AGENDA

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes State of Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission & United States Water Rights Negotiation Session

9:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 27, 2012 KwaTaqNuk Resort

49708 US Highway 93 East

Polson, MT 59855

1-406-883-3636

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Opening Statements
- 4. Components of the Negotiated Settlement and How They Fit Together
- 5. Explanation of the Proposed On-Reservation Instream Flow Protections
- 6. Technical/Legal Working Group Update
- 7. Public Comment & Questions on Unitary Administrative Ordinance
- 8. Other
- 9. Question & Answer Period
- 10. Public Comment
- 11. Set Next Negotiation Date



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RESERVED WATER RIGHTS COMPACT COMMISSION

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On Reservation Instream Flows Status of Instream Flow Development for Inclusion in CSKT Water Rights Compact

June 27 Public Meeting, Polson

Instream Flows

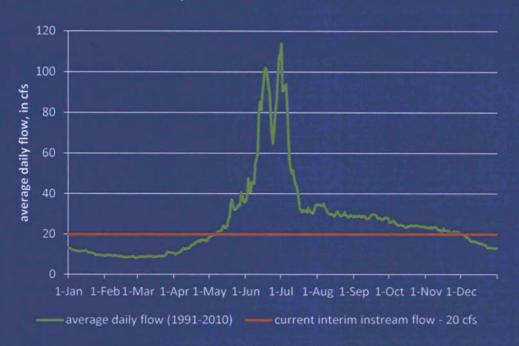
- Part of the Tribal Water Right with a fish and wildlife purpose and a time immemorial priority date
- Non consumptive water right intended to preserve flow in streams of sufficient magnitude and seasonal variability to protect: a) the Tribes Treaty rights; b) existing stream and floodplain ecology; and c) existing stream and floodplain ecologic conditions over time

The Tribes instream flow rights are founded in the Treaty of Hellgate which reserves the right to take fish in all streams running through or bordering the Reservation, as well as the right to take fish in all usual and accustomed places. The ability to exercise this right is prefaced on water in a stream of sufficient quantity to sustain a fishery resource

On Reservation Instream Flows contd

Interim instream flows have been in-place at 27 locations, on streams influenced by the Federal Irrigation Project (FIIP), since the late 1980's

- Little Bitterroot Valley
- Mission Valley
- Jocko Valley

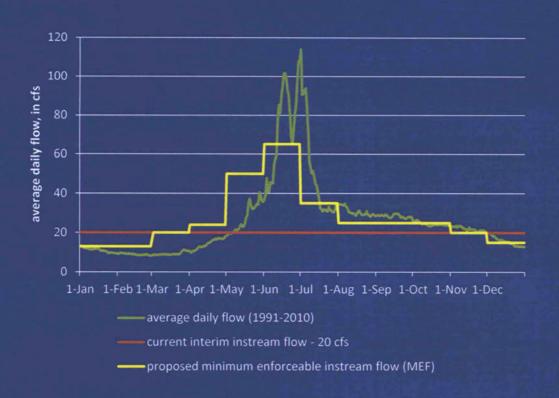


Interim instream flows are single level flows (flat line) intended to be met unless natural flow goes below the interim instream flow level

Hydrograph for Mission Creek at Highway 93

On Reservation Instream Flows cont^d

<u>Proposed instream flows</u> incorporate seasonal variability into each of the components of the proposed Tribal instream flows



Proposed instream flows are set to specific monthly values, but drop to natural flow when it is lower than the proposed instream flow

Hydrograph for Mission Creek at Highway 93

On Reservation Instream Flows cont^d

General Structure of the Tribal Instream Flow Water Right

1. Natural Instream Flow Nodes

- Defined as part of the Tribal Water Right in the Compact
- Water right abstracts, describing the water right, will be prepared for each location;
 these will be appended to the Compact

2. FIIP Instream Flow Nodes

- Defined as part of the Tribal Water Right in the <u>Compact</u>
- Water right abstracts, describing the water right, will be prepared for each location; these will be appended to the Compact
- Implementation of the FIIP instream flows is described in the <u>Stipulation Agreement</u> regarding the federal irrigation project
- Parts of the recording and implementation of the FIIP instream flows described in the <u>Unitary Administrative Ordinance</u>

3. Other Instream Flow Nodes

- Defined as part of the Tribal Water Right in the <u>Compact</u>
- Water right abstracts, describing the right, will be prepared for each location; these will be appended to the Compact
- Implementation of the non-FIIP Instream flow nodes described in the <u>Unitary</u> Administrative Ordinance

