

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

Meeting Notes May 27th, 2008

Board Members Present:

Clarkston – Del Groat (GC), Dick Isaac (AC), Ed Schultz (WC) Michael Largent (WC), Doug Matoon (AC), Jay Holzmilller (AC), Virgil Klaveano (GC)

Others: Cheryl Sonnen, Terry Bruegman, Brad Johnson (WRIA 35), Steve Martin (SRSRB)

Walla Walla - Roland Schirman (CC), Cathy Schaeffer (WWC), Yancey Reser (WWC), Dick Ducharme (CC).

Others: Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Anne Chapman (SRSRB), Dave Mastin, Andy Appleby (WDFW), Greg Tompkins, Judith Johnson, Larry Hooker (WWCCD)

Chair, Del Groat called the meeting to order.

Del verified a quorum: 11 board members present

Welcome – Del welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if this would be Ed Schultz's last meeting. Ed stated he has agreed to stay until June.

Approval of April 22nd, Meeting Notes

Action 1: Del asked for a motion to approve the April 22nd board meeting notes. The motion was made by Virgil Klaveano and was seconded by Michael Largent. There being no discussion, the motion carried by consensus.

Agenda Additions:

None

Approve April 2008 Expenditures:

Action 2: Roland Schirman made a motion to approve the invoices/vouchers totaling \$30,034.25 expended in April 2008 in the RCO Budget. Additionally he moved to approve the invoices/vouchers totaling \$15398.03 expended in April 2008 in the WDFW Budget. Virgil Klaveano seconded the motion. Del Groat Abstained. The motion carried by consensus.

Approve April Budget Adjustments:

Discussion: With the April Expenses approved there needs to be some adjustments to balance the budget. Anne has developed the adjustment above for us to consider.

Action 3: Ed Schultz made a motion to approve the budget adjustments listed below:

RCO Project Coordinator to Advertising	\$4700.00
RCO Project Coordinator to Travel	\$2500.00
RCO Project Coordinator to Communications	\$1500.00
WDFW Project Coordinator to Utilities	\$ 100.00
WDFW Project Coordinator to Rent	\$ 72.37
WDFW Project Coordinator to Communications	\$ 41.00
WDFW Project Coordinator to Professional or Legal Services	\$ 150.00

Doug Matoon seconded the motion. Del Groat Abstained. The motion carried by consensus.

Hatchery Reform Initiative and Hatchery Scientific Review Group Process – Andy Appleby WDFW:

Discussion: Del introduced Andy Appleby stating that Steve has informed us at previous Board meetings of the upcoming hatchery reform process and the creation of the hatchery scientific review group. Steve has asked Andy Appleby with WDFW provide us a primer on the program. Andy presented a Power Point Presentation explaining this process.

Update from Dave Mastin on Road Maintenance Program level of interest from counties

Discussion: Del introduced Dave Mastin stating that Dave has completed his assessment of county engineer/road departments and their interest in participating in a regional road maintenance program to help us address county and state road right of ways and road maintenance activities. Del reported that Dave’s scoping resulted in positive interest. Dave then presented a Power Point Presentation explaining his assessment and findings. Dave reported that he had met with all 4 counties Road Maintenance director or Public Works person. There is interest in the Participating in the regional road maintenance program.

Concerns were:

- Lack of funds and time to implement new programs;
- Concerned about providing details to NMFS & USFWS; and
- Concerned about being stuck in a program that ends up requiring more than can be done

Conclusion:

- General agreement to proceed to the next step;
- How much of the RRMP do we already do?
- Does it make sense (Time & \$) for us to pursue ESA assurance for our RMP?

Dave stated that his conclusion was that the next step would not be to say okay we are doing this to NMFS & USFWS, but in his opinion to work with the WDOT and compare the current practices to the RRMP being done in other small counties and see what is currently being done in our counties. He has a list of the counties currently doing this and can provide this list to Steve. Several commissioners expressed concern about having an out. Liability concerns were also expressed for take. Assessment of risk before talking to NMFS & USFWS was also expressed. Dave stated that to clarify this program already exists with NMFS & USFWS so it is a little different. Question: Are the BMP’s currently being done at the counties consistent with this program, or are there some significant differences?

Approve 3 Year Work Plan that now includes stream flow projects – Kris Buelow, Project Coordinator SRSRB

Discussion: Kris has received comments on the 3-year habitat work plan that he has incorporated and it is now time to review and approve the plan as it will serve as this year’s work plan for the SRFB process as well as the foundation for upcoming BPA project solicitation. The work plan reflects the priorities we have in our recovery plan and the habitat elements of the watershed plans. Kris will walk us through the organization of the table and then address comments and then we will need to approve the plan. Kris stated that the current 3 yr habitat work plan was in the meeting

booklet. It now includes instream flow projects. He has incorporated comments from the RTT and the board. The RTT has reviewed this document. He reminded us that this is a working document and is intended to be amended.

