

PIT Tag Steering Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

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09:00 – 13:00

Prepared for:

Columbia Basin PIT Tag Steering Committee



PIT Tag Information Systems
Columbia Basin | ptagis.org

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1. ATTENDEES

Joe Zydlewski, Charles Morrill, Ann Setter, Ed Buettner, Carter Stein, Dave Marvin.

2. REVIEW 2003 SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

- Re: PTOC replace with PTAGIS
- 2003 Changes
 - Added new species codes
 - Changed to 50 chars in flags columns
 - Add new definitions of River Reach Codes
 - Tagging file title includes initials of Tag Coordinator
 - 90U becomes other species
 - Variable Release Time Declaration Records defined in separate section.
 - Monitored Release File removed
 - Mortality File removed
 - Release Information File removed.
 - LAND is no longer a river Kilometer code. Use POTHOL instead.
- PTSC needs to address “Maturity” (or life history) in the context of the RF, MT KL JA, MJ and other flags.
 - Charlie will propose language that the PTSC could adopt for the 2004 Spec Document related to this.
- PTSC Discussed changing “Point Release Sites –vs- Fixed Release Sites” to “Site Type”. Dave described the encoding scheme that he proposed. PTSC agreed to 1) make no change to the codes in the database,
 - Charlie will develop proposal to develop the Definitions, Examples, and List of Site Types. The proposal will be circulated in e-mail for discussion. The goal to use this proposal as an action item for adopting in Spec Doc. at the January PTSC Meeting.
- PTSC discussed changing the definition of “TAGGER”. PTSC agreed to discuss at the January PTSC meeting after review of survey results pending availability of survey results. Keep changes as Dave has proposed.
- Carter will post 2003 Spec Document by close of business on Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2003 with the changes approved by the PTSC.

3. AFFIRM ADDITION OF A NEW INTRA-SITE RELEASE CODE: "SRR - RELEASE INTO THE SEPARATOR RETURN FLUME/PIPE WITH DIRECT RETURN TO THE RIVER"

- No objections.

4. AFFIRM THE ADDITION OF SPECIES CODE OF "6", AND SRR VERBOSE CODE OF '65W' TO SPEC DOC.

- This is for Pink Salmon.
- Some discussion about whether there would be any marking of juvenile pink salmon and to add a code for run type.
- No objections.

5. AFFIRM PLC STATUS MESSAGING AT LOWER GRANITE ADULT TRAP.

- PTSC agrees to incorporate additional messaging.
- Reference <http://www.ptagis.org/PTSC/>

6. AFFIRM PLC STATUS MESSAGING RELATED TO POWER OUTAGES AT INTERROGATION SITES

- PTSC agrees to incorporate additional messaging.
- Reference <http://www.ptagis.org/PTSC/>

7. UPDATE ON RAPID RIVER, RATTLESNAKE CREEK AND UMATILLA RIVER INTERROGATION SYSTEMS (SEE AUG. PTSC

- PTAGIS has assumed data collection from NOAA Fisheries at Rattlesnake Cr.
- Idaho Power is installing a stand-alone PIT tag electronics room at Rapid River. Due to the high water table, the initial plan to move the traditional underwater orifice antenna and 'U' shaped overflow antennas has been abandoned.
 - PTAGIS will make sure that antennas have had preventative maintenance and an available spare going into the outmigration.
- PTAGIS has provided a written recommendations for interrogation systems at the Three Mile Dam on the Umatilla River. ODFW indicates that they would like the PTAGIS project to formulate a proposal based upon ODFW's response to the *Recommendations* document.

8. PIT TAGGING WORKSHOP ASSIGNMENTS.

- Joe Z. -- In-Stream Panel

- Ann S. – Applications Panel
- Doug Marsh -- Survival Models Panel
- Ed Buettner – Adult Panel
- Carter S. – G2
- **DISCUSSION OF "NEW FIRMWARE" RELEASES INTO THE CRB FOR FS1001 AND FS2001 READERS**
- PTSC directs PTAGIS to initiate fact finding to determine what would be required to develop requirements for FS2001 / FS1001 firmware changes to support new data collection hardware (Palm or WinCE) or Software (Minimon / P3).

9. DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR "NEW TAG QUALIFICATION PROTOCOLS" FOR READ RANGE / ENCAPSULATION MATERIAL (LIFETIME / BIO-INERTNESS?)

