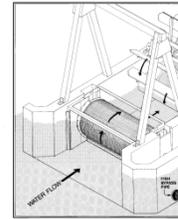




# Combined Fish Screening and Fish Passage Task Force Meeting *Meeting Minutes*



**Date:** June 23, 2023  
**Time:** 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
**Location:** Bend, OR (Bend Park and Rec. Dept.)  
 In-Person and Teams Virtual Meeting

**Fish Screening Task Force Attendance:**

Members	Representing	Present In Person	Present Virtually	Absent
Greg Harris ( <i>Chair</i> )	Agriculture Interests	x		
Kristin Bishop ( <i>Vice Chair</i> )	Fishing or Fish Conservation	x		
Alexis Vaivoda	The Public	x		
Robert (Bob) Durham	Agriculture Interests	x		
William Freeland	Fishing or Fish Conservation	x		
Darin Olson	Agriculture Interests	x		
Judith Barkstedt	Fishing or Fish Conservation			x

**Fish Passage Task Force Attendance:**

Members	Representing	Present In Person	Present Virtually	Absent
Kelly Moore	Fishing and Conservation	x		
Denise Hoffert	Fishing and Conservation			x
Terry Turner ( <i>Vice Chair</i> )	Fishing and Conservation	x		
Steve Albertelli	Water Users	x		
April Snell	Water Users	x		
Fred Messerle	Water Users	x		
Zak Toledo	Public-At-Large	x		
William Cunningham	Public-At-Large	x		
Ken Bierly ( <i>Chair</i> )	Public-At-Large			x

**ODFW Staff in Attendance:**

Corey Heath – Deschutes Watershed Manager  
 Ben Cambell, High Dester Hydropower Coordinator  
 Ben Stout, Natural Resources Specialist  
 Jerry George, District Fish Biologist  
 Katherine Nordholm, Fish Screen and Passage Coordinator  
 Greg Apke, Fish Screens and Passage Program Manager  
 Toby Schuler, Fish Screen Coordinator – The Dalles Screen Shop

Pete Baki (*virtually*), ODOT Liasson  
Ted Wise (*virtually*), Hydropower Coordinator

**Members of the Public in Attendance:**

Allen Gillette, ODOT  
Don Horton, Bend Parks and Rec  
Nathan Hovekamp, Bend Parks and Rec  
James Fraser  
Kurt Berning  
Michael Tripp

*\*members of the public may have joined virtually throughout the meeting.*

**Meeting Agenda**

**Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions**

Greg Apke opened the meeting with a discussion of the meeting overview, process, and agenda. This is the first combined Fish Screening and Fish Passage Task Force meeting.

**Welcome**

Corey Heath, the ODFW Deschutes Watershed Manager, introduced himself, welcomed both task forces, and provided an overview of the watershed.

**Meeting Overview, Logistics and Introductions**

Greg Apke reviewed meeting logistics and agenda.

**Review & Approve Agenda & Passage Task Force Feb 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes and Screening Task Force November 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes– (Vice Chair Turner and Chair Harris) 10 min**

**Motion:** Terry Tuner called the meeting to order and asked the Fish Passage Task Force for a motion to accept the February 24th meeting minutes. Bill Cunningham moved to accept meeting minutes and Zac Toledo seconded the motion. The Fish Passage Task Force voted, and the motion passed with seven yes votes.

**Motion:** Greg Harris called on the Fish Screen Task Force to order and asked for a motion to accept the November 9th meeting minutes. Bill Freeland moved to accept the meeting minutes and Kristin Bishop seconded the motion. The Fish Screening Task Force voted and the motion passed with six yes votes.

Terry Turner asked if there were any objections to the meeting agenda. There were none.

**Task Force Member Introductions and Updates**

Members of each Task Force introduced themselves, provided updates, and discussed issues around fish, water, fish passage, and screening within their geographic areas and representation. ODFW staff introduced themselves and provided overviews of their positions.

