



Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 28, 2015

Location: Oregon Hatchery Research Center
2418 East Fall Creek Road
Alsea, Oregon 97324

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

Committee Member

Curtis Bennett – Representing Tenmile, Coos, Coquille
Richard Bertellotti– Representing North Coast
Deborah Yates – Representing Umpqua
Dave Dunahay– Representing Eastern Oregon
Gary Stover – Representing North Coast
Ken Range – Representing Lower Rogue
Lin Howell – Representing Lower Willamette

Committee Member

Brian Hudson – Representing Mid-Coast
L. Keith Miller – Representing Upper Rogue
James Phelps – Representing Eastern Oregon
Tom VanderPlaat – Representing Lower Willamette
Jeff DeVore – Representing Upper Willamette
Don Wenzel – Representing Mid Willamette

Members Absent: Lin Howell, Brian Hudson

Call to Order & Agenda Approval

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

Introductions were made. Kevin Herkamp introduced Ryan Couture, Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) Manager, and Joseph O’Neil, OHRC Senior Technician. VanderPlaat welcomed Dave Dunahay, and thanked him for continuing to serve as the Eastern Oregon STAC representative beyond his term expiration.

The Committee reviewed the meeting agenda. VanderPlaat noted a member of his chapter of the Northwest Steelheaders Association would arrive to present a picture to the OHRC staff.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the January 29, 2015, STAC meeting minutes.

Motion: R. Bertellotti motioned to approve the January 29, 2015, meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by C. Bennett and approved by the Committee 9-0.

Budget Update

Herkamp discussed options moving forward for cycle, noting there were eight unique projects, and one repeat. Herkamp announced there was \$1,872.00 left to approve for the 2013-2015 biennium.

The Committee expressed concern regarding projects submitted for the same location as two separate projects and the ability to warrant funding separately. The Committee discussed whether these projects, should be combined and submitted to the Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Board for approval.

The Committee agreed applications from the same organization need to be distinct units or distinct projects, and commented they may need to request more money from R&E in the future if they continue to receive similar requests.

STAC Mini-Grant Application Review for 2013-2015

Mini-Grant 13-41 Florence Hatchery and Munsel Trap Modifications

Herkamp added the applicant is trying to address what their biologists asked of them to reduce egg loss. The Committee discussed funding only for the critical equipment of the request, the steel gate and hardware.

Mini-Grant 13-42 Key to Field Identification of Anadromous Salmonids in the Pacific Northwest

The Committee agreed to review this project as 15-03 out of the 2015-2017 biennium funding.

Mini-Grant 13-43 Letz Creek Removal of Sediment and

Mini-Grant 13-44 Letz Creek Egg Incubation

Project 13-43 and 13-44 were reviewed together as requested. The Committee discussed the two different situations and proposals at Letz Creek and options of the applicant creating a plan for the entire facility and submitting to R&E. DeVore commented \$2,000 is not a lot of money but provides a good start for some projects.

The Committee discussed the need to amend the agreement between R&E and STAC to allow for approval of more than \$2,000 per project in the future.

Motion: D. Yates motioned to approve \$1,100 to reimburse the steel gate and hardware for project 13-41, and \$764 to reimburse project 13-44 in the full amount, with any returned funds to reimburse project 13-43 up to \$2,000 and any further returned funds to reimburse the remaining request of 13-41 up to \$1,544. D. Wenzel seconded the motion and all Committee members approved.

STAC Mini-Grant Application Review for Cycle 1 2015-2017

Mini-Grant 15-01 Aquaculture and Aquaponics career and Technical Education

The Committee agreed the project was desirable and had no further questions.

Mini-Grant 15-02 Nuisance Beaver Relocations to Stream Restoration Projects

The Committee expressed concern with the lack of direct STEP involvement.

Mini-Grant 15-03 Key to Field Identification of Anadromous Salmonids in the Pacific Northwest

Herkamp added that historically STAC has funded the printing of this document.