- PTSC should be aware that new tag technologies are being considered for use in The Basin.
- Two issues came from our August Meeting: 1) Read Range by tag type (e.g., 23mm, 12 mm); 2) encapsulation material.
- There is a need to characterize the evaluation method to analyze 1) read range and 2) biological acceptability.
- The committee asked Joe Z. to initiate work to characterize how to evaluate tags read-range and tag bio-response.

10. DISCUSSION ABOUT RESIDENT RAINBOW TROUT CODING AND IF OTHERS SEE A NEED IN THE FUTURE OR HOW TO BEST ACCOMODATE THE FRESHWATER RESIDENT LIFE HISTORY GROUP.

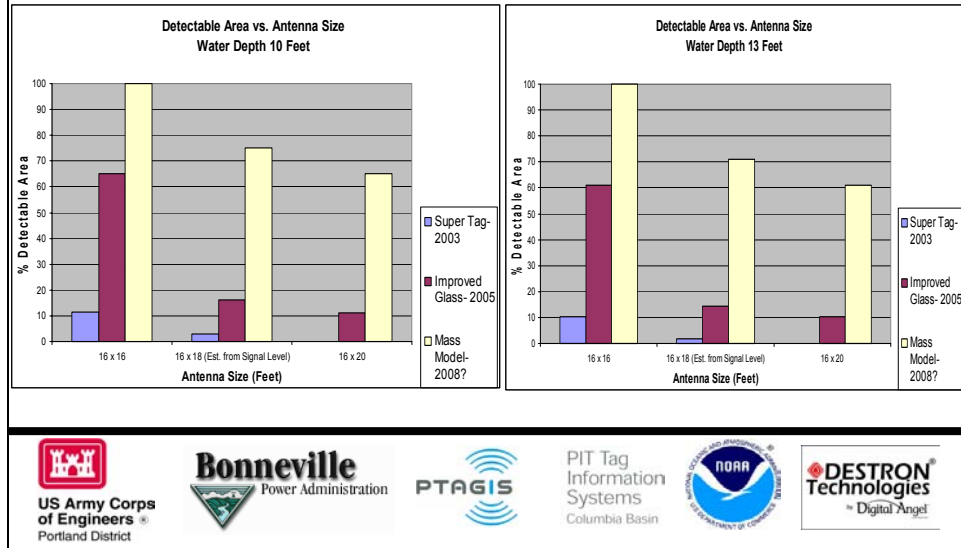
- ODFW wants to tag red band trout.
- How do researchers distinguish steelhead from resident rainbow?
- The "R" (for Rainbow) will work for now.
- PTSC may want to make some recommendation to publish in Spec Doc.

11. HIGH-Q PROJECT AT BON

- Sean Casey, (Digital Angel) gave an update
- See this *Reference System Testing and Evaluation Data Detectable Area vs. Antenna Size and Water Depth* power point slide that presents Sean

System Testing and Evaluation Data

Detectable Area vs. Antenna Size and Water Depth



- What are issues related to collision between mass model tag –vs. -- current tag?
 - Reference Joe Z.'s risk analysis that he presented at Aug. 2003 PTSC.
 - May need to turn power down on juvenile systems.
 - May need to install EMF 'clamps' to shorten read range at juvenile installations.
- There was discussion of turbulence and whether COE could move antennas to lower end of the High-Q flume where turbulence was low. Locations would be near fishing platform 1 and near fishing platform 2.

Go Forward Recommendations and Outline

Important Issues to Resolve and Benefits of Proceeding to Phase 2

- Issue- Must determine antenna locations and size. Reduction in antenna size is an important factor in determining the tag plan. Other benefits of the smaller antenna are:
 - An increase in coil windings to produce a higher density field.
 - A smaller geometry minimizes environmental impacts on the system as the surface area is reduced.
- Issue- Determine the approach to the tag development as soon as possible to increase the possibility of meeting the 2005 out-migration.
- Benefits to proceeding to Phase 2 for the electronics:
 - Allow for time to resolve issues associated with a water environment.
 - There is a reasonable possibility that conditions for the reader may improve due to reduced vibration and the precise wire placement of the ACOE antenna assembly.
 - Allow to time to resolve any noise issues with power, grounding, and radiated EMI and improve the opportunity to take data for prolonged periods with the reader.



- The PIT Tag Steering Committee recommends that the COE implement a 16' x 16' PIT tag detection antenna based upon data provided by Digital Angel. This provides the best opportunity to reach or exceed the 60% detection rate required of the High Q flume. Operational protocols and limitations must be considered in either adopting or rejecting alternative antenna designs or geometries.

12. NEXT MEETING

The Committee will meet after the PIT Tag Workshop at Noon on January 14, 2004 at Skamania Lodge.