Snake River Salmon Recovery

Date: September 25, 2018
Place: Main Street Coffee, Colfax, WA
Format: Regular Meeting started at 6:00 p.m.
Board Members Present for Regular Business Meeting: Todd Kimball (WW), Larry Hooker (WW), Mike Talbott (CC), Roland Schirman (CC), Justin Dixon (GC), Billy Bowles (GC), Jon Jones (WC), Gary Ryan (WC), and Michael Largent (WC), Brian Shinn (AC), and Jerry Hendrickson (AC).
Board Members on Phone: Yancey Reser (WWC) and Brad Johnson (AC),
Others Present: Terry Bruegman (CCD), Steve Martin (GSRO), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Ali Fitzgerald (SRSRB), and John Foltz (SRSRB).
Others on Phone: Kris Fischer (CTUIR), Megan Stewart (ACCD), Chris Hyland (WWWMP), Joanna Cowles (WWCCD), Katherine Cheney (NOAA), and Kevin Scribner.

Verify Quorum

SRSRB Chair, Roland Schirman called the meeting to order at 6:02pm and verified a quorum (11 present, 2 on the phone for a total of 13), asked if there were any modifications to the agenda (none) and asked for introductions.

Approve Agenda and Consent Agenda:

1. August 2018 Expenses as follows:
   (HCSR) RCO: $26,349.41
   (HCFW) LE: $3,568.15
   (HCB9) BPA: $12,686.08
2. August 28, 2018 Meeting notes

Action 1: A motion was made by Bill Bowles to approve the August 28, 2018 meeting notes and approve the August 2018 expenses, it was seconded by Mike Talbott and the Board approved the motion.

Update: Announcements and Items of Interest

Executive Call Actions – No executive call actions.

RTT Updates – Deferred until RRT discussion later in agenda.

Invasive Species Emergency Fund Letter – John provided a copy of the letter for the Board's information. The letter speaks to support of emergency funding identified in RCO's budget request for invasive species management. This letter was in line with the Board's intersects and had support during the last Executive Committee call. Due to the time sensitive nature of this topic, the letter was reviewed by the Executive Committee and was signed by Chairman Schirman and has been sent out.

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting October 15th – John noted that this meeting was originally scheduled for September but has been moved to October 15th in Olympia. The SRSRB submitted a letter of recommendations to the WA State Fish and Wildlife Commission and multiple counties are in the process of drafting similar letters. John Foltz will attend the October Commission meeting and provide comment. He will have three minutes to speak on behalf of the Board and summarize the important bullets from the letter. This meeting conflicts with many Commissioners' duties but Commissioner Dixon and Largent will investigate if John can be allowed more

speaking time at the meeting on behalf of the Commissioners who are unable to attend. The Board agreed that John has the authority to speak on the Board's behalf, and for the Counties represented on the Board.

Presentation: Updates from the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office – Steve Martin

Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force: Steve outlined the Board on the background for the Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force and ongoing work completed. The Task Force was set up following the Governor's Executive Order in March of 2018 to:

- Identify, prioritize, and support the implementation of an action plan needed for the recovery of Southern Residents.
- Monitor and evaluate the immediate actions undertaken by state agencies and build upon the progress and effectiveness of that work.
- Where available and applicable, build upon existing state, regional, and federal plans.

A draft report on potential actions to recover Orcas was released on September 24th and is available for public comment through midnight on October 7th. John sent out the links to where public comment can be made. Steve also noted that there will be a webinar on the Lower Snake River Dam's later in the week on the 27th – information will be provided and the webinar will be recorded for later viewing.

Columbia Basin Partnership: Katherine Cheney (NOAA) called in to help Steve give an update on the Columbia Basin Partnership (CBP). Katherine provided an overview of the CBP and the Columbia basin salmon landscape:

- Columbia Basin is home to 24 salmon stocks - 13 listed under ESA.
- NOAA Fisheries, states and tribes have multiple management responsibilities and plans. For example, NOAA Fisheries has multiple responsibilities such as ESA, Magnuson-Stevens Act, treaty/trust to tribes, and mitigation.
- Various plans and processes are underway related to habitat, hydrosystem, harvest, hatchery and other ecological considerations, addressing varying aspects of salmon management.
- 2012 Situational Assessment by Ruckelshaus Center and Oregon Consensus found the need for more coherent, integrated, and efficient means of addressing the complexities of salmon recovery; and for identifying common goals for measuring progress and success.

