



# Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 10/19/2023

**Location:** Virtual and ODFW South Willamette Watershed District Office, Oregon

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

### Committee Members

Vacant – North Coast	Morgan Parks – North Willamette
Roger Lindquist – South Coast	Rachel Ellison – South Willamette
Jessica Eubank – Southern Mid Coast/Lower Umpqua	Curtis Bennett – Tenmile, Coos & Coquille
David Grosjacques – Umpqua	Steven Janego – Central Eastern
Carl Cole – Upper Rogue	

### ODFW Staff

Marty Olson – R&E/STEP Program Coordinator	Brent Hinners – District Biologist
Steve Emerson – R&E/STEP Program Assistant	Tom Stahl – Deputy FD Administrator
	Christine Clapp – Mid-Coast STEP Biologist

### Public

Tom VanderPlaat – Member of Restoration and Enhancement Board

## Call to Order & Agenda Approval

Chair S. Janego called the October 19, 2023, Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Discussion: D. Grosjacques would like to talk about Winchester Dam later in agenda. R. Lindquist would like to talk about wind turbines. S. Janego would like to talk about the next goal/action item to address as a group. D. Grosjacques pointed out that this group is the advisory committee and should be advising Curt Melcher or the Commission on what the group thinks some priorities should be. Talked about the Policy Option Package (POP) that Mike Gauvin drafted for invasive species that didn't go through. That POP had 12 positions in it, D. Grosjacques asked what about 3-4? R. Lindquist pointed out that the STAC charter spells out that STAC is supposed to advise the Commission and the agency. D. Grosjacques added that STAC is a conduit between the STEP biologists, public, and agency.

Motion: D. Grosjacques motioned to approve the agenda, C. Bennett seconded, passed unanimously.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the May 2023 STAC meeting minutes.

Discussion: The group provided edits to the meeting minutes.

**Action Item:** R. Lindquist talked about the requested data on the springers. See previous meeting minutes and gather the data.

Motion: C. Bennett motioned to approve with housekeeping edits, C. Cole seconded, passed unanimously.

## **Board Member Updates**

M. Parks: Previous STEP bio is on job rotation. Recently had an eggs to fry event where 18 teachers were taught how to set up aquariums and how to test the water, everything needed to have a tank in their classrooms. Grant was awarded \$25K to help 13 teachers at Title I schools. Supporting John with egg deliveries on Halloween. Last year 147 classrooms 171 this year. M. Parks is doing volunteer coordination this year. Recruited 23 volunteers and the steelheader group will also help for a total of around 40 volunteers. This summer \$106K grant from NOAA and this grant will go to 12 teachers in another school district. S. Janego asked if there is a story to be told about the number of kids benefiting from this activity and maybe a story could be told by local news about it to bring interest to it. M. Parks said that typically a blog story is written about the activities and National Wildlife Foundation publishes it. M. Parks said Bill Monroe reached out to do a story on STEP Eggs to Fry.

J. Eubank: The Alsea Hatchery was the same as last year, eggs going out March and April. OHRC is doing a lot of outreach right now. OHRC is transferring to Corvallis and will be taken over by OSU. Salmon River's first spawn was yesterday, they are doing a fecundity study this year. J. Eubank gave numbers of salmon that have returned to the hatchery and/or been passed upriver. There hasn't been enough rain yet to tell how the returns compare to previous years. The fish coming through are still very bright. Big news for mid coast is that the Munsel Creek program is going away because the watershed can't afford to maintain it. Working with Florence schools to possibly continue the work. Getting ready for StW at Whittaker trap. Clapp is hoping to get STEP involved in the ASPIRE high school program. S. Janego asked about the ASPIRE program. Asked if the STEP bios should show up at high school's career days. D. Grosjacques asked about OHRC if it's a surprise that it's moving. Asked about the research if it's going to continue there or elsewhere or end. J. Eubank said a lot of it had to do with water quality because of landslides. B. Hinnners said the research will be shifted to other locations. B. Hinnners said that a lot of the research being funded through the OHRC was already being done off-site at other hatcheries and locations. T. Stahl said that the OHRC research will still be done but in other locations. D. Grosjacques said it would be nice to get an update or report on a couple of OHRC research projects. Requested the imprinting study be talked about at the spring meeting – Andy Dipman. B. Hinnners pointed out that the OHRC board meetings are open to the public and that presentations on the projects are given at the meetings. T. Stahl added that Dr Seth White is moving to the Aquatic and Animal Health Lab at OSU, could be good to have him come in and give an overview of all the research projects. R. Lindquist said it would be good to get data out there that shows that hatchery fish aren't negatively impacting the wild fish by spreading disease and other issues. T. Stahl said there will be a news release out about the OHRC. C. Bennett pointed out that STAC members need to outreach to their groups about OHRC. S. Janego asked T. Stahl how STAC can be best positioned to be the voice of the public around these issues and said that STAC feels like they are always behind on issues. T. Stahl said that we can talk about ways to communicate day to day operations and issues with STAC.

