

Meeting of the Governor's Salmon Workgroup

December 15, 2020

Zoom Meeting

Workgroup Member Roll

- Katherine Himes
- Mike Edmondson
- Roy Akins
- Brett Dumas
- Richard Scully
- Toby Wyatt
- David Doeringsfeld
- John Simpson
- Paul Arrington
- Aaron Lieberman
- Merrill Beyeler
- Joe Oatman
- Mark Menlove
- Brian Brooks
- Stacey Satterlee
- Will Hart
- Justin Hayes
- Kira Finkler
- Scott Hauser
- Representative Fred Wood
- Chad Colter
- Senator Johnson
- Jim Yost

Intro

- Katherine Himes
 - Welcome everyone to final meeting of Workgroup
 - This is our 16th meeting
 - Fortunate today to be joined by Governor Little
 - We'll do introductions and then have a small group present to the Governor
 - *Workgroup introduced themselves*
 - We will move into first agenda item which is a summary by 4 members of the Workgroups

Presentation to Governor

- Brett Dumas
 - Thank you, Katherine and Mike for your facilitation,
 - Welcome Governor Little, we appreciate your time
 - Thank you for inviting all of us to serve on your Salmon Workgroup

- When we kicked this group off, I don't think anyone knew what this journey would be like
- Thank you, fellow workgroup members
- Would like to share some highlights
- This is our 16th workgroup meeting
- Many more small group meetings
- 8 were in person around Idaho and last 8 have been virtual
- Have had nearly 50 presentations from experts around the region
- At every full group meeting we have allowed public to provide their comment
- Received nearly 1000 oral and written comments
- Workgroup member and staff have spent 100s of hours on this project
- Think we can speak for the whole Workgroup that we are proud of this effort
- I'll turn over to Mark Menlove to talk about the Work Product
- Mark Menlove
 - Thank you
 - To start, we had your direction from our first meeting
 - One of the first things we agreed upon was that we needed a mission statement
 - We formed a group; they worked through many iterations and came up with the following
 - *Read Mission Statement*
 - It's noteworthy that the group worked on the Mission Statement over months
 - This was the first workgroup product and is an example of the approach we took to the whole process
 - Workgroup agreed we needed common goals that went beyond delisting and went to abundance
 - Adopted some of the Columbia Basin Partnership (CBP) goals
 - Along with that, we recognized that it will take consistent ongoing efforts to reach them, not just by Idaho
 - Also agreed that as good as these recommendations are, they are not going to achieve the goal we set out and is not a recovery plan. Is a suite of recommendations that we think will move the needle forward
 - Decided we needed some overarching principles
 - *Read overarching principles*
 - Finally, as we split into small groups to discuss recommendations, we looked at impact, new or ongoing action, and the likelihood of consensus
 - I'll turn it over to Aaron to talk about the recommendations
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Thank you
 - I'll talk about the third principle, consensus
 - This highlighted the challenge of many collaborative groups
 - Not all recommendations will receive consensus
 - Probably not a surprise that chief among these was breach
 - Was extensive discussion in the Workgroup on breach
 - This topic would require ongoing discussion among the region
 - We did come to consensus on recommendations that covered several categories
 - Many of them highlight the need to expand scope and scale of some activities

- A key takeaway from the report is the number of recommendations that point downstream
- Report includes recommendation that addresses this point specifically
- In summary, I'll quote the document – *Read portion of document*
- There is an urgency in the need to implement these recommendations
- I will pass it to Joe Oatman
- Joe Oatman
 - Thank you
 - We want abundant populations for present and future generation
 - We must go beyond current actions to restore populations
 - This report does not catalog all actions that can be taken but those that we could reach consensus on
 - Recognizes importance to tribes and treaty obligations
 - Focuses on policies and actions that addresses some sources of decline
 - It addresses the lower 4 Snake River dams and that they state should engage in regional processes to restore salmon to the region
 - You can rely on these recommendations for recovery actions and policy in regional forums
 - Was recognition that more conversations and collaboration are necessary, and more work must be done
 - We encourage the state to implement these recommendations as quickly as possible and to provide periodic updates on progress
 - Will likely be an ongoing dialogue
 - Encourage state to work with others to meet CBP goals
 - On behalf of the Workgroup would like to thank you for the opportunity to create and submit this report
 - Thank you for your time and that concludes the presentation of this report
- Governor Little
 - I don't know how you've done collaborative work by zoom
 - My best collaborative work has been on the land and together
 - Hopefully we'll be able to get back on the ground sooner rather than later
 - I do appreciate some of the collaborative 101 efforts like Mission and Goals
 - That's some administrative work that can be hard to get done but is extremely important
 - For those who did not get all priorities in the list, don't give up
 - Just because they didn't make in the report doesn't mean that they are not right or helpful
 - The fact you have a long list of issues that you considered is important
 - We are proud of the work that you've got done in 18 months
 - I'm sure future Idaho policy on Salmon and Steelhead will be better for your efforts
 - Would like to thank the State staff that has helped with this effort
 - I look at all issues through the lens of how we can make this a great place for our children to stay or come back
 - This issue definitely falls in that category

- We need abundant salmon and steelhead for all the reasons that this group has talked about
- At your first meeting I asked you to listen and engage and it is obvious you've done that
- I know that this was not an easy task, but you were picked because we knew you could do it
- The recommendations are definitely better than the no action or shouting across the room alternative
- You all have a better understanding of each other and your interests
- Given the complexity, you were still able to come up with consensus recommendations
- I'm confident that we are moving in the right direction
- There remains much to be done, especially at the regional level
- I am hopeful that these recommendations will inform conversations at that level
- The agency staff and I will review your recommendations and will need a little time
- But considering the Ocean conditions and timing issues we have; we definitely need to keep our foot on the gas
- You also know about the Columbia Basin Collaborative that we're participating in
- Will take many to solve this problem
- I'm confident that your recommendations will put Idaho on the right path
- Thank you all for all your dedication and civil debate you had on this issue and for stepping up
- Maybe we'll have a reunion someday on the bank of a river
- Thank you very much
- Katherine Himes
 - Thank you Governor Little
 - Are there any questions for the Governor?
 - You are correct that it is so much easier when we can do it in person
- Governor Little
 - While we're waiting, I've got some meetings this week with some people from new administration
 - Some changes will take place at some of the Federal Agencies
 - The bulk of people though will not change
 - The documents like the one you've prepared will help
 - I'm hoping that there is not a gap in implementation
- Justin Hayes
 - Thank you, Governor, for convening this group
 - One thing I'd like to flag that I'm particularly proud of
 - And it's that the Workgroup decided that what we wanted to accomplish is true abundance
 - Over the years we've lost sight of what used to be and have accepted some scarcity in salmon
 - I think it was a really important moment for the workgroup to decide what we are trying to achieve and that it went beyond the federal delisting levels

