



Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 25, 2015

Location: Best Western Beachfront Inn
16008 Boat Basin Road
Brookings, OR 97415

Current Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program (R&E) Board Members

Board Member

Ray Monroe – Representing Commercial Troll Fisheries
Dixie Boley – Representing Fish Processing Industry
Bob Bumstead – Representing Recreational Fisheries
Jack Glass – Representing Recreational Fisheries

Board Member

Rich Heap – Representing Recreational Fisheries
Cary Johnson – Representing Gillnet Fisheries
Greg Silbernagel – Representing the Public

Call to Order & Agenda Approval

Chair Greg Silbernagel called the Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Program Board meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and introductions were made.

The Board reviewed the proposed meeting agenda. Projects 15-026, 15-030 and 15-035 were moved to the end of the other project presentations.

Motion: D. Boley motioned to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by B. Bumstead and approved by the Board 7-0.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the May 29, 2015 meeting minutes.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to approve the May 29, 2015 meeting minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by D. Boley and approved by the Board 7-0.

Board Reports

Board members reported on restoration and enhancement activities in their area.

Salmon-Trout Advisory Committee Update

Herkamp provided an overview of the Salmon-Trout Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting, and discussion was held regarding a possible request in the future to increase the STAC Mini-Grant individual award amount.

Budget Update

Herkamp provided a summary of the 2013-2015 biennium expenditures and discussed that the commercial portion was underspent by about one-third to one-half. Herkamp also provided the projected estimate for 2015-2017 biennium.

Monroe, Boley and Johnson expressed concern regarding the projected estimate for the commercial portion of funds, and noted it was too high.

Herkamp noted that the R&E Program is up for legislative renewal in 2019.

Herkamp discussed project 15-031 Ice Machine Winchester Bay and noted that R&E dollars are not able to fund projects that generate money for another entity. Herkamp and Hoge met with the applicant at the proposed site to discuss opportunities for other projects in the harbor on September 23, 2015. Chair Silbernagel requested Rich Heap be involved in any future meetings with the Port of Umpqua. Boley commented on the major lack of ice production and the importance for safe food handling.

Emergency Requests and Modifications

There were no emergency requests or modifications to review.

Project Presentations

15-001 Modification Request – Sandy River Mainstem Floodplain Reconnection

Steve Wise provided information regarding projects 13-112 and 15-001. The Board awarded \$79,919 in the 2013-2015 biennium, and \$27,800 in the 2015-2017 biennium for the Sandy River Mainstem Floodplain Reconnection. Due to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) the applicant was unable to spend the \$79,919 prior to the end of last biennium. The applicant requested the \$79,919 move to the 2015-2017 biennium for a total of \$107,719. Wise commented the project is currently ranked as “fundable” by OWEB.

Questions/Comments from Board:

Chair Silbernagel commented this was an example that the attempt at the end of 2013-2015 to split projects between bienniums was not successful.

15-019 Coquille Fish Station Grant Upgrade (Tabled from May R&E Meeting)

Herkamp noted the applicant took advise from The Board at the May 29, 2015 meeting and revised the proposed budget.

15-027 Dock and Net Pens

Beanie Robison presented information that would provide safe access to and around the net pen at the Depoe Bay Reservoir, North Depoe Bay Creek.

Questions/Comments from Board:

The Board questioned if the floats would need ODFW engineering review.

Herkamp noted the city is handling the engineering, and ODFW is supportive of the project on a district and statewide level.

15-028 East Fork River Millicoma Oxbow Reconnection

Allison Tarbox presented information regarding the project and noted that if the OWEB portion does not get funded, the R&E funds would not be needed. Chair Silbernagel commented OWEB has the project ranked 1 of 16.

15-029 Elk Creek RM 5.6 High Flow Habitat Enhancement

Brian Barr discussed the project via telephone. The R&E funds would be used to purchase materials (logs and boulders) before the end of the current biennium. Barr commented the administrative portion of the budget was amended, and the total request is \$9,240.

Questions/Comments from Board:

Rich Heap suggested contacting the Rogue Fly Fishers and Middle Rogue Steelheaders to request funding.

15-032 Jetty Creek Fish Passage

Alix Lee presented information regarding the project. Michele Long, ODFW Habitat Restoration Biologist commented via telephone that the project is a high priority for the district. The project is currently ranked number three with OWEB.

15-034 Thief Valley Reservoir Dock Replacement

Tim Bailey provided information via telephone, and added that the Oregon State Marine Board funds have been approved.

15-036 Woodward Creek In-stream Restoration

The project was discussed via telephone.

Questions/Comments from Board:

Cary Johnson asked if the project would open new habitat. Dixie Boley questioned why boulders were not included.

Applicant response:

The project would not open new habitat, only restore existing habitat. The stream width is only 30-40 feet and the trees are long enough they are able to strategically place them without worrying they will end up downstream.

15-030 Fish Liberation Truck

Scott Patterson presented the proposal to fund the purchase of a new liberation truck for the East Region. The new truck would replace a 1991 truck that is mechanically unreliable and repair costs are exceeding the truck value.

Questions/Comments from Board:

Cary Johnson questioned how ODFW fish liberation trucks are usually replaced.

Rich Heap expressed concern regarding the lack of a regular replacement process for the department, and noted the concern of having to rely on outside funding to provide basic equipment needs.

Applicant response:

Patterson replied most replacements are through R&E grants, but additional equipment and maintenance are provided by federal funds.

15-035 Wallowa Hatchery Trout Pond Restoration

Patterson presented the proposed project which would restore the concrete floors of deteriorated trout raceways at Wallowa Fish Hatchery.

