

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND

The Fish Screening Task Force (FSTF) is a seven-person board appointed by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to advise Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) staff on fish screening program development, implementation, monitoring, technology, funding and reporting. Three members represent agricultural interests, three represent fishing or fish conservation interests, and one member is appointed to represent the public (See Attachment 2). FSTF members serve a two-year term, with the possibility of serving three consecutive terms. There is currently one open position on the task force to represent fishing or fish conservation.

Frank Bird served as a fishing or fish conservation representative since 2004 but recently moved out of state is no longer able to serve on the task force. The Commission is responsible for appointing task force members and will be appointing one member to fill the current vacancy.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public recruitment for this position was accomplished through a statewide news release, advertisement on the department website, and email notification to applicable organizations.

ISSUE 1

APPOINT A NEW MEMBER TO FILL A FISHING OR FISH CONSERVATION POSITION ON THE FISH SCREENING TASK FORCE

ANALYSIS

Five people submitted applications for this open seat. Applications were reviewed based on their response to questions regarding their interest in the position, experience with fishing or fish conservation interests, fish screening/water related experience, and experience with the department, or other public boards. After review of the applications by staff, references were contacted for all five applicants. Four applicants were interviewed by program staff.

The following individuals applied for the open position:

Thos. J. Crooks, Joseph
Douglas A. DeHart, Oregon City
Robert D. Jensen, Sandy
Jeff Oveson, La Grande
Craig Tuss, Roseburg

This analysis produced Douglas A. DeHart, Jeff Oveson, and Craig Tuss as the strongest candidates.

Mr. DeHart has extensive experience working for State and Federal agencies on fish conservation issues and is active with a number of fish conservation groups. He has formal training in fish screen technology and has worked with a federal cost-share program used to fund fish screen projects.

Mr. Oveson is the Executive Director of the Grande Ronde Model Watershed, an organization that helps implement a variety of fish conservation and enhancement projects, including fish screens.

Mr. Tuss is a retired fish biologist with years of experience in fish management and has worked on large fish screening and passage projects in Oregon.

OPTIONS

1. Appoint a new member to the FSTF from the list of candidates.
2. Reject the list of candidates and re-solicit for new candidates.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the review described above, staff recommends one of the following individuals be appointed to the vacant Fishing or Fish Conservation position on the FSTF:

Thos. J. Crooks, Joseph
Douglas A. DeHart, Oregon City
Robert D. Jensen, Sandy
Jeff Oveson, La Grande
Craig Tuss, Roseburg

DRAFT MOTION	I move to appoint _____ as a fishing or fish conservation representative on the Fish Screening Task Force.
EFFECTIVE DATE	June 8, 2009