



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Fish Passage Task Force

MEETING MINUTES

February 25, 2022

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Salem, Oregon

Attending:

The following attended all, or part of, the meeting via phone or Teams:

FPTF

Representing

Zak Toledo	Public-at-Large (Chair)
Ken Bierly	Public-at-Large
Bill Cunningham	Public-at-Large (<i>absent</i>)
Denise Hoffert	Fishing and Conservation
Fred Messerle	Water Users (<i>absent</i>)
Kelly Moore	Fishing and Conservation
April Snell	Water Users (<i>absent</i>)
Steve Albertelli	Water Users
Terry Turner	Fishing and Conservation (<i>absent</i>)

ODFW

Title

Greg Apke	Statewide Fish Passage Coordinator, Salem
Pete Baki	ODFW-ODOT Fish Passage Liaison, Salem
Katherine Nordholm	Fish Screens and Passage Coordinator, Salem
Alan Ritchey	Fish Screens and Passage Program Manager
Josh Hanson	ODFW-ODOT Fish Passage Liaison, Salem
Renee Coxen	Coastal Implementation Coordinator
Kara Anlauf-Dunn	Fish Research Evaluation, Data & Decision Support

ODOT

Title

Allen Gillette	ODOT Biologist
Cash Chesselet	ODOT-NOAA Liaison

ODF

Title

Thomas Whittington	ODF Water Quality Specialist
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Public

Organization

Jena Liberty	Member of the public from Roseburg
Janell James	Roseburg Tracker
Brian Posewitz	Water Watch
Mike Tripp	Public



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Fish Passage Task Force

MEETING AGENDA

February 25, 2022 Virtual (Teams) Meeting

---- To join meeting click on link below ----

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Friday – Feb 25, 2022 @ 0900 to 1230 hrs.

- ~ 9:00am ----- Call to Order -----
- ~ 9:05 ^a Review & Approve Agenda and Dec 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes (*Chair Toledo*)
- ~ 9:10 ^a Task Force Member Updates
- ~ 9:30 ^b Public Comment Period
 - *Public Testimony: 48-hour Advance Registration Required*
- ~ 10:00 ^b ODOT Culvert Repair Agreement Commission Update – (*Peter Baki*) 10 min
- ~ 10:10 ^b Fish Passage Program Budget (*Bierly and Moore*) 30 Min
- ~ 10:40 ^b Tide Gate Habitat Prioritization – (*Kara Anlauf Dunn*) 30 min
- ~ 11:10 ^b SB 2298- Environmental Weirs Administrative Rules Update – (*Nordholm*) 10 min
- ~ 11:20 ^b Winchester Dam Maintenance Project Update – (*Apke*) 10 min
- ~ 11:30 ^b Jump Creek Update from OFWC Meeting – (*Nordholm*) 10 min
- ~ 11:40 ^b Forest Accord Issues & Updates – (*Apke & Ritchey*) 15 min
- ~ 11:55 ^b Fish Passage Exemption Reviews – (*Nordholm*) 10 min
- ~ 12:05 ^b Oregon Administrative Rule Revision Initiative Updates – (*Apke*) 15 min
- ~ 12:20 ^b Other Business, Issues, Initiatives (*all*)
- ~ 12:25 ^a Meeting Recap, Actions Items and Next Meeting Agenda Build (Umpqua Basin)
- ~ 12:30pm ****** Meeting Adjourn ******

* PUBLIC TESTIMONY 48 HOUR ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED

If you wish to provide verbal public comment on any agenda item you must pre-register before 9:00AM Wednesday February 23rd, a minimum of 48 hour prior to the meeting. Written comment will be accepted and encouraged.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE FEBRUARY 25th 2022 TASK FORCE MEETING

When registering to speak please provide your first and last name, which agenda item you wish to speak to, a valid email address and phone number. Two ways that you can register to speak include: 1) send an email at greg.d.apke@odfw.oregon.gov ; the information listed above must be provided in your email, 2) call the Department at 503-931-4361 and provide the information identified above. Submit written comments to the email address identified.

