



Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: October 2, 2014

Location: Holiday Inn Express
204 West Marine Drive
Astoria, OR 97103

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

Committee Member	Committee Member
Curt Bennett – 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
<i>Vacant</i> – Representing Eastern Oregon	Tom VanderPlaat – Representing Lower Willamette
Gary Stover – 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: Gary Stover

Call to Order & Agenda Approval

Tom VanderPlaat, Chair, called the October 2, 2014 Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Introductions were made. The Board welcomed Curt Bennett, appointed September 5, 2014, representing Tenmile, Coos, and Coquille District.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the June 2, 2014 STAC meeting minutes.

Motion: Brian Hudson motioned to approve the June 2, 2014 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee 11-0.

Budget Update

Kevin Herkamp, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) R&E/STEP Coordinator noted there are more requests than funding available and multiple cycles to go before the end of the biennium.

VanderPlaat suggested revisiting the deficit level after approving current projects and possibly create a proposal to the Restoration and Enhancement Board for increasing the amount of the Mini-Grant fund.

Volunteer Recognition

No volunteers were recognized at the meeting.

STAC Mini-Grant Application Review and Approval

Mini-Grant 13-25 GRWB STEP Maintenance, Monitoring, and Security

Deborah Yates provided information about the GRWB STEP hatchery and discussed a recent robbery. The proposed grant would allow the installation of three security cameras and replacement of tools and a trolling motor used for water quality monitoring.

Motion: Richard Bertellotti motioned to approve Mini-Grant 13-25 in the amount of \$1,537. The motion was seconded by Lin Howell, and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-26 Astoria High School Aquatic Biology Program Equipment

Ron Rehn, ODFW North Coast STEP Biologist, presented information on the Astoria High School Aquatic Biology Program request for money to purchase chest waders, hip boots, and dip nets. The Committee toured the Program building prior to the meeting, and met with teacher Lee Cain.

- Brian Hudson commented on the need to possibly buy boots and waders annually from a sole source. VanderPlaat suggested at the beginning of the 2015-2017 biennium stating the Committee will allocate a specified amount to boots and waders, and from a sole source.

Action: Hudson will contact Englund Marine in his area regarding the option of a sole source for STAC Mini-Grant waders and boots.

Motion: L. Howell motioned to approve Mini-Grant 13-26 in the amount of \$1,641. B. Hudson seconded the motion, and the Committee voted in favor 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-27 Hatchery Equipment

Students Liam Baker and Christine Tapales from Warrenton High School presented their request. Funds would allow replacement of worn out equipment associated with the program, including nets and waders.

Motion: L. Howell motioned to approve Mini-Grant 13-27 in the amount of \$1,896. The motion was seconded by C. Bennett, and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-28 Big Creek – Barendse Public Access Enhancement

Rehn provided pictures of the proposed project location. Funds would pay for re-grading and re-gravel of the lot, boulder placement to block off-road vehicle use, and overall cleanup of the site.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve Mini-Grant 13-28 in the amount of \$1,960. J. Phelps seconded the motion and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-29 Fish Friendly Plants – North Coast Landscape Workshop

Bertellotti provided information on the project which would allow for a half-day plant workshop for north coast landscapers in early 2014. The workshop would provide information on noxious weeds and native plants.

Motion: L. Howell motioned to table Mini-Grant 13-29 until the January, 2015 STAC meeting. B. Hudson seconded the motion and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-30 Watershed Council Volunteer Streamwork Supplies

Bertellotti presented the request for funds to purchase boots and waders for the Skipanon Watershed Council.

- Howell commented he would rather see the school requests for boots and waders funded as their equipment is used multiple times per day.
- The Committee expressed concern regarding the number of Watershed Council applications and suggested they use local service clubs for funding.

Motion: D. Yates motioned to table Mini-Grant 13-30 until the January 2015 STAC meeting, after Hudson conducts research regarding boots and waders from a sole source. B. Hudson seconded the motion, and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-31 Rhoades Pond Restoration Project

Rehn commented that this project proposal can be tabled until the next meeting as it would not begin until May of 2015.

Motion: L. Howell motioned to table Mini-Grant 13-31 until the January 2015 STAC meeting. J. Phelps seconded the motion and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-32 Battle Lake Backpack Stocking Program

Rehn provided pictures of the backpacks used for stocking Battle Lake.

- The Committee expressed concern with the cost of the backpack frames and suggested researching less expensive options.

Motion: D. Yates motioned to table Mini-Grant 13-32 until the January 2015 STAC meeting. L. Howell seconded the motion, and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-33 Watershed Council Riparian Restoration

Bertellotti provided the project information and stated the funds would purchase a Brushcutter to be shared by four watershed councils on the coast.

- The Committee expressed concern regarding who would maintain the piece of equipment and who would be insured to operate it.

Motion: D. Yates motioned to table Mini-Grant 13-33 to the January 2015 STAC meeting. K. Miller seconded the motion, and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-34 Evergreen Program and Maxfield Creek Watershed Education/Restoration

Don Wenzel discussed the request for funds to purchase clipboards, boots, nets, and rain gear for the Evergreen Program and Maxfield Creek Watershed Education and Restoration Program.

Motion: D. Wenzel motioned to approve Mini-Grant 13-34 in the reduced amount of \$1,000. K. Miller seconded the motion, and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-35 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Redd Survey on South Umpqua River

Dan Avery presented information regarding the use of Unmanned Aircraft to conduct salmon surveys. Due to declining budgets and risk to employees, ODFW is moving away from helicopter surveys. If

approved, the funds would pay for Oregon State University to conduct a trial fall Chinook Salmon Redd survey on the South Umpqua River.

- The Committee expressed concern regarding the relationship of the project to the STEP Program, and possible criticism of STAC for funding a project of this nature and holding off on boots and waders grant requests. The Committee requested that Avery present the implementation report information to STAC in early 2015.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve Mini-Grant 13-35 in the amount of \$2,000. J. Phelps seconded the motion and the Committee approved 11-0.

Mini-Grant 13-36 Automatic Fish Feed for Eel Lake Net Pen

Yates discussed the proposed project to fund the purchase of an automatic fish feeder for Eel Lake. The automatic feeder would address multiple safety concerns.

Motion: C. Bennett motioned to table Mini-Grant 13-36 until the January 2015 STAC meeting. L. Howell seconded the motion, and the Committee approved 11-0.

District Presentation

Rehn provided an overview of the North Coast STEP District including various activities and programs. The presentation included the Lorens Pond Enhancement Project, Lake Lytle Dock Replacement, Rhodes Pond Restoration, Town Lake Dock Replacement, and Three Rivers Spring Chinook Roundup, among others.

Meeting Schedule for 2015

The Committee tentatively set the following dates and locations for 2015:

- January 29th – Eugene (also discussed possibility of Portland in conjunction with the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting)
- May 28th – Oregon Hatchery Research Center, or Roseburg
- September 24th – Gold Beach

Public Comment

No public was present to comment.

R&E Funding

Herkamp provided a budget overview after what was allocated during the meeting. Roughly \$9,000 in project requests was tabled, and the Mini-Grant fund has about \$7,000 remaining, with two more cycles of applications this biennium. VanderPlaat provided guidance to Herkamp to request an additional \$15,000 from the R&E Board to fund important STEP and STAC projects.

STEP Education Strategy

Hudson provided a handout of the STEP Education Strategy. The document is a result of the September 16, 2014 STEP Education Committee meeting. The document was reviewed and the Committee discussed communication and funding concerns.

STAC Goals

VanderPlaat provided a handout of STAC Goals and provided a brief overview. The Committee will revisit the document at the January 2015 meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.