



## Meeting Minutes

### Fall Chinook Working Group

Tuesday, June 01, 2010  
 9:00 – 3:00 pm

NOAA Fisheries, Willamette Room  
 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd.  
 Portland, OR 97232

#### Technical Members

Paul Wagner, NMFS	Joe Skalicky/Dan Diggs, USFWS
Robert Heinith, CRITFC	Paul Ward/Bob Rose, YN
Holly Harwood, BPA	Brett Swift, American Rivers
Keith Truscott, CPUD	Tom Kahler, DPUD
Bill Tweit, WDFW	Paul Hoffarth, WDFW
Marcie Mangold, WDOE	John Clark, ADFG
Russell Langshaw, GCPUD	Todd Pearsons, GCPUD
Steve Hemstrom, CPUD	

#### ATTENDEES: (\*Denotes Technical member)

Paul Wagner, NMFS*	Marcie Mangold, WDOE* (on phone)
Bob Rose, YN* (on phone)	John Clark, ADFG* (on phone)
Paul Hoffarth, WDFW* (on phone)	Bob Heinith, CRITFC
Geoff McMichael, Battelle	Ryan Harnish, Battelle
Tom Kahler, DPUD* (on phone)	Steve Hays, CPUD (on phone)
Russell Langshaw, GCPUD*	Debbie Williams, GCPUD (on phone)
Tracy Hillman, Facilitator	

#### Action Items:

1. Working Group members identified in Section V.A. below will provide documents and spreadsheets for the experts on the fall Chinook productivity panel. Williams will upload these onto the website.
2. Hillman will continue to contact experts that have not responded to the expert panel invitation letter.
3. McMichael will update the environmental variables spreadsheet and send it to Hillman and Williams for posting on the website.

4. **McMichael will research the size of the correlation coefficient that should be used as a cutoff value for determining autocorrelation among environmental variables.**
5. **Langshaw will distribute the study plan and draft designs document to the Working Group by 6 June. Members will provide comments by 7 July.**
6. **Langshaw will distribute the Flow Fluctuation Report by 30 June.**
7. **Langshaw will work with the IT folks at Grant PUD to develop the HRWG website.**
8. **Williams will send a doodle to determine a July or August meeting date for the HRWG.**

## Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Hillman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members introduced themselves around the table and on the conference line.
- II. **Agenda Review** – No additions were made to the agenda.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - May 04, 2010 - **Approved**
- IV. **Review of Action Items** - Action items identified during the May meeting were reviewed and discussed.
- V. **Study Plan Updates**
  - A **Packet for Expert Panel Participants** – A list of items to be provided to the expert panel were identified during the May meeting.
    - The productivity study plan being prepared by Battelle (Langshaw). **Battelle, as part of the productivity assessment, will complete this task. If Battelle is able to start by 8/01/10, they hope to have draft results by 01/31/11. Langshaw clarified that the study plan is complete and is being compiled into a draft study design. The mark-recapture component will now be conducted by Battelle. The study plan and the mark-recapture component will be distributed to the expert panel.**
    - List of environmental variables to be correlated with the residuals (McMichael). **The list of environmental variables should be completed today after committee review.**
    - Clark's survival estimates (Clark). **Has already been provided.**

- Meta-analysis survival data (McMichael). **Will be provided as part of Battelle's productivity work.**
- WDFW 2009 annual report (Hoffarth). **Hoffarth emailed the report during the meeting. Williams will upload to the FCWG website.**
- Methods for estimating fry and parr abundance (McMichael).
- CRITFC Letter of Agreement (LOA) report (Hoffarth to get report from Jeff Fryer). **Hoffarth will speak with Jeff on Thursday.**
- HRFPPA Annual Report (Langshaw). **Langshaw will send to Williams for uploading to the FCWG website.**
- Population simulation information (McMichael). **Part of the study plan.**
- Annotated bibliography on Hanford Reach studies (McMichael). **The entire list of data sources will be distributed by categories. The bibliography will be complete by mid July.**
- Parken report on coast-wide Chinook productivity (Clark). **This report has been uploaded to the FCWG website.**

**Each individual identified in parentheses will send the information to Williams, who will upload it to the FCWG Expert Panel website.**

- B Expert Panel Participants** – Hillman identified those who have agreed to participate on the panel. They include Howard Schaller, Steve Haeseker, Richard Hinrichsen, Charlie Petrosky, David Bernard, Rishi Sharma, and David Hankin. So far, Ray Hilborn and Rick McNicol have declined.

The USFWS did not support the selection of Dave Bernard as chair of the expert panel. David Hankin has agreed to chair the panel as long as he recuperates from hip-replacement surgery by the end of September. If Hankin is unable, USFWS has suggested that Randall Peterman, Brian Riddell, Gary Morishima, Jim Scott, Robert Kope, or Scott McPherson chair the expert panel.

Hillman explained that if the panel is convened in October, there would probably be more participation by experts. **Hillman will continue to contact people that have not responded to the expert panel invitation letter.**

- C Environmental Variables to Include in Productivity Analysis**  
The FCWG reviewed environmental variables that may be correlated with the residuals in fall Chinook stock-recruitment

relationships. **McMichael will update the spreadsheet and send it to Hillman and Williams for posting on the website.**

The Group identified different methods for analyzing the relationship between environmental variables and stock-recruitment residuals. The group concluded that multiple approaches are needed to assess relationships among residuals and environmental variables. The approaches include: correlate pre-determined metrics with the residuals, examine the effect of the highest and lowest values of environmental variables on productivity, and inclusion of all environmental variables in a data mining exercise.

The Group also identified rules for keeping or dismissing environmental variables in the analysis. The Group tentatively identified a correlation coefficient of determination ( $r^2$ ) of 0.7 as the cutoff value for inclusion in the analyses. That is, environmental variables with  $r^2$  values less than 0.7 would be included in the analyses. If two or more environmental variables are highly correlated ( $r^2 > 0.7$ ), the Group will need to determine which of the correlated variables to include in the analyses.

**McMichael will research the size of the correlation coefficient to use as a cutoff value.**

- D Updates on Current and Proposed Studies** – The Hanford Reach Study Plan has not been distributed because Langshaw is still addressing comments in the comment response table (Appendix B in the report). The comment table is being included because this is the final draft to be distributed. It will be distributed by 6 June with a 30 day comment period. Comments are due by 7 July in order to meet the 30 July approval date. **Langshaw will distribute the study plan and draft designs document to the Working Group by 6 June. Members will provide comments by 7 July.**

**VI. Flow Fluctuation Report - Langshaw will distribute the Flow Fluctuation Report by 30 June.**

**VII. HRWG Activities**

- A Updates on Operations** – Other than two events that exceeded constraints within the first few days of protections, Grant PUD met all other constraints. The highest weekly mean flow fluctuation has been 35 kcfs. End of rearing period occurs when 400 temperature units (TU) have been accumulated after the end of emergence. TU's are currently at 285. It is expected that 400 TU's will be reached within the next 10 days.

- B Website Development** – No progress has been made on development of the website. **Langshaw will work with the IT folks at Grant PUD to develop the website.**

**C Hanford Reach Work Group – Williams will send a doodle to determine a July or August meeting date.**

**VIII. Next Meeting:** Tuesday, July 6, 2010, at Battelle in Richland.