Action 4: Yancey Reser moved to table the 3 yr work plan document put together by Kris and the RTT to allow the board more time to review. Del Groat seconded the motion. There being no more discussion, the action was approved.

HWS Work Schedule Overview – Kris Buelow, Project Coordinator SRSRB:

Discussion: Steve stated that this is just a reminder of where the 3-year work plan will reside and how the public can “see” what our implementation priorities are as well as the projects that have already been accomplished. This is a work in progress and is a very large task for Kris as some day it will include most of the projects implemented over the last decade or so as well as ongoing and future projects. Kris will broadcast the home page of the Habitat Work Schedule and unless there are questions. This is simply a reminder of this contract deliverable we have to WDFW. Kris reported that all of our level 3 projects have been uploaded and the Snake River currently has approximately 500 projects on the HWS site. The final editing and linking to these projects are in the process of being done now. Del commended Kris on his work.

2009-2011 State & Federal Agency Priority Actions – Steve Martin, SRSRB:

Discussion: The Board approved the actions on the table but the Governor’s office would like us to prioritize the actions to the best we can. Steve took the liberty of suggesting a priority order and needs the Board to consider the list and if we can’t reach consensus then perhaps we ask that Steve develop two or three tiers and then we put the actions into the two or three relative priority tears. Steve will walk us through the actions and then we can discuss. Steve prioritized this list according to his understanding of what the board’s priorities are and also according to the recovery plan. This is only a starting point for the board.

Discussion about Road Right of Way Practices and BMP’s then pursued. Jay Holzmilller concerned about creating jobs and nothing getting done.

Action 5: Cathy Schaeffer made the motion to put these projects listed in the State/Federal Agency Priority Actions table into two tiers and present this table to the RTT for their technical review, Butch Klaveano seconded the motion. The motion carried by Consensus

Update on May 16 Policy Summit discussion and next steps:

Discussion: Del, as chair, thanked Cathy and Roland for participating in the policy summit in Vancouver earlier this month. There was good attendance and it was a productive meeting. Del asked if Cathy or Roland had any comments to share with the Board.

Both Cathy and Roland gave a brief summary of how things went at the Policy Summit.

Steve also gave a brief synopsis of the discussion around each of the three policy items which were (1) integration, (2) monitoring and (3) implementation funding.

Response to the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority summary of subbasin/recovery:

Discussion: Steve received a request from CBFWA to review their implementation framework and summary of our recovery plan goals, limiting factors and strategies that CBFWA is recommending to the Power and Conservation Council to follow. Steve is asking that we hear his review of the CBFWA recommendations to the Council and then approve a letter of support from the Board to the

Council with regards to the CBFWA recommendations along with a dozen or so specific amendments to the CBFWA summaries. CBFWA is recommending a revision to our sub basin plan. Steve asked Tom what they are wanting for a revision. Steve stated that the answer to revising our sub basin plan was a simple statement in our plan stating that: The management actions developed by the recovery plans (3 yr work plans) should guide the council's investment. The deadline for this letter is June 12th.

Action 6: Ed Schultz made a motion that Steve develop a letter in draft form to the board, in support of the CBFWA recommendations, outlining the few discrepancies, he will send the letter out to the board in 5 days of tonight, with comments from the board due by the 6th of June. Doug Matoon seconded the motion. The motion carried by consensus.

Update on Intensively Monitored Watershed project – Steve Martin, SRSRB:

Discussion: The Board approved the RTT recommendation to use the upper Asotin watershed for the IMW and last week the RTT toured the IMW site. Steve and Cheryl met earlier today with the landowners to ensure their commitment for the treatments and monitoring. It is important that ALL landowners agree to this 10 to 12 year study including the state and federal agencies. The contractor has developed the preliminary experimental design including both monitoring and treatments/controls and it is important to note the importance of the Asotin Creek adult and smolt monitoring program that WDFW has in place in the lower watershed. This adult/smolt monitoring program has seen difficulties in the recent past and will need to remain in place as a part of the IMW so the Board needs to know this. Steve gave a brief update to the Board on the current status. He stated that he and Cheryl Sonnen had met with the two private owners today. They and the Fish and Wildlife and the Forest Service are the only landowners on Charley Creek. Cheryl and Steve will have to pursue talking with F&W and the Forest service to make sure they are on board.

The land owners would like to see a few reasonable things happen:

1. Property surveys conducted (to determine exact property lines)
2. Alternative Water for Livestock
3. Weed Control (If you remove livestock from the creek there are some noxious weeds that will need to be controlled)

Funding issues are that the current funding Pacific States Marine Fisheries commission currently routed through the SURF board through Ecologic is due to run out in 90 days. Monitoring is not currently funded by the SURF board to our lead entity list. The IMW is to be funded by Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Funding (\$300,000) and this source does fund monitoring. So funds should be available to keep the current program running that is being conducted in Charley Creek.

