

## Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

### Discussion Summary Notes March 25th, 2008

#### Board Members Present:

Stuart Durfee, Cathy Schaeffer, Yancey Reser, Butch Klaveano, Dick Isaacs, Dick Jones

#### Others:

Brad Johnson, Anne Chapman, Kris Buelow, Terry Bruegman, Kris Hyland, Dave Karl, Steve Martin, Larry Hooker, Laila Parker, Beth Theil

#### Welcome:

Steve stated there was not a quorum so the meeting started with the discussion items.

#### Status update on Walla Walla flow enhancement feasibility study co-sponsored by the CTUIR and USACOE – Chris Hyland (USACOE).

**Discussion:** Chris Hyland of the USACOE presented a power point presentation on the Walla Walla Flow enhancement feasibility study. This study is trying to restore flow to ensure that adult spring Chinook will be able to reach the upper head waters in the spring and then also the waters will be enough to push the juvenile (Steelhead and Chinook) smolts out to the ocean. This should allow better movement of the bull trout in the spring; some barriers and impediments should be removed also.

- Tribe and USACOE (COR) partnership: Prior to 1986 all COR Projects (lower snake monumental dams) nationwide were 100% federal funded. Now the projects are required to be cost shared. Construction the Tribes comes up with 35% of the costs. 50-50 of feasibility study. The congress has to specifically authorize this project.
- 5 different ways to add water in the basin: Irrigation efficiency, water acquisition, water exchange with Columbia, storage and conservation .
- Over 40 sites were looked at. Dams will not be built right on top of bull trout or steelhead habitat. So many sites got taken out right off the top. 2 different sites are now being looked at. (Pine Creek Basin, OR – and the Hudson Bay district) they have 4 different sizes of water storage facilities.
- Issues: Irrigation Efficiency, not impacting current water issues, affects on wells and/or irrigation ditches, water rights, etc....
- Timeline: This could happen as soon as 2012. National politics along with the War in IRAQ and Hurricane Katrina issues have depleted the funding for these types of projects.
- Recommendation to Congress would be to build the project, but construction would only happen once the water right issues are resolved. This is a bi-state issue.

#### Columbia County comprehensive plan update status – Steve Martin

**Discussion:** Cathy Schaeffer stated that the Board asked Steve to meet with the new county planner to share with him that the new comp plan needs to reflect the watershed and salmon recovery plans and to ask just how the Board can be involved in the process.

Steve reported that he did meet with the new Columbia County planner. He is familiar with what we are up to. He recognized that the current Col Co plan does not have any strategies in the current

critical areas plan. Steve has on his things to do list to get together with Richard and go over what is in the SRSRB plan with him.

Steve has also been in contact via email with Steve Donovan of Walla Walla County, concerning the Critical areas plan and he has been invited to be on the technical committee there.

Steve reported that we are now in contact with both Columbia County and Walla Walla County concerning updates to critical area plans.

### **Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc overview of approach to evaluate land use ordinances and conservation easements in the Snake River Region – Laila Parker:**

**Discussion:** Steve Welcomed Laila Parker of Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc. (Seattle) the board introduced themselves. Laura presented a power point presentation asking questions about the system the SRSRB would like used for this evaluation.

**Timeline:**

\*\*\* April - Develop framework for reviewing by end of April.

\*\*\* June - present a draft report and get feed back

\*\*\* July – final report

**What do you wish to achieve with this review?** – Analysis of land use plans and easements and how they may or may not contribute to salmon recovery. OR Analysis of how salmon recovery factors are addressed by land use plans and easements and where there are gaps. Brad Johnson stated that he would pick the first bullet. Most are aware of the second (Conservation Plans). Cathy Schaeffer agreed. (Add and future growth at the end of the first bullet).

**By what salmon recovery factors should programs be evaluated?** EDT habitat factors?

Primary Limiting Factors – Channel Stability, Stream Flow, Habitat Diversity, Sediment Load, Stream Temperature, Key Habitat, Eminent Threat.

Secondary Limiting Factors – Predation, Competition with Hatchery Fish, Obstructions, Food, Pathogens, Harassment/Poaching.

\*\*\*The board decided that Primary Limiting Factors, plus obstruction would be the criteria Cascadia Consulting should look at to evaluate the ordinances in place in each county and how they affect the Salmon Recovery Process.

Steve explained that the Cascadia Consulting will be evaluating our current ordinances and determining whether the current ordinances are helping us protect the Primary Limiting Factors.

Steve cautioned about Stream Flow and evaluating the ordinances on this.

**What key programs or policies to review?** Comprehensive Plans, Critical areas ordinances, shoreline master programs, zoning ordinances. Also Conservation Easement Programs.

