



Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 2, 2014

Location: Midstate Electric Cooperative
Community Meeting Room
16755 Finley Butte Road
LaPine, Oregon

Current Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee Members (STAC)

Committee Member	Committee Member
<i>Vacant</i> – Representing Tenmile, Coos, Coquille	Brian Hudson – Representing Mid-Coast
Richard Bertellotti– Representing North Coast	L. Keith Miller – Representing Upper Rogue
Deborah Yates – Representing Umpqua	James Phelps – Representing Eastern Oregon
David Dunahay – Representing Eastern Oregon	Tom VanderPlaat – Representing Lower Willamette
Pat Gefre – Representing North Coast	Jeff DeVore – Representing Upper Willamette
Ken Range – Representing Lower Rogue	Don Wenzel – Representing Mid Willamette
Lin Howell – Representing Lower Willamette	

Members Absent: Ken Range, Lin Howell, Pat Gefre

Call to Order & Agenda Approval

Tom VanderPlaat, Chair called the June 2, 2014 Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and introductions were made.

Chair VanderPlaat presented today’s proposed agenda for review. Dave Dunahay requested a few minutes to discuss the Pelton-Round Butte Fish Passage Facility and Brian Hudson requested time to discuss the Letz Creek STAC Mini-Grant application that was tabled at the last meeting.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the March 5, 2014 meeting minutes.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve the March 5, 2014 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Budget Update

Kevin Herkamp, R&E/STEP Program Coordinator provided a budget update to the Mini-Grant Program. Everyone please remind your groups to submit requests for grants, we are half way through the funding period. The Department is requesting Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) funding to replace the services and supplies budget for STEP. If the request is approved it would be for the fiscal year beginning October 2014.

STAC Mini-Grant Application Review

The Committee reviewed the following Mini-Grant Applications.

Mini-Grant 13-16 Hatch House & Circular Improvements (previously tabled)

Brian Hudson toured the Letz Creek STEP facility with Bill Bayless. The group had 100 trees that had destroyed their water pipes and traps – they pulled together to get it cleaned up. They are still having water quality issues related to sediment. It would be a top priority to the facility to have a working sediment removal system. The tabled application also requested feeders – at this point don't see the need to purchase feeders.

Jeff DeVore also toured the facility. He agrees the group needs the assistance. Would like the group encouraged, they have accomplished a lot of work.

The Committee discussed the desire to see some progress at the facility. There isn't a significant fishery contribution, but there are public outreach and educational opportunities.

Motion: B. Hudson motioned to approve MG 13-16 in the amount of \$468. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0. (Funding approved for sediment removal system only)

Mini-Grant 13-20 Stream Study Kits

Very active group – they have assisted with the removal of three dams so far. They want to become more active in education.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve MG 13-20 in the amount of \$1,801. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Mini-Grant 13-21 Zooplankton Sampling Program

There isn't much information available on Kokanee. This would be good information to have.

Motion: K. Miller motioned to approve MG 13-21 in the amount of \$925. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Mini-Grant 13-22 ADA Access Ramp & Millicoma Interpretive Center

K. Herkamp shared that he is still waiting to hear back from the Department's Engineering staff.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve MG 13-22 in the amount of 2,000. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0. (Condition of approval by ODFW Engineering staff)

Mini-Grant 13-23 Added Filtration

The facility has been experiencing some issues that are believed to be related to water quality. Several experts have been to the site – one recommendation is to filter the water at a finer level. The group is seeking reimbursement for the system which has been purchased – without the purchase the facility risked a shut down.

Motion: J. Phelps motioned to approve MG 13-23 in the amount of \$970. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Mini-Grant 13-24 MHCC Student Hatchery Dissolved Oxygen Meter

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve MG 13-24 in the amount of \$1,400. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

EBAC Update

Rick Bertellotti participated on the ODFW External Budget Advisory Committee (EBAC). The group has approximately 50 individuals representing various groups. Several changes are being implemented to assist in budget savings this biennium and the next. There is a proposal to adjust license fees on a more regular basis (2 years).

The Committee discussed impact to STEP if age limits are lowered for youth angling licenses. A letter to the Commission will be drafted highlighting STAC's concerns. The group agreed more General Fund dollars should be directed towards ODFW.

Volunteer Recognition

The following individuals/groups were recognized for their contributions furthering the mission of STEP.

- Gary Gehlert, Sunriver Anglers member
- Frank Turek, Central Oregon Flyfisher member
- Bill Raleigh, Central Oregon Flyfisher member
- Local Clubs – Sunriver Anglers and the Central Oregon Flyfishers

Eastern Oregon STEP District Overview

Jen Luke, Eastern Oregon STEP Biologist provided an overview of the various volunteer programs and projects in the Eastern side of the state. It wouldn't be possible to accomplish all the things that need to be done without the help of the volunteers.

Administrative Updates & General Business

Good-Bye to Dave Dunahay. Today is Dave's last day as a Committee member. We wish him well.

Operating Guidelines - K. Herkamp provided the Committee a proposal that would give the Program Coordinator the authority to modify approved Mini-Grant budget items up to \$200 as appropriate.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to modify the Operating Guidelines to provide authority to the Program Coordinator to modify budget items up to \$200. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Volunteer Recognition – the Committee discussed the need to identify a way to recognize volunteers at a higher level. The STEP Conference provided that opportunity in the past – which have been postponed until further notice. The Department has a process to recognize employees and volunteers – the deadline is May 1st of every year.

Motion: K. Miller motioned that STAC recommend volunteers through the Department's current program. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Education Program Update – B. Hudson provided an overview of the work completed so far by the Education Committee. The group will meet again in August.

2015 Meeting Schedule – K. Herkamp will distribute information regarding past locations

Dave Dunahay discussed the issues at the Pelton-Round Butte Fish Passage Facility. The facility has had 22 salmon return to date.

The Committee discussed the idea of STAC reviewing proposed STEP related R&E program applications. The group would be able to make a formal recommendation to the Board.

STAC Goals – Please submit ideas to K. Herkamp

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

June 3, 2014 – Field Tour

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Tour of Little Deschutes River access sites, Fall River Hatchery, Headwaters of Fall River, Lava Lake trapping project

Tasks

- Letter of clarification to the group at Letz Creek
- Email Letz Creek propagation proposal (Debbi)
- Volunteer Recognition