

Phil Rockefeller
Chair
Washington

Tom Karier
Washington

Henry Lorenzen
Oregon

Bill Bradbury
Oregon



Northwest Power and Conservation Council

W. Bill Booth
Vice Chair
Idaho

James Yost
Idaho

Pat Smith
Montana

Jennifer Anders
Montana

March 31, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Lynn Palensky, Program Development Manager

SUBJECT: Briefing from March 19th Regional Coordination Forum

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Lynn Palensky

Summary: The first regional coordination forum (RCF) meeting was held on March 19, 2015. Council members, Council staff, and regional coordination representatives focused the discussion on priority program work listed in the Council's draft work plan and on pages 114-117 of the program (see attached) and other issues of regional importance. It was a well-attended meeting with over 40 people in attendance (attendee list attached). The RCF meeting notes will be distributed to the Committee members ahead of the Council meeting once they are finalized. In Helena, staff will provide highlights from the meeting. The next RCF meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15th, 2015.

Relevance: The RCF allows the Council to engage with the fish and wildlife managers in a way that allows focus and dialogue on the Council's and division's priority fish and wildlife work. It also provides a forum in which the managers can convey other issues of regional importance. The meeting resulted in a shared understanding of where the Council and others will focus capacity during the next year and a half.

Work plan: This work is being tracked in the annual Fish and Wildlife Work Plan and the regional forum to discuss work priorities and will help inform the

Division's annual work plan, as well as in the Council's Annual Work plan, Section 2b.

Background: Excerpt from the Council's Recommendation for Regional Coordination Projects - July 10, 2012 Decision:

C. Council recommendations (1) Priority Coordination Work: The Council recommends that Bonneville use the list of work functions and work products in Table 1 above as the basis for developing contracted scopes of work with associated funding for regional coordination. This list of priority work needing regional coordination is intended to be of benefit to the Program at a basinwide or regional scale and should be developed to inform the Council for policy and implementation decisions. This list should be reviewed and updated every two years. The Council does not expect that each entity funded will have interest, time or financial resources to participate in all the activities in this list of Council priority work (Table 1). The Council does expect that the entities receiving coordination funding use their coordination funding to participate in activities on the list (Table 1). In other words, each organization should undertake a subset of the work identified in Table 1, at their discretion, and with the funding received for regional coordination work. This work should be stated as specifically as possible in the contract scope of work. Council recommendation: All work identified in a regional coordination project scope of work should originate from Table 1.

Table 1. Proposed Coordination Activities for 2015-2016

Function	Regional Topic
Participate and contribute to Council- sponsored/requested topical forums and workgroups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project review presentations for research and wildlife categories • Columbia Basin Sturgeon Workshops • Wildlife Advisory Committee • Council's Research Plan Review • Ocean Forum • Fish and Wildlife Committee meetings • Council meetings • Lamprey Workgroup • Fish Screening oversight Committee • Operation and Maintenance Prioritization Process • Program Cost Savings Review • Regional Coordination Forum • Eulachon Recovery Plan and science forum

Participate and contribute to ongoing work to improve program reporting, evaluation and assessment including	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators (i.e. dashboard indicators, HLIs), Biological Objectives, Research Plan, effectiveness reporting, and other related components of the Program's Adaptive Management process • Monitoring approach(s) for regional habitat status and trend and effectiveness monitoring and supporting tools • Data management and sharing • Recommendations for data sharing and accessibility to inform the Program's adaptive management process. • Provide technical and policy comments or recommendations to Council-related documents and/or processes
Attend and participate in key program-related regional and sub-regional program-funded forums and planning processes	Planning and preparation to present and/or implement program-funded conferences, or participation in program-funded programs such as, AFEP, YKFP, CRITFC, CREC, Lake Roosevelt Forum, LSRCP, Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, Recovery Plan and BiOp planning and implementation, or regional process that address climate change, invasives, non-natives and toxics

More Info: The 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program, [page 121](#):

Regional Coordination Forum Meeting: Attendees and topics

March 19th, 2015 - Portland

Attendees:

Jen Bayer (USGS), Joe Conner (BPA), Katie Pierson (USGS/PNAMP), Aja DeCoteau (CRITFC), Bob Austin (USRT), Heather Ray (USRT), Chris Wheaton, (PSMFC), Keith Kutchins (UCUT), Ray Entz, (Kalispel Tribe), Cecilia Brown (BPA), Brad Houselt (CTWSRO), Amy Windrope (WDFW), Tom Iverson (YN), Billy Barquin (KTOT), Sue Ireland (KTOT), Les Evorts (CSKT), Lynn DuCharme (CSKT), Derek VanMarter (UCSRB), Joy Juelson (UCSRB), Paul Kline (IDFG), Tom Rien (ODFW), Rudy Salakory (Cowlitz Tribe), Erica Maltz (Burns Paiute), Dave Statler (Nez Perce), Brent Hall (CTUIR), Bruce Suzumoto (NOAA), Bill Maslen (BPA), Bryan Mercier (BPA), Marcy Foster (BPA), Lawrence Schwabe (Grand Ronde Tribe), **Council:** Bill Bradbury (Chair), Tony Grover, Lynn Palensky, Patty O'Toole, Jim Ruff, Mark Fritsch, Nancy Leonard, Laura Robinson, Erik Merrill (ISAB/RP coordinator), Karl Weist (OR), Stacy Horton (WA), Jeff Allen (ID), Kerry Berg (MT)

Topics discussed:

- Long term O&M Plan Investment strategy
 - Fish Screening Oversight Committee
- Program Cost Savings
- Project reviews(wildlife and research)
- Research Plan revision
- Ocean Forum
- Reintroduction above blocked areas
- Biological objectives (adaptive mgmt)
- Reporting
- Threats to program investments (e.g., non-natives, toxics, predators)
- Priority work for regional coordination contracts
- Other issues raised by fish and wildlife managers