15-026 Cedar Creek Hatchery Raceway and Pump Replacement

Patterson presented the project proposal and provided an updated budget breakdown with an increase of \$49,701.25 for a total request of \$549,701.25.

Questions/Comments from Board:

Cary Johnson expressed concern regarding the reference for Safe Area fisheries.

Applicant response:

ODFW is not asking the R&E Board for anything other than what is consistent with the Coastal Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Project Recommendations

15-028 East Fork River Millicoma Oxbow Reconnection

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-0028 in the amount of \$150,000.00 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded by C. Johnson, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-034 Thief Valley Reservoir Dock Replacement

Motion: D. Boley motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-034 in the amount of \$20,250.00 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded by R. Heap, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-035 Wallowa Hatchery Trout Pond Restoration

Motion: J. Glass motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-035 in the amount of \$50,000.00 as a sport/restoration project. The motion was seconded by B. Bumstead, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-032 Jetty Creek Fish Passage

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-032 in the amount of \$53,937.00 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded by J. Glass, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-019 Coquille Fish Station Grant Upgrade

Motion: D. Boley motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-019 in the amount of \$12,904.00 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded by J. Glass, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-027 Dock and Net Pens

Motion: R. Heap motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-027 in the amount of \$18,065.00 as a sport/restoration project. The motion was seconded by C. Johnson, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-036 Woodward Creek In-Stream Restoration

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-036 in the amount of \$38,121.00 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded by D. Boley, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-030 Fish Liberation Truck

Motion: J. Glass motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-030 in the amount of \$120,000.00 as a sport/restoration project. The motion was seconded by D. Boley, and approved by the Board 7-0.

Heap and Johnson commented on the need to have these purchases included in the agency baseline budget, and establish a replacement schedule.

15-001 Sandy River Mainstem Floodplain Reconnection

Motion: D. Boley motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-001 in the amount of \$107,719.00 as a sport/enhancement project, with the condition that OWEB approves the project during the current cycle. The motion was seconded by J. Glass, and approved by the Board 7-0.

15-026 Cedar Creek Hatcher Raceway and Pump Replacement

Motion: J. Glass motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-026 in the amount of \$549,701.25.00 using the amended budget provided by Patterson at the meeting, with \$500,000.00 sport/restoration, and \$49,701 commercial/restoration. The motion was seconded by R. Heap, and denied by the Board 4-3. G. Silbernagel, R. Monroe, D. Boley, and C. Johnson denied the motion.

Motion: B. Bumstead motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-026 in the amount of \$549,701.25.00 using the amended budget provided by Patterson at the meeting as a sport/restoration project. The motion was seconded by B. Bumstead, and approved by the Board 6-1. C. Johnson did not approve.

15-029 Elk Creek RM 5.6 High Flow Habitat Enhancement

Motion: R. Heap motioned to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-029 in the amount of \$9,240.00 as a sport/enhancement project. The motion was seconded by D. Boley. R. Heap modified the motion to recommend funding for R&E Project 15-029 in the amount of \$9,240.00 as a sport/enhancement project contingent upon securing other funding during the October 2015 OWEB funding cycle. The modified motion was seconded by B. Bumstead, and approved by the Board 7-0.

District Update

Steve Mazur, ODFW Assistant District Fish Biologist in Gold Beach provided an overview of the South Coast/Lower Rogue District. Current district activities included Chetco Fall Chinook smolt release, cormorant stomach analysis, and Rogue Fall Chinook inventories. Mazur also provided an overview of more than ten R&E funded projects in the area.

Grant Management System Update

Herkamp provided an update on the Grant Management System, noting there have been several setbacks.

Publicity Update

Herkamp commented on the ongoing efforts with Cawood Communications, Inc., including plans for the first publication in November of 2015.

Completion Reports for 2013-2015 Biennium

Herkamp discussed options for board members to review the 2013-2015 project completion reports.

Action: Herkamp will provide board members with a final summary of the 2013-2015 R&E projects.

2016 Meeting Schedule

The following dates and locations were set:

January 22, 2016 at Salem, ODFW Headquarters Commission Room

May 20-21, 2016 in Enterprise

September 16-17, 2016 in Newport

Board Work Session

Chair Silbernagel provided a document of compiled comments from current and past board members regarding what has worked well for R&E, what could be changed to make improvements, outreach, board members, and Goals for the next year, five-years, and ten-years.

The Board reviewed the document and had additional discussion on the following:

- Salem meetings – need to be at HQ and preferably in the Commission Room.
- Important to have meetings across the state.
- Field trips - would like to build relationships with ODFW staff so that when they have an upcoming project they feel comfortable calling board members ahead of time.
- Mixed feelings regarding three or four board meetings per year.
- Board members could call local biologists to obtain information about sites worth visiting throughout the year
- Agreed 5 minutes per project presentation is ok, and should be chair discretion.
- Discussed moving away from the traditional printed meeting packets
- ODFW Internal Review Team responses are helpful
- Chair or Vice Chair should call emergency/special meetings when needed – this needs addressed in the Program Operating Guidelines
- Outreach – need more non-ODFW applicants
- Contact information for board members needs posted on the R&E website
- Concern regarding lack of commercial spending
- Need to have board members from around the state
- A board member should be present for new member interviews
- Discussed option of having Chair position for two years instead of just one

Action: Hoge will contact board members regarding suggestions for groups/individuals to add to the program publicity contact list, and to identify what contact information board members would like posted on the website.

Board Elections

The Board discussed the option of two-year terms for the chair position.

Bumstead is currently vice chair and will move into the chair position as of January, 2016.

Motion: R. Monroe motioned to nominate Rich Heap as Vice Chair for 2016. The motion was seconded by C. Johnson, and approved by the Board 7-0.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.