**Action Item:** Dr. Seth White should come give presentation to STAC.

R. Lindquist: Things on the S. Coast are picking back up after a slow summer. The fish at the hatchery have been released, some earlier than they planned because of a fire near Elk River. It's still going, smokey. They had to empty Elk River Hatchery which had a lot of STEP fish. Heard the Chinook were only released 2 weeks early, but the steelhead were release about 5 months early. Fish are being put back into the hatchery because the fire is no longer threatening the hatchery. The Chetco was seined last week for broodstock. There was a lot of debris in the river and seining was

pretty unsuccessful. They are trying to pull all the debris out of the river this week. They got six fish when they usually get 150-200. Indian Creek Hatchery has about 80 broodstock fish in it right now, this is a good number. A few have come back to the hatchery, most of the fish came from the mainstem via netting. The early rain is bringing some fish in. They saw three fish in the creek yesterday which is a big deal. Numbers at Huntley Park are down but not as bad as it looks. The 10-year average is high, so it makes the numbers look a lot smaller. Some species are doing good, but some are at 1/3 to 1/2 of normal but rains still to come. Spawning at the hatchery will occur in about a month. Some repair work is being done at the hatchery because one of the tanks with a pond liner ripped. The liner has shrunk over the years and was cut by the frame. That has been patched now. S. Janego asked if hatcheries are prioritized higher than other places by the state fire marshal or ODF. R. Lindquist said he wasn't sure but that the fire marshal oversees all of that.

R. Ellison: Reed and Martyne have finished nutrient enrichment, full speed ahead with eggs to fry deliveries. On the McKenzie River the fish sorter has less than 2% PHOS above Leaburg dam. Improved vastly over first couple of years of the sorter efforts. Mill Creek Revitalization project in Turner has been completed. Local nurseries donated a lot of plants, they had 88% survival of the plants that were put into the riparian area. Students loved it. R. Ellison toured the historic hatchery on McKenzie River where we had a project funding proposal that was tabled. The project was finished, and the walkway is beautiful. Construction was done by the same company that has been restoring covered bridges in Oregon. 16 cutthroat have been put in the pond of the historic hatchery. Phase 2 of the project is to make trails on the 45+ acre property to allow for educational opportunities for schools. They also plan for it to be open for groups like fly fishing groups to have meetings there. S. Janego asked that STAC members ask to bring up any issues that they need the entire STAC board to help with.

S. Janego: Talked to Jen Luke recently and said she is returning to STEP position. S. Janego said she got a lot of great volunteer ideas from the job rotation. D. Grosjacques added that she is one of the best STEP bios. Streamside Kokanee Carnival was a great educational event. Had 30 volunteers, and 10 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes participated. Chub and bullhead removal continues at Lava Lake. The John Day basin is full of warm water pools and invasive red swamp crayfish, pikeminnows, and it's really sad. It was a really beautiful system. Is there something the STAC/STEP group can do to help the invasive species problems at the lakes like Suttle. Kokanee haven't showed up to spawn and it's already mid-October. It's full of smallmouth bass. There were high lakes stocking events with lots of volunteers. Dorris, Blow, and Lucky Lakes have been stocked with brook trout and rainbow trout and Jen is asking that people go fish there and report back how their catch is. Successful year at Metolius Pond. People love the pond, and it is getting a lot of use. The open season of the pond was expanded to match the trout season for the rest of the area.

