Upper Riffe Collector Design

Long lead items for the Upper Riffe collector have been ordered and are the items are currently due for delivery on a schedule that will facilitate fabrication at Tacoma Power prior to July installation.

The shoreline exemption previously issued by Lewis County is not currently considered adequate due to the nature of the State issued HPA. Lewis County has requested that the state re-issue the HPA under RCW 90.58.147 (Exemption for projects to improve fish or wildlife habitat or passage). WDFW has indicated that they are working to re-issue the HPA under this RCW which would result in the county not requiring a substantial development permit. If the county determined that a substantial development permit was required after all, the likelihood of the project being implemented this year would be low.

Coded Wire Tag Marking Plan

At the April 1st FTC meeting the FTC adopted the coded wire tag marking strategy to mark steelhead, coho and cutthroat with WDFW agency codes in 2014. Upon placing the order, Tacoma received additional communication from WDFW informing them that coho must be implanted with individual coded wire tags rather than WDFW agency codes. The FTC was informed of the change and FTC agreed to revise Decision Document 2014-4.

**Decision Made:**

**The Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) agreed by consensus that all juvenile coho captured at Cowlitz Falls Dam and transported downstream will be marked with individually coded wire tags (CWTs) during 2014.**

**Action Item:**

- Mark to revise Decision Document 2014-4.

Adaptive Management Plan

The adaptive management plan is in internal review for Tacoma Power. DAMW meetings will likely be postponed until this review is completed.

---

**Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Passage, Upper Basin Reach Characterization Study & CRR Plan**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Discuss next steps.*

Tacoma has an internal draft of the plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Passage in the Cowlitz River basin for this license period. Mark will distribute the draft plan and a draft cover letter for the FERC submittal for FTC review. Upon acceptance by FERC there is a six month window to complete the CRR Plan with a ranking criteria and a project selection process.

The Upper Basin Reach Characterization study, recently completed by CardnoENTRIX, has been posted and distributed to the FTC. The report identifies river reaches with high quality fish habitat that are currently threatened by development.

The FTC agreed to establish a sub-committee (as yet unnamed) to further develop the CRR Plan ranking and selection process. The first meeting of the subcommittee is set for 9 AM, Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery visitor center conference room. Peggy, Paul, Pat, Mark and Michelle volunteered to be on this sub-committee.

**Action Item:**

- Mark to complete and distribute the draft plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Passage and a cover letter for FTC review.
  - Mark to send out the link for the Cowlitz HAG implementation plan to the FTC.
  - Mark to create a new sub-section on the FTC web site for the CRR Plan and implementation actions. Post example plans.
-

## **Review / Approval of April 1, 2014 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Mark**

The meeting summary was approved with a few minor edits and will be posted for public review. The status of the Action Items was reviewed and updated.

---

### **Handouts**

- May 6, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft April 1, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- Decision Document 2014-5
- Draft letter – FHMP request for extension of filing annual report
- Revised; Definition of Key Terms Used in the ISIT Tool

### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

### **Potential June 3 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements
- Plan for June 19th public meeting
  - ISIT work session results
  - Hatchery production table
  - Public input plans
- CRR Plan sub-committee report
- DAMW updates
- Review Action Items / Finalize May 6 meeting summary
- Set agenda for July 1st FTC meeting

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
June 3, 2014, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WA DOE
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

John Serl	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Mark Johnson	WDFW
Debbie Carlson	BPA
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical advisor to Tacoma Power
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Jul. 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**2014 Public Meeting Dates**

- Late summer / fall meeting: Date and location to be determined.

**Announcements**

- On Sept. 9 in the late afternoon there will be a public meeting on the Upper Cowlitz in Morton. Speakers will include John, Mark, Kirk, Matt, and others. All FTC are invited to attend. Topics will include: CF North shore collector, status of the CFFF transfer, Adaptive Management Plan, and Upper Cowlitz River release strategies. Stay tuned for additional details.
- Mayfield Fall Chinook Net Pens: WDFW hopes to complete the pens this week. They received the Conditional Use Shoreline Permit from Lewis County and anticipate moving fish starting next week. The health of the fish looks good and they should be in the pens until the first week in July.

- The Annual Side Channel Monitoring and Annual Upstream Fish passage Reports are out for review.
- The draft Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Passage (for this license period) and FERC cover letter is also out for review. This is also posted on the FTC website.
- Mark Johnson explained the statewide consistency ruling and its impact on local food banks. The intent is to direct everything to the state-wide food bank (Northwest Harvest) and they have the option to come and get them or to send American/Canadian processor to come pick them up. If Northwest Harvest doesn't want the fish then they are distributed to the smaller, local food banks. Last year, local food banks got between 20-30% of the total fish.
  - Action Item: Mark J to send out a summary of last year's number and where they were distributed.
- Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement update: The LCPUD commissioners are still getting comfortable with the document. There is a side agreement (non-compete) in process that states that Tacoma and the PUD will work cooperatively. The Commission is expected to review both the agreement and the non-compete documents and indicate whether they can support them. BPA and Tacoma are ready to sign now. It may take a few more weeks to work through any outstanding issues. Once the commissioners sign it, then the other parties also sign and the agreement goes to FERC for the easements. The handover would occur October 1 where Tacoma would take control of BPA property including stress relief ponds.
- FHMP Update Approval: At the National Hydropower Association conference in Washington DC, FERC encouraged folks to work their way up the chain-of-command if not getting what they need from FERC staff. Keith contacted Erich indicating he was ready to start elevating the issue. He was pleased to hear that Erich was working on this and would have it complete in the next few weeks. Keith is now exploring how to reframe the license in such a way that puts FERC in a role of concurrence vs. approval and allows most of the decision making to occur at the level of the FTC. FERC would still reserve the right to veto and this would get FERC out of the micro-manager role and would be consistent in the way many FERC licenses are currently being implemented.
- Cowlitz HGMP Update
  - Cindy: Send out HGMP draft for all six programs for FTC review (before distributing it to the public).
- Capital Budgets (2015-16 biennium): Keith reported that he is successfully negotiating to receive adequate funding for large capital items in 2015-2016 – the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector and projects at Cushman.
- Cispus River adult release site: Mike Kohn is working on an MOA with Tacoma, USFS, LCPUD, and WDFW to develop a new release site at the Tom Music Bridge on the Cispus River. The Forest Service has developed some preliminary designs that are being reviewed by Tacoma. It was hoped to have this in place by the fall of 2014. Note: LCPUD and TP have agreed to split the costs evenly.
  - Action: Mark L will follow up Mike on the status of the MOA.

## **Annual Project Review (APR): ISIT Review and Plan for next Public Meeting**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Plan for next APR meeting that will meet the interests and needs of the public.*

We discussed deferring the APR public meeting that had been scheduled to discuss the tool, status and trends, and the various decision rules. This discussion should take place before doing a workshop-style public meeting where we invite folks to “play” with the ISIT tool through a range of alternatives by population and show why, or why not, those alternatives will work under the existing sideboards (HSRG criteria, etc.). We will revisit the appropriate timing of the next meeting at the July 1 FTC meeting. It will likely be late summer or early fall. The meeting will also include an edited version of the PowerPoint presentation from the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting taking into consideration the feedback received from members of the public when it was shown at that meeting. It is important for everyone to understand that fish passage survival drives management decisions. This means that after the collector is installed, management decisions will necessarily change.

ISIT work session results: All ISIT models have been updated for the eleven populations. We walked through an Excel summary sheet showing the various populations, including where we are in the recovery phase for each population, etc. We reviewed the summary table that Lars put together and made corrections as needed.

Keith suggested any table we publish has the goal at the top along with interim steps necessary to accomplish the goal. Table should also include long-term and interim biological targets and also a comment field to capture the rationale for the interim programs. When we make changes to programs based on data / results, we might develop codes indicating for example, if something was a HOR or NOR issue. When we make changes or stay the course it would be helpful to inform the public of our actions and the data that directed out actions so they are well informed and reminded of the constraints under which we must operate. We could capture this in a decision document reviewed and approved by the FTC. We would want to keep the notification at a high level and easy to understand. A narrative would be important to include to provide context, etc.

### Fall Chinook:

It would be good to show sub-populations for:

- Integrated on station
- Segregated on station, and
- Segregated for net pen

### Spring Chinook:

If there is no conservation limit, there is still carrying capacity. We need to find an effective way to show that. All mainstem rearing – no assumptions they would be in the tributaries.

### Cowlitz Salmon and Steelhead Population Summary Sheet:

We reviewed this table that showed the major criteria and status for each of the Cowlitz River coho, steelhead and Chinook populations. Suggested edits:

- Add a column that lists all of the Cowlitz goals – not just Tacoma Power’s goals. This would be helpful as CCA is looking for opportunities to support various initiatives.
- Add an “Unrealized credit” column.
- Footnote the “WDFW Target Production” column to show the source (Ad Hoc Committee). Consider re-naming this “Maximum allowable / individual program size”.

### **Action Items:**

- Keith: Check with Pat regarding Tacoma’s intention to use credits.
- Mark J: Fill in the NOR run forecast hatchery data (ave. size at release – Column K, line 43).
- Mark L: Create hyperlinks in the document that link to each population.
- Mark L: Follow up with Lars and Jeannie to make corrections to the Cowlitz Salmon and Steelhead Population Summary and send out to all.
- Mark L: Check with Lars et al regarding the calculations for coho credits.
- Mark L: Change “Biological Targets” to “Short-term Targets”.
- Mark L: Change “No limits” to “Unknown limit at this time” (for spring Chinook).
- Mark: Revise PowerPoint to show each population and what happened last year and what is planned for this year with and explanatory narrative. For steelhead show the low stray rate and a precautionary note that program size would be reduced if there were a higher stray rate. We would show how the stray rate was calculated.

---

### **DAMW Updates**

**Presenter: Matt Bleich**

#### Upper Riffe Collector Design

Tacoma is in the midst of constructing the collector in the yard at Tacoma. They are still awaiting permits. Over the past several months, Tacoma has been working through various permitting paths with Lewis County and WDFW. The shoreline exemption previously issued by Lewis County is not currently considered adequate due to the nature of the State issued HPA. Lewis County has requested that the state re-issue the HPA under RCW 90.58.147.

WDFW has re-issued the HPA and Lewis County has said this is insufficient. Lewis County has formally requested a RCW letter of support from WDFW. Originally it was for passage projects. Since then the request has been revised to fall under salmon protection. Now need to ask WDFW to ensure that this project was originally a director-driven process. The agreement was that the collector would be built and was supposed to be in the water last year. Matt will work with Cindy and Peggy to ensure reviewers at WDFW are aware that WDFW directors have already wholly endorsed this project in hopes of moving this forward. Lewis County and WDFW will be meeting in the next few

weeks to try to iron out this process that has stalled many projects including this one. Drop dead date is mid-June.

**Action Items:**

- Peggy: Talk with her supervisor about the history of this and do what she can to move it up the chain.
- Matt: Send letter to Cindy (Fish Program) and Peggy (Habitat) with the request that they walk it through the appropriate approval process with both departments.
- Keith: Get “*cheap, quick, and effective*” meeting notes from Pat M.

90% Design of CF North shore Collector

Kirk plans to send this out on Friday, June 13. He is proposing adding a presentation to the July 1 FTC meeting. It would be a fly through of the 3D design. The presentation, including technical specifications, will be posted on a SharePoint site as well. The focus will be on performance specs. FTC comments would be due July 8 and a decision document is planned for the August 4 FTC meeting.