Discussion about the NWPCC and BPA relationship followed. Steve stated that if a project or monitoring request is in the Fish and Wildlife Program, the BPA is most likely to fund that program. It was suggested that we make a recommendation that monitoring be funded in combination with WDFW and BPA funds. Steve stated that, in our priority actions table we are asking Fish & Wildlife to fund monitoring, the boards comment to the NWPCC council is to include our 3 yr work plan in their fish and wildlife plan, and we are asking the SURF board to fund monitoring. Funding should most likely happen for the IMW.

It was agreed that the board needed to just keep up on the decisions made.

Approve RFP Publication for developing regional Road Maintenance Program:

Discussion: Dave Mastin presented earlier about the interest from local governments and DOT to move forward with a regional road maintenance program. To do so will require someone to convene the parties, facilitate the discussions and help develop implementation agreements. Steve is proposing the Board publish an RFP for these purposes. Steve would like the Board to take action on this tonight so that we continue the momentum and get this program in place.

Steve stated that the RFP would ask the consultant to Convene, Facilitate and Develop programs.

Doug Matoon stated that a sentence stating that: "The contractor will work with county public works departments to identify appropriate modifications to the regional maintenance plan that recognizes rural nature, lower precipitation rates and limited staffing limitations." should be added. The last paragraph should be deleted.

Steve stated that the dollar amount and completion date will be worked on.

Action 7: Doug Matoon moved to approve an RFP publication, Virgil Klaveano Seconded the motion. After discussion Doug removed his motion and Virgil removed his second suggesting the matter be tabled. There being no further discussion, the motion to table was approved by consensus.

The Commissioners will meet with their local Road Departments or Public Works people after reviewing the power point presentation given by Dave Mastin to determine the level of interest.

Creating formal executive committee for conducting employee performance evaluations; reviewing and recommending contracts and budget; recommending strategic visioning and work load priorities; monthly review and setting of Board agendas; and other advisory functions:

Discussion: Del stated that there are several specific tasks that the Board needs to consider at its June meeting pertaining to contracts and several general guidance tasks that the Board should set in place. Steve is suggesting creation of a formal executive committee to help him with these tasks so that recommendation can be brought before the Board with input and guidance from a formal executive committee. Steve would like to have at least three board members and one RTT member on the ex com. Del asked if there are any volunteers. Ed Schultz stated that in the past sub committees were formed to help with tasks. Maybe we are coming full circle and needing to reform these committees. Cathy stated that these committees are important to support staff and that they also help the board function. Ed stated that the board is too big to get a lot of these things done. Cathy also suggested that maybe some of these things should be delegated to Steve, giving him authority to handle these issues. Del requested that Ed create a letter of recommendation to be presented to the board in June outlining suggestions for committees. His insight would be valuable before he officially leaves the board. Ed agreed to try and do this.

*****REMINDER: The Executive Committee Meeting is held on the Third Tuesday of every month @ 6pm via conference call. Every board member is encouraged to call in. (June 17, 2008)**

Special meeting June 3rd – set or cancel:

Canceled

Next Board Meeting June 24th in Clarkston, Walla Walla (WWCC – ITV)

Next Board Meeting will be June 24th, 2008 at 6pm at the WWCC Campus in Clarkston and Walla Walla.

Steve will attend the meeting in Walla Walla and Anne will attend in Clarkston.

Del asked Cathy Schaeffer to chair the meeting since Steve will be in Walla Walla, Cathy agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35pm.

Review of Tasks					
Task Title					
Task 1: Develop CBFWA letter, send to board for review, and send.					
Task 2: State/Federal Priority Actions Table - Develop two tiers, present to RTT.					
Task 3: Send out Dave Mastin Power Point Presentation for review by commissioners, commissioners meet with local Road Departments and Public Works to find out interest in Program.					
Task 4:					
Task 5:					
Review of Actions					
Action Title	Motion	Second	Consensus	Vote	Pass
Approve April 22 nd , 2008 Meeting Notes	Virgil Klaveano	Michael Largent	Yes		
Approve April Expenditures	Roland Schirman	Virgil Klaveano	Yes		
Approve Budget Adjustments	Ed Schultz	Doug Matoon	Yes		
Table the 3 yr Work Plan developed by Kris Buelow to allow Board Members more time to review.	Yancey Reser	Del Groat	Yes		
Put the projects listed in the State/Federal Agency Priority Actions table into two tiers and present this table to the RTT for their technical review	Cathy Schaeffer	Virgil Klaveano	Yes		
Develop CBFWA letter, send to board members for review and send out.	Ed Schultz	Doug Matoon	Yes		
Tabled Development of RFP for Regional Road Maintenance Program.	Doug Matoon	Virgil Klaveano	Yes		
			Yes		
			Yes		

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

No meeting was conducted this month.