

Fish Screening Oversight Committee

DATE: April 23, 2015
TO: Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC)
FROM: Neil Ward
SUBJECT: April 23, 2015 FSOC Teleconference Meeting

FSOC Teleconference
April 23, 2015
Portland, OR

Draft Action Notes

Attendees: Neil Ward (QW Consulting)

By Phone: Paddy Murphy (IDFG), Pete Baki (ODFW), Chuck Lenberg (WDFW), Josh Rogala (WDFW), Jody Brostrom (USFWS), Jeff Brown (NOAA), Michelle McGree (MFWP), Marcy Foster (BPA), Dan Shively (USFWS), Jamie Swan (BPA), Ray Gilmour (WDFW), Brian Zimmerman (CTUIR), Kelly Stokes (ODFW), Mike Jensen (ODFW), Les Perkins (FCA), Chuck Simpson (ODFW), Alan Ritchey (ODFW), Jeff Allen (NPCC), Mike Lambert (FCA), Mark Fritsch (NPCC), Karl Weist (NPCC), Kevin Yancy (BOR), Amy Windrope (WDFW), Danny Didricksen (WDFW), and Roger Mann (IEAB)

ITEM 1	Introductions The agenda was approved with the addition of Item 8 “BPA/Mitchell Act Agreements.”
ITEM 2	Approve January 22, 2014 FSOC Action Notes The meeting notes for the January 22, 2014 FSOC meeting were approved with no modifications.
ITEM 3	Northwest Power and Conservation Council’s (NPCC) April Meeting – Fish Screen Discussion During the April 2015 NPCC Meeting, Paddy Murphy (IDFG) and Mark Fritsch (NPCC) provided an overview of the fish screen program, a general description of fish screens, and the work that has been initiated by the FSOC to complete the fish screen inventory. During the presentation, Paddy stressed that fish screens are not capable of functioning correctly over an extended period of time without adequate O&M.
ITEM 4	Fish Screen Inventory – NPCC’s Perspective Mark Fritsch (NPCC) discussed the NPCC’s and BPA’s need for a fish screen inventory that consists of standardized fish screen status assessments. Mark informed the participants that through the NPCC’s 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program, an evaluation of the region’s fish screen has been identified as the highest priority and informed the participants of the following general measure in the 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program: <i>The NPCC will convene a work group comprising action agencies and agencies and tribes with</i>

	<p><i>expertise in fish screens, fishways and traps, hatcheries, lands, and habitat actions, to define and develop a long-term maintenance plan and process. This work group will be assisted by the IEAB, the Wildlife Advisory Committee, Fish Screening Oversight Committee, and federal action agencies. The work group shall report to the Council quarterly on its progress toward developing a long-term plan for protecting fish and wildlife investments. The long-term plans shall be completed at the end of one year from the initial meeting of the work group. The plan will be presented to the NPCC for review and recommendation to Bonneville and the action agencies. Bonneville shall fund the long-term maintenance plan as reviewed and recommended by the Council.</i></p> <p>Mark and Jeff Allen (NPCC) stressed the urgency to complete the inventories to assist with BPA’s asset management effort. Although the inventory has been identified as a top priority in the 2014 Program, they suggested that the window of opportunity could close quickly and that there should be a sense of urgency to finalize the inventories no later than by mid-summer. Mark and Jeff indicated that they are scheduled to provide an update on the progress of the effort during the June NPCC meeting and that they would prefer that an updated draft of the inventory be available no later mid-May for presentation during the meeting.</p>
ITEM 5	<p>Fish Screen Inventory – Independent Economic Analysis Board’s (IEAB) Perspective</p> <p>Per the 2014 Program directive, the IEAB will assist with the development of the long-term plan for fish screen asset management. Roger Mann (IEAB) introduced the participants to the role that the IEAB will have in the fish screen inventory process. Roger indicated that the NPCC is interested in understanding the long-run costs of the fish screen program and that the IEAB’s role will be to provide a decision tree that managers and others in the region can use to prioritize screen improvements. Roger indicated that he had reviewed the draft inventory that was released in January 2015 and that it appeared the appropriate information is being collected to allow for the IEAB to conduct a review of the fish screen program. Although Roger had several questions relative to the draft inventory, participants stressed that many of his questions were premature, as the document was draft and that the items in question were still in development and would be included in the next draft.</p>
ITEM 6	<p>Updated Fish Screen Inventories</p> <p>Neil Ward (QW Consulting) briefed the participants on the status of the fish screen inventories. Neil informed the participants that not all of the updated inventories had been submitted. Subsequently, participants were unable to review the second draft of the comprehensive inventory. Despite not being able to review the inventories, participants continued to discuss the need for program narratives that provide essential information such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Background/narrative information: Brief overview of the BPA-funded screen project – what “you” do and how you generally do it - General funding sources for your BPA-funded screen projects (percentages) - Background regarding funding and any changes that may have occurred since the screens were installed - O&M procedures (schedule and describe the duties that are occurring during these intervals (i.e., daily, weekly, monthly) - Concerns associated with current funding, priority needs or other issues (e.g., do not have adequate funds to perform required routine O&M) - Priority (non-recurring) maintenance projects for the next five years starting with FY2017 <p>In an effort to ensure the narratives contain uniform and consistent information, Neil and the</p>

