

Fish Screening Oversight Committee

DATE: October 23, 2014
TO: Fish Screening Oversight Committee (FSOC)
FROM: Neil Ward
SUBJECT: Draft Action Notes for the October 23, 2014 FSOC Teleconference

FSOC Teleconference
October 23, 2014
Portland, OR

Draft Action Notes

Attendees: Neil Ward (QW Consulting)
By Phone: Paddy Murphy (IDFG), Pete Baki (ODFW), Danny Didricksen (WDFW), Chuck Lenberg (WDFW), Jody Brostrom (USFWS), Jeff Brown (NOAA), Michelle McGree (MFWP), Marcy Foster (BPA), Dan Shively (USFWS), and Jamie Swan (BPA)

ITEM 1: Introductions and Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved with the unofficial addition of Item 6: 2015 FSOC Fish Screen Workshop – Salmon, Idaho.

ITEM 2: Approve July 24, 2014 FSOC Action Notes

The action notes for the July 24, 2014 FSOC meeting were approved with no modifications.

ITEM 3: New Chair – Introduction

For the last several years, Bryan Nordlund chaired the FSOC. With Bryan's retirement in September, the FSOC Chair was vacated. During the July 24, 2014 FSOC meeting, Paddy Murphy informed the participants that he would be interested in chairing the committee; however, Paddy indicated that he needed to consult with IDFG staff before he could make a formal commitment. Paddy confirmed that he received support from the agency and was officially appointed as the FSOC Chair for 2014-2015.

ITEM 4: FSOC Inventory of BPA-Funded Fish Screens – Progress Update

The NPCC has recommended, through their Fish and Wildlife Program, that BPA assess the required repairs and maintenance of fish screens funded by BPA. During the July 24, 2014 FSOC meeting, Marcy Foster (BPA) requested that FSOC assist with the development of a comprehensive inventory of the BPA-funded screens and criteria to prioritize the problematic screens. To help facilitate the development of a template for data entry, the WDFW provided their inventory template that was updated per FSOC and BPA suggestions. Neil Ward distributed

the finalized template to the FSOC in early-October with a request to provide progress updates during the October 23, 2014 FSOC meeting and a final version no later than January 7, 2015.

Per Neil's request, participants provided updates regarding their progress, as well as some observations. All of the participants indicated that they were in the progress of completing the template and that they anticipate meeting the January 7 deadline. Danny Didricksen and Chuck Lenberg (WDFW) presented WDFW's draft inventory to serve as an example of what a completed template will look like. Reviewing the needs that WDFW's listed as well as those that the other entities will be identifying, participants recognized the need to develop processes (within an agency and basin/Program-wide) that allow for the prioritization of the structures needing repairs/maintenance. Marcy and Neil indicated that they envision the process of identifying criterion for prioritizing the needs beginning, as was planned during the July 24, 2014 FSOC meeting, during the FSOC's January 15, 2015.

Related to the screen inventory, Paddy Murphy prepared the participants for a discussion that will need to occur during 2015. With budget reductions to the Mitchell Act, the screen tending workforce has been reduced, Subsequently, the daily/weekly maintenance required to ensure equipment is working properly, as well as receiving routine service, has been reduced or is no longer available.

ACTION: Participants agreed to add an additional column (i.e., annual maintenance) to the inventory template. Neil Ward will provide the update to the FSOC.

ITEM 5: NOAA's Square Screen Opening Criteria

During the July 24, 2014 FSOC meeting Pete Baki informed the participants of a significant change to NOAA's square screen opening criteria that was described in NMFS's Anadromous Salmonid Passage Facility Design. In 2008, criterion was set at 3/32 inch on a diagonal; however, in 2011 the criterion was changed to 3/32 on a side. Pete informed the group that he talked to Bryan Nordlund about this change and that Bryan indicated it was a result of NOAA's regional merger. Bryan suggested that if the FSOC is concerned about the change and feels strongly about maintaining the 2008 criterion, the committee should submit a recommendation to NOAA. Bryan also informed Pete that it was his perception that reverting back to the 2008 criterion would not be difficult.

Pete Baki provided an update regarding his progress towards acquiring the pertinent information for the FSOC's review. Pete indicated that although he has encountered some challenges in securing information, he is still searching for the literature that will be useful for the FSOC's review. Participants offered to work within their agencies, as well as contact others that have conducted evaluations that pertain to this issue, with the expectation that they would provide their findings during the January FSOC meeting. Participants were in agreement that the 3/32 on the diagonal criterion is preferred for the Columbia River Basin and that during the January meeting a decision will be made regarding whether the FSOC will submit a recommendation to NOAA encouraging them to use the 2008 criteria. If the FSOC decides to provide a recommendation, participants suggested the likely date of delivery would be mid-2015.

ITEM 6: 2015 FSOC Fish Passage Training Session: Updates and Session Planning

**2015 FISH SCREENING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
TRAINING SESSION**

CULVERT DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT: FACILITATING FISH PASSAGE

JANUARY 12-15, 2015

THE HEATHMAN LODGE
VANCOUVER, WA

Danny Didricksen and Neil Ward provided an update on the planning for the training session. Danny indicated that the program will include presentations by individuals from several different disciplines, ensuring that all facets of stream crossings are covered during the training session. Neil indicated that the non-WDFW presenters that committed to participate in September will be participating in the January training session. Danny informed the participants that the draft program should be available soon.

ITEM 7: 2015 FSOC Fish Screen Workshop – Salmon Idaho

Paddy Murphy provided an update regarding the 2015 FSOC Fish Screen Workshop that will be convened in Salmon, ID. Participants discussed potential dates and agreed that the week of September 14th would be best. Paddy informed the participants that the preliminary plans are for the workshop to be convened at the IDFG office in Salmon for three days and that an additional day/night would be spent in Stanley. More information will be available during the January FSOC meeting.

ITEM 8: Next Meeting

**FSOC Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2014
1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (Pacific)**