**What Laila needs from SRSRB:**

\*\*\*Contacts for each area

\*\*\*Key programs or policies

\*\*\*Guidance on Framework from a few individuals

**Contact Info:** Pass on other ideas to Steve or contact Laila by email:

[laila@cascadiaconsulting.com](mailto:laila@cascadiaconsulting.com) or phone (206)449-1143

### **Meeting notes from 2009-2011 state and federal agency priority actions – Steve Martin:**

**Discussion:** Cathy Schaeffer stated to the board that as you recall the Governor’s Salmon office is responsible for helping implementation of recovery plans. As you know, state and federal agencies

are responsible for many of the programs that fund our work and are also responsible for many of the infrastructure/operations of public facilities that may affect salmon recovery. Therefore the GSRO works with regional boards and state/federal agencies to develop biannual budgets and work plans that incorporate the highest priority for salmon recovery. The 07-09 budget is already underway and we are now able to work on the 09-11 budget.

Under the Short term Priority actions tab. The SRSRB Top 6-7 priorities; Work on Mill Creek, Continue monitoring, deal with road right a ways, and reforest burned/timber land were already in their work plan, this was very encouraging. There is a more comprehensive list of actions, implementing recommendation out of hatchery reform, implementing harvest management plans to improve returns of our fish (Lower Columbia and ocean fisheries) and many more..... Dept of Transportation and Sediment roads.....

This is a reminder that the SRSRB supported the feasibility study by Chris Hyland as well as the Mill Creek, monitoring etc.

Steve reported that the February meeting was really about evaluating the fact that these agencies did have our recovery plan for salmon incorporated in their plans.

At the next board meeting Steve will present the 09-11 state and federal work plans. If SRSRB members want to be involved in the 09-11 State and federal actions discussion it will be on April 8<sup>th</sup> in Dayton Office.

**Steve will send out an email with the info.**

### **Review status of Intensively Monitored Watershed selection – Steve Martin:**

**Discussion:** Steve reported that the Regional Technical Team reviewed the contractor's recommendation that Asotin be the IMW and concluded that until such time that the control and treatment reaches, data needs and treatment actions (projects) are understood that they could not finalize a recommendation to the Board. The contractor will provide information on these three items for both the Asotin and Upper Touchet to the RTT on April 15 and a recommendation to the board will be made on April 22.

### **Review DRAFT integration policy paper for May 16 summit; confirmation of board member attendance – Steve Martin**

**Discussion:** Cathy recalled that Steve mentioned this statewide policy gathering and that he is in charge of the session on integration. Steve provided us with a rough draft of his policy paper that he would like comments on. He reminded the board to be mindful that his paper is addressing the state wide position. The paper is also being reviewed by other regional organizations. PLEASE let Steve know if you are able to participate in the May 16th meeting which will be in Vancouver.

**Steve will send out a reminder email and ask for a response from the members on whether they will attend or not. He will attach an agenda and the integration policy paper to the board members so that they will comment on it and send back to Steve.**

Cathy Schaeffer, Steve Tharringer and Dick Ducharme are Steve's Panel Members.

## **Update to the Board regarding the Walla Walla Shared Governance approach – Cathy Schaeffer:**

**Discussion:** The goal is to integrate all the recovery plans and water recovery implementation. Some of the goals would be to:

\*\*Develop a Water Management initiative; Develop pilot areas in which existing laws/structure could be relaxed so that they can work with ecology to share water management policies, using collaboration and agreements between local water users and see if this could actually improve stream flows.

\*\*Potentially sharing management of our water exchange.

In December of 2007 the Shared Governance group agreed to the proviso and it has found its way into the budgets of the House and Senate. The Governor still needs to sign it. The proviso has gone through. More than likely the funds are going to be available. They are working very closely with ecology. They are trying to be granted Quasi Governmental Status

Cathy wanted to make sure that the SRSRB is still interested in the involvement/support previously stated by this board in the October/November meeting. Dick Jones stated that what Doug Matoon stated in previous board meetings that integration with water planning is still how he feels the board should be involved/support this issue. All agreed. Fish recovery and Water recovery is different but these efforts should be integrated or work closely together.

## **3-year habitat and habitat assessment work plan; reminder that Lead Entity info is under tab on SRSRB web site – Kris Buelow:**

**Discussion:** Kris has been busy working with all of the implementing organization to complete this contract deliverable to WDFW. The table he has tonight reflects the proposed projects for the next 3 years specific to habitat and assessments. This table will be used to guide project prioritization for upcoming grant rounds.

Kris presented his table shown in the meeting booklet under the habitat Assessment 3 yr work plan. Kris asked that the board make sure that they review these projects and give feed back to him. This plan will be on HWS by June.

