

Date: February 28, 2017

Place: Best Western Plus, 507 E Main St, Dayton, WA

Format: Regular Meeting started at 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present for Regular Business Meeting: Brad Johnson (AC), Brian Shinn (AC), Don Jackson (CC), Mike Talbott (CC), Roland Schirman (CC), Del Groat (GC), Jon Jones (WC), Art Swannack (WC), and Larry Hooker (WWC).

Board Members on Phone: Jerry Hendrickson (AC).

Others Present: Kris Fischer (CTUIR), Steve Martin (SRSRB), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), John Foltz (SRSRB), Jim Peterson (Landowner), Terry Bruegmann (CCD), Duane Bartels (PCD), Joanna Cowles (WWCCD), Jason Rood (WWCC), Dane Kiefel (WWCC), Tate Gabriel (WWCC), Sabrina Payne (WWCC), Robert Pleyo (WWCC), and Dennis Donsen (WWCC).

Others on Phone: Megan Stewart (ACCD) and Chris Hyland (WWWMP).

SRSRB Chair, Del Groat called the meeting to order and verified a quorum (9 present, 1 on the phone for a total of 10). Del welcomed everyone to the board meeting.

Verify Quorum and approve Consent Agenda, Expenditures and Meeting Notes:

ACTION 1: A motion was made by Brian Shinn to approve the consent agenda, meeting notes and financials for January 2017, it was seconded by Larry Hooker and the Board approved the motion by consensus.

CONSENT AGENDA:

January 2017 Expenses:

RCO (HCSR)	\$24,994.49	LE (HCFW)	\$4,674.54
BPA8 (HCB8)	\$17,461.79		

January 2017 Budgets

Approve: January 24, 2017 Meeting Notes

DISCUSSION: New, emerging or otherwise items to be aware of:

- Northwest Power and Planning Council, ISRP and BPA perspectives on our Tucannon Habitat Programmatic. Steve updated the group on the presentation given to the NWPPC, ISRP, and BPA in Portland. Kris Fischer (CTUIR), Kris Buelow and Steve presented collectively on the Tucannon Programmatic. Also attending from our team were Heidi McRoberts (NPT) and Dave Karl (WDFW). Feedback was very positive with kudos given for the strategic planning effort (assessment and conceptual designs completed before looking for projects) in the Tucannon. It is a different approach than other watersheds which spend relatively more time planning and prioritizing. One question that arose was potentially expanding the programmatic area – while BPA and the ISRP are supportive, the group was informed that this is a Council decision. The Board asked if the RTT would provide a recommendation for the Board to consider.
- Operating budget status (HCSR). The March Board meeting will look at unspent funding and work on a plan moving forward to the end of the fiscal year.

DISCUSSION: NOAA Columbia Basin Taskforce (MAFAC)

Steve updated the Board on the next steps. The first step for the task force is to develop population level goals. Steve’s question of the task force was focused more on what threats are stopping us from achieving the population level goals – which would lead to identifying those threats that are Columbia Basin wide.

Chris Hyland updated the group on upriver/downriver fisheries and the Columbia River Advisory Group (of which Chris is a member). The North of Falcon Meetings in the Tri-Cities and Clarkston are at the end of March – the Board encourages members to attend if possible. Chris had submitted comments on the process previously and can share them with the Board to use as specific talking points. Steve volunteered to pass his comments along.

ACTION: Statewide RCO habitat funding and capacity allocation update

Steve updated the Board on the regional funding allocation process. The basic assumption for this “review and update of allocation guidelines” process was that the regions would be updating the 2006 data that was used for the 2006-2016 allocations. The plan was a brief update of the metric data with an anticipated shift in funding from Puget Sound to the Lower Columbia using some agreed upon guiding principles and a realization that there isn’t enough funding to implement identified recovery plan actions anywhere in the state. The change in the updated data and inclusion of new metrics was larger than anticipated resulting in some confusion and questions about if the metrics and data were comparable across the state – the latest data showed a large decrease to the interior Columbia Regions.