PUBLIC COMMENT

This is a virtual meeting through Microsoft Teams (*see above link*). If pre-registered to speak, you will be recognized by the Task Force Chair during the agenda item through Teams. The Task Force places great value on information received from the public and wants to avoid arbitrary limits on the time or attention allocated to each person. Therefore, persons desiring to provide verbal comment or otherwise present information to the Task Force are encouraged to: 1) limit comments to two (2) minutes, recognize that substance, not length, determines the value of comment or written information; 2) endorse rather than repeat comment(s) and 3) groups or organizations wishing to comment should designate one spokesperson whenever possible. Written comments are encouraged and will accepted.

- Agenda Item Types:**
- ^a – Business
 - ^b – Information
 - ^c – Recommendation
 - ^d – Work Session

2022 Meeting Dates & Locations: Feb 25, May 20-21 (Umpqua Basin), Oct 7, Dec 9

Virtual TEAMS Meeting Called to Order

Chair Toledo called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. Greg Apke reminded the group that the meeting was being recorded. There were only four members of the Task Force present, as the only actionable item on the agenda was the review and approval of the December meeting minutes and agenda, the meeting will proceed. Those items will be addressed later.

^a Task Force Member Updates

Chair Zak Toledo began the Task Force member updates with an update he characterized as more of a proposed consideration for future meetings. He would like to see an annual work plan developed for the Task Force. The Task Force has accomplished a lot in the last year, and it would be helpful to know the upcoming milestones and what kind of accomplishments the Task Force wants to make. A work plan would be useful. He proposed a list of items, including the fish passage rules revisions, barrier prioritization, task force recruitments, and other work efforts. Apke mentioned that the next two task force members whose terms are expiring are Bill Cunningham and Ken Bierly, whose terms end in 2023.

^a Review & Approve Agenda and Dec 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes (*Chair Toledo*)

At 9:07 AM, Chair Toledo mentioned that Denise Hoffert had joined the meeting. As the Task Force now had a quorum, he suggested that they circled back to review the meeting agenda and minutes from the previous meeting. Bierly moved to approve the meeting minutes and the agenda. Albertelli seconded the motion, and the Task Force voted 4-0 to approve.

^a Task Force Member Updates (*continued*)

Ken Bierly shared his experience presenting on the CRPA to the ODFW Commission. He also had a couple of conversations with staff and Commissioners about the FPTF. He has received a couple of questions from the Commission about the FPTF, and he thinks it would be good to have a broader conversation with them about the Task Force and fish passage.

Steve Albertelli has been working on two big culver replacements (one is 64 ft wide). He plans for a busy field season replacing those. Apke asked how those projects were developing and if ODFW is at the table. Albertelli shared that the requirement comes from the DEQ and that the Forest Service owns the culverts and are implementing the project. Apke asked if Steve could share pictures of the project at future meetings.

Denise Hoffert updated the Task Force on her change in employment. She is no longer working as a consultant and is now working at the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. She is working with the Focus Investment Partners around the state. She shared that that Oregon is one of the three states that removed seven dams last year, according to American Rivers. American Rivers released their report on dam removal earlier in February. Oregon was tied for 1st place for dam removal projects (Vermont and Pennsylvania also removed seven dams).

Kelly Moore shared that he recommended that the fish passage briefing to the Commissions also include the needs of the fish, fish passage, and the scope of the fish passage program. He would be willing to help tee up some things for the Commission to consider.

Not on Agenda Items

Chair Toledo mentioned that the meeting is a running bit ahead of schedule, and Apke had a couple of items to discuss that were not on the agenda. One item the Task Force should be aware of is the upcoming shift of chair and vice-chair. Chair Toledo has been the chair of the FPTF for about a year.