Adaptive Management Plan

The adaptive management plan is still undergoing internal review at Tacoma Power. DAMW meetings will likely be postponed until this review is completed. A meeting the end of this month is unlikely.

---

**Summer Run Steelhead Recycling**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Discuss approach and funding options.*

Michelle and Pat recommended that the summer-run steelhead recycling program be scientifically based and implemented consistent within the parameters of the study. We should make it very clear that it is for summer-run steelhead only so there are not unrealistic expectations that it would include other species. Study parameters included above the I-5 Bridge, one time only, and from June 18 - August 20. Cindy suggested a timeframe of June 15 through the whole month of August. Mark J suggested focusing more in June and July. Flows drop in July resulting in better fishing. There appear to be plenty of summer-run steelhead returning in July and August. There would probably be two trips per week and a rough estimate of around \$3500. Note: This is only a very rough estimate as there are many different variables that would impact actual costs.

We could probably recycle 1,600 summer-run steelhead this year. We would assume about 333 would be harvested (assuming 20% catch rate). Keith suggested that Tacoma see this as a management action beyond their obligations. They would be interested in cost sharing with WDFW, CCA and other organizations. Paul reported that he is cautiously supportive of recycling. He sees the risk as negligible at this point. Some people in the Upper Cowlitz are concerned – some see it as “against nature.”



Others see it as a stepping stone to taking away their fish. What would be the impact on the gene bank?

Very small changes in stray rate can have a big impact on a recycling program. Michelle and Pat said we need to recognize the risk of implementing recycling based on only two years of data. We need to make sure the program is sustainable. We wouldn't want to, for example, recycle 3,000 in the first year and then only 500 in the second year due to additional data collected.

Keith explained that Tacoma is concerned that recycling might contribute to higher stray rates, but at this point, based on the available data, he is not opposed to doing summer-run steelhead recycling. We will continue to revisit this on a yearly basis. It is important for the public to understand this.

---

### **CRR Plan Subcommittee Report**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Further develop CRR Plan ranking and selection process.*

The CRR sub-committee agreed to meet on June 19 at 10 AM at NMFS offices in Portland. Mark L will drive and offered rides to all.

---

### **Steelhead Integration – NOR Broodstock Collection**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Provide update.*

This topic was deferred and will be added to the agenda of the July 1 meeting.

---

### **Marking Strategy and Schedule**

**Presenter: Keith Underwood**

*Purpose: Begin to plan for upcoming 5-year review.*

This topic was deferred and will be added to the agenda of the July 1 meeting.

---

### **Review / Approval of May 6, 2014 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn**

The meeting summary was approved and will be posted for public review. The status of the Action Items was reviewed and updated.

---

## **Handouts**

- June 3, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft May 6, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- Combined ISIT that replaces the eleven individual population files (with tabs for the individual populations and each population has a data entry sheet, a status and trends, and a decision rules hyperlinks).
- Cowlitz salmon and steelhead population summary sheet that lists the major criteria and status for each of the Cowlitz River coho, steelhead and Chinook

## **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

## **Potential July 1 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements
- DAMW updates
  - CF North shore Collector 90% design (30 min.)
  - Decision document for Aug. 4 meeting
- CRR Plan sub-committee report
- Cowlitz HGMP Update
- Set Date for next APR public meeting
  - ISIT Model
  - Revised PowerPoint
  - Agenda
- Summer run steelhead recycling
- Steelhead integration – NOR broodstock collection
- Marking Strategy and Schedule
- Review Action Items / Finalize June 3 meeting summary
- Set agenda for August 5 FTC meeting

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
July 1, 2014, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WA DOE

**Other Participants**

John Serl	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Mark Johnson	WDFW
Frank Postlewaite	R2 Resource Consultants
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Kirk Kessler	Tacoma Power
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical advisor to Tacoma Power
Kevin Malone	DJWA
Jeannie Heltzel	DJWA
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**Other Meeting Dates**

- July 30: The CRR subcommittee will meet at Mayfield.
- Sept. 9: 5:30ish there will be a public meeting on the Upper Cowlitz in Morton. Speakers will include John, Mark, Kirk, Matt, and others. All FTC are invited to attend. Topics will include: CF North shore collector, status of the CFFF transfer, Adaptive Management Plan, and Upper Cowlitz River release strategies. Stay tuned for additional details.

**Announcements**

- FERC has approved our 5-year report for the Cowlitz Fish Disease Management Plan. The pathology experts did not find any cause for modifying the existing Plan or any failure to achieve the criteria for success. The next five-year status report, or revised Plan, is due to FERC November 18, 2018.

- The request to extend the reporting date to October 31, 2014 for the 2013 Cowlitz FHMP annual report was approved by FERC. The request to permanently move the reporting date to October 31 will be addressed in FERC's order regarding the FHMP Update.
- Comments on the draft Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Passage (for this license period) are due July 29. Tacoma will finalize the plan including responding to comments and then submit it to NMFS and USFWS. Concurrence of the Services is required prior to submittal to FERC. The plan is on the FTC website.
- Tacoma and WDFW hosted Senator Braun on a net pen tour on June 23. There was a positive follow-up article on this published in the Centralia Chronicle.
- Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement update: The agreement has been signed. There was great rejoicing! The handoff will occur October 1 where Tacoma would take control of BPA property including stress relief ponds. This agreement includes much earlier timelines than we have had in the past, requiring us to start in July / August so we can have finalized plans in October. This will require us to be much more proactive than we have been in the past.
  - Action Item: Keith will bring GANNT chart to our August 4 meeting.
  - Action Item: Keith to send out the report that includes the agreement.
  - Action Item: Mark will post the report to the FTC website.
- Capital Budgets (2015-16 biennium): Keith reported the senior leadership is including the budget in the rate case. It will go to the City Council in the fall for final approval.
- Cispus River adult release site: Mike Kohn has sent out a draft MOA. Tomorrow a Tacoma Power fish truck will travel down to a PacifiCorp release site on the Swift Reservoir to do a test to see if their release site design can work at the Tom Music Bridge on the Cispus River.
- A final report on the effects upon fish of the instream flow requirements in the Lower Cowlitz River (License Article 15) is due December 31, 2014. There are several 5-year reports coming due to FERC. In the next couple of months we will be discussing LWD, gravel augmentation.
- Cowlitz HGMP Update: WDFW has sent two to Tacoma and is seeking a quick turnaround. They are looking for any fatal flaws on these for now. The public comment period will follow. The FTC will review the plan at that time. Tacoma will try to conduct the review as soon as possible. They will require more time than the requested July 3.
  - Cindy: Send out HGMP draft for the remaining four programs for initial review by Tacoma (before distributing it to the public).

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenters: Kirk Kessler, Frank Postlewaite (R2), Matt Bleich**

### 90% Design of CF North shore Collector

Frank walked us through a 3D version of the 90% design that Kirk sent out on Friday, June 13. The presentation, including technical specifications, has been posted on FTP

site as well. Included is the description of system operation, design basis memorandum (90%) comp review of collector, biological, hydraulic considerations, etc. The appendix has design basis memorandum for the bulkhead gate. The design drawings are also included – electrical will be available in the next couple of weeks. All were asked to get Kirk any comments by July 15. The 100% design is due the middle of September.

Comments / Concerns expressed:

- Can we use the water system in freezing conditions?
- Does the design accommodate debris pegs? Keith is concerned with debris – doesn't want to see things get clogged up like is happening at Swift. Frank responded they are not planning on it – need a brush seal on the bottom. Frank doesn't think they would be very effective here where we would have about a 3 ft/sec sweeping flow across the screens. We anticipate a lot of debris so we need to be sure the design is adequate so we don't have to try to do an expensive fix after the fact.
- Michele expressed concern for injury with anything sticking out when there is a sweeping velocity
- Contingency plan if a pump needs to be repaired?
- Concern that juvenile steelhead and Chinook might hang out at the entrance

#### **Action Items:**

- All to send Kirk comments or questions relative to the 90% design by July 15.
- Michelle will follow up with Swift to see what the debris issues are at Swift.
- Kirk to compile comments into a spreadsheet and address each one in time for our August 4 FTC meeting and send it out to all.
- Kirk will prepare a decision document for this for the August 4 FTC meeting.

#### Upper Riffe Collector Design

Tacoma expressed thanks to WDFW for fast-tracking the permitting on this. Matt was pleased to report they are fully permitted and under fabrication. The net manufacturer alerted Matt there will be a one-week delay so we plan to go in the week of July 15.

#### Adaptive Management Plan

The adaptive management plan is still undergoing internal review at Tacoma Power. DAMW meetings will likely be postponed until this review is completed.

---

### **Net Pen Update**

**Presenters: Cindy LeFleur and Mark Johnson**

*Purpose: Explain the disease issue that caused the emptying of the pens.*

The net pens were finished June 9. On the 10<sup>th</sup> they moved a whopping 40 truckloads of fish into the pens. The fish were examined and received a clean bill of health June 20<sup>th</sup>. They had scheduled to move them out on the 30<sup>th</sup>, July 2, July 7, and 9, moving 5 pens at a time and staging them at the stress relief ponds.

Additional examination was done of the net pen fish on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June. A percentage of the population was exhibiting *C. shasta* infection affecting the kidneys. This disease is typical for Chinook and Steelhead on the Cowlitz. Mark J emphasized it is not passed fish to fish.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> they trucked all the fish out. The stress relief ponds were not available so they staged the fish in the raceways at the salmon hatchery. Everything hauled very well. Mark lauded the heroic efforts by the crew. Mark J estimated over 95% of the fish were in really good shape. The fish are now volitionally migrating.

The presumption is that the fish contracted the *C.shasta* after they were put in the net pens and then the warm water temperatures created a condition such that the spores began to spread quickly. *C. shasta* was not diagnosed in the fall Chinook at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery. Ideal we would want to get them out before the temperature hits 54 degrees. The best treatment for this disease is to get the fish to salt water.

---

## **CRR Plan Subcommittee Report**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Further develop CRR Plan ranking and selection process.*

The CRR sub-committee met on June 19. They developed a draft charter. They plan to meet on a monthly basis. They have put together a timeline and are aiming to have a recommended process to the FTC for review and approval this winter. Once the process is in place they will begin to solicit projects. Their next meeting will be July 30 at the Mayfield Office. They will give us an update at our next meeting.

---

## **Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Provide update.*

Tacoma Power and the FTC, working with WDFW required Mayfield Village to take out a \$4 million bond / insurance policy in case there are any accidental discharges that cause any damage to hatchery fish downstream. They would like to discuss other options as the insurance is expensive, and they have been operating 12 years without incident. We will explore roles and responsibilities relative to this and discuss how to respond at our August meeting.

### **Action Items:**

- Mark L will investigate the language in the license to better understand the options. He will let Roxanne know that this issue is being discussed and we will get back to them.
- Peggy will route email chain of communications on this issue to Mark L to distribute to all.

---

## **Steelhead Integration – NOR Broodstock Collection**

**Presenter: Mark Johnson**

*Purpose: Provide update.*

Mark J explained that the goal of the Lower Cowlitz River Steelhead integration effort was to collect 1 in 10 at LC River weirs to integrate the Nor fish into the hatchery origin. The intent was not to spawn any NOR with HOR before April 1 to make sure that no Chambers Creek stock fish were included in this broodstock program. They did the last spawning on April 29. The integration rate was a little less than 5%. We will have to evaluate the process in the future to do a better job of achieving our goals.

### **Action Items:**

- Cindy will look into the protocol used to see how to achieve 10% in the future.
- Mark L to confirm the integration rate formula and run this figure back through the ISIT models.