The Board asked if effectiveness/efficiency, results/progress and proximity to delisting were considered in the allocation formula – the answer is no. Steve presented a letter for the March 1st SRFB meeting asking the SRFB not to make a capital re-allocation decision at this time for discussion. Steve mentioned that discussions haven’t really even started on the capacity allocation side of things. The Board also felt that the ratio of capacity to on the ground projects should also be considered. The Board has worked to keep staff to a minimum while not overworking them. The SRFB needs to maintain credibility statewide – the Board felt that this credibility would be tarnished if the interior Columbia were to have funding drastically reduced.

Art Swannack moved to accept the letter, Brian Shinn seconded and the motioned passed. The Board gave Steve leeway to work out a negotiated agreement as long as no region takes more than a 5% cut with Puget Sound taking slightly more if warranted. Point being that the process be transparent and agreed upon with all regions having some skin in the game. The process has to be equitable and equal with partnerships being key. If that isn’t possible, then the board asked that Steve submit the letter to the SRFB.

DISCUSSION: Review the elements of our Recovery Plan related to the hydropower system

Steve has received some questions regarding the Board’s stance on the hydropower system. There is a section on hydropower in the Recovery Plan which was approved by the Board. Staff messages are consistent with the Recovery Plan and 2008 Biological Opinion (BiOp) which doesn’t call for breaching, rather improvements to the hydrosystem for salmonid survival, reduction in predation, management for fallback and other similar considerations. The Recovery Plan is based upon a baseline condition, and dams are part of that condition. If the BiOp changes, then the Board will need to have a discussion.

DISCUSSION: Update on Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Board

Steve provided an update on the Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Board. Steve believes the new bill is out of committee and waiting for first hearing.

DISCUSSION : Fish Barrier Removal Board (FBRB) update

Steve updated the Board on the FBRB. 40,000+ barriers exist in Washington and the FBRB was created in response to the “culvert case” in which Puget Sound tribes allege the state is not doing enough to ensure their treaty rights to harvest salmon because salmon are blocked from so much habitat that there are “fewer” to harvest. The legislation says the state will create the FBRB, work across the entire state where salmon/steelhead exist and create a coordinated approach to resolving barriers (emphasis on those related to public transportation infrastructure). The FBRB submitted ~\$50 million worth of barrier projects and the Governor’s budget has ~\$19 million for this program. Included in the ~\$19 million package is Bufford Creek and funding to design fixes for Cougar and Cottonwood Creek barriers.



ACTION 2: Affirm or change prioritized list of barriers previously submitted to FBRB –

Steve wanted to check in with the Board on the priorities submitted in 2016 – the Governor’s budget of \$20 million would only fund one of the three priorities submitted. The Board reaffirmed their focus on Buford, Cottonwood (design), and Cougar (design) before moving onto Steptoe, Almota, and Penawawa. Roland Schirman moved to continue on this path, 1st to move forward on the Cottonwood and Cougar designs and then move to Steptoe, Almota, and Penawawa; Brian Shinn seconded and the motion passed.

DISCUSSION: Lead Entity schedule and key dates

John provided an update to the Board on the approved SRFB grant round timeline. He will send out the timeline and include it in the next Board meeting packet.

Public Comment:

Jim Peterson shared a WDFW article from the NW Sportsman about the changes in hatchery management on the Tucannon. He stated that there are no fish. Steve shared some new PIT tag data showing 29 PIT tagged steelhead in the Tucannon in the last 3 weeks – expanded out this is promising. The last 5 years of hatchery management has impacted the steelhead numbers. Jim asked if WDFW will release 100,000 steelhead this year. SRSRB and WDFW staff have met with our District 9 and 16 legislators on this particular topic – Representative Dye is working on seeking funding for hatchery rearing space. As long as brood stock is available, WDFW is planning on ramping up to full production to our knowledge. The Board wants to make sure that our legislators know that the wild fish policy will still be an issue regardless of stocking numbers.