S. Janego asked if STAC could draft an R&E grant and M. Olson pointed out that R&E doesn't like recurring projects or funding staff time. S. Janego pointed out that R&E funds local college interns to do invasive species removal. Could be a seed to get a project going. M. Olson said a letter from the STAC could be a good start. T. Stahl added that the invasive species are a big problem, and the department is aware of it. 4 aspects: 1. Prevent invasive species spread. 2. Alerting where we have problems and monitoring them. Could be ways for STAC and STEP to help with this one. 3. Response when there is an issue found. 4. How do we make decisions about shifting to new management strategies and prioritization of issues? S. Janego said maybe we could get universities involved and research on indicator species. J. Eubank said that it might be good to get some other people involved like Rick Boatner, the invasive species coordinator. He might have some ideas since he deals with those things every day. Would also be good to include other invasive species staff from the department. T. Stahl said Rick Boatner is involved in this but that the invasive species program is very small and wouldn't be able to do any removal, just advising.

**Action Item:** Need to draft paper on invasive species position for the agency as requested. What to do when premier fishery locations are being taken over by bluegill and catfish.

D. Grosjacques: Levi Simmons is the current STEP bio. On the Umpqua there are two big issues, Winchester Dam and Rock Creek Hatchery. The fish runs on the Umpqua were below average last year. Steelhead fishing last year was incredibly bad. Diamond Lake got funding for invasive species removal again. They are removing shiners and Tui chub. Brown trout and tiger trout have been stocked in Diamond Lake to help and that creates a good fishery as well. Volunteers have been doing events for kids. D. Grosjacques's fishing club helped at Bowman Pond and with broodstock

collection. The volunteers also help with the StW program at other locations where they catch fish, put them in ponds, then transfer to the hatcheries.

First elephant in the room is that Rock Creek Hatchery burned in 2020 and it's the only hatchery on the Umpqua. Talked about the programs that were being done at Rock Creek, those programs are still being done but at other hatcheries. The department has been waiting on insurance money. Electric bill to pump colder water into the hatchery is \$10,000 a month.

The other elephant in the room is Winchester Dam on N. Umpqua. Dam is privately owned. D. Grosjacques detailed the repair timeline this summer and lamprey salvage. Talked about ODFW suing over the lamprey that were lost. Water Watch has said they will pay for the removal of Winchester Dam.

C. Cole: Ryan Battleson (STEP bio) is now working as the Rogue wildlife biologist. The regional biologist said that there won't be a replacement until 2024 because of funding issues. In April there were over 800K steelhead lost. The 2024 half pounder and 2025 adult fishery will be impacted. But good news in 2022, 80,000 steelhead were held back and released later so that should help offset the loss. There was an electrical issue at the hatchery and finally the repairs to the electrical lines were made, it took 2 years. The water filtration system is another issue that the hatchery has. They are in the planning stages for a fix, possibly starting in 2025. In August the 5<sup>th</sup> annual pikeminnow roundup occurred, it's getting bigger every year. This summer, there were two fish migration barriers removed. One on Slate Creek and one on Little Butte Creek. Delivered eggs to 45 schools. So far this year the highest return of Chinook to Cole Rivers that has occurred. More than double the 10-year average. S. Janego asked if C. Cole had ideas why. He said maybe it was the closure of the ocean fisheries. Phenomenal year for the Rogue fishery. The group talked about how the positive news was nice to hear.

C. Bennett: First rains brought a bunch of fish in. Noble Creek got over 600 Chinook. Morgan Creek has seen over 1000 in the last week. Spawning will start soon at Noble Creek and M. Parks Creek hatcheries. Both hatcheries are run by STEP volunteers. 25-30 members came to the last meeting, so volunteer effort is looking good. Coos Basin Salmon Derby was successful with help of Tenmile STEP group. There was a fundraising dinner also very successful. Program on Coquille saw 303 Chinook return, which is some promising recovery. Smallmouth bass and striped bass are an issue on the Coquille.

### **Mini-Grant Fund Update About Last Year**

M. Olson presented the mini-grant request amounts, approved amounts, return funds, total spent, and number of projects completed. M. Olson explained that unspent mini-grant money goes back to R&E but is not lost. S. Janego pointed out that STEP biologists also use their budgets to cover small projects occasionally. M. Olson encouraged the group to tell their constituents about the mini-grant program.

