



Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 6, 2014

Location: Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Current Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program (R&E) Board Members

| Board Member | Board Member |
|---|--|
| John Alto – Representing Commercial Troll Fisheries | Lonnie Johnson – Representing Recreational Fisheries |
| Dixie Boley – Representing Fish Processing Industry | Greg Silbernagel – Representing the Public |
| Bob Bumstead – Representing Recreational Fisheries | Gary Soderstrom – Representing Gillnet Fisheries |
| Jack Glass – Representing Recreational Fisheries | |

Members Absent: Jack Glass

Call to Order & Agenda Approval

Chair Lonnie Johnson called the Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Program Board meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and introductions were made.

The Board reviewed the proposed March 6, 2014 meeting agenda.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to approve the agenda with minor modifications. The motion was seconded and the motion was approved 6-0.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the November 15, 2013 meeting minutes.

Motion: D. Boley motioned to approve the November 15, 2013 R&E Board meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

Emergency Requests & Project Modifications

R&E Project 13-008 “Chub Removal Internships in Deschutes High Lakes” submitted a request for an increase in funding. The request is for an additional \$10,600 which would fund an additional year of trapping and monitoring.

Motion: G. Silbernagel motioned to approve the amendment request for R&E Project 13-008. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

Project Emergency Request - “Ferry Creek Dam Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation”

The emergency request is for \$5,970 to conduct a preliminary geotechnical investigation of the Ferry Creek Dam in Bandon, Oregon. The dam provides water to the City of Bandon and the ODFW Bandon Fish Hatchery. A significant leak has caused the eroding of material under the spillway which has caused concern over the stability of the dam.

Questions/Comments from Board:

Would like to see more match funding from the city if additional funds are requested.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to approve the “Ferry Creek Dam Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation” emergency funding request in the amount of \$5,970. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

Kevin Herkamp, ODFW R&E/STEP Coordinator shared that due to a lack of Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) funding the R&E and STEP Coordinator positions have been combined. The Board shared concerns over the impact to the program and the true cost effectiveness.

The R&E Board was asked to amend the scope of funding previously awarded to fund the STEP Coordinator position (Funds were awarded prior to the position being eliminated). If the request is approved the funds would now be used to fund the Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee (STAC) operating expenses. Due to the changes approximately \$50,000 will be returned to R&E to be re-distributed.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to approve the amendment request. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

Project Proposal Presentations

13-057 Fall Chinook Rearing Facility Upgrades

Project was withdrawn prior to Board meeting.

13-034 Multnomah & Wahkeena Creeks Restoration Project

Chris Collins from the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership presented the project to the Board.

Questions/Comments from Board:

The Board asked if salmon use the creek. The applicant replied yes. The Board asked about the status of OWEB funding. The applicant replied should have an answer any time now. Not a lot of angler benefit – lack of transparency on funding.

Motion: G. Silbernagel motioned to deny R&E Project 13-034. The motion was seconded and the project was denied funding by the Board 6-0.

13-049 Middle Deschutes Radio Telemetry Project

Erik Moberly presented the Middle Deschutes Radio Telemetry Project to the Board. Just completed the first year of the project. This project will assist in determining if fish are able to move above the waterfalls. Will be using volunteers to tag and monitor the fish. The current receiver being used is not water resistant – need one more durable. Will also be able to use the receiver on future projects.

Motion: ? motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-049 in the amount of \$2,155 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-053 Floodplain Restoration at Willamette Mission

Marci Krass presented the Floodplain Restoration at Willamette Mission project proposal to the Board. The project site is located at Willamette Mission Park in Salem.

Motion: G. Silbernagel motioned to deny R&E Project 13-053. The motion was seconded and the project was denied funding by the Board 5-1 (Soderstrom).

13-055 Assessing Hatchery-Wild Hybridization in Steelhead

Marc Johnson and Tom Friesen presented the Assessing Hatchery-Wild Hybridization in Steelhead project proposal to the Board.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-055 in the amount of \$66,454 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-056 Statewide Reward Tagging Program

Josh McCormick presented the Statewide Reward Tagging Program project proposal to the Board. Creel studies can be very costly – averaging \$43,000. Estimating catch rates is very important to fishery management. Other reward programs have found that cash works best for angler responses. Approximately 96% of the fish to be released will not have a reward offered.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-056 in the amount of \$15,947 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 5-1 (Silbernagel).

13-058 Cascade Lakes Creel Survey

Erik Moberly presented the Cascade Lakes Creel Survey project proposal to the Board. This will be an on-site creel survey. Working with Josh McCormick, ODFW Biometrician on the details of the survey. Priority will be given to East Lake, Paulina Lake, Hosmer Lake and Crane Prairie. The District feels it is important to find out what the public actually wants from these fisheries. This will be the final part of evaluating if chub removal efforts were successful.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-058 in the amount of \$16,400 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-060 Rock Creek Instream Enhancement 2014

Terry Burleson presented the Rock Creek Instream Enhancement 2014 project proposal to the Board. This portion was blown out during flooding in the 1960's.