ACTION 3: Approve March 28th for next Board meeting to be held at WWCC Campus, Room 187, 1470 Bridge St, Clarkston, WA at 4:00 PM. A motion was made by Del Groat and seconded by Brian Shinn to schedule the next Board Meeting in Clarkston on the WWCC Campus at 4 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m. by SRSRB Chair, Del Groat.

Review of Tasks					
Action Title	Motion	Second	Consensus	Vote	Pass
Action 1: Approval of Consent Agenda, Notes and Exps.	Brian Shinn	Larry Hooker	Yes		Yes
Action 2: Affirm list of Barriers to FBRB	Roland Schirman	Art Swannack	Yes		Yes
Action 3: Approve Next Board Meeting in Clarkston	Del Groat	Brian Shinn	Yes		Yes

Approval Of Meeting Minutes

Date: _____

Signed By: _____
 Del Groat, Chair, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

BOARD ATTENDANCE FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGERS

Name	Attendance for July 2016 – June 2017								
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
SRSR EXEC BOARD									
*Brian Shinn	Yes	Yes	Yes	-Yes	-Yes	Yes	Yes		
Brad Johnson	Yes	Yes	Yes	-Yes	-Yes	-Yes	Yes		
Jerry Hendrickson	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	-Yes		
Don Jackson	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes		
Roland Schirman	Yes	Yes	-Yes	-Yes	Yes	No	Yes		
*Mike Talbott	Yes	Yes	Yes	-Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
*Justin Dixon	No	Yes	Yes	No	-Yes	Yes	No		
Del Groat	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
Bill Bowles	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	-Yes	Yes	No		
*Perry Dozier/ Todd Kimball	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No		
Larry Hooker	Yes	Yes	Yes	-Yes	-Yes	Yes	Yes		
Yancey Reser	No	No	No	-Yes	No	No	No		
Gary Ryan	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
*Michael Largent/ Art Swannack	No	No	Yes	No	-Yes	-Yes	Yes		
Jon Jones	Yes	No	Yes	-Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Gary James	-Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No		
CONSERVATION MGRS									
Duane Bartels	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes		
Jennifer Boie	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No		
Terry Bruegman	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes		
Megan Stewart	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	-Yes		
J Cowles/ R Hadley	-Yes	Yes	-Yes	-Yes	-Yes	-Yes	Yes		

- * County Commissioner
- ! First Meeting as a Board Member
- # Last Meeting as a SRSRB Member
- Call In by Phone



ACRONYMS

AC: Asotin County
ACCD: Asotin County Conservation District
APUD: Asotin Public Utility District
BFW: Bank Full Width
BMP: Best Management Practices
BPA: Bonneville Power Administration
CC: Columbia County
CCD: Columbia County Conservation
CHaMP: Columbia Habitat Monitoring Program
CTUIR: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
DEM: Digital Elevation Model
EDT: Ecological Diagnosis and Treatment
ESA: Endangered Species Act
GC : Garfield County
IMW: Intensively Monitored Watershed
LWD: Large Woody Debris
MSA: Major Spawning Area
mSA: Minor Spawning Area
NREI: Net Rate Energy Intake
NPT: Nez Perce Tribe
PA: Project Area
PaCD: Palouse Conservation District
PCD: Pomeroy Conservation District
RCO: Recreation Conservation Office
RCPP: Regional Conservation Partnership Program
RTT: Regional Technical Team
SRFB: Snake River Funding Board
SRSRB: Snake River Salmon Recovery Board
Tuc Geo: Tucannon Geomorphic Assessment & Design
USFS: United States Forest Service
USFWS: United States Fish and Wildlife Service
VSP: Voluntary Stewardship Program
WC: Whitman County
WDFW: Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
WWC: Walla Walla County
WWCCD: Walla Walla County Conservation District
WWWMP: Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership