

## 1 Appendix G

2 **Pre-Biological Assessment and InterCEP**  
3 **Subgroup Meetings**

4 A series of meetings were held with the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) team members and federal,  
5 state, and local agencies to discuss the development of the biological assessment (BA) and to encourage  
6 interagency communication and collaboration. The Interstate Collaborative Environmental Process group  
7 (InterCEP) was chartered in January 2006 to increase communication with these member agencies; avoid  
8 duplication with other federal, state, tribal, and local procedures; and establish a mechanism for  
9 addressing intergovernmental issues. Periodic meetings with the full InterCEP group have occurred since  
10 2005. In 2008, focused subgroups for wetlands and waterway, water quality, and endangered species were  
11 formed. The following provides documentation of the meetings with the subgroups held to date, along  
12 with general information about their content. Note that the attendees and discussion topics listed are not  
13 intended to be comprehensive.

14 August 23–24, 2005	Meeting Title:	Bi-State Resource Agency Coordination Workshop
	Attendees:	CRC, various federal, state, and local agencies
	Discussion Topics:	Agency coordination, inter-agency communication and collaboration
September 9, 2008	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Hydroacoustics
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODOT, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Hydroacoustics, species presence and distribution, test piles, pile installation
September 23, 2008	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Habitat Modification
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, ODOT, USFWS, WSDOT
	Discussion Topics:	Habitat modification, LPA design, Columbia River habitat types, potential mitigation measures
October 14, 2008	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Induced Effects
	Attendees:	CRC, FTA, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WSDOT
	Discussion Topics:	Potential induced effects, illustrating how induced effects impacts aquatic species, indirect and cumulative effects
November 13, 2008	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, Ecology, EPA, NMFS, DEQ, DSL, USACE, USCG, USFWS
	Discussion Topics:	USCG permit process, wetland and waterways mitigation methods

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November 19, 2008	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Stormwater Subgroup Kickoff (Meeting Agenda Only)
	Attendees:	CRC, FTA, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, WDFW, USFWS, WSDOT, DEQ, Ecology
	Discussion Topics:	Conceptual Mitigation Plan on stormwater, identifying inputs/constraints to stormwater design, Oregon BMP Tool, and the BA/BO process
December 9, 2008	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Meeting (Meeting Agenda Only)
	Attendees:	CRC, FTA, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS
	Discussion Topics:	CRC project update, BA template, Conceptual Mitigation Plan
January 21, 2009	Meeting Title:	In-Water Work
	Attendees:	CRC, Ecology, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, USACE, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Review of construction activities to determine which are in-water work, permitting issues
February 24, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Methods for Evaluating Impacts
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, USACE, WDFW, WSDOT
	Discussion Topics:	Quantifying impacts from fish salvage, hydroacoustics, and stormwater
March 11, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP: Project Update and LPA Concurrence Point
	Attendees:	CRC, DLCD, Ecology, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, DSL, SHPO, USFWS, USACE, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Project update, LPA with a conceptual mitigation plan
March 18, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Fish Run Timing in the CRC Action Area
	Attendees:	CRC, NMFS, ODFW, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Timing and life stages of fish species in the CRC Action Area
March 25, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, EPA, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, DSL, USACE, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Wetlands and waterways permitting requirements, potential mitigation sites, permanent versus temporary impacts

April 15, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA
	Attendees:	CRC, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Bridge demolition methods, measures proposed to minimize impacts to fish and habitats, agency concerns not addressed through proposed minimization measures, BMPs, or performance measures
May 6, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Hydroacoustics Workshop
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, ODOT, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Hydroacoustics, area of effect from piling driving associated with construction and demolition
May 20, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Bridge Construction
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Bridge construction methods, fish exposure pathways, fish impacts, agency concerns not addressed through proposed minimization measures, BMPs, or performance measures
June 3, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA
	Attendees:	CRC, City of Vancouver, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, ODOT, PDOT, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Highway and transit facility designs, stormwater runoff, stormwater management
June 17, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Indirect Effects from Land Use Changes
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, ODFW, ODOT, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Potential land use changes as a result of the project, potential impacts to listed species and habitats
June 30, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA In-Water Work Window
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Primary ecological and project constraints for Columbia River bridges, in-water work impact pathways critical to fish, sequencing of construction of bridges
July 29, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, EPA, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, DSL, USACE, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Impacts to aquatic resources, currently proposed construction minimization measures, compensatory mitigation