- We decided on abundance that allows people in Idaho to meaningfully interact with the species
- Would ask you to think about how you can help move the other states towards that goal
- Some of what the federal agencies are doing are below what we're trying to achieve here
- Could you talk on how you may be able to help move others towards that goal?
- Governor Little
 - In every good plan there is incremental steps in getting to the goal
 - I've been a big hairy audacious goal guy
 - Being able to walk across the tributary to red fish lake on the back of salmon is a good one
 - You've heard what is important to everyone on this workgroup
 - Every day the biologists, and water quality people, river operators, estuary operators, etc. are working
 - Those are all incremental steps to getting to achieve the big hairy audacious goal
 - I can't promise we'll get there quickly
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Governor, I figured it would be inappropriate if I didn't speak up considering the amount of speaking I've done
 - The last couple of times Sam has joined, I asked him can you point to anything that provides assurances to me and the other Outfitters and Guides that this will remain a priority and not lose steam?
 - Know it's a big question and any direction would be helpful
- Governor Little
 - I think that's fair
 - Part of it is the members of the workgroup recognize the magnitude of the problem
 - We all work together and go back to our constituents
 - Now we have an obligation to be acutely aware of this situation
 - At a minimum is reference to mission statement and goals
 - A big part is asset allocation
 - Need to address the next critical weak link in the chain
 - The best and worst thing about the salmon issue is there are many weak links
 - Some we have control over and some of them we don't
 - One promise I can give you is that these recommendations will be something that my office and agencies will all be aware of as we set those asset allocations
 - In Idaho we want clean water and good habitat and will help inform our conversations with other states and Tribes
- Richard Scully
 - We worked very hard to find solutions in Idaho and it was difficult because many of those solutions have been worked for years
 - I think we recognized that we send out a lot of good fish out of Idaho but not many of them come back
 - We recognized that many of the problems are downriver

- As you engage in regional dialogue, I hope you point the finger downstream a little and have them help out
- Could you speak to that?
- Governor Little
 - I don't think anyone downriver wants to kill salmon and they've had to make tough choices
 - As science develops and climate change and everything our understanding evolves
 - We need to remind them of the effects that it has on us
 - I've been spending about 75% of my time on Covid 19 and at one point didn't think that we would have such a vaccine right now
 - I think the critical issue is that they will hear us
 - Fundamentally the life cycle of these fish is such that we've all got to play our role in the system
 - A good friend of mine said collaboration is often a contact sport
 - I'll pledge to this group that we have not yet had contact collaboration
- Toby Wyatt
 - I was just wondering, after your team digests our report how long do you think before you can implement the recommendations
- Governor Little
 - I assume it's like other reports I've received. Some we'll be able to do tomorrow and some will take longer
 - If this was easy then you guys wouldn't have had to do all the work
 - We'll digest it and look at it individually and collectively
 - Could take it to Columbia River collaborative and Power Council
 - What we can implement right away, we will
 - Some of them we'll have to set up an implementation plan
 - If it requires more resources, we may have to work with congressional delegation
 - In some days, the window of opportunity to fully implement will come and we'll have them ready
- Scott Hauser
 - Thank you, Governor, for opportunity to sit on this group
 - As we developed the recommendations, funding comes up with every recommendation
 - We tried to not riddle the report with funding requests
 - Recognizing that the State is sitting on a record surplus
 - No question but a request
 - Given the surplus we have now and in determining how to allocate that, I would ask for recognition that reaching abundance will take an investment in money on the State's part
- Governor Little
 - The bigger issue is the value of this
 - I was on a different conversation on land board this morning and asked about Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - Generally, the agencies have basically gone in individually and said I need this for a specific purpose for a specific agency

- If we collectively say that we want to focus on moving the needle instead of competing, then funds are spent more efficiently
- I think having that collective effort will be a goal
- I'm very interested in proposal in some trading to solve some of these water issues
- I think that is a high priority for Idaho and a big part is land exchange
- Clean water is important, and part of the pressure comes from the increasing population
- Need to keep our foot in the door on federal funds and aggregate those funds to get biggest bang for our buck
- Roy Akins
 - Wanted to make sure that we expressed from small town Idaho how important this process has been for morale knowing that our leadership is focusing on this issue
 - It's been important that Idahoans have been able to provide either stories or info
 - This has been real morale boost to look at community members in the eye and say that we're working on this
- Governor Little
 - Thank you, we will try to live up to their expectations
- Katherine Himes
 - Thank you, Governor, for joining us today
 - We have a little work today to get you a final report
 - I think that Sam is still with us, if there are additional questions for the Governor's office, they can be directed to him
 - Any other questions or comments for Sam?
- Brett Dumas
 - As the state embarks on further discussion in other forums
 - What are areas that you think Idaho can gain traction and areas where there may be challenges?
- Sam Eaton
 - That's a good question
 - Mike will talk about some of the recent discussions with other states
 - Like anything of this magnitude early on, I approach everything with caution
 - Something like that four state collaborative there is a risk of it getting so big that it collapses under its own weight
 - This group has been able to navigate that
 - But that is a risk
 - I don't know if it's a pitfall, but getting traction and doing it quickly will be a big lift
 - Many of you worked on CBP and saw how difficult and how long that took
 - Managing expectations vs. reality on this larger regional group will be something that is difficult
 - I'll be surprised if there is a governor that is as prepared to enter those discussions as Governor Little and part of that is because of the work you've done along with that of the agencies