**Bend Park and Recreation – Mirror Pond**

Don Horton, the Executive Director of the Bend Park and Recreation Department, provided some background on the Department and their involvement with Mirror Pond and the Mirror Pond Dam prospective project. Don recently participated in a committee that reviewed fish passage alternatives at

the Mirror Pond dam. He shared an overview of the process and slides of the various alternatives that were considered. Options included a fish ladder, nature-like fishway, partially spanning rock ramp, or full-span rock ramp.

### **Deschutes Watershed Overview, Issues & Priority Passage Projects**

Jerry George, the Deschutes District Fish Biologist, provided an overview of the Deschutes Watershed District, including priority fish passage barriers and fish screens. He also discussed the status of fish runs in the Deschutes District and highlighted some successful fish passage and habitat projects from the area.

### **Public Comment Period**

#### ***There were two public comments:***

Kurt Berning (*virtual*) – with the Pudding River Watershed Council provided comments. Thanked ODFW and the Task Force for making the Fish Passage Priority list and described how the watershed uses the barrier list to prioritize restoration and funding. He thanked ODFW’s Dave Steward, Greg, and Toby for their work to support the watershed’s projects.

Michael Tripp (*in person*) – a local volunteer and member of multiple conservation groups, discussed the background of Mirror Pond and the goals that drove the investigation of the fish passage alternatives at Mirror Pond Dam. He provided the history of previous groups who worked toward finding a fish passage solution at the dam, and shared his opinion that ODFW’s support of fish passage is critical to moving any solution forward.

### ***5-minute break***

### **ODFW Screen Shop Update**

Toby Schuyler provided an update from The Dalles screen shop. He introduced himself and his role in the screen shop. He provided an overview of the shop, the area they cover, and what they do. He also covered recent The Dalles Screen Shop projects and updates on drought fund projects. Nordholm also talked about the unscreened diversion inventory and future plans for updating that information.

### **ODFW Program Staffing & Funding Updates**

Apke provided an update on the Fish Passage program staff. Alan Ritchey has retired, and with Apke becoming the acting Program Manager, the position of Fish Passage Coordinator is vacant. The vacancy recruitment recently closed, and we hope to have someone fill that position soon. Apke covered the current staff that work for the Screens and Passage program and discussed the funding for future passage program staff and projects.

### **Statewide Barrier Prioritization Effort & Work Committee**

Nordholm provided an update on the Statewide Barrier Prioritization effort and development of a work committee. Progress on updating the list has stalled with staff shortages and workload but will resume in 2024. Nordholm plans to send out a poll to the work committee to schedule the first work meeting and open a public comment period for the project.

### **Screening Task Force Updates, Agenda Items and Next Meeting**

Bill Freeland suggested more updates on Watershed Councils. Also suggested an update on the Monroe drop structure on the Long Tom River in Benton County. Darrin Olson mentioned SWCD funding for watershed councils. Bill suggested a future presentation on this.

### **Passage Task Force Updates, Agenda Items and Next Meeting**

Zac Toledo suggested a placeholder for tide gates at the Passage Task Force meeting. He mentioned he would like to plan out the next field visits, and to include tide gates. The Task Force discussed how to get more public involvement in future meetings. Fred Messerle suggested an update on the guidance document and the private forest accord.

**Other Business, Issues, Initiatives**

Ted Wise, ODFW Hydropower Coordinator, provided an update on the Lower Klamath Dam Removal Project; he covered which dams are being removed, the project timeline, and an update on the removals that have already begun. He also shared some of the expected biological and stream morphological outcomes in the years after the removal.

**Greg Harris proposed a joint suggestion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:28 PM**

**Action Items:**

- Nordholm to set up a meeting with the Fish Passage Task Force subcommittee for priority barrier updates.
- Nordholm to send out a Doodle poll for next Fish Screen Task Force meeting.
- Task Force members email Apke and Nordholm with suggestions for agenda items for the next meetings.