---

## **Marking Strategy and Schedule**

**Presenter: Keith Underwood**

*Purpose: Begin to plan for upcoming 5-year review.*

Keith explained that currently they are marking at the CFFF. The plan is to move this down to the stress relief ponds. We need a team to look at this on a broad scale and work on what our marking strategy is and how it related to infrastructure. Do we need to change our marking strategies form a population strategies? What would our ideal situation be? Keith needs clarity on this by the end of August. The team will include Michelle (or other rep from NMFS), John, Mark J, Pat, and Matt.

### **Action Item:**

- Matt to set up conference call before our Aug. 4 FTC meeting.

---

## **Review / Approval of May 6, 2014 FTC Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn**

Approval of the May 6 meeting summary was deferred as by the time we got to it we no longer had a quorum.

### **Action Item:**

- Lyn to integrate written edits received (using track changes) into a revised draft version of the notes and sent them Mark to distribute.

## **Annual Project Review (APR): Plan for July 2 Public Meeting**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Plan for next APR meeting that will meet the interests and needs of the public.*

We discussed the aim and agenda for the July 2 public meeting which will conclude the APR process. A major focus of this meeting will be summer-run steelhead recycling. We will acknowledge that we have been getting input from the public all along. Some members of the public are strongly in favor of this and would like to see us do more while others are very against the idea. It promises to be a lively meeting. The aim of discussing this with the public would be to explain the analysis done to date and how we used the ISIT tool to identify the maximum number we can recycle before we impact the size of the on-station program. We will ask the public if they think we have missed anything important in our analysis.

The meeting will also include an edited version of the PowerPoint presentation from the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting taking into consideration the feedback received from members of the public when it was shown at that meeting.

### **Action Items:**

- Mark to revise PowerPoint according to discussions at this meeting and bring 50 copies.
  - Lyn to do the same with the agenda and bring 50 copies along with flipcharts.
- 

### **Handouts**

- July 1, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft June 3, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- Revised Draft PowerPoint presentation for July 2 APR Public meeting

### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

### **Potential August 5 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements
- DAMW updates
  - CF North shore Collector 90% design - Decision document
  - 
  - AMP Update
- CRR Plan – Subcommittee report
- Cowlitz HGMP Update
- Steelhead integration – NOR broodstock collection
- Marking Strategy and Schedule – Subcommittee report
- Review Action Items / Finalize June 3 and July 2 meeting summaries



- Set agenda for September 2 (Confirm that this date works for all) FTC meeting

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
August 5, 2014, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

Debbie Carlson	BPA
John Serl	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Mark Johnson	WDFW
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Kirk Kessler	Tacoma Power
Ed Meyer (by phone)	NMFS
Shannon Wills (by phone)	Technical Advisor to the Yakama Nation
Pat Frazier	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Frank Postlewaite (by phone)	R2 Resource Associates
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Sept. 12 (NEW DATE!), Oct. 24 (NEW DATE!), Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**Other Meeting Date**

- Sept. 9 from 5:00 - 8:00 there will be an Upper Cowlitz River Fisheries Informational meeting at the Bob Lyle Community Center in Morton.

**Announcements**

- Status of the Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage: Comments on the draft plan were due July 29 and Tacoma has extended the deadline through today. Tacoma will finalize the plan including responses to comments and then submit it to NMFS and USFWS as their concurrence is required prior to submittal to FERC. The plan is on the FTC website.
- FHMP Update status: Keith has contacted Erich's supervisor who expressed appreciation for the notice that the Update has been awaiting FERC approval for the last three years.
- Cispus River Adult Release Site (Tom Music Bridge): A meeting to finalize the MOA has been set for August 14 in Vancouver.

- Cowlitz HGMP status: WDFW to provide public notice for the release of the six Cowlitz HGMPs for public review on August 20 and will release them for public review on September 3.
- Eulachon: The Northwest Power and Conservation Council is sponsoring a science policy forum in 2015 to address the biological requirements of the Eulachon.
  - Action Item: Mark to send the announcement to Michelle.
- Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement update: The agreement has been signed and the handoff will occur October 1. Tacoma will take control of BPA property at Cowlitz Falls Dam and at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery, including the stress relief ponds. The agreement includes much earlier timelines than in the past and requires the FTC members to be much more proactive than in the past.
  - Action Item: Matt will bring a draft of the first Annual Plan associated with the Cowlitz Long Term Agreement to the September FTC meeting. This will include preliminary fish collection results at the weir box and Upper Riffe Collector, prior year operation and maintenance activities, suggested changes to O&M, suggested changes to operational plan (test protocols, changes from previous year, impact to operations, etc), schedule of activities, assistance required by LCPUD, requests to modify Cowlitz Falls project operations, and list of potential medium and long term activities.

---

## **September 9 Public Meeting in Morton**

### **Presenter: Matt Bleich**

Matt distributed a handout of the draft agenda for the Upper Cowlitz River Basin Fisheries Informational meeting. The meeting will be jointly hosted by Tacoma Power and WDFW. A press release will be released to the media and forwarded to CPR Fish, CCA, and the Friends of the Cowlitz. Keith will be the MC. Speakers will include John, Mark, Kirk, Matt, and others. The FTC members are invited to attend. Topics will include: CF North Shore Collector, Adaptive Management Plan, status of the CFFF transfer, Adaptive Management Plan, and Upper Cowlitz River release strategies.

There will be clarification questions allowed during the presentations and other questions can be submitted on cards. Keith will be very clear up front about the protocol relative to questions.

**Next steps:** The planning team will meet again on Aug. 27 to review the presentations and do a dry run of the meeting, anticipating Q&A.

---

## **DAMW Updates**

### **Presenter: Matt Bleich and Kirk Kessler**

Decision Document: 90% Design of CF North Shore Collector. Kirk walked us through the spreadsheet he created to capture and respond to comments received on the 90% design and also invited any additional documents. We discussed how best to address

issues raised in lines 6, 16, 17, 18, 20-22. Matt cautioned we are at a critical milestone with this design process and working at an accelerated pace so the construction schedule doesn't slip.

Decision: There was consensus to accept the 90% design for the CF North Shore Collector. Mark will post the decision document on the public website.

Next Steps: The final design document is due September 19. We will discuss this at the October FTC meeting and it will be on the agenda for approval at our November meeting.

**Action Item:**

- Kirk will (ASAP) set up a meeting to make a decision about the flume. He will incorporate that decision into the 100% design document.

Weir Box

Matt explained that the weir box was installed and operational on July 8. They are currently at 15% collection efficiency for Chinook. They are seeing 35% of fish being re-captured coming through the weir box. All flow is coming in under the weir box operating turbine. They are still awaiting information from the USGS study. When Matt comes back next month with initial plans, they will include specific weir box recommendations regarding retention efficiency, induction flow, and the reservoir level impact on the hydraulic regime,

Upper Riffe Lake Collector

Matt shared a PowerPoint with pictures of the new Upper Riffe Lake Collector that was deployed on July 29. The collector has mostly caught resident coho and a few smolts. They have also gotten a couple of steelhead, a cutthroat kelt, and a Chinook smolt. They will be sampling coho for PIT tags. Tacoma is paying USGS to do a radio telemetry study on the collector and will be measuring retention, entrance, detection, and discovery efficiencies.

Adaptive Management Plan / Schedule

The adaptive management plan is still undergoing internal review at Tacoma Power. DAMW meetings will likely be postponed until this review is completed. This needs to be in place a year before the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector is in place.

---

**APR Process**

**Presenters: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Apply learnings from this year to the plan for 2015.*

Due to the depth of discussion needed for this topic, the FTC agreed to defer until the September meeting.

## **CRR Program Subcommittee Report**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Further develop CRR Plan ranking and selection process.*

The CRR sub-committee last met on July 30. They developed a draft charter. They plan to meet on a monthly basis. Their next meeting is August 12 at 10:00 at Pat's office in Longview. They have put together a timeline and are aiming to have a recommended process to the FTC for review and approval this winter. Once the process has been approved by the FTC the subcommittee will begin to solicit projects.

Discussions to date include the need for a more stringent process than what is being used on the Lewis River, and assurances that the plan is focused on the listed species and their limiting factors. Bob Rose has a grand vision for the CRR Plan and has been invited to share his vision with the FTC.

---

## **Marking Strategy and Schedule Subcommittee Report**

**Presenter: Matt Bleich**

*Purpose: Plan for upcoming 5 year review.*

Matt reported that this subcommittee last met on July 31. The goals were to address strategies associated with coded-wire tagging as it pertains to regional populations in the Cowlitz and also tagging strategies pre- and post- CFNSC construction. The idea is to get an early strategy in place outlining infrastructure and staffing needs.

Recommendations:

- For 2015 we will use the same marking strategy as 2014.
- For 2016 we will move all CWT marking down to the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery:
  - Perform updates to the sub-sampling system
  - Make sure tanks, flumes, raceways are all in good order
  - Ensure sort-by-code facility is capable of PIT-tagging fish
  - Provide for water-to-water transfers of fish into new / refurbished tank and into separator structure for sorting, etc.

Concerning the upper and lower population designations (primary / stabilizing / contributing) there will be a review with the appropriate entities. To combine populations, there is a more detailed thought process and documentation through the TRT (Technical Review Team). This would have a big influence on our HGMPs.

### **Action Items**

- Pat to send out TRT report for all to review.
  - Pat to set up meeting with key stakeholders in September to discuss next steps.
-

## **Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere and Peggy Miller**

*Purpose: Provide update.*

Mark sent out the email chain from Peggy. He was unable to find any specific language in the license requiring Mayfield Village to take out a \$4 million bond / insurance policy in case there are any accidental discharges that cause any damage to hatchery fish downstream. They would like to discuss other options as the insurance is expensive, and they have been operating 12 years without incident.

Mark talked with Roxanne to let her know that this was brought up at our last meeting and that we were intending to explore roles and responsibilities relative to this and discuss how to respond at our August meeting. Keith has asked Mark to invite Roxanne to Tacoma's office to discuss this.

This is a matter of concern to the FTC and Tacoma won't act unilaterally. The FTC is concerned that there is potential liability associated with damage to a hatchery facility as well as to the river ecosystem and the natural resources that utilize that resource, including ESA populations. Mark will provide an update on this at our next meeting.

### **Action Items:**

- Mark will set up the meeting requested by Roxanne. He will include Ecology and TP Real Property Services and report back to the FTC.
- 

## **Topic: Cowlitz River Gravel Augmentation**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Set the stage for discussion of the plan.*

Mark walked us through a PowerPoint outlining the license requirements and the actions taken to date, including baseline studies. Except for the last two years, Tacoma has been adding 500 cubic yards of washed gravel to the river annually. The plan calls for the following:

- Introduce clean spawning sized gravel (1/4" – 4") below the Barrier Dam.
- Monitor gravel dispersion downstream of introduction site.
- Monitor availability of spawning gravel in the reach below Barrier Dam.
- Monitor spawning in reach below Barrier Dam.

A lot of spawning occurs below the Barrier Dam and the current pile of gravel deposited by Tacoma is not being utilized by fish as the gravel is not distributing through the river according to the plan. The goal is to get high quality spawning gravel throughout the entire reach below the Barrier Dam. Lower river stations have more quality spawning gravel and the plan is focusing augmentation efforts in the Barrier Dam area.

Tacoma plans to come to the FTC this fall with an alternative plan on how to deal with the existing augmented gravel in the river. They want to get the gravel into the river where the fish can use it and are working with a consultant to come up with ideas of how best to do this.