- I do think that there is a lot of momentum and traction around this issue to build on
 - Going to be a lot of interest in what the first topic that the CBC tackles
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Could you speak to the same question I asked the Governor?
- Sam
 - I don't think I have much to add but I do think we're better off than a year ago
 - What the needle move will be is yet to be determined
 - I think you all recognize the value of this group
 - I think that he was consistent with what I've said before in that you all have your interests and we will continue to interact on this issue
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Thanks Sam
 - I do think you responded well and appreciate your answer
- Richard Scully
 - Thinking about other groups, that Hatfield report where they were assigned to address the salmon problem, Governor Roberts had one, the Power Council was formed, and we all thought that would help salmon and they are all listed
 - As Idaho goes into the CBC hopefully that history doesn't just get rehashed and we can look at measures that haven't been taken yet
- Sam
 - Thanks Richard
 - You bring up some good points and some things that I wasn't around for
 - Mike and I used to work together at OSC and have been around the issues for about 8 years and I don't think that there has been this much momentum on this issue at the state and federal level
 - That's a good point to not spin our wheels again but I do think that we have a lot of good momentum right now
- Katherine Himes
 - If no more questions for Sam, we'll turn to the report
 - Brian will give us a summary of the changes
 - Thankyou Sam for staying with us and answering those questions
- Mike Edmondson
 - Yes, thank you Sam and to Emily Callahan as well

Report

- Brian Brooks
 - *Put draft report on screen*
 - I'll preface this, I'm not sure the best way to go through this
 - We took comments from 11 or 12 folks and we put almost all of them into the report
 - The ones we didn't, was because of redundancy
 - Really didn't want to get to a point of deciding whose comments came in or got left out so really worked to incorporate all comments
 - Hope that because of that, that there is a sense of ownership by all the Workgroup
 - Paul, Stacey, Joe, and I went through this on Friday, so pretty new to us as well

- *Began scrolling through the changes*
- There was a substantial portion added on the Tribal perspective and I will ask someone from that group to talk about that
- Joe Oatman
 - As we discussed at our last workgroup meeting, there was some interests in having some info on the tribal perspective and the importance of salmon and steelhead to tribal communities
 - Chad, Scott and I submitted this to the small group
 - Part of this wanted to recognize how important fish are to tribes and recognize the impacts of the decline into the state they are in today and the difficulties that creates to tribal lifestyle
 - Includes a recognition of the 5 tribes in the state and that we all have our areas and relationship to fish
 - Hopefully this info adds value to the report
 - While this is a general description, there is some additional specific tribal information that we're looking to include
 - I'll stop there and see if anyone else wants to comment or have questions
- Chad Colter
 - Thank you, Joe, for getting this moving
 - The difficulty in this is that we all represent our own tribes and don't want to speak for others but we though a general statement could prioritize the need for salmon and how close we are to the salmon in our culture
 - Thank you, Joe, for pulling a lot of this language together
 - As Joe said, there will be some additional pieces that were intended to go in the appendix that are tribal specific
 - I think all the tribes in Idaho support anadromy in Idaho because it supported us at one time
- Scott Hauser
 - I would just echo what Chad said, Joe was very active and put the strawman together
 - We went back and forth many times
 - Tried to defer to Chad and Joe as tribal members.
 - I have a little section, about 3 paragraphs, that speaks about the 4 Upper Snake River Tribes (USRT) and the importance to salmon to them
 - Thank Chad and Joe for helping put this together
- Brian Brooks
 - I will slowly go through this and it may be best that people talk about their proposed changes if they want
 - May be easiest for people to also look on their own to make sure we didn't change any intent as we worked the language in
 - Overall, we thought that the comments were good and not inflammatory
 - Still need some citations
 - Paul, Stacey, Joe would you like to add anything?
- Paul Arrington
 - I don't have anything to add but would like to reiterate gratitude for comments provided

- We appreciate your efforts
- Brian Brooks
 - Now might be a great time if anyone has any questions on the changes, to bring those up
- David Doeringsfeld
 - On the Hydro section, there is a sentence waiting to be cited on timing
 - I'm just looking for that to be cited somewhere because info I've seen is about 2 weeks
 - If we can cite it then keep it but if not, then I think we need to take it out
- Brian Brooks
 - I think that was in a presentation by Jim Fredricks, but we agreed that we would like to find a specific source
 - I don't want anything in there we can't cite to
- Mike Edmondson
 - Best cite for that may be Fish Passage center report
- Jim Fredricks
 - To clarify, I think someone conflated water transit time with smolt migration time
 - That was a water transit time and need to fix the way that is worded
- Brian Brooks
 - We trust the science
- Merrill Beyeler
 - On the Habitat part we talked about cooling water in summer and the icing in the winter
 - Looking at that, there are two types of icing that could be covered, frazzle and anchor. Is the language too broad there?
 - Mike what are your thoughts?
- Mike Edmondson
 - Riparian is part of it and channel is another part and ground water is another aspect
 - I can provide some suggested edits there if necessary, it'd be easy
- Brian Brooks
 - It's great that we're surrounded by such smart people
 - Good catch Merrill
- Kira Finkler
 - Since I can't see the screen, what you're scrolling through is what Paul sent out Friday evening?
- Brian Brooks
 - Yes, it is
- Justin Hayes
 - On page 1 of this there is some redline text
 - It is almost correct, but we are proposing some minor changes to Idaho law in regard to blocked area so may need to be changed
- Brian Brooks
 - We talked about this for a while and I think we landed on that we could leave it in for now
- Paul Arrington

- My question for Justin is that I don't think that anything in the blocked area calls for any changes to Idaho law so what are you referencing there?
- Justin Hayes
 - My understanding was that the language was a proposed change to existing state language
- John Simpson
 - I think I was the origin as some of this. As Paul was alluding to, if Justin is referring to the change in Idaho Blocked policy, I recognize that as more of a clarification than a change
 - Just recognizing that the policy used to only be applicable to Hells Canyon and now applies to all areas and this phrase deals with Idaho Law and not policy
- Justin Hayes
 - Ok, maybe it is not an inconsistency like I thought
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I thought that most of the edits were uncontroversial and this one seemed to be the only one that had some substance to it
 - I'm not against it but John, could you speak to what you think this adds to the report?
- John Simpson
 - I would say I don't think it's even an addition. I think that it is more of a clarification. I haven't seen any recommendations that looked to change a law
 - We've had some that had phrases like "consistent with Idaho law" or others that indicated we weren't looking to change Idaho law with this report
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Thanks, John, for the clarification
- Brian Brooks
 - I'll continue the conversation on how we dealt with some of the comments we asked whether it would add anything to the report
 - John, would you have any heartburn if the statement is not in there
- John Simpson
 - In my mind, someone might ask this question
 - Legislators may look at this and ask if we are asking them to do anything as far as changing the law
 - This provides something to point to show that it is not proposing change to existing Idaho law and I think that's helpful moving forward
- Brian Brooks
 - Ok thank you, for that clarification
 - Any other questions
- Justin Hayes
 - I had some other questions
 - On page 5, in the harvest section there was a statement in there recognizing wild harvest downstream and has been replaced with other language that seems more confusing. It still means the same thing, right?
- Joe Oatman
 - When I looked at this section, I looked at some previous versions and I made the edits reflected on the screen