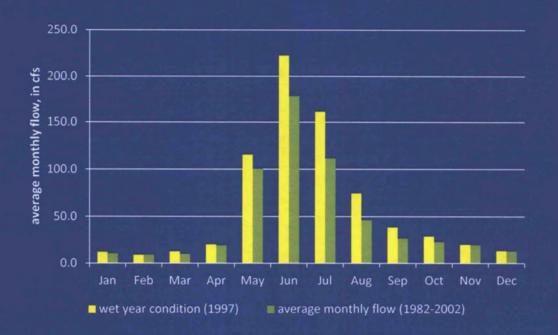
On Reservation Instream Flows Natural Flow Locations

Natural Node Instream Flows

- 102 instream flow locations
- Instream flow protections are generally located in headwater streams above existing water uses and diversions
- Where there are water rights that arise under state law above the natural node instream flow points, they are protected from call by specifically noting the water right in the abstract (~ six locations)
- The natural node instream flows are intended to be <u>protective of</u> the stream reach and watershed area above the node (point)
- Implementation/Enforcement of the Natural Node Instream Flows
 - Very little existing use above Natural Node Instream Flows
 - Large percentage of the land above these points is in Tribal Ownership
 - Perceive these points as protective of headwater stream flows, requiring limited action to implement and/or enforce

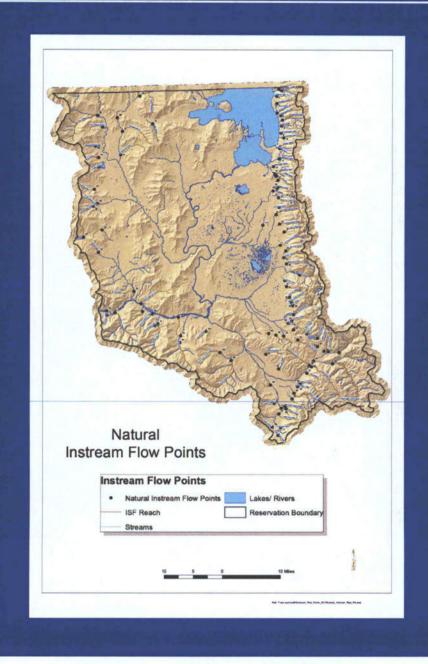
On Reservation Instream Flows Natural Flow Locations contd

Natural flow instream flows are based on wet year conditions for the period used for analysis



Mission Creek above Mission Reservoir – proposed natural flow instream flow based on wet year condition = yellow bars

On Reservation Instream Flows Natural Flow Locations contd

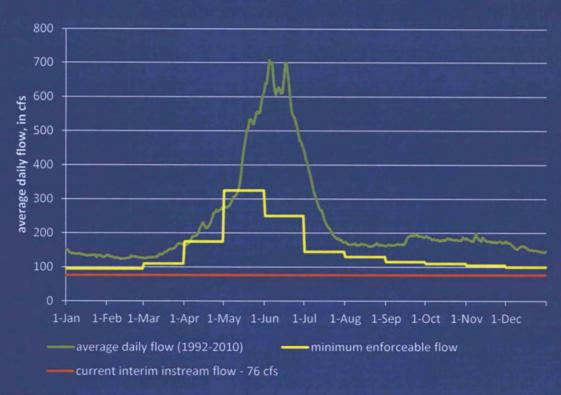


On Reservation Instream Flows FIIP Instream Flow Locations

- 33 instream flow locations
- Locations are generally placed at intersection of stream and irrigation project diversions, most locations are at or near existing interim instream flow points
- FIIP instream flow nodes extend instream flow protections to a defined reach of stream
- Components of the FIIP instream flows
 - Minimum enforceable instream flows (MEF)
 - Target instream flows for wet and normal years (TIF)
- MEF values met in all years following a deferral period for implementation of improvements to the irrigation project
- TIF values met in corresponding normal and wet years after irrigation allocation met and following a deferral period for implementation of improvements to the irrigation project
- For both MEF and TIF, incremental increases in flow are anticipated prior to full deferral period as improvements occur