**Action Item:**

- All to let Mark know of any references or ideas to help with this.
- 

**FTC Work Plan**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

Mark shared with us the detailed schedule he developed for the Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage and asked for feedback. Is this the appropriate level of detail?

**Action Item:**

- All are to review the level of detail provided for the schedule for the plan to abandon volitional passage and be prepared to provide feedback at the next FTC meeting.
- 

**Review / Approval of Outstanding FTC Meeting Summaries and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn**

The FTC finalized the May, June, and July meeting summaries. They will be posted to the website for public review.

---

**Meeting Evaluation**

**Presenter: All**

- Got started 40 minutes late.
  - Electrical problems (breaker) complicated phone and projector access.
  - No milk chocolate.
  - Light FTC member attendance.
- 

**Handouts**

- August 5, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft June 3 and July 1, 2014 FTC meeting summaries

- 90% CFNSC Design comment / response spread sheet
- PowerPoint of Upper Riffe Lake Collector
- Draft agenda for Sept. 9 Morton Public Meeting
- CRR Sub-committee meeting notes – June 19, 2014
- CWT Marking Strategy and Schedule Subgroup meeting notes – July 31, 2014
- Cowlitz River Gravel Augmentation Program PowerPoint

### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the Upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

### **Potential September 12 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements
- DAMW updates (60 min.)
  - Tri-Party Agreement
- Catchable Trout Plants (Oct. mtg.)
- Debrief of September 9 Morton Public Meeting (15 min.)
- APR Review and Recommendations for 2015 (30 min.)
- Public interaction with the FTC (20 min.)
- Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6 (15 min.)
- CRR Program – Subcommittee report (20 min.)
- Marking Strategy and Schedule – Subcommittee report (Oct. mtg.)
- Cowlitz M&E 2013 Report (15 min.)
- FTC Annual Work Plan (15 min.)
- Review Action Items / Finalize August 5 meeting summary
- Set agenda for October 24 FTC meeting

**Suggestion:** Include a glossary of terms in all plans and reports.



**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC NO. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
September 12, 2014, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WDOE

**Other Participants**

Debbie Carlson	BPA
John Serl	WDFW
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Pat McCarty	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Oct. 24 (NEW DATE!), Nov. 4, Dec. 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**Announcements**

- Burlington Northern bridge replacement: Mark reported that BN is planning to replace their mainline railroad bridge over the Cowlitz River. This will be a two-year process that they hope to start next year. There will be many environmental and construction challenges associated with this project. They are currently at a 30% design stage. Stay tuned for additional updates.
- FHMP Update status: Keith reported that he called the FERC department director T.J. Lavullo for a second time and was told that the FHMP update was soon to be addressed by Erich. He did not give any indication of when that would be. Keith further explained to TJ that Tacoma Power was implementing the plan while waiting for FERC approval. Next steps: Keith will call the acting director of FERC to express his dissatisfaction with the delay. He talked with Tacoma's attorney who suggested we propose an amendment to the Settlement Agreement that states that after submitting the FHMP to FERC, if Tacoma Power has not heard back from FERC within 90 days, then Tacoma will begin to implement the plan and will course correct as needed after hearing from FERC. Keith will research this further and we will discuss it again at our October meeting.

- Cowlitz HGMP status: Cindy announced that WDFW has released the six Cowlitz HGMPs for public review. Tacoma is in discussions with WDFW about how to come up with a final product. Keith explained that, as a co-sponsor with WDFW, they would like to be able to review this before it goes to the public. Keith would like to look to the FTC to endorse the HGMPs. We agreed to add these reviews prior to public review next time around.
    - Action item: FTC and Tacoma to review and provide comments on HGMPs. Comments are due October 3.
  - Cispus River Adult Release Site (Tom Music Bridge): A meeting on this occurred August 14 in Vancouver. They need a Special Use Permit from the USFS. Discussions are ongoing around who would hold that permit.
  - Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6: Mark reported that the meeting he set up with Roxanne to discuss the insurance requirement went well. Tacoma will help to facilitate the communication with WDFW on this. Next steps: Keith will have a conference call with Peggy, the Sewer District, and any other stakeholders in order to fully analyze this situation and develop an appropriate response relative to the insurance requirement.
  - Mark provided an update on the following reports:
    - Annual Side Channel Monitoring Report: FERC noted that we failed to report on any chum spawning surveys. Our stream survey methodology has been replaced by encounters at the lower tributary weirs. FERC wants these data to be included in the report. FERC also wants us to revise the plan to include the new chum monitoring methodology. The current plan calls for walking surveys. Mark will rewrite these and send them to the FTC for review by the end of September.
    - Cowlitz M&E 2013 Report: All study protocols are now posted. Mark welcomes any comments.
- 

## **Cowlitz Falls Dam Tri-Party Agreement**

**Presenter: Keith Underwood**

*Purpose: Plan for upcoming 5 year review.*

The completed agreement (easement) becomes effective October 1, 2014. Tacoma will take control of BPA property at Cowlitz Falls Dam and at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery, including the stress relief ponds. The agreement includes much earlier timelines than in the past and requires the FTC members to be much more proactive than in the past. The agreement includes protocols and decision cycles that affect the DAMW process.

The plan includes preliminary fish collection results at the weir box and Upper Riffe Collector, prior year operation and maintenance activities, suggested changes to O&M, suggested changes to operational plan (test protocols, changes from previous year, impact to operations, etc.), schedule of activities, assistance required by LCPUD,

requests to modify Cowlitz Falls project operations, and list of potential medium and long term activities.

The next meeting on this will be October 8. This agreement states that by October 15 of each year, there will be agreement by the parties on the activities for the following year. This would then be presented to the FTC. Matt announced that the DAMW timelines won't shift based on this.

#### **Action Item**

- Keith: Encourage Lewis County PUD into participating more actively in the DAMW process.

---

### **DAMW Updates**

**Presenter: Matt Bleich and Kirk Kessler**

#### CF North Shore Collector

At our last meeting we made a formal decision to accept the 90% design for this collector. Since then Kirk set up a meeting to discuss the design of the flume. Ed had suggested using a pipe instead of a flume. After several discussions with Tacoma engineers, Ed agreed to support the original flume design with the addition of covers to keep it dark.

Agreements from that meeting, along with resolution of all comments will be integrated into the 100% design which we will discuss at our October meeting. The design documents will be posted on the FTP site. The final design document is due September 19. We will make a formal decision on the 100% design at our November meeting.

#### **Action Item:**

- Tacoma to ensure all FTC members who wish to review the detailed design documents receive them in a manner that works for them. Send out list of specs to all.

#### 2015 Plans for Weir Box

Matt distributed a draft decision document on this. Everyone present seemed to be in support of this. We will make the formal decision at our October meeting.

When Matt reported on the weir box installation at our last meeting Tacoma was still awaiting information from the USGS study. They now have that information. The weir box didn't perform well in 2013 or 2014 for Chinook (25% rates in 2014). John pointed out that the turbine under the weir box is the only one functioning and collection continues to be poor. Chinook preference continues to be for the north entrance.

Recommendations for 2015-2017:

- Don't install or operate the weir box.
- Consider re-installation following the first year of operation of the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector.

Next steps: Matt will share the plan not to install the weir box with LCPUD at the October 8 meeting with them.

### 2015 Plans for Upper Riffe Lake Collector

Matt distributed a draft decision document on this. Everyone present seemed to be in support of this. We will make the formal decision at our October meeting.

Matt reminded all that the new Upper Riffe Lake Collector that was deployed on July 28. They evaluated the flow regime of 2500 cfs down to zero cfs. Results to date have been fairly dismal. They are catching between 5 and 10 juvenile outmigrants per day. All of the radio-tagged fish have circumvented the trap (even those who temporarily enter the trap).

Recommendation:

The Prototype Upper Riffe Collector will be installed and operated in 2015, in a similar configuration to 2014. Adjustments in lateral positioning and the possible inclusion of guide nets will be considered as adjustments during the 2015 season. These will be implemented as appropriate based on analysis of 2014 study results.

The plan is to implement across the full summer season. They will implement adjustments (e.g., consider the use of lead nets and or moving the position) during lower flows.

Note: Matt announced the collector was beached when the turbines were shut down, causing the tailrace to drop by 4 ft. Next week they will pull it out.

### Adaptive Management Plan / Schedule

The adaptive management plan is still undergoing internal review at Tacoma Power. DAMW meetings will likely be postponed until this review is completed. This needs to be in place a year before the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector is in place. Keith is working on edits that make the document more action oriented (taking away some of the subjective language).

---

## **Annual Project Review (APR) Process**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Apply learnings from this year to the plan for 2015.*

Mark distributed a summary of each of the public meetings held this year in support of the APR.

### July 2 Meeting Debrief

14 members of the public attended. There was great interest in the summer-run recycling issue. The meeting included an opportunity for attendees to play with the ISIT model, experimenting with changing inputs and seeing how they changed the outputs.

Mark read a comment card he received from one of the attendees who left the meeting early due to the unruly outbursts of one particular attendee, which he found to be unproductive and disrespectful to the presenters and the overall process.

### 2014 APR Process Debrief

We called the meetings with the public “Fisheries Informational Meetings”. This seemed to work well as it set the context for the discussions.

Tacoma met with WDFW on April 11, 2014 to populate the ISIT model. They used a new combined ISIT tool this year which worked well.

### Plan for 2015 APR Process

- Tacoma meets with WDFW on February 27 (or shortly after) to populate the ISIT model. FTC members invited.
- Review the 11 programs with the model at the FTC meeting on March FTC 3 (single topic meeting with Mara for support).
- Initial Issues / Basin Review Meeting: Early March. We listen to what their issues are. Set up stations conducive to small-group interaction. Keith would discuss TP’s regulatory regime. WDFW staff would present about the pieces they own. Record comments and concerns – basin wide (from the Columbia up). This would tie into the Science Meeting really well and could follow it directly.
- Hold additional FTC meeting to work through issues as needed.
- At April 3 FTC meeting come to consensus on the sensitivities, boundaries, etc. Plan for APR Meeting #1.
- *APR Meeting #1*: Third week of April to avoid PFMC meeting schedule. Aim for April 23. Use the ISIT to demonstrate which indices affect the populations the most and explain how we came up with the data we are providing them. Run through all the data and present a draft hatchery production plan. Give the public information on the programs and solicit their feedback.
- *APR Meeting #2*: Come back and explain what the program will be and why. We need to complete the circle with them so they know what to expect.

### New Hire at Tacoma Power

Keith announced that Tacoma is in the process of hiring a Community Media Services person to help with public process and outreach activities for two years.

### **Action Item:**

- Mark: Update the plan for the 2015 APR process.
- 

## **FTC Membership and Interaction with Non Members**

### **Presenter: Keith Underwood**

Keith recognized that this topic has been an ongoing concern for the FTC. He explained this subject was also near and dear to his heart and it was the right time for the FTC to be intentional about how to be open and transparent in a way that satisfies interested

parties. He recently attended a meeting of the WDFW Ad Hoc Group where he heard a strong desire for non FTC members to be able to attend FTC meetings. He believes it would be best to invite everyone to all of our meetings. This would help to build trusting relationships. How could we best do this without diminishing the productivity of this team?

The SA defines FTC membership as one representative each from the present attending groups along with a rep from the NGOs of American Rivers or Trout Unlimited. In the actual FERC filing of what FERC adopted as SA provisions, there is nothing about the FTC. It is referenced in the license.