### **Fish Division Update**

T. Stahl gave an update on Fish Division. The department put together a high-level overview for the legislature about "The State of Salmon." It was about the state of salmon and steelhead currently.

Highlights include- There have been some concerns about certain stocks but there are also bright spots such as the chum introduction process in the lower Columbia and we have been able to establish a broodstock program that is now self-sufficient. Hoping to have recovery in the Klamath basin with the removal of dams. Oregon coast coho might be able to be delisted in the next 5-year review by NOAA. The Umpqua is an area of concern. In terms of management into the future, habitat is a focus. It will help in a variety of ways including water temperature and quality and suppressing invasive species. Responsible management of species directly through angling regulations, direct intervention of invasives and better/more data collection are other key topics moving forward. Final thing is about our hatcheries and the needs for new technologies in respect to chilling and research to improve hatchery fish survival, interaction with wild fish, and hatchery vulnerabilities into the future due to flow levels and climate change.

Agency presented to the Commission the Beaver Action Plan which came from years of hard work. 4 pillars. 1. Data and science to understand where beaver are. 2. On the ground actions for beavers to help them thrive. Availability of

habitat for the beaver to exist. 3. Direct management of beaver as a critter. They can cause damage and issues for people. How do we minimize that conflict. Encourage people to find solutions that are non-lethal to coexist with beavers. 4. Coordination and outreach. What we need to do and who we need to talk to, to accomplish the other 3 pillars.

There is a webpage with information about Winchester Dam available on the department website.

There was disconcerting news from Idaho this summer that quagga mussels were found in the Snake River. This is the first time they have been found in the PNW.

R. Lindquist asked about the state of the salmon topic. What was discussed about sealions, seals, etc. because it is a huge issue up and down the coast. Seals are being seen in the rivers. T. Stahl said the part of the presentation on predation was just an acknowledgement of it but focused on the non-native fish. There are no options to lethally take pinnipeds outside of the areas around Bonneville Dam and Willamette Falls. As of yet, they haven't been identified as a limiting factor in the coastal rivers for salmonids.

S. Janego asked how the role of volunteers plays into Fish Division's strategies to tackle these big issues. T. Stahl said that it is amazing the range of activities that the STEP volunteers are involved in. He said he would be happy to hear ideas from STAC about how to encourage and improve volunteer engagement. S. Janego said that Montana has a website where you can submit a picture and report of things you see to Montana Fish and Wildlife. R. Lindquist added that the annual report last year said there was 117 years of volunteer time had been put in.

**Action Item:** STAC will come up with ideas about how to encourage and improve volunteer engagement and utilize them for department efforts.

## **Mini-grant reviews**

### **Bridge Over Old McKenzie Hatchery Community Fishing Pond MG 23-01**

This was tabled last meeting because of wanting more details about the walkway. M. Olson reached out to the applicant and the response is included in the packet. The work has been completed. S. Janego asked if engineering approved plans were received. M. Olson said no, but pictures of the completed bridge were included. R. Ellison said the discovery center extended an invite to STAC to tour the bridge and that the work was done by a reputable company. R. Ellison provided some positive stories about 8 education events that have already occurred at the center. S. Janego reiterated that if we got an engineering stamp, STAC would approve it. C. Cole and D. Grosjacques both echoed that. R. Lindquist said if they are that credible of a company, why not scan the plans and send them to ODFW to review. S. Janego suggested the group consider approving pending approved engineering plans.

**Motion:** R. Ellison motioned to approve the project contingent on stamped engineering plans being provided to ODFW by November 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by S. Janego. Passed unanimously.

### **Salmon Watch MG 23-02**

M. Parks talked about the project. They are requesting funds for rain gear for outdoor education. D. Grosjacques asked where the equipment will be stored and how they would be distributed. M. Parks said she thought they would be stored at Salmon Watch and then returned to Salmon Watch.

**Motion:** C. Bennett motioned to approve, R. Lindquist seconded, passed unanimously.

### **Florence STEP Whittaker Creek Trap Repair MG 23-03**

C. Clapp gave an overview of the project request. Weir repair costs.

J. Eubank said they are a really good group. Said that moving forward they will ask for the money before the repairs but that personnel have changed and there are environmental challenges like trees taking out the trap. S. Janego said that it would be nice to see hours tied to total labor line item.