- When I read the sentence and the sentence above, I thought that the first sentence addressed it
- Yes, they do harvest wild populations and I thought that it was already covered
- There are also wild populations harvested in Idaho so to address that I included the language that is in there now
- While that may be language that I'm familiar with as a harvest manager, I recognize that it may not be as familiar to others
- But that was my intent
- Justin Hayes
 - Thanks for the explanation Joe
 - Your knowledge on this is much higher than mine so thank you
- Brian Brooks
 - Does this address the incidental impact and downstream non-tribal harvest?
- Joe Oatman
 - When you read the paragraph as a whole, it talks about the whole picture and how the impacts are covered in the biological opinions and harvest rates/impacts that can occur on ESA listed fish
 - Given that this paragraph is meant to address downstream and in state fisheries and that they are all implemented consistent with state or tribal harvest plan
- Brian Brooks
 - Thank Joe
 - Anybody else?
- Mark Menlove
 - Thank you to the group that put all of this together
 - It is an impressive result that seems fair and thorough and really appreciate all the work you put into it
- Brian Brooks
 - Thankyou and we really appreciate all the comments we received. We couldn't have done it without that work
- Richard Scully
 - Yes, thank you to this group. I submitted two sets of comments and really appreciate it.
- Brian Brooks
 - All right, anyone else?
- Paul Arrington
 - Sorry I dropped off when discussing the law part?
- Brian Brooks
 - We decided to keep it.
 - Now that we're towards the bottom there is a goals and timeline section, we should discuss
 - This is a recommendation, but these phrases are weaved in throughout the whole document and we weren't sure this was a recommendation itself
 - Does this belong in the conclusion or have we said this enough in the report?
- Paul Arrington

- I don't remember who the comment came from, but the question was this really isn't a recommendation as it is just a statement, would it be better as a conclusion or elsewhere?
 - There really isn't a recommendation like in our other ones. It's different
- Brian Brooks
 - My opinion is still that this sentiment is weaved throughout the document and is reflected in the conclusion
 - My motion would be to strike this
- Brett Dumas
 - I think that striking this or putting it in a call out box would be appropriate to highlight a theme
- Merrill Beyeler
 - I would agree that it's not a policy but could be in a callout box in the conclusion
- Brett Dumas
 - I made a small suggestion to wild harvest in chat that you may look at
- Richard Scully
 - I think that what Joe was saying earlier is that the take of wild salmon and steelhead in Idaho is the incidental take
 - As we're fishing for hatchery fish, we are killing some wild fish. I think that was what Joe was referring to as far as impact, is that right Joe?
- Joe Oatman
 - Yeah, there are different approaches in implementing fisheries on different runs
 - Spring summer chinook
 - Fall chinook given that 2/3 of run is unmarked it is more of a directed type of fishery
 - My effort here was to have language to apply to all situations
 - Think that this language would apply to both types of fisheries
 - I do think that Brett's addition of *largely* would be a fair term to include and would be ok with that
- Chad Colter
 - I would too
 - Our fisheries are largely supported by hatchery production
 - We focus in some areas on wild fish, but it is in conservative numbers based on Tribal plan
 - Having said that, the majority of our larger successful fisheries are generally a product of hatchery production
- Brian Brooks
 - Ok, any further discussion on that?
 - I hear none
 - Is there any other comment or issues with report body?
 - In the conclusion, we did change the final bullet points to start with action words. Think it makes it more consistent and maybe even stronger
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Think it looks great
 - With that, having gone through the last editions, we're there right?
- Katherine Himes

- That's what I'm gleaning from the conversation
- Not hearing much opposition to language
- We are scheduled for break
- Before we break can we confirm that everyone is comfortable with the changes in this report
- Scott Hauser
 - This is something incredibly minor
 - On page 17 on section G on CRSO ROD
 - There have been several groups that has filed notice of intents
 - Should we change "monitor implementation" to "monitor status"
- Brian Brooks
 - Any discussion on that?
- Merrill Beyeler
 - I think that's a good catch because things could change
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I see no harm in it
- Mark Menlove
 - Would it be status and implementation or just status
- Richard Scully
 - I think implementation and status
- Aaron Lieberman
 - It's an either or isn't it
- Richard Scully
 - Well you could implement it, but status could change
- Scott Hauser
 - Sorry that I started the nitpicking. But given the uncertainty we could change the wording
- Paul Arrington
 - I think what we've changed it to captures that as well
- Scott Hauser
 - Well I think it reads that it's going to get implemented then check the status
 - Could change to and/or like Aaron suggested
- Brian Brooks
 - *Made change*
 - Any thoughts on this addition
- Richard Scully
 - I think its fine. It's just the idea that we want to know what's going on with the ROD
- Katherine Himes
 - Thank you, small group, for working on this process and the whole Workgroup for working through those track changes.
 - We'll break and then get into appendices

Break

Report Continued

- Katherine Himes

- We're going to turn our attention to the appendices
- There are some questions on A B C and if there is going to be a D and what exactly is going in each
- A is supposed to be the record and direct people to the OSC website for the Agendas, meeting notes, Public comments, etc.
- Is that still the intent of this group?
- Seems to be some head nodding and a lot of silence so I think that captures what you want to do
- Next question is on Appendix B
- The B draft right now has policy recommendations is just language like paragraphs that captures non-consensus policy recommendation
- One comment suggested that to include the excel sheet that includes more of the work from the small groups
- One issue would be that that excel sheet stopped being updated when the small group ceased to meet
- Also, the excel captures some of the ideas that would go in C
- Just need to get a clear idea of where the workgroup wants to go with the appendices
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Paul had some suggestions in response to your last document
 - I think that one way around the potential hurdle of the excel sheet is to add it and to add in some language describing other material and could add in final versions
 - Beyond the excel sheet, were there any that were subsumed into the report or considered in unique form that we did not reach consensus on and then we cover both bases, right?
- Katherine Himes
 - Are you saying that we would use the excel sheet and just cover anything that was missing with additional language?
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I'm not sure, not seeing the last version of the excel sheet but I think everything would be covered
- Paul Arrington
 - In my mind the appendix can be the record that we have, include a link to the website
 - The power point already has all of the potential ideas we started with
 - The excel sheet has the efforts of our small groups
 - And the final report has where we ended up and that covers all of the record
 - Then you just have appendix A that covers everything
 - Maybe I'm wrong but I think we're way overthinking this
 - If we have those things, we cover all the things we've talked about putting in the appendices
- Katherine Himes
 - I'll add one thing which is the specific project examples and details
 - Some of our past meetings we talked about moving those into the appendices, would those be covered?
- Paul Arrington

- I think all of those details are captured in one of the areas of the spreadsheet, right?
 - I think they're there but maybe I could be wrong
 - Think those bullets we discussed would be captured in that spreadsheet
- Katherine Himes
 - I think the answer is yes unless there was a new idea after the small groups ceased to meet and then that new idea was removed.
- Paul Arrington
 - I know there were a few recommendations that were being worked on even as recently as the last meeting, but those ones didn't go through the small group process, but the original bones are in that original power point and the final is reflected in the report
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I think Paul's approach of combining them is fine
 - I think that in terms of the things we don't know about, I think that they exist in the last iteration of the report with track changes
 - I think there we would find the specific things that we decided to cut out and put in the appendix or last sections that Paul enumerated
- Katherine Himes
 - Those have been pulled and are in the Appendix C that I sent out last Thursday
- Paul Arrington
 - So, my question to the group, if we were to do that would folks feel comfortable that the information that they wanted captured in the appendix is there?
 - That's the input we need to hear especially if anyone is not comfortable with that
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I agree Paul and the only other distinction I would make is that anything in that Appendix C that is specific information or project should be put somewhere visible, so you don't have to dig for them
 - I don't think that would be complicated
 - A would be everything Paul described, and B would be specific projects and info
- Katherine Himes
 - On the process side of things, when do we think that would be ready for review?
- Paul Arrington
 - What else is there to review?
 - What is in appendix C would remain separate with specific things and everything else would be in Appendix A
 - If folks are comfortable with that process, then I don't think there's much more to comment on
 - I think we've had opportunity to comment on that
- Katherine Himes
 - I don't know that everyone has had a chance to review it all and not sure if title matches the content
 - Also, not sure that the content is quite what you want, some of it is paragraph
- Scott Hauser
 - I agree with Paul on some of this
 - I have not looked at Appendix C until now, my apologies

- Chad gave a presentation and talked about some valuable projects and Nez Perce projects, or put and take fisheries
 - There seems to be some valuable projects that are not reflected in here
 - It seems to become so difficult to see what gets in and what doesn't get in
- Paul Arrington
 - That takes me back to my original thought that you just include it all in the Appendix A and not in a separate document
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Maybe folks that championed those specific projects could provide some input here since one of the ideas is to just have it in appendix A as opposed to specifically being called out
 - This would be the time to weigh into the appendix conversation
- Toby Wyatt
 - I would think that we wouldn't want to bury it and would like it to be visible
 - Also have an additional thing I'd like to add to appendix C
 - Not overly familiar with the spreadsheet but don't want to bury it and want it to be seen
- Richard Scully
 - On the predation points I've made
 - Instead of just having some general statements on predation, calling out some specific hot spots would be helpful, and I would like them to see
- Aaron Lieberman
 - How about everything that Appendix A is everything that Paul said, and Appendix B is just valuable projects of note
 - And then if we want to separate it, there could be an appendix C that is anything that is not a specific project proposal and is just additional information or valuable info that got pulled out
- Toby Wyatt
 - Makes sense to me
 - An example of something that I thought would fit in an appendix and maybe you can help me figure out where it goes?
 - I would like to see Idaho provide funding for predator removal tournaments to groups
 - So, like a small mouth bass catch and keep tournament
 - Would like to see Idaho use the tool they have which is anglers
 - Which appendix would that go into?
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I think that would go in appendix C but would ask whether we would be comfortable taking and weighing additional projects at this point
- Representative Wood
 - Well then what do we call valuable projects and who gets to make that call?
 - I like Paul's idea of including in appendix A
 - I would be cautious about creating a list
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Representative Wood, those are some good points

- I think that the projects we're talking about were the ones that were discussed earlier where they were removed from specific reference in the body with the idea that it could go in the appendix
- Katherine Himes
 - I was just looking at first two entries in appendix C and I went back to the excel document and that language is in there
 - So, for Paul's proposal, if we take that excel sheet on the OSC website, it would include that info if the group wants to do that
 - Still need to decide what we want to do with specific projects and the rest
- Justin Hayes
 - I think that representative Wood and Paul make good points
 - I don't think this workgroup has focused enough on how to value specific projects over others and if we start at this stage that we may just get into a race to include projects
 - I think we want to be pretty careful at assigning new import to things that weren't considered before
 - I advocate for one uber appendix that captures the record
- Katherine Himes
 - Seeing some thumbs up
 - What I'm hearing is that we would just have a single appendix and all of the referenced material would be on OSC website, including a better looking version of the excel sheet and I would make sure that what is currently in Appendix C would be captured in the excel sheet
- Paul Arrington
 - The only caveat I would add is that I would turn to Joe or Scott on the tribal perspective language they've been working on to include in an appendix
 - Outside of that, I think everything you've said is right
- Katherine Himes
 - Could have a second appendix or just one if you want the tribal perspectives to be on the website as well
 - Any thoughts on which direction to go there
- Justin Hayes
 - I could agree with that, I didn't mean to exclude that in my discussion
- David Doeringsfeld
 - I would suggest whatever Joe, Chad, and Scott are comfortable with
 - I'd be good with whatever their decision is
- Joe Oatman
 - I can support having that in just the one appendix
- Scott Hauser
 - I'm fine with that as well
 - I know the Nez Perce and ShoBan language is incredibly important and I'll defer to them
- Katherine Himes
 - So, we need to modify text into appendix A
 - So, Brian, Paul, Stacey, Joe are you ok working that text to make sure that it includes everything that is going on the Website?

