

FINAL MEETING NOTES
CRCIP AMT Quarterly Meeting
July 11, 2007

The CRCIP Adaptive Management Team held its quarterly meeting from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm on July 11, 2007 at the Robert Duncan Plaza, Summit Room. The following AMT members and technical support personnel participated in person or via telephone:

Laura Hicks, COE	Greg Smith, USFWS	Agnes Lut, ODEQ
Kim Larson, COE	Loree` Randall, WDOE	Paula Ehlers, WDOE
Marci Cook, COE	Dianne Perry, Sponsor Ports*	Alex Cyril, ODEQ
Steve Bartell, E2 Inc.	Cathy Tortorici, NMFS	Robert Anderson, NMFS
Dylan Davis, COE		

* participants via telephone

The following topics were addressed by the AMT participants at the meeting:

April 2007 AMT Meeting Notes

The notes from the April 2007 AMT Meeting were approved. These notes will be posted as approved on the E2 FTP site.

Project Update

Project construction continues to focus on CRM 21-30, 63, and 71-91 with some additional work at CRM 40-48. The Stuyvesant Phase 2 removal focused on CRM 21-30 with a total of 1,502,418 cubic yards removed. Approximately half was disposed in the Deep Water Site, while the remainder was disposed in water. The Essayons/Oregon Phase 2 construction was on CRM 91-95. Of the 954,322 cubic yards removed, 432,792 were disposed at Gateway, while 521,530 went to Fazio. For CRM 45-48, a total of 1,312,665 cubic yards were dredged and disposed at Brown Island, while another 167,618 cy were dredged and disposed in-water. Finally, for CRM 40-41, 190,038 cy were dredged and disposed of in the Welcome Slough scour hole, 192,708 cy were removed and disposed in-water.

EPA National Strategic Plan

Agnes Lut described the National Strategic Plan being implemented by the USEPA. Sections of the Plan pertain to improvements in water quality and aquatic habitats within the Lower Columbia River and estuary. The Plan also mentions the desire for adaptive management and broader concerns for ecosystem sustainability. The Plan emphasizes improvements in water quality with an emphasis on reduction of toxic chemicals. The similar current emphasis of the LCREP suggests compatibility between these programs in relation to adaptive management in the river and estuary.

Follow-on discussions among the AMT recognized the opportunities for larger-scale and more comprehensive adaptive management programs in addition to the currently implemented project for channel improvement. It was recalled that the AEM Plan for the CRCIP specifically mentions that the AEM Program for channel improvement could become part of a larger, integrated adaptive management effort in the Lower Columbia River and estuary.

AEM Workbook 2nd Quarter Review

The AMT reviewed the status of the monitoring actions using available data for the second quarter in 2007.

MA-1 CORIE Analyses

CORIE data were analyzed for the period of January through May. As previously observed, several mid- to late January temperature values for cnbc3 were lower than the decision criteria; salinity values were correspondingly higher than the decision criteria. These observations were examined using river flow data measured from January through June 2007 near Bonneville Dam. The results suggest that variations in flows for this period can explain the temperature and salinity observations that appeared at variance with the previously established decision criteria. A representative from the USEPA attending the meeting asked whether the mean rather than median values be used as the metric for characterizing the CORIE data in relation to the decision criteria.

The monthly median temperature values were all within the decision criteria for the period of January through May. However, February and March data were not available for the grays sampling station.

Monthly median salinity values for red26 were within the decision criteria for the period of January through May, although data were not available for March. The monthly values of salinity were less than the criteria for grays and cbnc3. Salinity was effectively zero for these stations. Again, salinity data from the grays station were not available for February and March.

Analysis of the normalized temperature and salinity plots suggested that the January through May 2007 data were consistent with previously defined relationships for these parameters.

One early January data point for depth (grays) was below the decision criteria. All other depth values were within the ranges specified by the decision criteria. The monthly values were within the decision criteria for grays, although data were not available for February and March.

MA-2 Dredging Summary

The MA-2 spreadsheets that summarizes disposal for each site were updated to address concerns regarding capacity for project dredging, including disposal to the deepwater site and Gateway.

MA-3 Crossline Surveys

No new information was available for MA-3.

MA-4 Habitat Surveys

No new information was available for MA-4.

MA-5 Sediment Contaminants

No new information was available for MA-5.

MA-6 Fish Stranding

Fish stranding was not discussed and will not likely be addressed until the post-construction stranding studies are completed.

Sediments

Discussion of sediment management was re-scheduled for the October 2007 AMT Meeting.

Sturgeon, smelt, crab

The report on the analysis of sturgeon habitat preferences is anticipated in the next month or so.

The final crab entrainment and burial report was posted on E2 FTP site for review and comment.

No new information concerning smelt was introduced.

AEM 2006 Annual Report

Based on comments received during the April meeting, E2 re-drafted the 2006 Annual Report for consideration at the July 2007 AMT Meeting. The report was approved by the AMT and will be made available at the E2 FTP site.

Re-Structuring of the E2 CRCIP FTP Site

E2 presented its new AEM project FTP site based on the design that was discussed at the April AMT. The AMT generally agreed that the changes made it easier to locate and access project files. E2 has attempted to develop an electronic version of the AEM Workbook that is reviewed and updated for each meeting. In addition, E2 has defined a read-ahead folder that contains documents for upcoming meetings.

Wrap-up Discussion and October AMT Agenda Topics

Sediment management remains as a topic to be discussed at the October meeting.

Adjourn

The July 11 meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.