On Reservation Instream Flows FIIP Instream Flow Locations contd

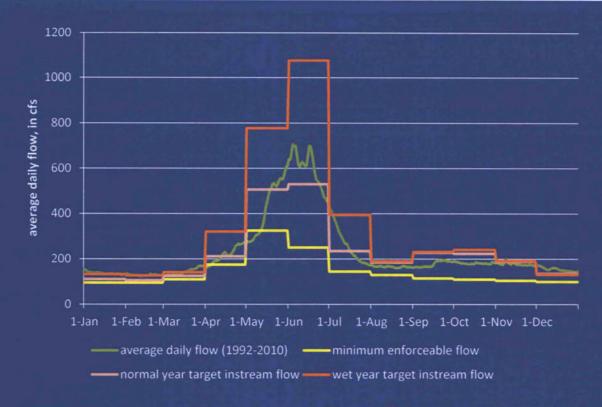
| Hydrograph Type | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| MEF | 95 | 95 | 110 | 175 | 325 | 250 | 145 | 130 | 115 | 110 | 105 | 100 |
| Normal Year | 111 | 106 | 125 | 212 | 507 | 530 | 235 | 185 | 228 | 224 | 188 | 136 |
| Wet Year | 133 | 127 | 141 | 321 | 778 | 1,075 | 395 | 190 | 232 | 241 | 191 | 132 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Water Right | 133 | 127 | 141 | 321 | 778 | 1,075 | 395 | 190 | 232 | 241 | 191 | 136 |



Jocko River below Lower Jocko J Canal above mouth, all in cfs

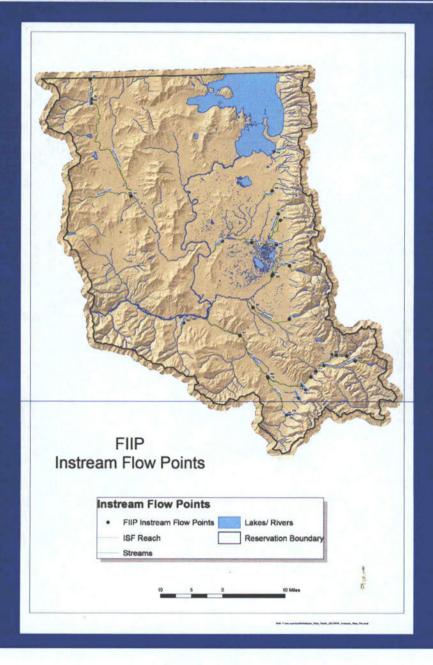
On Reservation Instream Flows FIIP Instream Flow Locations cont^d

| Hydrograph Type | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| MEF | 95 | 95 | 110 | 175 | 325 | 250 | 145 | 130 | 115 | 110 | 105 | 100 |
| Normal Year | 111 | 106 | 125 | 212 | 507 | 530 | 235 | 185 | 228 | 224 | 188 | 136 |
| Wet Year | 133 | 127 | 141 | 321 | 778 | 1,075 | 395 | 190 | 232 | 241 | 191 | 132 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 15.01 |
| Water Right | 133 | 127 | 141 | 321 | 778 | 1,075 | 395 | 190 | 232 | 241 | 191 | 136 |



Jocko River below Lower Jocko J Canal above mouth, all in cfs

On Reservation Instream Flows FIIP Instream Flow Locations contd



On Reservation Instream Flows FIIP Instream Flow Locations cont^d

Implementation/Enforcement of the FIIP Instream Flows

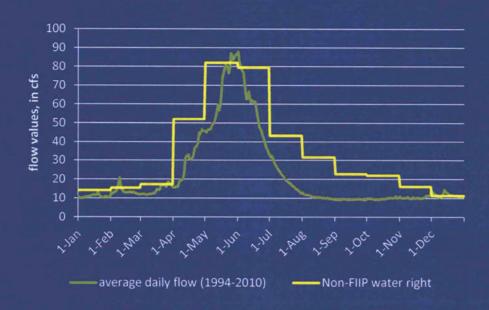
- Enforcement of the current interim instream flows will be maintained until new minimum enforceable instream flows are met
- Minimum instream flows (MEF values) will be enforced for stream reaches following a deferral period to allow for both operational and rehabilitation and betterment improvements
- Target normal and wet year instream flows will be managed for based on individual water year conditions
- Enforcement of MEF values, and management to TIF values, will require full coordination with the operator of the irrigation project

On Reservation Instream Flows Other Instream Flow Locations conta

- 49 instream flow locations
- Locations are generally placed downstream of diversions/private canals that are not part of the FIIP infrastructure and that serve water rights arising under state law
- The Compact and appended water rights abstracts will define the seasonal instream flow water right values for the Non-FIIP category of the Tribal instream flows
- The Unitary Administrative Ordinance will define the procedure to implement the Non-FIIP instream flow water right
- Generally
 - a) Implementation follows Montana Water Court Decree Process
 - b) Areas to implement follow a Tribal priority scheme
 - c) Process will involve some form of public notice/engagement for affected water rights
 - d) The enforceable Non-FIIP instream flows will be based on objective hydrologic evaluation of area hydrology and valid water rights