**Motion:** D. Grosjacques motion to approve, J. Eubank seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

#### **Wallowa Fish District Fall Rendezvous MG 23-04**

M. Olson talked about the project. The event is a fall broodstock collection event. Volunteers come and catch steelhead for the broodstock program. Project ask is for Porta-potty, handwashing station, and folding chair rentals. S. Janego added that this year there was collaboration with other states. R. Lindquist said they do something similar for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in their district and the STEP biologist there pays for the porta-potty. C. Clapp added that Jen's budget is the same, but the area that she covers is much larger.

R. Lindquist said that he has been moved with the 13 counties that Jen has and now thinks the cost is justified.

Motion: C. Cole motioned to approve, D. Grosjacques seconded, passed unanimously.

#### **Fish Cloth Dissection Models MG 23-05**

Tom VanderPlaat gave a presentation. Tom showed the group the cloth dissection models.

Motion: C. Bennett motioned to approve, M. Parks seconded, passed unanimously.

#### **Eggs to Fry MG 23-06**

R. Ellison gave an overview of the project application. Heritage school is looking for an eggs to fry setup for their school. M. Parks asked if tanks are covered by mini grants. M. Olson said he couldn't find anything on if we do or don't. Gave some background on the current setup. C. Cole said he wasn't sure why we would fund this when we give out tanks and setups and have told other groups not to apply through this avenue.

R. Lindquist asked M. Parks if the schools or districts provide any funding for the eggs to fry programs. M. Parks said that NWF applies for grants, buys setups and gives them to the schools. The schools often do fundraising to buy their own. M. Parks said this would set a precedent that mini grants could be used for tanks and then we would likely have dozens of requests. The group discussed how the budget could be eaten up by egg to fry kits if these were allowed. S. Janego floated the idea to ask R&E for \$25,000 for tanks each biennium.

Will discuss policy later in the afternoon.

Motion: D. Grosjacques motioned to deny, C. Cole seconded, motion passed unanimously.

#### **Break for Lunch**

#### **STEP Rules Outcome Discussion**

M. Olson gave an update that the STEP rules were finalized and filed and are now in permanent rule.

#### **Climate Change and Hatchery Resiliency**

B. Hinnners gave a presentation about climate change and hatchery resiliency. B. Hinnners talked about the various issues that are occurring, issues that are predicted to occur, and how the department is working on identifying solutions and options. These issues include water levels, water temperatures, water quality, pathogens, earthquakes, flooding, and others. Six hatcheries were used for the analysis with a selection from around the state. Adaptive capacity was determined for each of the identified risks to determine what the highest risks are and what we can prepare for.

Cooling water is energy intensive so if water was to be chilled at a hatchery it would likely be coupled with a recirculation system so the chilled water wouldn't move through the hatchery a single time and dump into the river but instead be filtered, treated, and moved through again.

Hatchery resiliency has been added to the department's strategic plan.

## Open STAC Discussion

Propagation Proposals: The group talked about the propagation proposals and determined which ones need to be reviewed and reapproved and which ones don't need to be reviewed until the management plans in the area are up for review. R. Lindquist said that review included looking at the number of active members available for the workload. D. Grosjacques said the group doesn't have a say to approve or not but that the group advises if the proposals look good or not.

Invasive Species: S. Janego said that there seems to be enough energy and push to develop the proposal for an invasive species program. D. Grosjacques talked about Diamond Lake and the cost of it to maintain. S. Janego recognized R. Lindquist's point earlier that advising the agency and the Commission about these issues is one of the main duties of STAC.

**Action Item:** S. Janego asked the group who would volunteer to handle this. D. Grosjacques said he would participate. D. Grosjacques said Gary Galovich should be involved and Gary agreed to review ideas and provide feedback. S. Janego would participate.

C. Clapp talked about how the Florence STEP is going to end the Munsel Creek coho program because of water issues. Looking at starting up trout program at the high school in place of it. S. Janego asked if the salmon efforts would move elsewhere, and the answer was no. R. Lindquist added that the creeks in his area are also having water issues that are keeping fish from getting back to the hatcheries at times. S. Janego talked about moving hatcheries down to the estuaries to create terminal fisheries in the bays to satisfy the sport angling need.

**Action Item:** If there is any news about the \$1M study of the cost and benefit analysis of Oregon hatcheries STAC would like to know about it.

