



# COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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**DATE:** September 21, 2009  
**TO:** Fish Screening Oversight Committee  
**FROM:** Dave Ward, CBFWA Staff  
**SUBJECT:** September 16, 2009 FSOC Meeting Final Action Notes

Coordinating and promoting effective protection and restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitat in the Columbia River Basin.

**The Authority is comprised of the following tribes and government agencies:**

- Burns Paiute Tribe
  - Coeur d'Alene Tribe
  - Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation
  - Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
  - Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation
  - Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
  - Idaho Department of Fish and Game
  - Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
  - Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
  - National Marine Fisheries Service
  - Nez Perce Tribe
  - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall
  - Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley
  - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
  - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Coordinating Agencies**
- Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
  - Upper Columbia United Tribes
  - Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes

**Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC )Meeting**  
September 16, 2009  
10:20 AM-12:00 PM PDT

**Final Action Notes**

**Attendees:** Dave Ward (CBFWA), Brian Zimmerman (CTUIR), Brian Allee (NOAA), Jamie Swan (BPA), Paddy Murphy (IDFG), Miranda Plumb (USFWS), Jody Brostrom (USFWS), Eric Egbers (WDFW), Bryan Nordlund (NOAA), Sean Connolly (USFWS), Ray Hartlerode (ODFW), Alan Ritchey (ODFW), Kelley Stokes (ODFW), Les Perkins (FCA), Julie O'Shea (FCA), Marc Daily (WDFW), Pat Schille (WDFW)

**By Phone:** Lynn Stratton (IDFG), Matt Mesa (USGS), Mark Lere (MDFWP)

<b>Time Allocation:</b>	Objectives 1. Committee Participation	100%
	Objectives 2. Technical Review	0%
	Objectives 3. Presentation	0%

**ITEM 1: Introductions**

**ITEM 2: Approval of Agenda**

**Discussion:** The agenda was approved with the possible addition of a discussion of the effects of invasive species on screens pending available time.

**ITEM 3: Approve Action Notes from July 23, 2009 FSOC Teleconference**

**Discussion:** The FSOC approved the draft action notes with minor modifications for clarity.

**ITEM 4: Mitchell Act and FRIMA Follow Up**

**Discussion:** Dave Ward notified the FSOC that the CBFWA Members decided not to send the letter to Congress requesting full funding in FY 2010 for FRIMA, because no funding exists for FRIMA in any version of the federal budget. The CBFWA Members determined that it would be more productive to try to obtain funding for FY 2011.

Sean Connolly briefed the FSOC on the overall status of FRIMA funding. Sean confirmed that FY 2010 funding was almost certainly not possible. Even FY 2011 funding is highly questionable at this stage in the budget preparation process. Given the lengthy bureaucratic process, working toward funding for FY 2012 and beyond would probably be most productive.

Sean noted that some unallocated funds still exist and should be spent before requesting further funding. Ray Hartlerode reported that Oregon funds are near zero; however, Oregon has numerous "shovel-ready" projects. About \$360,000

remains unspent in Washington and Idaho, but these funds will be mostly spent. Over \$300,000 is available for Montana, but these funds will also be spent on planned projects.

Ray Hartlerode noted that there is historical precedence of the USFWS providing funds when FRIMA funds are not available.

Brian Allee then briefed the FSOC on Mitchell Act funding for screens. Brian confirmed the information provided by Rob Jones during the July 23, 2009 FSOC teleconference.

New information Brian provided included that NOAA (1) is interested in awarding multi-year grants with Mitchell Act funds, (2) would like to re-institute production of annual reports highlighting projects funded through the Mitchell Act, and (3) would like to once again hold annual meetings for Mitchell Act project implementers. FSOC Members generally agreed with all three potential actions.

Discussion of Mitchell Act funding concluded with the FSOC and Brian Allee agreeing on the importance of these funds in the Columbia River Basin, and on the importance of long-term maintenance of screens after they are installed.