On Reservation Instream Flows Other Instream Flow Locations cont

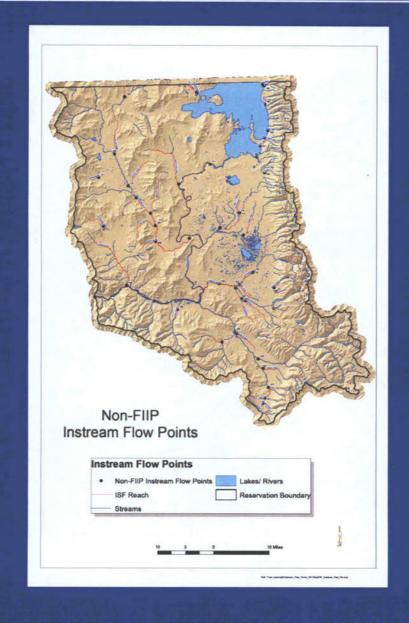
Water right for Non-FIIP instream flows based on wet year conditions



Valley Creek above the mouth

Enforceable instream flow values based on procedure to be outlined in Unitary Administrative Ordinance

On Reservation Instream Flows Other Instream Flow Locations cont



Components of the Negotiated Settlement and How They Fit Together

June 27, 2012

Background

- ◆ The Montana General Stream Adjudication requires the resolution of all pre-1973 claims to water rights in Montana
 - This includes federal reserved water rights claimed by Indian tribes and the United States
- ◆ Tribal water rights can be resolved through litigation or through settlement
- ◆ The Montana legislature directed the Compact Commission to work with the Tribes and the US to reach a negotiated settlement of the Tribes' water rights claims

2008 CSKT Proposal

- ◆ Protect existing verified uses of water
- ◆ Additional water to meet tribal needs, including in-stream flows
- ◆ Unified administration of water uses

Why Do We Need a Settlement?

- ◆ Status quo is not an option for the future
- ◆ The Adjudication will determine rights, including CSKT rights.
- ◆ In the absence of a settlement, long and costly litigation may be required.

Reserved Water Rights

- ◆ The 1908 Supreme Court held that when the United States sets aside land for an Indian reservation, a quantity of water is reserved which is necessary to fulfill that specific federal purpose.
- ◆ Montana has finished six other compacts with Montana tribes; this is the last one.

Parties to Settlement

- ◆ The three primary parties each have important interests and responsibilities.
 - State of Montana
 - Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
 - The United States government

Benefits

- ◆ Protects verified existing uses, including tribal member uses
- ◆ Allows new permits, such as new domestic allowance and stock water use
- ◆ Provides legal protection for pending domestic wells and permits that are currently in limbo
- ◆ Recognizes instream flow rights on and off the Reservation

Benefits (continued)

- ◆ Provides additional water resources for the Reservation
- ◆ Funding for habitat and FIIP improvements
- ◆ Settlement provides more benefits than litigation
- ◆ Settlement provides more local control than litigation

Key Issues for Settlement

- ♦ How to resolve all CSKT Tribal water right claims.
- ◆ How to administer all water rights on the reservation in the future.
- ♦ What should be the State and Federal monetary contributions to the settlement

Settlement Package

- **◆** Compact
- **◆** Unitary Administration Ordinance
- ◆FIIP Water Use Agreement
- ◆ State, Tribal, and Federal legislation

Compact

- ◆ Confirms and quantifies all Tribal Water Rights
- ◆ Establishes the foundation for administering water rights on the Reservation
- ♦ Will be decreed by the Montana Water court as a final settlement of the water rights

Unitary Administrative Ordinance

- ◆ Creates a joint administration board
- ◆ Administers all water rights on the Reservation
- ◆ Authorizes future water uses on the Reservation

FIIP Water Use Agreement

- ◆ Draft agreement among Tribes, FJBC, and US on how to exercise the Tribal water right for the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project
- ◆ Establishes a betterment program that will use tribal settlement dollars

State, Tribal and Federal Legislation

◆ All parties will need legislative approval of the settlement

Other Key Parts

- ◆ Compact System Water & use of Hungry Horse Reservoir
- ◆ Off-Reservation water claims settlement proposal by State and counter proposal by CSKT
- ◆ On-Reservation instream flow rights

Next Steps

- ◆ Parties working to complete draft documents.
- ◆ Public meetings and comment.
- ◆ Address comments and finalize settlement.
- ◆ Introduce legislation in Montana 2013 legislative session.