Lewis County sent a letter to FERC indicating a desire to formally join the FTC. Note: At the time of signing the SA, there were discussions with Lewis County about joining the FTC and they declined saying their interest was in attending the HAG.

LCFRB would like to sign a document supporting the Settlement Agreement. The USFS, the Cowlitz Tribe and the angling public have also indicated a desire to participate in and/or become members of the FTC.

We discussed the following issues:

- Who gets to sit at the table and participate fully – help make decisions?
- Who gets to attend and participate only in a public comment period at the end of the meeting or at the end of each agenda topic?
  - Use sign-in sheet where outside participants can sign up if they want to speak and have a specific amount of time to provide input?
- Perhaps have 3 meetings, based on the Annual Work Plan and public interest where the meetings would be opened up to the public?
- How best to engage the Ad Hoc group? Could members be invited to attend / observe during specific meetings when the FTC is deliberating on a key topic of interest to the public?
- How best to share documents? Can the decision documents stand on their own to vet key issues?
- Could we have people all present for discussion and then the decision making body leaves the room to make the decision and come back in to announce the decision?
- Could we have separate FTC-sponsored meetings to announce key decisions that will be made and then get public input and make the decision at the following FTC meeting?
- From a policy-level group that meets a couple of times a year with the public and leave the FTC meeting to things of a truly technical nature?

#### **Action Items:**

- Keith will draft a letter to FERC re Lewis County's request to join the FTC.
- Keith will review the Work Plan and see if it is logical to arrange the topics to allow for meetings (two?) that are of interest to and open to the public. Come back with recommendations about how to proceed.

- Mark will develop a one page list of resources with all relevant website, documents, presentations, etc. This will be a key information source that we can share with the public. Check with Tom Santee about how much of this information he has already collected. Create a packet of prior presentation, Q&As generated, etc. This could serve as a “marketing package” to explain in fisherman terms, what we are doing and why.
- Cindy will create a pamphlet explaining what happens to surplus fish and the sheer numbers of those fish.

### Public Meeting on September 9

Matt reported that the Upper Cowlitz River Basin Fisheries Informational meeting in Morton on September 9 was well attended. Topics included: CF North Shore Collector, Adaptive Management Plan, status of the CFFF transfer, Adaptive Management Plan, and Upper Cowlitz River release strategies. Around 23 members of the public attended including a reporter, several Lewis County PUD employees, and a Lewis County Commissioner. There were many questions and much discussion. One member of the public submitted several questions and worked hard to keep Tacoma Power accountable with his line of questioning.

---

### **CRR Program Subcommittee Report**

#### **Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

Pat F. hosted the last CRR sub-committee in his office last met on August 12 during the pouring rain. They have put together a timeline and are aiming to have a recommended scoring process to the FTC for review and approval this winter. Pat has suggested the LCFRB TAC would, free of charge, score the projects and report their findings to the FTC. Tacoma Power would retain control over the contracts, etc. Once the process has been approved by the FTC, the subcommittee will begin to solicit projects. Pat and Peggy met on Sept. 10 to discuss the timeline and selection process. They discussed suggesting a second tier that can go to the FTC who can develop additional criteria as appropriate. The subcommittee will meet again on September 26 and present a recommendation to the FTC at the October meeting.

---

### **FTC Work Plan**

#### **Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

In the current work plan there are two attached tables:

- Agenda Topics
- Project Timeline
- Annual Program review

Mark shared with us the detailed schedule he developed for the Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage and asked for feedback. All were asked to review the level of detail provided for the schedule for the plan to abandon volitional passage and provide feedback on the substance and level of detail.

Feedback: Members expressed appreciation all around for the new format which showed the accountable parties and specific actions. It will be easy to use this to guide our discussions. It will also be easy to update.

**Action Item:**

- Mark to consider creating a notebook for FTC members containing core FTC documents. Send out a link to the FTC website where all the key documents are located.

---

**Review / Approval of Outstanding August 5 FTC Meeting Summaries and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn**

The FTC finalized the August meeting summary was approved with edits. It will be posted to the website for public review.

---

**Meeting Evaluation**

**Presenter: All**

- Got started 25 minutes late.
- Only milk chocolate and it came late in the day.
- Light FTC member attendance.
- An enjoyable meeting – we are working well as a team!

---

**Handouts**

- September 12, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft August 12, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- APR 2013 process review and recommendations for 2014
- Work Plan: Schedule for Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage
- Photo of location of Burlington Northern bridge
- Decision documents: Weir Box and Upper Riffe Collector

**Potential October 24 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements
- DAMW updates (60 min.)
  - Review 100% Design Document Comments
  - Decision Documents: Weir Box and Upper Riffe Collector
- Catchable Trout Plants (45 min.)
- FTC interaction with the public and non-FTC members (45 min.)
- Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6 (15 min.)
- CRR Program – Subcommittee report (45 min.)
- Marking Strategy and Schedule – Subcommittee report (10 min.)



- FTC Annual Work Plan (10 min.)
- Review Action Items / Finalize September 12 meeting summary
- Set agenda for November 4 FTC meeting
  - Steelhead recycling and program size

**Suggestion:** Include a glossary of terms in all plans and reports.

**Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the Upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC No. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
October 24, 2014, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Jim Pacheco	WDOE
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

Debbie Carlson	BPA
John Serl	WDFW
Mark Johnson	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Mike Kohn	LCPUD
Dale Bozarth	LCPUD
Matt Bleich	Tacoma Power
Scott Gibson	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Ann Weckback	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Nov 4, Dec 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**Proposed 2015 FTC Meeting Dates**

Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1

**Announcements**

- Welcome to Ann Weckback, Lewis County Environmental Planner who is attending as advisor to Tacoma Power. Ann is attending, in part, in response to FERC's letter to Tacoma Power regarding how to respond to Lewis County Commissioner Lee Gross' letter requesting membership in the FTC.
  - Action Item: Tacoma to share draft letter to FERC with the FTC.
- Cowlitz HGMP Status: Cindy announced that WDFW is awaiting edits from Tacoma Power to the HGMP. There was a question on whether there will be a second public review after comments and edits have been incorporated. This would likely depend on the extent of the edits.

- Action item: Tacoma to review and provide comments on HGMPs. Edits and review are requested ASAP.
  - Smolt Trap: Cindy reported that WDFW is having difficulty getting permitted from the USACOE to operate the smolt trap. They had hoped to be operational in spring of 2015. John submitted a 4(d) permit which may not be approved until summer. If WDFW got a letter of sufficiency from Rich Turner (NMFS) saying the HGMPs are sufficient enough to begin consultation, then they might be able to move forward. There is also an option to do individual consultation on the placement of the screw trap which might allow us to install the trap in early spring of 2015. A Biological Assessment (including the effects) would also be required in the case of individual consultation. WDFW will work with the USACOE and NMFS to initiate the separate consultation.
  - Cispus River Adult Release Site (Tom Music Bridge): Mike Kohn sent out the revised MOU October 23, 2014. It was updated based on comments from several individuals, including the USFS. LCPUD would likely hold the special use permit for the first few years and then the lead might shift to Tacoma on August 1, 2017. The USFS permit would start August 1 of 2015. The work should be completed that month.
  - CRR Program Subcommittee Report: Pat and Peggy have created a flowchart showing how the process would meet the CRR program needs and also coordinate with the LCFRB TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) to help evaluate projects. Pat and Peggy are also working on a document that explains the program scope, purpose, roles, and steps for getting projects considered and the project evaluation process. They are on track to have a draft implementation plan to the FTC for review by the end of the year.
  - Paul encouraged all to attend state-wide fish recovery board conferences. The next conference will be in Vancouver in late May. Abstracts from presenters are due in mid-November. We may want to talk about the FHMP in addition to the CRR at that conference.
  - Mark alerted everyone that the following draft reports are soon to be out for review:
    - 10-year Gravel Augmentation Plan
    - 10-year Instream Flow Fish Monitoring Plan
- 

## **FERC Approval of FHMP Update**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Discuss implications of plan approval, including the modifications.*

In drafting the FHMP Update, we agreed to leave the original FHMP alone. We have been implementing the update (as if it were approved) since submitting it to FERC on Nov. 1, 2011. Tacoma just received the approval (just shy of three years from the date submitted to FERC). There were no significant modifications.

Mark walked us through the FERC orders that accompanied the approval:

1. M&E methodologies: Requesting more detail on the status of developing these (to be included in the Annual Project Evaluation and Status Report due Oct. 31, 2015).
  2. Status of three juvenile satellite rearing facilities: Is the FTC still not taking a position on this? Is there a fish cultural need? Future benefit to having fish acclimation ponds? Use some of the existing raceways, water rights at CF Dam?
    - Action item: Tacoma Power and WDFW to meet to discuss the need. This would be followed by discussion with the FTC. Perhaps this will become part of the Adaptive Management Plan.
  3. Within 3 months of the date of the FERC order to file a plan with FERC to end the productivity testing. It appears that FERC is connecting License Articles 3 with License Article 6 requirements. We are still awaiting concurrence from NMFS. When we get that we can file the plan under License Article 3. We can object to this order or we can file the plan. We will discuss this at our next meeting.
    - Action Item: Mark will present an update on this at our Nov. 4 meeting.
  4. The Annual Project Evaluation and Status report will now be due every October 31, starting in 2015. Each report will be for the previous calendar year.
  5. FHMP Update schedule: The original order called for updating this every 6 years. The next update will be due April 18, 2016.
- 

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenter: Matt Bleich**

### CF North Shore Collector

Kirk provided the 100% design just prior to our last meeting. There were no additional comments submitted so it looks like we are good to go. The 100% design document integrated all comments from earlier versions. We will make a formal decision to approve the 100% design at our November meeting. It looks like we won't need a separate 401 water quality certification for this. Matt thanked WDFW for their help with the HPA. This should help with the Lewis Co. Shoreline certification. They have submitted the Notice Of Intent (NOI) for the stormwater. The Corps 404 permit is the most difficult currently and may negatively affect our timeline. The onsite cultural resource review has been performed – Department of Archaeological and Historic Preservation DAHP) and FERC have been informed. Michelle reported she is nearly finished drafting the Bi-Op after which it will go to legal review at NMFS.

### **Action Item:**

- All to submit any additional comments on the design by October 28, 2014.
- Tacoma to bring decision document for 100% design to next meeting.

### 2015 Plans for Weir Box

Tacoma met with LCPUD on Aug. 8 to review and agree on the plan which will be posted to the FTC website. Matt distributed a draft decision document on this at our last meeting. Everyone present seemed to be in support of this. We approved the decision based on the information provided in the decision document. The document includes the following recommendations for 2015-2017:

- Don't install or operate the weir box.
- Consider re-installation following the first year of operation of the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector.

#### 2015 Plans for Upper Riffe Lake Collector

Matt distributed a draft decision document on this at our last meeting. Everyone present seemed to be in support of this. We approved the decision based on the information provided in the decision document and subsequent FTC discussions. The document calls for the Prototype Upper Riffe Collector being installed and operational in 2015, in a similar configuration to 2014 and the possible inclusion of guide nets (for lower flows) if 2014 data indicate doing so, and/or based on 2015 preliminary results. Adjustments in lateral positions will be considered based on in-season results.

#### Adaptive Management Plan / Schedule

The adaptive management plan is still undergoing internal review at Tacoma Power. DAMW meetings will likely be postponed until this review is completed. This needs to be in place a year before the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector is in place. Keith is working on edits that make the document more action oriented (taking away some of the subjective language).