- Paul Arrington
 - Yeah, I'm fine with that. You mean the text in the report describing the Appendix?
- Katherine Himes
 - Yes
 - Any concerns with that approach?
 - Hearing none we will move to next steps
- David Doeringsfeld
 - For the special projects in C that will now go to A, are we in agreement with everything listed as projects in C that I don't remember the group saying we want this
 - I don't want to suggest we open up C and discuss every one but there is one I'm particularly concerned with
- Katherine Himes
 - So, I'm going to take that Appendix C file and compare it to the excel sheet to make sure no language is long
 - Those projects will just be included in the discussions as they were discussed by the small groups
 - Does that work?
 - This is open and is open to any thoughts or questions
- David Doeringsfeld
 - Ok

Next Steps

- Katherine Himes
 - Ok next steps
 - Justin could you speak to the copy editing process
- Justin Hayes
 - I just shipped some things to Brian; mostly some grammatical errors from our copy editing
 - I think the document will come back to ICL and then go to the graphic design team and make the report visually appealing
 - They will not work on the appendix, way too much stuff there
 - I think that there will be an effort to reach out to get things like photos that may fit well
 - It may increase the length a little bit by including photos and graphs
 - May be a need to decide on what graphic content we want
 - I think we could have a draft out by mid next week for review
 - I don't know what our final deadline is, do we have one?
- Katherine Himes
 - You have until the 31st and I think it is a matter of the Workgroups ability to look at the beautified version of the report
- Justin Hayes
 - One request I have, if anyone would like to see logos on a back page, please send them in
 - It's better to do it that way
 - Would ask that you send it to Katherine and then to us

- Katherine Himes
 - Also question of whether the logos are needed or if it should just reflect the entire group
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I have no feeling on logos
- *Group agreed no logos*
- Justin Hayes
 - That's great to not have them, it's a lot of work to get them
- Scott Hauser
 - On the photo issues, are you looking to make this thing real fancy and have a lot of photos or minimal photos, not quite sure what you're looking for
- Justin Hayes
 - I have not seen anything from the graphics team, but my thoughts are that they are not meaning to make it excessively long, but just pleasing to the eye
 - I have no idea what the group may want
 - Would be ok with no graphics or photos cause then our job gets a lot easier
- Katherine Himes
 - It's really up to the workgroup on what you want to do, there are no requirements
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I think the easy route is that Justin tells us what pretty pictures he wants, and we supply them
 - Or no photos
- Justin Hayes
 - If we go the no photo route can we discuss whether we want to include graphs still
 - There was discussion on last meeting and think they would be helpful
 - If someone has those graphs and could send them, that would be helpful
- David Doeringsfeld
 - I would even say a graph showing the decline of salmon I would like it to show from like 1890 to present rather than 1970 to present
- Richard Scully
 - I think going back to 1950s is ok if you go back too far, they had the wheels and nets and such that really upped the harvest rate
 - I think going back to 50s or 60s is far enough back to show the trends
- David Doeringsfeld
 - I would disagree and say that we decimated runs by 1900 or 1910 so it's a different historical perspective
- Aaron Lieberman
 - This could go deep. We coalesced around some graphs and specifically mentioned Jim Fredricks presentation and I have it pulled up
 - It looks like most of them go back to the 60s
- Jim Fredricks
 - You are correct, that goes back to when we started having counts on the dams
 - That's was my takeaway from the last meeting that you wanted to add some of those graphs with updates from the last couple years of data
- Aaron Lieberman

- Ok that was my recollection too
- Are we ok continuing with the agreement that we had last time, or do we need to audible?
- David Doeringsfeld
 - If there was agreement last time, I won't change that
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I don't want to devolve into a debate about graphs and representative data if our effort is to just give a snapshot of the data
- David Doeringsfeld
 - I'm ok with whatever Jim comes up with
- Justin Hayes
 - Thanks for this, I think it will give us a little more direction
 - We'll get a draft back to the group for people's review
 - And I'll coordinate with whoever I'm supposed to coordinate with for that
- Katherine Himes
 - I think the group should make the decision now of who Justin should coordinate with
- Paul Arrington
 - While I don't think I want that, I don't think we can get every person's response within the deadline so it may be the most productive way to get to the final product, to have it go to the small group
- Jim Fredricks
 - Justin, I will get those graphics to you and then extract myself from it
- Katherine Himes
 - So, is the workgroup comfortable with the small group for the review process?
 - I see thumbs up
- Aaron Lieberman
 - I'm comfortable and if you need any help, let me know
- Paul Arrington
 - We're talking about the interim, everyone will get to see the final product
- Katherine Himes
 - Justin do you have enough info for next steps
- Justin Hayes
 - Think we do, thank you
- Katherine Himes
 - We are at 4 and we included time for WG members to share perspectives, so I'll turn this over to Mike
 - Each WG member has up to 90 seconds

Workgroup Member reflections

- Mike Edmondson
 - We didn't take time to talk about the CBP and instead of taking the time now I will email the group some documents
 - We continue to work very hard to get this off the ground
 - It's a monumental lift
 - We've identified 38 people across the basin to use as a sounding board
 - Looking to do workshop at end of January and everyone will be invited

- If there are no questions, we'll move on
- Paul Arrington
 - I'll be brief
 - I appreciate these processes. I'm attorney by trade and early on in my practice a mentor said the best way to understand your position is to understand the position of others
 - I've gotten a lot out of it but probably mostly a greater understanding of the impacts to the small communities
 - I really appreciate Roy and Toby and others helping me understand how this affects communities
 - I've appreciated the opportunity to work and learn from all of you
- Rep Wood
 - Thank the Governor for allowing the Legislature to participate and for the Speaker for choosing me
 - Think it was an excellent process and I've learned a lot
 - Like Paul, I've learned about other's perspectives
 - I'll always remember Merrill's point when he said that he never has time to go fishing but if he did, he would want the fishing to be good
 - We all want the same thing, and all have different ideas of how to get there
 - I think we actually did come together and see other's perspectives
 - Thank you everyone
- Brian Brooks
 - Thank you, Governor, for opportunity to serve on Workgroup and recognize the value that these fish have to the river system, the communities, and people
 - It was fascinating to me to have a real perspective change especially talking with the tribes to find out that these fish are actually worshipped.
 - I've had members reach out to me and ask if this will really change things
 - Maybe it's a hopeful message but I think that there is strong momentum on this issue
 - Hopefully 20 years from now these will be seen as first steps to making history
 - That's the message I'm going to keep hammering and will hold you to it as well
 - Thanks everybody
- Brett Dumas
 - First, I appreciate the opportunity to get to know you all and learn your perspectives
 - I love fishing
 - I work in natural resources but don't have fishing background
 - Have learned a lot and a lot of that came from you all so thank you
 - I'm a practical person and not a detail person and sometimes I wanted to pull my hair out, but I appreciate you who can dive into the details and appreciate the commitment and passion that you bring to it
 - I did not realize how big and impactful ocean conditions are and it scares the hell out of me
 - I think we could fix a lot of things if the ocean was better
 - Because of that I focused on resiliency because we can't fix the ocean