He will continue to be chair at the next meeting but wants the Task Force to consider who may be chair and vice-chair for consideration at the next meeting.

From Chat:

[9:18 AM] Ken Bierly (Guest)

Steve- Would you be willing to chair the Task Force?

[9:27 AM] Albertelli, Steve (PacifiCorp)

I can do that if no one else is clamoring for the responsibility.

^b ODOT Culvert Repair Agreement Commission Update – (Peter Baki) 10 min

At 9:17 AM, Alan Richey suggested that Pete Baki cover his agenda item before the public comment period. Baki shared that the next CRPA agreement passed the Commission with no changes. Ken Bierly and Terry Turner represented the task force at the Commission meeting. Two members from ODOT were also there to answer questions. The Commission had questions about the infrastructure funding and how that would affect passage projects within ODOT and the funding for the CRPA. Baki shared his appreciation for everyone's help, and he thinks that the agreement is beneficial to both agencies. Richey thanked Bierly and Turner for their help at the meeting. ODFW is still under the current agreement; the new one starts Jan 1st. The new agreement maintains the two liaison positions and the 4.41 million that goes into the passage restoration account. The agency agreements facilitating the new CRPA are being developed by both agencies. Baki shared that ODFW would aim to put out another request for proposals in 2023 and that they (ODOT and ODFW) have discussed adding the possibility of screening projects as qualifying projects.

Apke asked if there were any large topics that the Commission discussion focused on. Baki mentioned that they had a lot of questions about if ODOT could pay more and wondered if they would be able to pay more with the new federal infrastructure funds. Bierly elaborated and added that there was some conversation about the climate funding and questions on if that could be used for the CRPA, but there is currently not enough information to figure out how that may be used.

Chair Toledo asked if the RFP review would include Task Force members and suggested adding that to the work plan. Baki indicated that there is usually a Task Force representative on the review team.

Not on Agenda Item

Apke shared about the upcoming Oregon American Fisheries Society meeting. The meeting is free this year and will be virtual. He shared that there are good talks scheduled. Bierly stated that registration closed on Feb 12th, but he was still able to register on the 24th.

~ 9:30 **^b Public Comment Period**

Jena Liberty, a member of the public from Rosberg, spoke. She has lived in Roseburg for about two years and is interested in the Winchester Dam fish ladder. She was recently there picking up trash and learned a lot about the responsibilities of the state and the private owners. She feels that the fish ladder should be fixed, the ladder and the area surrounding it. She has recently learned about the WaterWatch lawsuit regarding the dam. She asked if there have been any studies about how many fish may not have made it to their spawning ground due to the dam and ladder. Apke shared some details about the fish ladder and the ODFW video enumerating station. He let Ms. Liberty know that a good point of contact would be the local district fish biologist. Apke shared that the fish ladder has known deficiencies in meeting fish passage standards, but fish did make it over the dam using the ladder. Ritchey shared that the historic fish counts at the dam are online doing back decades. ODFW doesn't have data on what fish don't use the ladder, but we do have the counts of the fish that use the ladder. Apke also let her know that there is a Winchester Dam agenda item later in the meeting that she is welcome to stay around for.

Chair Toledo asked if any other members of the public would like to make a public comments. There were no other hands or public comment. The public comment period was closed at 9:36 AM.

b Fish Passage Program Budget (Bierly and Moore) 30 Min

At 9:37 AM, Ken Bierly shared that he and Kelly Moore had co-written a letter to Debbie Colbert and asked to have a conversation about the fish passage program. The conversation was about fish passage issues, monitoring issues, and general resource issues. They felt the conversation was good, and they tried to emphasize the importance of the fish passage program. Moore shared that it was good to have a conversation with Debbie about their concerns, and she is always helpful. It was clear that some of the issues they raised she had experience in and others, not so much. Moore shared that he thinks staff does a good job with the issues; however, the issues that they must deal with are growing, not shrinking. There were some specifics about budget questions and opportunities for future policy option packages, they also discussed how the needs of the program are increasing and the funding situation is limiting. Additional monitoring is needed in many areas. Moore mentioned possible future needs if Elliott State Forest becomes a research forest. He would like to bring up these and other opportunities for ODFW staff. Bierly and Moore both felt that it was important to reach out to the ODFW management and expressed their own opinion on these issues they felt that the agency will face.