	NPCC and BPA staffs will develop and release a narrative template and the updated inventories no later than May 1, 2015 . Due to the NPCC and BPA's need for the information for the June meeting, the completed narratives and edited inventories are due May 20, 2015 .
ITEM 7	<p>NOAA's Square Screen Opening Criteria</p> <p>Jeff Brown (NOAA) informed the FSOC that the 3/32 on the diagonal criteria was being adopted by NOAA. In addition, Jeff informed the participants that as part of NMFS' regional merger between the former Northwest and Southwest regions, they are revising their screening and passage criteria to meet the needs of both regions. Jeff indicated that one of the major changes is to have each chapter be more independent. Jeff forwarded a copy of the screen chapter draft, as it currently stands, to the FSOC participants. Jeff indicated that he does not expect that there will be much more substantive change to this chapter and that very little has changed relative to the criteria. However, Jeff asked the FSOC to review the document with a critical eye and identify errors or points of disagreement. Jeff asked that comments be submitted to him no later than the end of May.</p>
ITEM 8	<p>BPA/Mitchell Act Agreements</p> <p>Brian Zimmerman (CTUIR) informed the participants that consideration is being given to changing the funding model for the fish passage and screens programs. Brian indicated that there is going to a funding "swap" in which BPA will assume the screen/passage funding that was historically funded through the Mitchell Act and that the Lower Columbia River coded-wire tag monitoring efforts will be funded through the Mitchell Act, efforts that were previously funded by BPA. Amy Windrope (WDFW) informed the participants that such an arrangement has existed between WDFW and BPA for the past year. Such an agreement does not exist between IDFG and BPA and ODFW representatives indicated that there have been some discussions to develop a similar agreement for ODFW; however, no agreement is in place between ODFW and BPA.</p>
ITEM 9	<p>2015 FSOC Fish Screening Workshop – Update</p> <p>Paddy Murphy provided an update on the progress of planning for the 2015 Fish Screening Workshop that will be convened in Salmon, ID in September. Participants stressed a need to open registration as soon as possible. Neil Ward suggested that a "Save the Date" email blast could be sent out at the start of May. In addition, Neil indicated that registration for the last workshop started in mid-May and that the arrangements could be in place to ensure the registration for the 2015 workshop also begins in mid-May. Neil and Paddy will be finalizing the costs over the next several weeks and they informed the participants that the registration fee for this year's workshop will be significantly lower than 2013 workshop fee due in part to not having to rent hotel space, as well as the associated food/drink purchase requirements.</p>
ITEM 10	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, July 23, 2015 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Pacific)</p>