Wind farms: R. Lindquist talked about the discussions about offshore wind farms that are square miles and 1,000 feet tall. Multiple coastal counties have written letters opposing these wind farms. The environmental impact can't be assessed until the proposals are submitted.

**Action Item:** Can STAC have someone from the department come talk to the group about offshore wind at the next meeting?

**Action Item:** Topics for next meeting agenda: Rock Creek, Winchester Dam, Klamath Dams.

**Action Item:** STAC will talk about who wants to go to AFS, we can send one member.

## STAC Initiatives

The group discussed operational guidelines.

M. Olson highlighted that the guidelines now say STAC members may serve up to two four-year terms as appointed by the governor. M. Olson asked the group to discuss if they want to limit people to two terms whether or not they are consecutive terms. R. Lindquist said that if you have just two terms, that would bring in new people. However, if there is a lack of interest in an area, saying two consecutive terms would allow someone to come back and serve an underrepresented area. S. Janego said that term limits are good because it gets new ideas in. Group said they like the language of two four-year terms.

STAC Mini-Grants section – J. Eubank wants some clarity around the 30–60-day grant process in the document. The group agreed that the timeframe should be struck from the document.

List of types of projects should be sourced from the application page.

Board Meeting Schedule section - Group talked about wanting to have more than two meetings a year. R. Lindquist would support 3 meetings a year. Third meeting a year could be in December/January with the STEP bios at their annual meeting.

**Action Item:** M. Olson is going to look at the budget and see how much an additional meeting would cost and where that money would come from. He will make edits to the document and send it out to the committee before the next meeting.

## **Mini-Grant Process**

Mini-Grant subcommittee developed a mission statement to outline the reason for the mini-grant. First priority was to keep it simple. Second was to develop a list of criteria to outline what projects are eligible. Third was to update the website with info on who to contact. Problems were that it was hard to find the link to start an application. The web page says to contact your step biologist but there needs to be a link with a list of current step bios. Electronic signatures are OK, and no need to require paper copies be mailed to Salem HQ. The committee developed a two-page briefer or “How To” guide that we should attach to the website.

M. Olson went over some changes to the STAC Mini-Grant Program packet proposed edits.

**Action Item:** Group wants consistency between all the documents in the language used for **Grant Categories**.

R. Lindquist wants to add language about needing an engineering stamp for projects that present a liability like a bridge, crane, etc.

S. Janego spoke to whether or not the document should specify that projects need to ask for money before conducting the work. Said that all of the projects work towards our goals. M. Olson said that in all of his grant experience, expenses incurred before project approval were ineligible for reimbursement. The group pontificated on whether they are making a big deal out of an issue that isn't a big deal. The group seemed to agree that if a group spends the money before approval, they are the ones taking the risk that it won't be reimbursed. Group wants to leave it open.

## **STAC & R&E Collaboration**

Tom VanderPlaat spoke to the group about collaboration between STAC & R&E. Tom talked about how valuable a joint meeting could be. He is not pleased to see that the Commission no longer wants to have STEP presentations. Those presentations were a way to highlight the valuable work that STEP volunteers are doing. Wants to strategize on how to get back in front of the Commission. Talked about how many STEP positions right now are not fully staffed and how frustrating that is. Would like to see the money for mini-grants increased. Would like to see angler education coordinate more with STEP. The group talked about alternative funding sources, indexing R&E funds license surcharge.

## **Board Elections**

D. Grosjacques nominated S. Janego for chair and R. Lindquist as Vice chair. S. Janego and R. Lindquist both accepted the nominations.

**Motion:** C. Bennett motioned to appoint S. Janego as chair and R. Lindquist as VC. C. Cole seconded. Discussion: R. Lindquist and the group talked about when terms expire and how replacing the chair would go with S. Janego terming out after 1.5 years. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Administration Discussion**

Budget: M. Olson gave a budget update including the projects approved today. Group talked about wanting to spend the mini-grant money this biennium.

**Action Item:** Send Tom VanderPlaat the budget slide from the 21-23 biennium.

STAC Recruitment Update: North Coast position – have applications.

M. Olson gave an update on the vacant STEP positions.

Next Meeting: March 21. Will request DO and a Commissioner to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48PM