**ACTION:**

- In response to questions and requests from FSOC Members, Sean Connolly will work to provide a letter from the USFWS (1) confirming that BPA funds can be used as cost share, (2) clarifying whether or not BPA cost share can be retroactive, and (3) clarifying the process for dividing the overhead costs between the USFWS and the states. Sean will have the letter sent directly to the state agencies implementing FRIMA projects, with a copy to the FSOC. The letter will be sent prior to the next FSOC teleconference on October 22, 2009.

**ITEM 5: Update on Issues Involving Lamprey Passage at Screens**

**Discussion:** Matt Mesa of the USGS provided an overview of his planned project to evaluate the effects of various screen types on juvenile lamprey passage. The work will begin with representations of screen types in the lab, and then eventually move on to the field tests. Matt and the USGS have received some start up funds from the USFWS and the Umatilla Tribe, but still need additional funds. Ray Hartlerode noted that ODFW could contribute by constructing screen representations for the lab tests. The FSOC agreed that evaluations of this type will provide critical information needs. The FSOC briefly discussed the potential implications of lamprey residing in diversion canal sediments both upstream and downstream of screens.

Dave Ward then provided a brief update of actions being undertaken by the Lamprey Technical Workgroup. Most relevant to the FSOC is work by one subgroup to develop passage standards for lamprey. The subgroup is currently developing a list of passage metrics being used and standard definitions for those metrics. Subsequent work will include recommending which of these metrics are of the most use, and then developing standards for those metrics. This final component may take a long time to develop and have endorsed.

**ITEM 6: Farmers Conservation Alliance Horizontal Screens**

**Discussion:** Bryan Nordlund provided an overview of the NMFS response to revised screen criteria suggested by the Farmer's Conservation Alliance (FCA). NMFS has a

number of concerns regarding the screens. Copies of the response letter and enclosures were provided to the FSOC for review. The volume of the letter and enclosures precluded efficient review and discussion by the FSOC. In addition, the FCA is preparing a detailed response to the NMFS letter. Matt Mesa of the USGS also has a draft report on work conducted at the FCA Herman Creek that he will make available.

The FSOC agreed to wait until all this material can be reviewed before engaging in a detailed discussion of the NMFS response to revised screen criteria. This matter will be discussed in detail during the October 22, 2009 teleconference.

- ACTION:**
- Dave Ward will have the NMFS response letter and enclosures posted on the FSOC website. Matt Mesa will provide Dave with a copy of the draft report, and Dave will have that posted as well. The FCA will provide Dave a copy of their response to the NMFS letter, which Dave will also have posted. All items will be posted and distributed to the FSOC in time to ensure opportunity for a thorough review prior to the October 22, 2009 FSOC teleconference.

**ITEM 7: Fish Passage and Screening Workshop Report and Recap**

**Discussion:** Ray Hartlerode provided a brief and general recap of the workshop. Attendance was good, and included a large number of vendors. ODFW was able to secure a large number of sponsors and donations, ensuring the financial success of the workshop. It is most likely that the workshop will realize a small profit, which will be returned to the placeholder in the CBFWA budget for future workshops. Attendees seem quite pleased with the location, venue, and program.

**ITEM 8: Selection of Next FSOC Chair**

**Discussion:** Dave Ward noted that Ray Hartlerode's term as Chair ends effective October 1, 2009, and that Ray had done an excellent job as Chair. The FSOC generally approved of a plan to have the state agency in which the biannual workshop is held serve as Chair that year. That would leave the Chair open to other voting members in alternate years. Bryan Nordlund of NOAA volunteered to serve as Chair from October 2009 through September 2010. The FSOC approved having Bryan serve as Chair.

**ITEM 9: Brief Brainstorming Session to Outline a Work Plan for 2009-10**

**Discussion:** Both this topic and a discussion on the effects of invasive species on screens were deferred until the October 22, 2009 teleconference.

**ITEM 10: Next FSOC Teleconference**

**Discussion:** The next FSOC teleconference is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2009, from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM PDT.