Moore shared that there is an opportunity for an in-person meeting in the future and encourages FPTF members to join and participate. He also thought it would be beneficial to invite a member of two of the Commission. Apke asked what kind of needs had been identified that the Task Force could help with. Moore shared that one need is around of idea of tidal estuary wetlands, especially around tide gates that drain less than 5 acres. There needs to be research into the ecological value of those areas. Apke said that he is thinking of the next steps to add to a future work plan.

Bierly said he thought that information could be identified in areas that have the greatest uncertainties in the Fish Passage decision-making progress, and efforts from Research could be prioritized to help inform the decisions that the passage program faces. That is why they mentioned the tidal wetlands as an area that needs research also, the Department has the requirement from the legislature to permit Environmental Restoration Weirs, but there is no money to pay for the monitoring to determine how they function. Currently, there is no assurance that programs are

getting implemented for the good of the public resources. Apke asked if Ritchey could think of anything specific to funding and staff positions.

Ritchey shared that the loss of a couple of fish passage positions coupled with the undertaking of the rules advisory process has led to some staff shortages. He mentioned, and Moore also discussed, the upcoming Private Forest Accord and how that may affect ODFW. He has been following it but doesn't have much information.

Bierly discussed how the ODFW research program provides support to many different parts of the Department. He and Moore were asking for dedicated funds so ODFW could do research to support fish passage. Moore stated that it was also important to encourage ODFW research and fish passage to include the district fish biologists in the decision-making process about research projects.

Apke asked Denise Hoffert if she had any perspective on prioritizing fish passage money. She replied that better coordination between district staff and research staff would be extremely beneficial. She has experienced the disconnect. She also thinks that support for monitoring would be beneficial. ODFW was often not supportive of monitoring before and after a fish passage project, taking the stance that they knew improving fish passage would improve opportunities for fish. However, she feels that monitoring and documenting the response of fish passage projects should be a higher priority for ODFW. Bierly shared a couple of examples of OWEB focused investment partnership projects around the state. He sees that there is a recognition of focused improvements having a beneficial impact.

The group discussed the legislative report as another method of communicating the future needs of the Fish Passage Program. Bierly suggested that the Task Force review the legislative report before to submitting it. Apke suggested that the Task Force could add it to their fall agenda. Alan reminded the group that it is a semiannual report and the next one is due in July. Apke suggested adding it to the May Task Force meeting agenda and including it in future work plans.

^b Tide Gate Habitat Prioritization – (Kara Anlauf Dunn) 30 min

Apke shared that tide gates have been an increasing priority to address over the last decade. ODFW fish passage has been working to develop tools, inventory, and prioritizations to address fish passage at tide gates. There has been a data gap in the Department's understanding of tide gates and the habitat they impact. That is where Kara Anlauf-Dunn and the REDD (Research, Evaluation, Data and Decision support) group comes in. They are researching estuaries and limiting factors around estuaries, including tide gates. Apke shared that this work was built on data and information we had and did not result in more on-the-ground data gathering.

Kara Anlauf-Dunn introduced herself, the REDD group, and their role within the agency. They act as "consultants" within ODFW to help the agency make data-driven decisions.