- I know that some of you were frustrated with my focus on hatcheries, but I think there are tools there to increase our resiliency
- I was also amazed about how much predation occurs in the lower river and hope it's something we get a handle on
- I'm glad it's over but I'll miss talking with you guys on a regular basis
- Thank you
- Will Hart
 - Thank you, Katherine, Mike, and Governor,
 - I think that despite my youthful glow, I think I've spent 24 years on the battle line on the issue
 - The last 18 months have been the first time that I feel really proud of leading my organization down a path where it wasn't just fight fight fight but was also discussed
 - Made some friendships and have been able to talk to people to reach resolution on issues
 - Think we have a good production and hope we'll remember this experience and try to build on it
- Mark Menlove
 - I was thinking back to first meeting when we shared our perspective and mine was of hope and that we had recoverable populations
 - I think that while we acknowledge that our report is not a recovery plan but the fact that we stuck together gives me hope
 - That first meeting I was here to listen and learn and to recover fish and I have listened and learned and built friendships that will help carry that work forward
 - Even though we're concluding I intend to continue to reach out
 - I appreciate this group has listened to public comment
 - As you've seen, I have a son who is very passionate about these issues and that is why I'm here
 - Thank you and I'm grateful to be a part of this
- Joe Oatman
 - Thank you, I appreciate being on the Workgroup
 - This has been a constructive process
 - We've learned a lot from others and have shared a lot as well
 - The tribe implements a large salmon and steelhead program to promote our wellbeing
 - To us it has been 28 years since listing and nearly 70 years since they were healthy and harvestable
 - Tribe has emphasized need to restore river by breaching lower Snake dams among other things
 - Rest assured that the tribe is committed to providing leadership in any way we can
 - Thank you for the opportunity to share these comments
- Toby Wyatt
 - I was extremely honored to be on this group and think the contacts I made will follow me for a lifetime
 - Thought my purpose was to teach people to fish but now know that part of my purpose is to teach purpose about fish

- I have learned so much from this process
- I thought it was very educational for me and I look forward to educating the people
- I get questions on this all the time and I know so much more now to inform people
- Have watched these fish decline for 30 years and felt like Idaho was doing nothing and now I can say Idaho is doing something
- Would love to see us get that SAR up to a 4 to 6 level and this is a good start
- Would like to thank Governor, OSC and everyone involved
- Chad Colter
 - Thank you all. I've learned a lot from everyone
 - I've always thought that this group is the foundation of a group that should continue on and explore our differences
 - I really appreciate everyone's effort to come together and make something of this
 - This Workgroup comes at a critical time for this iconic species
 - I personally believe that people in prehistoric Idaho had fish as a major part of their diet
 - Now the Tribes just ingest ceremonial amounts of salmon
 - Historical estimates was 700 pounds per person per year and now it is about 1.5 pounds
 - Commercial harvest was an early issue but really it's been the contemporary development of the hydro system that has affected the ability of fish to return
 - One of our conclusions that the tribes have drawn is that we will be unable to meet our conservation goals under the current hydro system
 - To tie up, I believe there was a common interest that brought us together and think that if we don't do something now, the next stop may not be the upgrade we were seeking but could be a move from threatened to endangered
 - Thanks again folks
- Stacey Satterlee
 - I love Idaho. I grew up hunting and fishing and I think I may have learned the most on this group
 - My focus to this point has been agriculture
 - I think the most valuable takeaways is the knowledge base but also the friendships
 - It has been an honor to work with all of you here
 - I think it's a good reminder that it is easy to paint people as other, but we do really want all the same things
 - We have learned some wild things
 - I hope our paths continue to cross thank you
- Scott Hauser
 - Looking back at my opening remarks from last year and really wanted to focus on blocked areas
 - Brett and I had inside joke that that every time Russ Thurrow was mentioned we could take a shot
 - I appreciate we come from different backgrounds and interests and I appreciate the help in developing the blocked areas policy in our report

- One of the best things outside of the Workgroup was the dinner that Stacey put together from grain growers, and Merrill I owe you a trip to Duck Valley
- Aaron Lieberman
 - It would be easy if not fair, and cathartic if not mature to bemoan the limits of the recommendations and their attendant impacts toward achieving abundance.
 - As the report itself notes, the policy recommendations included in it do not constitute a viable plan for recovery of these fish in Idaho—certainly not to the healthy and harvestable levels desired by fishing outfitters and guides, the Tribes, and Idahoans broadly.
 - As we have discussed and as is acknowledged in the report, most of the actions and policies recommended have or are already being done, with our recommendations building on those ongoing actions in hopes that increased urgency, funding, capacity, etc., might meaningfully move the proverbial needle of their aggregate impacts toward recovery.
 - These considerations have been difficult for me to grapple with, in terms of the sense of obligation I have as a member of this workgroup relative to our charge as well as and especially in terms of those I represent.
 - I represent an industry and constituency that has long, and increasingly, suffered the impacts and born the burdens associated with the decline of Idaho stocks of salmon and steelhead—in their businesses as well as their communities—economically, culturally and socially.
 - We are not whole. The decline of these fish has made us ‘unwhole.’ And we are not alone, the tribes have been made and are unwhole. Rural communities across Idaho have been made unwhole.
 - On an organizational level, IOGA has supported the retirement of the lower four snake river dams, with accompanying investment in affected communities and interests, as the single-most viable path toward becoming whole—a recommendation which we could not reach consensus on.
 - However, the better angels of my nature and intellect say that this process has been a meaningful and constructive process. It has underscored what might always have been plain but is more often lost in other, broader discussion around Salmon & Steelhead Recovery, that is: that we are all in this together, that any meaningful solutions toward recovery of these fish in Idaho is one we must all be part of and work together to realize.
 - Over the course of some 16 meetings, 50 presentations and 16 hours of verbal public comment, and much more discussion besides—I think we and those we represent have all benefitted from working together and gained a better understanding of our respective interests, impacts and perspectives. I certainly have.
 - I am grateful to have gotten to know you all, to have benefitted from your insight and passions, and despite where we disagree or diverge, I am heartened by what this process has represented and fostered in our state on behalf of our fish all of us who would see them not just survive but restored.
 - There is more to be done. That is clear, and we all know it. The point now is not to give in to cynicism or apathy but to push forward and do the hard things that need doing.