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August 5, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA In-Water Work Window (Part II)
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, ODOT, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Modeling the exposure of listed fish species to potential hydroacoustic impacts, potential in-water work window variances
August 5, 2009	Meeting Title:	Pre-BA Indirect Effects
	Attendees:	CRC, NMFS, USFWS
	Discussion Topics:	Potential land use changes and resultant impacts to listed species and habitat.
August 26, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, EPA, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, DSL, USACE, USFWS
	Discussion Topics:	Mitigation accounting and accounting tools
September 30, 2009	Meeting Title:	Fish Hydroacoustic Impacts Workshop
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Fish run timing, Hydroacoustic Impact Assessment Model, determination of pile driving timeframe
September 30, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, DSL, USACE, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Conceptual conservation measures guidelines, salmon habitat credit calculator, mitigation/conservation measure accounting for fish impacts
October 15, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup: Conservation Measures Working Group
	Attendees:	CRC, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Salmonid habitat credit calculator, COTE Method, conservation measures guidelines
October 28, 2009	Meeting Title:	Hydroacoustic Impacts, Modeling, and Assessment
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, NMFS, NOAA
	Discussion Topics:	Framework for hydroacoustic impact analysis, Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion
November 3, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup: Conservation Measures Working Group Second Meeting
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Conservation measure guidelines and criteria, site selection process, input on the crosswalk portion of the selection process

November 18, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup: Conservation Measures Working Group
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WDFW, USACE, DSL
	Discussion Topics:	Methodology to rapidly assess and prioritize potential conservation measures or projects, salmonid habitat credit calculator development
December 3, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup: Conservation Measures Working Group Third Meeting
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WSDOT
	Discussion Topics:	Conservation Measure Guidelines, Rapid Assessment, crosswalk process, habitat assessment
December 15, 2009	Meeting Title:	Hydroacoustic Working Group
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS
	Discussion Topics:	CRC project updates, available data on fish swim speed/channel use patterns, fish-run timing data, updated fish exposure model
December 17, 2009	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup: Conservation Measures Working Group Fourth Meeting
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, USFWS, WSDOT
	Discussion Topics:	Conservation Measures Guidelines, Rapid Assessment methodology, SR 520 Pile Driving Test
January 7, 2010	Meeting Title:	Water Quality Certification
	Attendees:	CRC, DEQ, Ecology
	Discussion Topics:	CRC project overview and schedule, potential water quality issues
February 24, 2010	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, DSL, USACE
	Discussion Topics:	Reducing impacts to aquatic resources, preliminary evaluation of potential compensatory mitigation for CWA 404 impacts, proposed methodology to evaluate conservation measures commensurate with the impacts
March 25, 2010	Meeting Title:	Fish Timing Curves Meeting
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, WDFW, WSDOT
	Discussion Topics:	Hydroacoustic impact assessment model, Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion analyses and conclusions, hydroacoustic impacts to listed fish species

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March 29, 2010	Meeting Title:	CRC Project Update and Overview
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS
	Discussion Topics:	Project overview, update on efforts to reduce project impacts to aquatic resources and ESA-listed species, plans for achieving a successful ESA consultation
April 21, 2010	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, NMFS, ODFW, USACE, USFWS
	Discussion Topics:	Expectations for in-water work window variances by construction activity, evaluation and selection of potential compensatory mitigation for CWA Section 404 impacts
May 4, 2010	Meeting Title:	Meeting with US Army Corps of Engineers
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, USACE
	Discussion Topics:	EPA/Corp of Engineers 2008 mitigation rules, approach for permitting CRC mitigation sites
May 12, 2010	Meeting Title:	Off-Site Compensatory Mitigation by Third Party
	Attendees:	CRC, FHWA, FTA, NMFS, USACE
	Discussion Topics:	Mitigation concepts for CWA Section 404 impacts, vibratory installation of temporary piles
May 25, 2010	Meeting Title:	InterCEP Wetlands and Waterways Subgroup
	Attendees:	CRC, DEQ, DOE, FHWA, FTA, ODFW, USACE, WDFW
	Discussion Topics:	Proposed compensatory mitigation sites and approach

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