Anlauf-Dunn discussed the variations of anadromous life histories in juvenile salmonids and the goal of enhancing different life histories. Different life history strategies are important to maintain population resiliency. This research aimed to identify habitat criteria above tide gates that could be used to build a tool to prioritize investment in these habitats. They used tide gate inventory and other available data sources to make a decision support tool. Throughout the process they worked to

identify attributes to feed the decisions support tool. The attributes needed to have the data already, cover all the coast and needed to be standardized and systematic throughout the range. Then they investigated the attributes to decide what went into ecological uplift for fish. Bierly asked how integrity is defined. Anlauf-Dunn discussed how it was defined because it was different in each category. She discussed each attribute in the tool individually, the attributes she covered were:

- Catchment area – the size of the area the tide gate would be draining
- Percent Forested – the amount of area that was forested
- Freshwater Integrity – the amount of anadromous spawning and rearing habitat as an upstream distance from the tide gate
- Tidal Wetland Integrity – tidal area and channel area
- Impervious surface – the amount of impervious surface in the area.

The process of the decision tool; – they identified the attributes then added them to the BBN decision support tool to output the “ecological uplift” for every tide gate in Oregon. The inputs led to derived quantity calculates that resulted in an output for rank. These included tidal wetland integrity and ecological uplift scores. The scores were the probability of ecological uplift if the tide gate was restored. They also ran the model with 2.5 m sea-level rise so they could compare it to the output of the model ran without sea-level rise.

Apke asked about drainage areas with multiple tide gates and Anlauf-Dunn clarified that many times there are multiple tide gates within the same catchment area, and that there is a way to pull that out of the data in the model. Bierly asked about probability tables and smaller marsh areas. PMAP data set does break out the data into different kinds of habitats. There is uncertainty about the relative contributions of each kind of data to the fish populations. Moore asked if there are recommendations coming out of this research. Anlauf-Dunn discussed how there is a lot of data they would like to use that has only been collected in a small number of areas. So expanding access to spatial data is important, if expanded spatial data is available, there would be more inputs. Temperature would be important to include. Moore asked what would be useful to look at if you had two projects that came out with identical scores. Anlauf-Dunn said that would be an interesting research project for determining the details for each potential habitat and how each would contribute to fish.

Apke discussed an overlooked assumption that the fix at a site may not fully abandon a tide gate, and asked how treatment types (tide gate solutions) fit into this. What kind of tide gate will be replaced, and how functional is the replacement tide gate at providing access upstream? Bierly brought up linking standards to potential losses. Apke discussed that is absolutely one way to use this model, and brought up one area that is missing is smaller soughs without upstream spawning habitat, and they should no be overlooked. Apke asked about the timeline and process for the results of the research. A document explaining the methods will be completed, data provided to ODFW, and maps by the end of March. There is an opportunity for adjustments to the model after that. Hoffert asked if NOAA was fully supportive of using the methodology. Apke shared that NOAA was involved with the process and had input.

From Chat:

[10:46 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

Is there a slide showing SLR ?

Kara discussed how this is not a sea level rise, it wasn't included in the final analysis, it was just something they were interested in seeing. Right now, there isn't an understanding about how that fits into the process at the moment.

[10:47 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

ok thanks

[10:49 AM] Ken Bierly (Guest)

Thank you very much Kara!

Apke promises to keep the task force updated on the program and the outputs.

^b SB 2298- Environmental Weirs Administrative Rules Update – (Nordholm) 10 min

Nordholm presented an update on the progress of the draft ORAs before they go in front of the Commission in March. There have been some changes since the last fish passage Task Force meeting. Nordholm shared the major changes and asked if there were any questions or concerns from the Task Force.

Bierly mentioned that the modifications to the rules looked fine to him. He asked if there were any other landowners who are interested beyond the one who submitted preliminary applications. Nordholm stated that there had not been anyone else reach out to her about the program, but she has heard that there may be other landowners interested. It's likely they would wait until the rules are finalized, and the pilot project is in place.

Moore asked if there is a requirement for monitoring or if the Commission could impose a requirement for monitoring. Nordholm said they plan to word the rules so that monitoring could be required in the future if funding is provided for that.