- I'll end this reflection with the quote I offered in one of our first meetings.
- First this, I am tired; I am true of heart. This, too: you are tired; you are true of heart.
- Thanks to you all.
- Richard Scully
 - I've enjoyed working with this group
 - We were asked to find solutions in Idaho, but I don't think they exist
 - Problems are downriver and, in the ocean,
 - State has much perfect habitat
 - These policies will not recover fish on their own
 - The longer species remain at low levels the more likely they will go extinct
 - To achieve the WG goal we need 127,000 returning Chinook
- Kira Finkler
 - Thank you, Governor and his staff, for bringing us together
 - Thank you, Mike, and OSC, and SMEs, and McClure center
 - Thank you, colleagues, especially Eric Crawford and TU's volunteers
 - Thank you, Workgroup members, for listening to me and teaching me
 - We all agree that we want abundant populations
 - I will never forget the public comments that we heard and read,
 - As the report states, it is not a recovery plan and I look forward to continuing to work with you on this issue
- David Doeringsfeld
 - Really appreciate being part of this group
 - Have a very diverse group and took us a while to learn how to dance together but we did
 - I'm proud of the report we put together
 - I have learned a lot, especially from Tribal and conservation friends
 - I'm optimistic about the future
 - I think the attitude and commitment in northwest shows that people are committed to abundance
 - Hopefully that follows through to Columbia Basin Collaborative
- Roy Akins
 - This Idaho process by bringing together diverse parties to the tables to have discussions and I am confident in the benefits of our policies and am proud of the way we achieved them
 - I think some of the best work was the relationships built and barriers dismantled
 - This will help small river communities
 - Thank you
- John Simpson
 - Thank you everyone
 - Have learned a lot from Workgroup members
 - What I've learned from the process is that if there is going to be a solution it has to come from Idaho
 - I see this as a starting point, not an ending point
 - Thank you
- Justin Hayes

- As I mentioned to Governor, I think one of the real important things we did was agree that we're trying to achieve abundance
- No one argued that the interests of someone else was not as important as their own
- I think that is important
- Many of us have said that more work needs to be done
- I'm looking forward to working with you and others across the region to achieve these goals and make people whole
- Some have not been whole for generations
- Thank you, Governor
- This has been important step but there is more to do
- Senator Johnson
 - From one of your part time members, I've really enjoyed listening and have learned a lot from all of you
 - I really have appreciated Joe Oatman and his perspectives
 - I am glad as the WG we recognize we need to go beyond current efforts
 - I believe that personally and would like to work on that in my legislative duties
 - May not get us to recovery but these are steps that we can take pride in
 - I think the recommendations we've prepared are practical, and socially acceptable
 - I think we need to stress the overall value of these recommendations to decision makers and society
 - We are all in this together and it will take all of us to reach our goals
 - I'm here to work on this in the future
 - Thank you
- Merrill Beyeler
 - For me this has been a great experience to be with new folks and learn and work to recovery
 - Have a little confession
 - I remember back to about 1991 going to a USFS meeting and topic was what impact a ranch would have on salmon
 - I remember going and making a comment saying that the only way our ranch is if a salmon learned how to carry a c
 - That same rancher connected that tributary to the Lemhi
 - Change comes one person and one thing at a time
 - I think that this process sets the stage for change
 - One poem
 - There is a certain attachment to the land that comes to those who work and play.....
 - It's the simple reflection at the end of the day with the setting of the sun and job well done
 - I think this a job well done and will provide opportunity for smiles into the future
- Mike Edmondson
 - I would like to propose something
 - We have a small token for you guys and will mail them to you
 - I propose we schedule a mid-January 1 hour Zoom call and open our packages together and catch up together

- I'll coordinate that
- We have been supported massively by many people and I want to run down my list
 - Mitch Cutter, Scott Ki, ICL graphics team
 - TU folks that have helps
 - Toby Wyatt
 - Crystal Callahan
 - John Richards
 - Alli Olson
 - Lytle Denny
 - Kari Kostka
 - Mark Davidson
 - Scott Pugrud
 - Jim Fredricks
 - Lance Hebdon
 - Sam Eaton
 - Emily Callihan
 - Our Congressionals
 - Some of our members of the public
- Katherine Himes
 - Thank you to all the workgroup members for sharing your reflections
 - You covered so much of the essence of collaborative processes
 - You stayed at the table, that does not happen for every process
 - It's tougher still that we are all on a screen
 - I commend you all for seeing this through to the end
 - Have had the privilege of seeing your professional and personal relationships grow
 - Also want to applaud your hard work. This was no easy lift and its hard. Not easy to see everyone's perspective around the table
 - It has been an honor to be part of this process
 - I grew up fishing in Midwest, not for salmon but I do care about fish
 - I used to live at the other end of the journey the salmon take, and it's amazing to see both sides
 - Honor to work with you and work with the fish
- Mike Edmondson
 - Couple of comments I like to share
 - A lot of what we do in science is technical, but you guys put a face on it and embody how it affects people in real life
 - I want to commend you with how you handled the pandemic
 - Want to also commend all of the hard work you put in outside the meetings
 - Also commend your commitment and professionalism. You worked out your differences
 - You have tackled one of the most complicated topics I've seen
 - You came together over 18 months and got a lot done
 - We further this conversation in Idaho because we can talk to each other and you have all done that and I thank you for that.

Adjourned 4:55 pm