Questions/Comments from Board:

B. Bumstead commented it's an expensive for one-mile stretch of stream.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-060 in the amount of \$72,150 as a sport/enhancement project. (Grant Fiscal Administration and Project Manager funding was not approved). The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-062 McDonald Slough Reconnection Project

Chrissy Smith and Michele Long presented the McDonald Slough Reconnection Project proposal to the Board. This grant is being sought as a match to obtain OWEB funding.

Questions/Comments from Board:

The Board asked why the applicant didn't re-apply for OWEB funding in October. The applicant replied they needed more time.

Motion: G. Soderstrom motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-062 in the amount of \$35,000 as a sport/enhancement project (Contingent upon receiving OWEB funding). The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-064 Oak Ranch Creek – Salmon Passage Improvement

Maggie Peyton and Troy Laws presented the Oak Ranch Creek Salmon Passage Improvement project proposal to the Board. The project site is in Tillamook County – R&E funds would be used to purchase the bridge portion of the project. This grant is being sought as a match to obtain OWEB funding.

Questions/Comments from Board:

The Board asked how much habitat this project would open up. The applicant replied approximately 1.5 miles. Does have spawning habitat.

Motion: G. Soderstrom motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-064 in the amount of \$70,000 as a sport/enhancement project (Contingent upon receiving OWEB funding March 21, 2014). The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-051 Beeson-Robinson Fish Passage Improvement

Brian Barr presented an overview of the Beeson-Robinson Fish Passage Improvement project proposal to the Board.

At this point in the process the applicant requested to withdraw this proposal for funding at this time.

13-052 Nehalem Hatchery Energy Conservation Program

Joe Watkins presented the Nehalem Hatchery Energy Conservation Program project proposal to the Board. This project will address efficiency efforts by ODFW and the Governors' Energy Initiative. Bonneville Power Administration estimates the energy savings with these improvements at approximately \$20,000 per year.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-052 in the amount of \$68,883 as a restoration project -50% sport/ 50% commercial funding. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-054 Field and Wimer Dam Removals Phase 1

Dan VanDyke and Bob Hunter presented the Field and Wimer Dam Removals Phase 1 project proposal to the Board. Funding is being requested to assist with design study and assessment. The dams are over 80 years old and have not been used since the 1980's. This project is a top priority for the Rogue Basin and potentially benefits sport and commercial anglers.

Public Comment:

Rod Crume shared that his family purchased land upstream from Fielder Creek Dam in 1979. Mr. Crume also shared his frustration with the process and the inappropriateness of angler dollars paying for the removal.

Allan Ehres shared the various certifications he holds in regards to hazardous materials. He has been monitoring the dam for several years. Has concerns on the impact of releasing the sediment from behind the dam. Mr. Ehre pleaded with the Board to allow him two-years to complete his research on the implications.

Motion: G. Silbernagel motioned to table R&E Project 13-054. The motion was seconded and the project was tabled by the Board 6-0. (The first two votes died on the floor)

13-059 Wizard Falls Electrical Upgrade Phase 1

Phil McKee presented the Wizard Falls Electrical Upgrade Phase 1 project to the Board.

Motion: G. Soderstrom motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-059 in the amount of \$69,477 as a sport/restoration project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-063 Noble Creek Watershed Restoration

Nick Scheidt presented the Noble Creek Watershed Restoration project proposal to the Board. The project would improve passage along with other benefits.

Questions/Comments from Board:

The Board shared concerns with the amount of administration funding being requested. The applicant commented that it is a complex project and as a non-profit the funding is required to complete the work.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding R&E Project 13-063 in the amount of \$40,446 as a sport/enhancement project (Financial Administration & Project Management funding was not approved). The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-050 Phillips Reservoir Monitoring and Evaluation

Tim Bailey presented the Phillips Reservoir Monitoring and Evaluation project proposal to the Board. Funding being requested will be used to purchase tags. This is the monitoring and evaluation portion of the larger project.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-050 in the amount of \$3,148 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

13-061 Cole Rivers Trough and Pipe Purchase

Dan VanDyke, Craig Erwin and Dave Pease presented the Cole Rivers Trough and Pipe Purchase project proposal to the Board. This is a Corp mitigation facility – also raises rainbow trout for southern Oregon. The new trough's dimensions will allow an additional 4 troughs which will lower the density of fish in each trough.

Motion: G. Silbernagel motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 13-061 in the amount of \$89,920 as a sport/restoration project. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board 6-0.

Administrative Updates

The Board was asked for feedback on recent changes made to the application process. Having the applications available electronically prior to the packets being mailed is a good thing. Would like the handouts during the meeting to be distributed prior to the meeting. The revised ODFW Internal Review Team format was fine.

K. Herkamp agreed to distribute the recent hatchery priority list.

There was Board concern on the Department's travel restrictions. The Board agreed that applications should be complete enough to not require applicants to attend the meeting in person. A memo will be directed to ODFW staff on meeting attendance.

The June 6, 2014 meeting date in Bend was confirmed.