Kris presented a power point showing the [www.snakeriverboard.org](http://www.snakeriverboard.org) website with the new Lead Entity tab. He showed the board the document tab that makes available documents to the board. He also drew the boards' attention to the Lead Entity Round 9 Calendar available on the website and also in the meeting booklet. A reminder that the Pre-Application worksheet is due into the conservation districts; it along with many other documents pertaining to Round 9 are available on the website.

## **Possibility of a presentation by Department of Transportation to local governments/public works directors regarding BMP's for road right of way maintenance – Steve Martin:**

**Discussion:** Steve stated that after his February state agency meeting that DOT is very interested in our priority of restoring and protecting roads and road right of ways to reduce sediment. DOT is willing to share with the Board the best management practices occurring in the Puget sound and discuss what these local jurisdictions got out of this in terms of ESA coverage that has been agreed upon in many counties in the sound. The question is "does the Board want to proceed with partnering with DOT and local governments to explore the BMP's and any ESA coverage permits? GIS maps would be pulled up and roads located in priority reaches would be determined. Then these roads

would be evaluated as to whether they have sediment issues. Prioritization would then be determined.

Dick Jones stated that he thinks it would be appropriate to invite the county engineers to such a meeting. The board agreed that this is something that should be pursued although it may be hard to gain participation from many county engineers. Dick also stated that he did not know about other counties but Columbia County on lots of outside funding from both state and federal agencies for road maintenance. Remind Steve to put on the State and Federal Agency Table to the federal highway administration for their financial support for best management practices identified by the state DOT.

Through out the summer some meetings will be scheduled to discuss the issues.

### **Approve letter to NWPCC regarding fish and wildlife program amendments – Approve PCSRF Letter - Steve Martin**

Dick Jones suggested that Steve go ahead and send the letter even there was no quorum. Steve stated that the feed back he had received from the board members was approval. These are both time sensitive letters and need to be sent.

There not being a quorum the general consensus of the board members for both the PCSRF letter and the NWPCC letter was approval after their review and that they need to be sent, official approval can be done at the next scheduled board meeting.

### **Approval of February 26, 2007 - Board Minutes**

**Action 1:** There not being a quorum; TABLED

### **Approve February 2008 Expenditures – Anne Chapman:**

**Action 2:** There not being a quorum; TABLED

### **Approve March budget amendments presented at the bottom of the annual SRSRB Budget page in tonight's packet – Steve Martin**

**Action 3:** There not being a quorum; TABLED

### **Special meeting April 1 – set or cancel:**

Cathy Schaeffer moved that we cancel the special meeting. Dick Jones Seconded the motion. The motion carried by consensus.

### **Next Board Meeting March 25<sup>th</sup> in Dayton**

#### **Next Board Meeting will be April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 in Dayton @ 6pm.**

Dick Isaacs asked if the time could be changed to an earlier time, he also stated that phone call capabilities need to be available. It was stated in the meeting notes that phone capabilities would be available tonight, but were not. Steve apologized for the absence of a phone.

Dick Jones stated that the action items should be grouped together for the call in participants, so that if there are presentations they can opt out of these.

It was also stated that there were really no calls stating that board members would not be in attendance, other than Del Groat and Gary James. A call really would be appreciated so that if there is not going to be a quorum, the meeting can be rescheduled.

Missing seats in Columbia and Garfield county were also discussed. Membership amounts were then again mentioned by Steve stating that maybe we need to reduce the amount of county members.

Cathy Schaeffer then adjourned the meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.**

## Review of Tasks

### Task Title

- Task 1: Send out Meeting Info about State/Federal Agency Actions Meeting April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Task 2: Send out email on May 16<sup>th</sup> Summit asking Brd Members if they are attending. Include Integration paper for comments from board members.
- Task 3: Send NWPC and PCSRF Letters
- Task 4: Board review Projects on 3 yr work plan. Send comments to Kris Buelow.
- Task 5:
- Task 6:
- Task 7:
- Task 8:

## Review of Actions

Action Title	Motion	Second	Consensus	Vote	Pass
Meeting Minutes February 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	TABLED				
Approve February 2008 Expenditures RCO and WDFW Budgets	TABLED				
Approve March budget amendments presented at the bottom of the annual SRSRB Budget page in tonight's packet	TABLED				

Name	Attendance for 2008											
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Doug Mattoon	Yes											
Dick Isaac		Yes	<i>Yes</i>									
Jay Holzmilller	Yes	Yes										
Dick Ducharme	Yes	Yes										
Dick Jones	Yes		<i>Yes</i>									
Gary James	Yes	Yes										
Virgil Klaveano	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>									
Del Groat	Yes											
Gary Cole												
Cathy Schaeffer	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>									
Yancey Reser	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>									
Stuart Durfee	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>									
Michael Largent		Yes										
Ed Schultz	Yes	Yes										

No meeting was conducted this month.