---

### **Annual Project Review (APR) 2015 Process**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Apply learnings from this year to the plan for 2015.*

FERC included the idea of the pre-season public meeting in their order. We reviewed and agreed to proceed according to the discussion at our last meeting:

#### Plan for 2015 APR Process

- Tacoma to meet with WDFW on February 27 to populate the ISIT model. FTC members will be invited.
- Review the 11 programs with the model at the FTC meeting on March FTC 3 (single topic meeting with Mara for support).
- Initial Issues / Basin Review Meeting: March 26. We listen to what the public's issues are. Set up stations conducive to small-group interaction. Keith would discuss TP's regulatory regime. WDFW staff would present about the pieces they own. Record comments and concerns – basin wide (from the Columbia up). This would tie into the Science Meeting really well and could follow it directly.
- Hold additional FTC meeting to work through issues as needed.
- At April 3 FTC meeting come to consensus on the sensitivities, boundaries, etc. Plan for APR Meeting #1.

- *APR Meeting #1:* Third week of April to avoid PFMC meeting schedule. Aim for April 23. Use the ISIT to demonstrate which indices affect the populations the most and explain how we came up with the data we are providing them. Run through all the data and present a draft hatchery production plan. Give the public information on the programs and solicit their feedback.
- *APR Meeting #2:* Come back and explain what the program will be and why. We need to complete the circle with them so they know what to expect.

**Action Item:**

- Mark: Update the plan for the 2015 APR process.
- 

**Catchable Trout Plants**

**Presenters: Mark LaRiviere / John Serl**

Mark walked us through the history and scope of the Cowlitz Project rainbow trout release program. Trout releases into Swofford Pond, Mayfield Lake, and So. Lewis County Park Pond total more than 100K rainbow trout (50k lbs.) annually over the last 10 years. They start releasing into Swofford Pond in early March and finish by planting trout into Mayfield Lake in late August.

John added information about the trout program in Lake Scanewa. The initial aim was .5 fish per hour angler success rate. The initial plants of 12,500 trout were doubled to 25K trout in Lake Scanewa. The kids' derby was implemented in the swimming area. Bi-Op modifications were made to reduce interaction with anadromous salmonids. The trout limit was increased to 10 fish / day after Labor Day.

The FHMP Update states post-2014 trout production will be based on FTC recommendations, taking into account impacts on listed stocks. The LCPUD Bi-Op says that if there are detrimental effects to listed species then the program should be re-evaluated. The following questions were raised: What will we do for monitoring? How are we operationally defining "detrimental impacts on listed species?" There will be a big resident fishery change in 3 years. Mike noted that in the next couple of months there will be some radio-telemetry data from USGS that will be helpful in understanding how many trout are moving upstream. No steelhead spawning surveys are being done currently. Consider also doing a fly rod survey?

Next steps: Mike to ask Toby what information can be provided when. The FTC will begin to develop a monitoring plan this when the USGS results come in.

---

**Review / Approval of September 12, 2014 Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn**

The FTC finalized the September meeting summary was approved without edits. It will be posted to the website for public review.

---

## Meeting Evaluation

### Presenter: All

- Got started 20 minutes late
  - Nice to celebrate the approval of the FHMP Update!
  - Glad we did this as an in-person meeting instead of conference call
  - Great discussions
  - Missed Bob Rose
  - Nice to meet Ann
  - Another enjoyable meeting – we are watching out for each others' interests!
- 

## Handouts

- October 24, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- Draft September 12, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- Catchable Trout Plants PowerPoint, Tacoma Power
- Decision documents: Weir Box and Upper Riffe Collector

## Potential November 4 Meeting Agenda Items

- Welcome / Announcements (20 min.)
- FTC interaction with the public and non-FTC members (90 min.)
- Annual Gravel Augmentation Plan (15 min.)
- APR 2015 Process (15 min.)
  - Decision Document: Confirm dates, etc.
- Tri-Party Agreement – Annual Process (20 min.)
- CRR Program – Subcommittee report (45 min.)
- DAMW update (30 min.)
  - Decision Document: Northshore Collector 100% Design
- Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6 (15 min.)
- Review Action Items / Finalize November 4 meeting summary
- Set agenda for December 2 FTC meeting
  - Review Updated FTC Annual Work Plan / Meeting Protocols
  - Steelhead recycling and program size
  - 2014 Mayfield Survival Study Update

**Suggestion:** Include a glossary of terms in all plans and reports.

## Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the Upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC No. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
November 4, 2014, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited

**Other Participants**

Debbie Carlson	BPA
John Serl	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Shannon Wills	Technical Advisor to Yakama Nation
Mike Kohn	LCPUD
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Scott Gibson	Tacoma Power
Kirk Kessler	Tacoma Power
Pat Frazier	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Ann Weckback	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Remaining 2014 FTC Meeting Dates**

Dec 2. Default time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Default location: Mayfield.

**Proposed 2015 FTC Meeting Dates**

Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1

**Announcements**

- Cowlitz HGMP Status: Tacoma has submitted comments on spring Chinook. Tacoma and WDFW are investigating how best to co-author this document. There was a question about whether this will be sent out for another round of public review after the rewrite. Tacoma will share their comments with the FTC.
- Cispus River Adult Release Site MOU (Tom Music Bridge): Mike Kohn sent out the revised MOU October 23, 2014. The goal is to get a special use permit submitted to the Forest Service by December 1, 2014.
- Plan to End Productivity Testing: We agreed it makes sense to submit to FERC our Plan for Abandoning Volitional Upstream Fish Passage (containing the Plan to End Productivity Testing). This will satisfy the FERC requirement. NMFS is reviewing the plan now and should know if they will be recommending any changes to the plan by November 14.
- The Draft Final Instream Monitoring Report has been posted for FTC review. This is the 10-year report on evaluating the instream flow in the lower Cowlitz River.



- Update on Adult Coho Run: We are looking at a record return for coho this season. We are already at 70K and could well make it 100K coho returning for this season. They have been operating seven days a week, moving ~ 16K fish/week. Between 5K and 10K per week are going to the statewide food bank. So far, there have been no fish mortality issues. The increase is likely due to favorable ocean conditions. There were also near-record steelhead returns. Michelle offered that Ed could come up and observe and maybe offer some advice as needed. Scott reported that, on November 2, they got the first HOR early winter-run steelhead (Chambers Creek stock).
  - RCO Salmon Recovery Spring Conference: Pat and Mark volunteered to draft a proposal to present a breakout session at this spring conference. Topics would include the downstream collector, FHMP, and CRR Plan.
- 

## **FTC Interaction with the Public and with non-FTC Members**

### **Presenter: Keith Underwood**

*Purpose: Begin the discussion re: advantages, implications of increased public participation.*

A random “brainstorming” discussion included the following:

- LCFRB requires potential members to present a resume. Maybe we could put out a request for participants and select 10 members that are broadly representative of our constituency to engage directly with the FTC.
- Every LCFRB meeting, whether a TAC or a regular meeting, is open to the public with 10-15 minutes allotted for public comment. Note: They have a different constituency than the FTC.
- Happy to have public participation in FTC meetings if it allows for productive meetings.
- The mission of the FTC is to recover the upper basin and maintain a fishery to the extent possible. Most of our public interactions have been with the sports fishing community and there has been little engagement those people who do recovery. If we have an expanded dialogue with the public, how do we best engage those with interest in recovery?
- It is important for people in the room to be able to look at the data with sufficient technical proficiency to provide unbiased input.
- We want to be a technical team but we have no policy group above us so we have become a technical / policy group. Due to the limited interaction we have with the anglers we seem to talk at them in meetings, not with them. They think we are hiding things from them and doing things counter to the public’s interest. This is an involved process that involves trust and relationships and a sense of working together. How can we break the negative cycle?
- One of our challenges is the technical / policy combination of the FTC. We need time for discussions to occur on a technical level. We need to preserve this. It may be helpful to consider creating a policy-type group that takes

recommendations from the technical group and has a public component to it as it makes decisions. This may follow the model of a city council.

- How can we solve things within our existing framework? If we do something like form a separate policy group, it may require a change in the SA or the license.
- We don't want to create another group if it would mean that we become less effective at recovering the upper basin and also maintaining fisheries to the extent possible. There is consensus that the FTC has become a much more effective functioning group over the past year or so.
- We want to work collaboratively with others and be open and transparent with regard to the decisions we make.
- The environmental community is not heavily involved currently. Once we have the ability to build self-sustaining populations in the upper basin, the environmental community will likely get excited and will become involved.
- How can we tell our story in a different way? We are similar to the Elwha, which has broad support from the anglers and the environmental community. It would be helpful to engage the environmental folks sooner than later.
- The Cowlitz River Advisory Group (WDFW's harvest management advisory group, aka the Ad Hoc Group) was initially created to advise WDFW on the next FHMP Update. Now it meets quarterly and some of the original members are no longer participate in those meetings. Instead of us all talking things out all together, the Ad Hoc Group's discussions are separate from FTC discussions. The Ad Hoc currently focuses primarily on fishery issues, especially size of hatchery programs.
- It seems impossible to give the Ad Hoc Group what they want and still recover fish. The initial aim in forming this group was to make sure they all understood the different constraints (HSRG, etc.) under which we must operate so they could help us shape hatchery programs in the basin that best meet the needs of the angling public and remain within these constraints. Now it seems to be about them wanting things that are beyond our constraints. Perhaps we have not been effective at communicating our constraints.
- Could we recognize folks who have been part of the Ad Hoc group as part of the general public for purposes of our public process?
- Jim Scott and Keith have talked about how to integrate the public more into our process, to eliminate the bifurcation that creates complexity, misunderstandings, and other inefficiencies that are happening now and costing so much at so many levels. They feel they have no way to interface with this process so they work around it.
- If we integrate the public properly, including a more diverse and representative group than the current make-up of Ad Hoc Group, perhaps the need for that separate group would go away.
- We don't want to forget about the lower Cowlitz River when it comes to recovery.
- What are the rules around public vs. non-public meetings relative to the FERC process?

- Where do the roles of the co-managers stop and start?
- Where does the SA rule?
- Keith is engaging with the Ad Hoc Group and also with the legislature to help to ensure the right decisions are being made by the right people for the right reasons. A successful example of the power of this approach was the decision made on Blue Creek where the Ad Hoc group dialogued with the ADA community. FTC members could have helped with these types of dialogue if they had known they were occurring.

No decisions on this were made. All agreed that it was a good initial brainstorming of all the relevant issues we will address as we make a decision on this. We agreed to continue this discussion at our next meeting.

---

## **Response to Requests to Join FTC**

### **Presenter: Keith Underwood**

*Purpose: Begin the discussion about advantages, implications of increased public participation.*

Several key stakeholders have requested membership in the FTC. When Lewis County (who signed the Settlement Agreement (SA) requested joining, Keith responded by making them a technical advisor to Tacoma Power. This is not the same as a voting member. LCFRB has also requested to sign the SA. They would like to become a member of the FTC. In the meantime, they are fine attending as Tacoma's technical advisor. The Forest Service and Cowlitz Tribe have also requested joining the FTC.

Keith suggested that instead of handling this as a series of one-offs, that we treat this as a license re-opener regarding who has a voting membership on the FTC. Everyone on the FTC would need to be in agreement about additional members. It appears that for a new party to sign the SA would also require a re-opener.

There was concern that the spirit / intent present in the original signing of the SA may not be present for new organizations choosing to sign the document. The FTC has always operated in a very open and collaborative manner, allowing technical advisors to be part of and even sway debates. Would the conservation caucus which represents three groups continue to have only one vote? Would new members have their own vote? While even original signatories likely have differing perspectives about the spirit of the document, we all agreed that what really matters is what is in the document.

