

Fish Screening Oversight Committee

DATE: May 1, 2014
TO: Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC)
FROM: Neil Ward
SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for the April 24, 2014 FSOC Teleconference

FSOC Teleconference
April 24, 2014
Portland, OR

Draft Action Notes

Attendees: Neil Ward and Binh Quan (QW Consulting)

By Phone: Paddy Murphy (IDFG), Pete Baki (ODFW), Bryan Nordlund (NOAA), Brian Zimmerman (CTUIR), Danny Didricksen (WDFW), Chuck Lenberg (WDFW), Ray Gilmore (WDFW), Jody Brostrom (USFWS), Dan Shively (USFWS), Jeff Brown (NOAA), James Dixon (NOAA)

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

Several adjustments (i.e., reorganization of agenda items) were made to accommodate the participants' schedules. In addition, Bryan Nordlund's update on the Wanapum and Rock Island dams was added to the agenda.

ITEM 2: Mitchell Act Funding Update

James Dixon (NOAA) provided an overview of the funds that have been allocated, since 2005, through the Mitchell Act Screening and Passage Facility Program. For the last three years there has been a steady decline in final allocations resulting in a cumulative reduction of 23% from 2012 to 2014. The 15.85% reduction from 2013 to 2014 represents the greatest annual cut for the 2005 to 2014 period. James informed the participants that the expected funding for 2015 will likely be similar to the 2014 allocation.

ITEM 3: Wanapum Dam Fish Passage- Update

Bryan Nordlund provided an update regarding the efforts to ensure fish passage is available in response to the Wanapum Dam spillway fracture. Bryan reported that it appears that the modifications made to the fish ladders at the Wanapum and Rock Island dams are allowing safe passage of upstream migrating Chinook salmon and steelhead. To assist in the active monitoring of migrating fish, a number of fish have been PIT-tagged and released below Wanapum Dam so that their migrations can be monitored as they move past the Wanapum and Rock Island dams.

ITEM 4: 2014 FSOC Fish Passage Training Session: Updates and Session Planning

Participants continued to discuss potential topics with the focus centered on standards, prioritization, models, design, and monitoring/evaluation associated

with culverts. Participants agreed that a section of the training session should be dedicated to WDFW's new Water Crossing Designs Guidelines manual. In addition, Dan Shively provided the names of several individuals that are conducting culvert-focused work (e.g., strategic prioritization and monitoring and evaluation guideline) that the committee should consider as potential presenters. Below is an overview of the ideas that were presented during the meeting.

Monday, September 15, 2014

- *Registration*
- *Welcome Social*

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

- *Registration*
- *Culvert standards, prioritization, and designs*
- *Reviews of WDFW's "Road Crossing Manual"*
- *Reviews provided by other agency/tribe*

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

- *Site Visits: View improved and "problem" stream crossings (include the culvert that has been recently improved to accommodate Pacific lamprey) (transportation and box lunch provided)*

Thursday, September 18, 2014

- *Monitoring and evaluation guidelines.*
- *Review and discuss the stream crossings that were observed during the site visits. Using the information that was provided during the training session, participants will work through an exercise to determine the prioritization, design, monitoring, etc. of the problem crossings.*

Besides identifying session topics and potential presenters, participants discussed registration fees and meeting dates. FSOC participants agreed the registration fee should not exceed \$200 and that efforts should be made to keep fee close to \$160, which was the cost of the session in 2012.

ACTION: Neil Ward will secure a meeting venue and block of rooms during the week of April 28th and provide an update to the FSOC participants by the end of the week.

ACTION: Neil Ward and Danny Didricksen will work together to further develop the agenda as it pertains to the WDFW presentations, as well as the site visits.

ITEM 5: FSOC Presentation to NPCC: Update

Neil Ward provided an update regarding the presentation that Bryan Nordlund (NMFS) and Amy Windrope (WDFW) provided to the NPCC's Fish and Wildlife Committee describing the history, functions, and importance/benefits of FSOC to the NPCC's Fish and Wildlife Program. Neil informed the participants that the NPCC expressed an interest in learning more about what has been accomplished relative to screening and resulting benefits. The NPCC discussed the need for a

report showcasing the accomplishments.

ITEM 6: Coordination/Facilitation of FSOC: Updates Regarding Funding

To ensure the coordination/facilitation services associated with the FSOC are available while the region continues to discuss future FSOC funding, the BPA allocated funds to ensure the services and FSOC continue uninterrupted from April 2014 - March 2015. Neil Ward told the committee that he had been informed that the funding for April 2014 - March 2015 should be considered “bridge” funding and that for 2015-2016 participating organizations will have to find another source of funds for the coordination/facilitation services.

ITEM 7: Selection of a New FSOC Chair

Bryan Nordlund will be retiring during 2014. Subsequently, the FSOC has been discussing potential candidates to replace Bryan, as Chair, by July 2014. During the January 23, 2014 meeting, participants suggested that Jody Brostrom could be a potential candidate for the Chair position. Although Jody was honored to have been nominated, she will not be able chair the committee during 2014-2015. Subsequently, the FSOC is once again seeking a volunteer to chair the committee.

ACTION: Neil Ward and Bryan Nordlund will be contacting participants to inquiry about their interest in volunteering for the Chair position.

ITEM 8: Potential Future FSOC Project – Inventory of BPA-Funded Fish Screens

Bryan Mercier (BPA) has expressed interest in having the FSOC potentially complete an inventory/report of the BPA-funded fish screens. Because the meeting concluded before Bryan was able to call in, the topic will be discussed during the July 24, 2014 FSOC meeting.

ITEM 9: Next Meeting

**FSOC Teleconference Meeting
Thursday, July 24, 2014
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. (Pacific)**