^b Winchester Dam Maintenance Project Update – (Apke) 10 min

Apke and Ritchey presented an update on Winchester Dam. There has been a proposed project to repair the dam. The dam is a statewide high priority barrier. Apke and Ritchey shared details of the proposed repair. The owners have submitted permits to the USACE and DSL. Those permits are being reviewed. There is currently some leakage on south shore. The repairs are looking at installing sheet pile dam below grade to stop some of the leakage and the whirlpool it is causing. The sheet pile would not be a 30% by volume trigger. Ritchey discussed how one of the driving forces are dam safety issues. Apke shared designs and pictures. Apke discussed how ODFW is still working to identify the best time of year to do the work. The work would impact the fish ladder for around three weeks. Fish will not be able to move upstream at this time. There are still opportunities to explore other options as well.

Bierly let the group know that he sent some ideas for rule language to Apke earlier in the day for consideration in the subcommittee. He also discussed how this is an example of some significant work that will happen without addressing fish passage because of the way the triggers are structured. He mentioned that it would be interesting to know what the repair to the fishway would cost in comparison to the construction cost. Ritchey discussed how a large expense of this project is the work area isolation, which would also be needed for the fish ladder. Apke discussed that ODW does not own the fishway, ODFW has a viewing window at the fishway but has been advocating to do an inventory at the fishway. Hoffert asked how the repair is being financed. Ritchey discussed that it is a private dam associated with a homeowner's association. The HOA passed a bond to fund

the repair of the dam. Apke shared the changes that are proposed to fish passage rules around exemptions of repair for dam safety actions. Also, this repair would count toward the cumulative nature of dam repair if that was passed

From Chat:

[11:07 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

its closed

[11:11 AM] Denise Hoffert (Guest)

Hmmm, more sheet pile dams, ala Mirror Pond...

[11:15 AM] Denise Hoffert (Guest)

Ha! My question EXACTLY Ken.

[11:16 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

no

[11:16 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

no

[11:18 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

Federal Lawsuit by Water watch?

[11:21 AM] Ken Bierly (Guest)

do you know the legal basis of the lawsuit. Is if "take" of listed species?

[11:22 AM] Jena Liberty (Guest)

Brian Posewitz May know more if he is still here

Jump Creek Update from OFWC Meeting – (Nordholm) 10 min

Nordholm shared an update on the Jump Creek fish passage exemptions. The exemption requests for 10 structures on Jump Creek were presented to the Task Force in October 2021. The Task Force recommended approving the exemptions. Since the amount of habitat affected by the exemptions is more than 1 mile, the exemptions need to be approved by the ODFW Commission. The Commission heard the exemptions at the January Commission meeting. The Commission declined to decide on the exemptions at the Commission meeting. They asked for more information on the justification for the exemption, including the water right associated with the dam downstream from the exemption. They also asked for details on the geology of the area (connection with the confluence) and more information on the fish passage rules and exemptions in general. Nordholm plans to return to the Commission with more information at the June Commission meeting. Chair Toledo asked how the water right might inform the decision of the Commission. Nordholm said she doesn't know, but it doesn't affect the fining of the Department, specifically there would be no benefit to native migratory fish since fish can't make it upstream to the dam.

Forest Accord Issues & Updates – (Apke & Ritchey) 15 min

Apke discussed the private forest accord (PFA) and how the process and outcomes inform the fish passage rules revisions process. The PFA is still evolving and probably will be over the next few months. It is worth keeping the FPTF updated since there are fish passage authority intersections. The fish passage actions on forest land are administered through ODF.

Thomas Whittington, from the Oregon Department of Forest, gave an overview of the PFA. The PFA started in February of 2020, with an MOU between the timber community and the conservation community. The parties had mediated sessions to propose new rules. ODFW and

federal agencies provided input. The accord was signed in October, and it went to the legislative short session, which is in session right now. The PFA resulted in three bills that have been put forth this legislative session. SB 1501- provides for a rule making passage, the timing, and the funding for the departments that are involved with the accord. The Private Forest Accord Report spells out what is involved, and that has been posted publicly online. The PFAR spells out everything that was agreed to, including new standard for fish passage culverts. SB 1502 – provides a framework for a tax credit for small timberland owners. HB 4405 – is a revamp of the forest product harvest tax, to provide some designated mitigation funding. There is another tie here to ODFW, with money from the state to the mitigation fund.