If we don't evolve as we learn, with shifting roles in a changing regulatory environment, we will be lost. We want a fair and balanced mix of people on the FTC so there is not a major constituency out there that is not represented on the FTC. No one on the FTC would lose their regulatory authorities.

We want to be collaborative by bringing as many organizations into the process as possible. Some groups have very specific interests, while others, such as the LCFRB have broad interests. LCFRB is a partner with us in recovery efforts so it makes sense that they are participating as a technical advisor without a license re-opener.

11.1.1 states that if the agreement is amended to include BPA and LCPUD, then they would have a seat as a full member at the FTC.

Next steps: Keith thanked everyone for a great discussion which we will continue in December. In the meantime, all were asked to get their attorneys' counsel on this and consider various options for us to consider as a way forward regarding adding members to the FTC (whether or not they have signed the SA and whether or not they would be voting members of the FTC).

---

## **Annual Gravel Augmentation Plan**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Brainstorm possible options to distribute the gravel.*

Mark showed a table in the plan that underscored the lack of high-water events in the last 20 years. He further explained that Tacoma has not been keeping with their obligation to add 500 yards of washed gravel each year. There is currently a pile of 3500 yards of gravel that needs to be mobilized. The plan outlines these options:

- Place gravel using gravel "shooter" trucks.
- Place gravel using a sluice.
- Place gravel using a helicopter.
- Place gravel using a dump truck over the edge.

It was agreed that we will resume adding the gravel annually. Other ideas for placing the gravel included installing LWD, using a big bucket scoop on one of the cranes, using an oyster barge, setting up a high line, using a front-end loader and dumping the gravel further into the river. Maybe we could make a platform from which to dump the rocks. Or we could use the gravel to build a road out into the middle of the river and dump gravel from there and then break it up as we backed the road back out. Challenges include costs, unstable slopes, and lack of access from the south side of the river. When you dump a big load of gravel all at once, there is an advantage in that you can control the placement. Might that create a challenge with the HPA? Another suggestion was to use a Lampson crane that is large enough to deposit the gravel on the opposite shore.

Timing is critical considering redds and density of fish. We would need to do some hydraulic modeling so we know where the gravel will go given different flow conditions.

Next steps: Mark thanked everyone for their creative input and offered to take these ideas to their habitat biologist to discuss the possibility of these various options. Note: This plan is due to FERC by the end of the year. It was suggested that Tacoma meet with the Corps and Ecology onsite to discuss options. Mark will look into setting this up.

### **Action Items:**

- Mark to extend the deadline for comments on this plan until after our December 2 meeting.
- Peggy to check with some other sources on this.
- Mark to check with John Esler from PGE.
- All to send any costs associated with various methods to Mark.

- Ann to send contact information to Mark on Ecology and Corps contacts who deal with this type of issue on a regular basis.
- Mark to look into setting up an onsite meeting with the above folks to discuss options.

---

## **DAMW Updates**

**Presenter: Kirk Kessler**

*Purpose: Approve 100% Design Decision Document.*

### CF North Shore Collector

Matt welcomed any additional comments by October 28 on the 100% design at our last meeting. We reviewed and approved the decision document pending approval by Ed Meyer by the end of this week. In the unlikely event that Ed suggests further changes to the design, Kirk will schedule a conference call to discuss.

Michelle sent the draft Bi-Op to NMFS legal review on November 3. In it she stated that Tacoma needs to meet with NMFS to develop an operational plan.

### **Action Items:**

- By Nov. 7 Ed Meyer to get final feedback on the decision document to Kirk and Kirk to let FTC members know the outcome.
- Michelle to schedule meeting between NMFS and Tacoma to discuss paths forward.
- Mike to talk with LCPUD engineers about the possible “two-fer” of cleaning debris from trash racks during low drawdown.
- Kirk to do the same during meeting with LCPUD on Friday.

### Adaptive Management Plan / Schedule

The adaptive management plan is still undergoing internal review at Tacoma Power.

---

## **Annual Project Review (APR) 2015 Process**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

*Purpose: Approve 2015 Process Decision Document.*

FERC included the idea of the pre-season public meeting in their order. We reviewed and agreed to proceed according to the discussion at our last meeting:

We reviewed the decision document on this that Mark prepared based on our previous discussions. It called for three public meetings as part of the 2015 APR process.

Meeting #1: March 26 as a pre-season workshop where we would listen to what the public's issues are and maybe set up stations conducive to small-group interaction. We would record comments and concerns – basin wide (from the Columbia up). There was discussion around how this meeting could possibly tie into the Cowlitz River Basin Science Meeting. Perhaps it could be the last presentation and/or could follow it directly. Ideally we could encourage the scientists to stick around and, after dinner, attend the

pre-season workshop. Or we could do a presentation on the FHMP at the Science Meeting and use it as a notification of the upcoming public meetings. John will consider this and we will discuss it again at our December meeting.

Meeting #2: April 23 as a technical meeting where we would use the ISIT model to demonstrate which indices affect the populations the most and explain how we came up with the data we are providing them. Run through all the data and present a draft hatchery production plan. Give the public information on the programs and solicit their feedback. It is important to explain how access and opportunity is not a function of numbers of fish released.

Meeting #3: Date TBD. It makes sense to keep this open-ended to allow for flexibility depending on how the first two meetings go. From other public meetings we have heard a desire by the public to drill down into the details and use the model to see how changes affect the various runs. This would be an opportunity to come back and explain what the program will be and why so they leave knowing what to expect.

Suggestions:

- Put out a questionnaire to ask fishermen across the region on which stock they would prioritize above the others. The danger here would be to set unrealistic expectations about what changes might occur as a result of their responses.
- Compare the Cowlitz fishery with others including Oregon programs.

We agreed to approve Decision Document 2014-9 with minor edits.

**Action Item:**

- Mark to make agreed-upon edits to Decision Document 2014-9 and post as final.
- 

## **Tri-Party Agreement Update**

**Presenter: Keith Underwood**

*Purpose: Explain implications on FTC decisions and schedule.*

At the last meeting on October 8 Tacoma presented a proposal for how they would like to operate in 2015. All agreed on the weir box not being installed. Tacoma suggested it might be more appropriate/accurate to call the "Upper Riffe Lake Collector" the "Tailrace Collector at Cowlitz Falls". Comments on Tacoma's proposal are due November 8. Once the comments are all received, the document will be shared with the FTC.

We agreed we need to be clear on how the details of the Tri-Party Agreement may affect our decision timelines e.g., radio-telemetry study. This new level of coordination calls for thinking further ahead and being proactive with our communications to ensure timely decisions. In the adaptive management phase, this would include keeping the FTC informed and getting their concurrence on all such matters such as putting in a boat ramp, etc.

**Action Item:**

- Keith, with Mike's help, to ensure the FTC is informed of all of the action items that come out of these meetings.
-

## **CRR FUND Project Evaluation Process**

### **Presenters: Pat Frazier and Peggy Miller**

*Purpose: Present overview of proposed process and get initial feedback.*

Pat and Peggy gave a brief introduction explaining the flowchart showing how the process would meet the CRR program needs and also coordinate with the LCFRB TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) to help evaluate projects. The flowchart was supplemented by a Word document with more details, including roles and timing of decisions. At our December meeting they will seek approval on the concept so they can move forward on the details. They are interested specifically, in FTC feedback on whether it makes sense to move forward with utilizing the expertise of the LCFRB TAC.

Discussion: When we get to the policy groups, and use a technical review to help us make decisions on how to use the money for our purposes, at what point do we diverge? Pat explained that the proposed process includes two scenarios: One where the proponent is seeking CRR funds and one where they are seeking CRR funds and matching LCFRB funding. The proponent would go through the lead entity and get a result. This would come to the FTC and we would use that for information when we make decisions on the project (the bottom line of the flow chart). We may also want to put some money into a study that we want to sole source. We don't always have to go through this process. It will be good to understand how the proposed process shows risk / reward in looking at different options. We will discuss this further in December.

#### **Action Item:**

- All to review these documents and come ready to discuss at our December 2 meeting. In the meantime, give feedback directly to Pat and Peggy ASAP.

---

## **Review / Approval of October 24, 2014 Meeting Summary and Action Items**

### **Presenter: Lyn**

The October meeting summary was approved with minor edits and will be posted to the website for public review.

---

## **Meeting Evaluation**

### **Presenter: All**

- Got started 20 minutes late
- Missed Cindy and Jim
- Missed Bob Rose – appreciate his efforts to attend
- Was great that Shannon was able to join us!
- Ann got her first Action Item and felt very validated
- Another enjoyable meeting – we are watching out for each others' interests!
- Appreciated the chocolate

## **Handouts**

- October 24, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- Draft November 4, 2014 FTC meeting summary

## **Potential December 2 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements (20 min.)
- Review Updated FTC Annual Work Plan / Meeting Protocols (15 min.)
- DAMW Update - AMP Schedule (10 min.)
- 2014 Mayfield Survival Study Update (20 min.)
- FTC Membership / Interaction with Non-Members, Attorney Perspective (60 min.)
- Tri-Party Agreement – Annual Process (15 min.)
- Feedback on Proposed CRR Plan Process (45 min.)
- Gravel Augmentation Plan – Agree on Option to pursue (20 min.)
- CRR Fund Process Proposal (20 min.)
- Lewis County Water / Sewer District 6 Update (10 min.)
- Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage (10 min.)
- RCO Conference Presentation – Review Abstract submitted (10 min.)
- Review Action Items / Finalize November 4 meeting summary (10 min.)
- Set agenda for Jan. 6 FTC meeting
  - Steelhead Recycling Program Size
  - Marking Strategy and Schedule

**Suggestion:** Include a glossary of terms in all plans and reports.

## **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the Upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River



**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC No. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
December 2, 2014, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Mayfield Office

**Participating Members**

Cindy LeFleur	WDFW
Mark LaRiviere	Tacoma Power
Michelle Day	NMFS
Paul Sparks	Trout Unlimited
Jim Pacheco (by phone)	WA Dept of Ecology

**Other Participants**

Debbie Carlson	BPA
Peggy Miller	WDFW
Mark Johnson	WDFW
Mike Kohn	LCPUD
Keith Underwood	Tacoma Power
Scott Gibson	Tacoma Power
Missy Baier	Tacoma Power
Charles Dueber	Tacoma Power
Shannon Wills (by phone)	Technical Advisor to Yakama Nation
Pat Frazier	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Ann Weckback	Technical Advisor to Tacoma Power
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting

**Conference Call Dial-In Instructions**

1-866-206-2831. Then dial meeting number: \*7772519\* to join the meeting.

**Proposed 2015 FTC Meeting Dates**

Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1

**APR / Public Meeting Dates**

- March 26 (pre-season workshop where we would listen to the public's issues)
- Apr. 23 (technical meeting where we would run through the data and present a draft hatchery production plan)
- TBD: Third meeting to explain what the program will be and why
- TBD: Fourth meeting in Morton in the autumn (as was done this year)

**Announcements**

- Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage: Michelle has received comments back from the NMFS attorney and will be contacting Tacoma soon with NMFS' feedback on this plan.
- Cowlitz HGMP Status: Tacoma and WDFW have agreed to co-author this document. Keith has a call in to Eric Kinne about how best to proceed. Cindy and Mark J. are currently reviewing the Tacoma edits on spring Chinook.