VanderPlaat questioned if the document was part of the education strategy. Herkamp replied a portion of it will likely be used.

The Committee questioned if the document could be made available online. James Phelps commented many places where the document would be used do not have reception to access the document electronically. Deborah Yates added that she would approve the cost of printing for something with a proven track record that people are using, and suggested providing online as well.

Mini-Grant 15-04 Waders and Rain Gear for Noble Creek Hatchery

The Committee discussed options of funding only half of the request or tabling until September. Curt Bennett added there is a lot of involvement with children at the hatchery. VanderPlaat added if the project is approved, guidance on cost and quality of waders needs provided to the applicant.

Mini-Grant 15-06 Visitor Interpretive Center

The grant would provide a running video at Cedar Creek Hatchery to provide information to visitors. Gary Stover added vandalism would not be an issue as the building would be locked at night. VanderPlaat suggested taking care of the building now and holding off on the remainder of the request.

Mini-Grant 15-07 Project Healing Waters – Roseburg Chapter Support

The Committee agreed the program offered great opportunities; however, they were unable to make a decision without guidance from the R&E Board.

Both Dunahay and VanderPlaat commented they were able to provide some resources personally to the program.

Mini-Grant 15-08 Rhoades Pond Electrical Upgrades and Mini-Grant 15-09 Rhoades Pond Pump House Replacement

The projects were presented together as requested due to their similarities. Stover helped present information and stated both projects are needed as the electrical portion is to be connected to the pump house and the current conditions are unsafe. The Committee agreed ODFW should be providing the services as they are the property owner.

Mini-Grant 15-10 Loren's Pond ADA Restroom

Ken Range questioned the use of Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) funds for the project. The Committee expressed concern regarding the long term need and cost.

Rehn replied that since the pond is for non-motorized boats there is not an option for OSMB funds, and added he could reduce the request to one year if needed. As for long term needs, there is not an option to build a permanent restroom facility due to the flood zone.

Motion: D. Wenzel motioned to approve projects 15-01, 15-04, 15-05, 15-06, 15-08, 15-09 in the full amount; approve 15-06 in the amount of \$660.84, approve 15-10 in the amount of \$1,000; deny project 15-02; and table projects 15-03 and 15-07. R. Bertellotti seconded the motion and the Committee approved 11-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Education Program Update

Herkamp provided an update on the STEP Education Program strategy and discussed recent efforts. VanderPlaat thanked the STEP Education Committee members. The Committee suggested ODFW Fish Division Leadership attend an upcoming STAC meeting to review the strategy and establish as a priority.

Program Recognition

Nathan Bohlmann of the Tualatin Valley Chapter of the Northwest Steelheaders, presented a print to Couture and O'Neil for the outstanding work of OHRC staff.

Communication Plan Review

Herkamp presented the 2015-2017 Draft Marketing Plan including short-term and long-term communication goals, objectives and strategies.

VanderPlaat suggested reducing the amount of Cawood logos and to use a different title to make it clear the marketing plan is for R&E and STAC.

Action: Committee members will review the marketing plan and provide comments to Kevin via email by Tuesday, June 2, 2015.

STAC Goals and Objectives

The Committee agreed to address the STAC Goals and Objectives agenda item at the September meeting.

Action: Committee members are to send VanderPlaat their top two program priorities prior to August 1, 2015.

Schedule for 2016

Herkamp discussed moving away from the combined meetings with R&E where both meetings are held in the same week, and proposed combining the two meetings only once per year. Herkamp suggested a combined STAC and STEP Biologists meeting the first week of December, 2015.

The following suggestions were made for 2016:

Late April – Baker City/Enterprise/Bonneville/Cascade Locks/Hood River

September – with R&E Board – Coos Bay area

December – Salem

The Committee will finalize the 2016 schedule at the September 24, 2015 meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting business portion of the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m., followed by a tour of OHRC and update of recent hatchery findings led by O'Neil.