Ritchey mentioned that from an ODFW prospective, this is a big improvement. This will result in most stream crossings being sized for the 100-year flow. ODFW will also have a more active role in classifying streams as fish or no fish. The challenge will be that it is on a quick timeline to meet some requirements. Whittington mentioned that the rule package in SB 1501 needs to be approved by November of this year.

Apke asked if there was a role for the Task Force. Ritchey encouraged public involvement and the ability to review the information on OLIS. Apke asked if fish passage exemptions or waivers would come in front of the ODFW and the Fish Passage Task Force. Will this still be the case under the PFA? Ritchey said that he would expect that to be the case.

From the Chat:

[11:42 AM] Ken Bierly (Guest)

I need to leave.

[11:42 AM] APKE Greg D * ODFW

Ok Thanks Ken! Stay tuned for the meeting minutes.

^b Fish Passage Exemption Reviews – (Nordholm) 10 min

Nordholm shared the fish passage exemptions that were reviewed this year. Fish passage exemptions approved by ODFW are reviewed every seven years. There are 78 fish passage exemptions in Oregon. This year there were nine exemptions needed to be reviewed. The nine exceptions were in five different ODFW Districts. Information was sent to each district for review, and the district biologists determined that there had been no change from the conditions at the sites when the exemptions were approved. Next year there will be 30 exemptions due for review.

^b Oregon Administrative Rule Revision Initiative Updates – (Apke) 15 min

Apke shared an update on the fish passage rules revision initiate process. Apke started by thanking the task force and the public for their involvement in the process. He gave a shout-out to the volunteers for putting in close to 400 hours of work on this initiative over the last year. Apke is working on developing a final revised rule document that will be available for public comment. That document will go through an internal review and then be available for public comments. He is currently planning to have the rules in front of the Commission sometime this fall with the hope of having them implemented in January of 2023.

Apke discussed some of the outstanding issues, including triggers for dams, tribal membership for the fish passage task force, net benefit, and the sizing of culverts for climate conditions. There will be another subcommittee meeting to cover these topics on March 15th.

^b Other Business, Issues, Initiatives (all)

The next fish passage task force meeting is scheduled for May 20th and 21st. The plan is for that meeting to be in person and in the Umpqua Basin. Apke updated the task force on the COVID updates. Currently, DAS buildings are scheduled to be open by May. Apke asked for Task Force input on what they might like to see in the Umpqua Basin.

^a Meeting Recap, Actions Items and Next Meeting Agenda Build (Umpqua Basin)

Chair Toledo reminded the Task Force to come to the May meeting with their recommendations for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Task Force. He mentioned that the May meeting would also be the meeting where the Task Force can Review the draft legislative update. The Task Force will work on the 12-month rolling work plan for the next meeting. Apke also mentioned that there would always be a virtual meeting option going forward. Apke covered a couple of other points.

- He circulated an article Bierly had sent him a couple of weeks prior to the meeting. The article was “Swim Ways of the World.” He thought it was a good article.
- Baki sent out a recorded presentation of a lamprey talk that will be given at AFS.
- Both Apke and Baki will be giving talks at the upcoming AFS meeting. Apke’s talk is on the rules revision initiative.
- ODFW has published new guidelines for in-water work timing. Those can be found online. He will send out the link after the meeting.

Chair Toledo asked if there were any additional comments or items for the agenda build. There were none.

****** Meeting Adjourn ******

Virtual Meeting Adjourned at 12:14 pm

[12:14 PM] Denise Hoffert (Guest)

Many thanks!! Looking forward to seeing you all in May!!