- Cispus River Adult Release Site MOU (Tom Music Bridge): The Forest Service has submitted comments on the MOU. Mike Kohn will forward them to Tacoma by December 3. He hopes to include some comments from the LCPUD engineer. They hope to submit the special use permit to Forest Service by the end of the year.
- 2015 CF Downstream Collection Plan: This plan is out for review. It memorializes the decisions approved by the FTC regarding operations in 2015. It also reports on the 2014 results.
- Lewis Co. Water / Sewer District 6 Update: Keith and WDFW representatives toured the treatment facilities and met with some board members to discuss insurance requirements. WDFW and Tacoma committed to get back to them about those requirements by mid-January, 2015. Peggy noted it appears that the risk is low enough that the \$4 million insurance requirement may be excessive.
- NOAA Listed Fish Populations, Status Review – due in fall of 2015: When WDFW, NOAA, and LCFRB met last week about the 5-year status review the topic of changing the status of populations was raised. Pat reminded everyone that any changes must be biologically driven and based on new information that changes the conclusion from the time the TRT reviewed it or the listing occurred. Pat offered to help WDFW and Tacoma if they wished to propose any changes as needed. At the end of the status review there would be conclusions, observations, and recommendations. A request for a population change would go directly to NOAA. A request for a change in a population designation would first go to the LCFRB and then go to NOAA. There would be a Federal Register Notice at the end of the process. We will discuss this further at our February meeting.
- Update on Fall Chinook: Mark J reported 98 NOR fall Chinook were collected in the lower river. Of the 98, 86 were spawned. 73 of those 86 were from sight fishing. The integration rate appears to be between 15% and 18%. Our target is 20%. They are considering next year's strategy in hopes of meeting the target. We have made substantial improvement in the integration rate over last year.

---

## **FTC Membership / Interaction with non-FTC Members: Attorney Perspective**

### **Presenter: Keith Underwood**

After an in-depth discussion of this at our November meeting, all were asked to get their attorneys' counsel on this and consider various options for us to consider as a way forward regarding adding members to the FTC (whether or not they have signed the SA and whether or not they would be voting members of the FTC).

Paul discussed this briefly with their attorney. TU's aim in signing the SA was in recovering the river. They have concern that others who sign the SA now may not share the same intent.

Michelle explained that her attorney has not yet been able to discuss this with Bill Frymire (WDFW AG's office). She invited TU's attorneys to discuss this issue with

NMFS and WDFW attorneys. We hope to learn the attorneys' perspective at our next meeting. We would then have the discussion that includes risks and options offered by the attorneys.

In considering the right make-up of the FTC, the following issues were raised:

- Inviting those who signed the SA to join the FTC
  - Would they be voting members?
- There is also the issue of opening up the FTC to those who have not yet signed the SA and want to do so.
  - Inviting them to join and allowing them the opportunity to participate and provide input but not be voting members?
- What can be done under the SA as it exists now?
- What do we want our end state to look like and what is the best path to get there?
- Assess whether the current FTC membership is technically appropriate, given the technical decisions we are making.
- We also want to operate in a way that is open and transparent.
- Can we create opportunities for public input to the FTC without changing the membership of the FTC?
- In considering these questions, we need to keep in mind the purpose of FTC which is to make recommendations on actions on protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures... relative to the SA.
- FTC members are responsible for bringing the issues and interests of their (multiple) constituencies to the FTC.

#### **Action Items:**

- All to come to our next meeting ready to hear perspective / guidance from attorneys and then to continue this discussion. Be prepared to answer these key questions:
  1. *Does something need to be changed with the FTC?*
  2. *If so, why (list functional reasons)?*
  3. *What is the suggested path forward (now and in the future)?*
- Peggy to draft a proposed structure / outline to guide our discussion and send it out for feedback prior to our next meeting.
- Keith and Cindy to work on a white paper defining the problem and suggesting a solution. This would occur after the attorney discussion – possibly February timeframe.

---

## **CRR FUND Project Evaluation Process**

### **Presenters: Pat Frazier and Peggy Miller**

Pat and Peggy walked us through a PowerPoint outlining a process recommended by the CRR Fund Subcommittee to meet the CRR program needs and also coordinate with the LCFRB TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) to help evaluate projects. They started by reviewing the guidance documents including the establishment of the CRR Fund.

They also described the LCFRB project administration goals and expectations. They suggested what the various roles of the FTC, Tacoma Power, and the City of Tacoma might be with respect to making project funding decisions.

After discussing potential paths forward with solicited and non-solicited projects, the CRR subcommittee requested FTC feedback on whether it makes sense to move forward with utilizing the expertise of the LCFRB TAC. There would be no charge for the TAC's work including setting up site visits and reviewing materials.

Shannon presented the Yakama Nation's views and FTC members agreed to follow up with Bob. Bob also has considerable expertise in getting funding from legislative line items. This is a separate initiative that does not have the same timing sensitivity as the process for reviewing the projects for funding. All agreed that pursuing a legislative agenda makes a whole lot of sense and that it is a question of timing. We might want to get the program up and running first.

Paul reminded all of the importance of trying to get riparian zones to a model status at some time in the future. Tree planting is sometimes relatively low in cost and can provide huge benefits. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to restoration.

Next Steps / Timing: A key step will be to get FTC concurrence (specifically Bob, Jim, and Lou Ellyn) on LCFRB role in project review process. Peggy explained we will also need to give the subcommittee information on our goals and what projects we would be interested in. The soonest we would be able to do this would be January of 2016. If we coordinate with the timing of SRF Board funding opportunities, then project applications would be in April of 2016.

**Action Item:**

- Mark to get concurrence from absent FTC members about LCFRB's role in this process.

---

**2015 RCO Conference**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere**

Mark walked us through the draft abstract he put together to present at the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Conference in May, 2015 in Vancouver.

The conference will be co-hosted by WDFW. The suggested title of the session is: The Cowlitz Experience – Recovering Listed Populations While Maintaining Hatchery Production. Topics would include the downstream collector, FHMP, and CRR Plan. There is a 250 word limit to the abstract. Suggestions: Add how important the upper basin is to the recovery of Chinook as it is a unique area. It would also be good to highlight the monitoring effort that is underway. With Tacoma doing the presentation, it would be good for the audience to recognize the collaborative sense of team that exists within the FTC.

Other possible presentations might include:

- WDFW on monitoring and focus on the Cowlitz
- Frank Shrier on their reintroduction efforts on the Lewis River
- Pat partnering with Eric on a presentation on the Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries Plan.

### **Action Items**

- All to send any edits on the abstract to Mark by January 6.
  - Mark to bring the next version to the January meeting.
  - All to consider the additional possible presentations above and discuss with the appropriate people, keeping in mind conference abstracts are due in mid-January.
- 

## **Annual Gravel Augmentation Plan**

**Presenter: Mark LaRiviere.**

At our November meeting Mark outlined various options to effectively distribute gravel. This plan is due to FERC by the end of 2014. Tacoma is still looking for additional comments until Dec. 9.

Mark expressed thanks to Ann for assistance with the mapping and also to Michelle for the additional contacts she suggested. Tacoma suggests maintaining the status quo for now. That means they would play catch-up by adding more gravel onto the top of the existing pile to make up for not adding gravel for the past couple of years. Tacoma will propose to FERC that this be done in the summer of 2015. The size of washed rock placed below the Barrier Dam has been 2" - 4" (2006 - 2012). Tacoma Power is proposing to utilize washed (drainrock) sized from 3/4" - 2".

Tacoma would continue and enhance the monitoring aspect of the plan as well.

Peggy reported that Avista is looking to augment gravel as well and are interested in what we come up with. It seems that the "rock slingers" are extremely expensive and/or not available. There is also the unknown factor if we pursued such a means of distributing the gravel. There might be some unintended consequences

### **Action Item:**

- All to send any additional comments to Mark by December 9.
  - Mark to add the original size of gravel to these notes and also email the comparison of the original size vs. the smaller size they propose using.
  - After Dec. 9 Mark to finalize draft plan and post for all to review.
-

## **2014 Mayfield Survival Study Update**

**Presenter: Scott Gibson**

Scott described the original goals of this study as:

1. Investigate survival and delays through the bypass system
2. Investigate the delay above the Barrier Dam

He walked us through the VIE and acoustic tagging process used in the study and also explained the locations of the corresponding release sites. Preliminary results of the study are not yet available from the study. The steelhead and the coho data look fairly similar to last year. They are still awaiting data from the Chinook. There may have been a higher mortality rate with the Chinook this year due to parasite loading.

### **Action Item:**

- Mark / Scott will share the results of the study at the February FTC meeting.
- 

## **Annual FTC Work Plan**

**Presenters: Mark LaRiviere and Lyn Wiltse**

Mark walked us through the 2015 FTC Work Plan with a focus on the tables.

Suggestions: Include everything in one table. Include when the initial will be initially vetted and when comments are ultimately due from FTC members and when the report is due to FERC.

A big topic in 2015 is updating the FHMP. The order says it has to be updated by April of 2016. If we follow the same process we used for the first update, we will need to start now. We need to think about what we want the next update to look like. One thing we know for sure is we want the public review process to be robust. We also discussed what we need in terms of a model. Is the ISIT model the best tool? Some feel it is overly complex. Is it enough to simply manage to HSRG standards? How can we use the data to gain a forward look vs. trying to predict where we are going by looking into the rear view mirror? Can we have the discussion without Lars and / or Andy in the room?

### **Action Item:**

- Keith to send out link to SharePoint info to all.
  - All to review the FTC meeting protocols and be prepared to discuss potential revisions at our January meeting.
- 

## **Review / Approval of November 4, 2014 Meeting Summary and Action Items**

**Presenter: Lyn**

The November meeting summary was discussed. The FTC members asked for an additional week for review and comment prior to posting this meeting summary.

---

## **Meeting Evaluation**

- Missed Bob, Lou Ellyn, and Jim
- Sort of missed John

- Appreciated Jim (wish he could have attended the whole meeting) and Shannon calling in
  - Technical issues with the phone resulted in inadvertent interrupting and talking over the top of each other
  - Another enjoyable meeting – extremely collaborative
  - Appreciated the chocolate
    - Be a kid at heart
    - Happiness is contagious
    - Feel good about today
- 

### **Handouts**

- November 4, 2014 FTC meeting summary
- Draft December 2, 2014 FTC meeting agenda
- 2015 FTC Work Plan Table: 2015 Cowlitz FTC report review schedule
- CRR Plan Fund PowerPoint Presentation

### **Potential January 6 Meeting Agenda Items**

- Welcome / Announcements (20 min.)
- DAMW Update - AMP Schedule (10 min.)
- Steelhead Recycling Program Size
- Population Designations:
  - Marking Strategy and Schedule
  - NOAA Status Review
- FTC Membership / Interaction with Non-Members
- Review of 2011 FHMP Update (45 min.)
- CFD 2015 Downstream Fish Collection Efforts
- Results of Mayfield Downstream Fish Passage Study
- CRR Fund Subcommittee
- Plan to Abandon Volitional Upstream Fish Passage (10 min.)
- RCO Conference Presentation – Review Abstract submitted (20 min.)
- Review Action Items / Finalize December 2 meeting summary (10 min.)
- Set agenda for Feb. 3 FTC meeting

**Suggestion:** Include a glossary of terms in all plans and reports.

### **Parking Lot / Potential Future Agenda Topics**

- Create an FTC Mission statement
- Tagging fall Chinook juveniles from the Upper Cowlitz River basin.
- What to do about smelt – potential future FTC presentation by the Cowlitz Tribe
- Standards and conditions for outside parties to join the FTC
- Lamprey presence in the Cowlitz River