Formation of the CBP Task Force:

- NOAA Fisheries convened a Task Force under its Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) to comply with Federal Advisory Committee Act.
- NOAA Fisheries solicited stakeholders through a formal process and requested state and tribal representatives from sovereigns.
- CBP Task Force began in January, 2017.
- 28 members from states, tribes as well as diverse interests:
    - NGO/environmental representative(s);
    - Commercial fishing representative(s);
    - Recreational fishing representative(s);
    - Utility representative(s);
    - River industry representative(s);
    - Agricultural/irrigation representative(s); and

- A local recovery group representative from each state

Desired CBP Task Force Outcomes:

- Quantitative adult abundance goals for both listed and non-listed stocks.
- Goals that address both conservation and harvest/fishing aspirations.
- Goals consider various users of Columbia Basin resources.
- Better coordination, more effective use of resources, and alignment of strategic priorities.
- Enhanced relationships, trust, and knowledge.

Work Products and Progress to date:

- Reflect Guiding Principles and Vision
- Provide a foundation for Quantitative Goals
- Important link between Vision and Quantitative Goals
- Four categories
    - Natural production
    - Hatchery/mitigation
    - Harvest/fisheries
    - Social, cultural, economic, and ecological considerations
- Sub-group development, multiple iterations
- Work was aided by regional teams composed of technical experts with specific experience in the subject area were formed.
- Technical experts were identified by CBP members and generally included local staff from state, tribal, and other partner Task Force participants.
- Work groups operated under the Guiding Principles set by the CBP, including the principle that recommendations be firmly grounded in sound science.
- Three categories – natural production, hatchery/mitigation and harvest/fishing.
- Aggregate run reconstructions total all goals.
- Where possible, used goals identified in the variety of recovery, management, and mitigation plans that exist in the basin. Utilized goals identified in NPCC's data base as starting point.
- Started with 5 prototype species; now cover all 24 stocks with geographic subgroups.
- Goals are identified for stock units, based on:
    - Species (Chinook, coho, sockeye, and chum salmon; and steelhead)
    - Region of origin (e.g., Lower Columbia, Middle Columbia, Upper Columbia, Snake, or Willamette)
    - Run type (e.g. spring, summer, fall, late fall).

- Goals identify low, medium and high numbers reflecting a continuum of aspiration for progressive improvements to be achieved over an extended time period.
- Goals are defined based on abundance of adult salmon and steelhead.
- Numbers take into account a number of factors including ESA requirements, habitat constraints and future potential, density dependence, cultural needs of tribes, fishing interests and sustainability, and mitigation responsibilities including currently blocked historical anadromous production areas.

Natural Production Goals:

- Low end goals represent abundance numbers to avoid listing (for non-ESA listed stocks) or delisting (for ESA listed stocks)
- Mid-range goals are approximately half-way between low end (conservation) goals and the high-end goals.
- High number reflects aspirational "healthy and harvestable" levels that might potentially be achieved with improvements in habitat and other conditions currently limiting stocks.
- High end goals are typically about three times greater than low end goals and generally 50% of historic average or less.

Hatchery/Mitigation goals:

- Existing hatchery goals were identified for conservation and mitigation programs throughout the basin. Numbers identify current hatchery production and corresponding adult returns.
- Additional production was identified where:
    - Defined in existing processes and plans (e.g., John Day Mitigation program), or
    - Proposed to address specific purposes identified by CBP members (e.g., currently blocked historical anadromous production areas).

Harvest/ Fishing Goals:

- Current harvest levels and exploitation rates are identified by species and run type based on the complex of existing plans, agreements, and processes.
- Increasing salmon abundance as higher goals are achieved will increase numbers of fish available for harvest and fishery opportunities.
- Task Force members are also working on aspirational fishery goals that would be sustainable from healthy stocks. They will be considered by the full Task Force in October.

Recommendations to CBP:

- In October, CBP Task Force members will provide feedback on provisional goals from outreach to constituents and communities over the summer.
- The CBP Task Force recommendations report will go to MAFAC in January, 2019.
- The CBP Task Force plans to continue the effort to integrate and further evaluate provisional quantitative goals across species and the basin.
- Once Phase 2 is complete, we may revisit and adjust the provisional goals.

Draft Snake spring Chinook quantitate goal worksheet (shared at the meeting as a handout):

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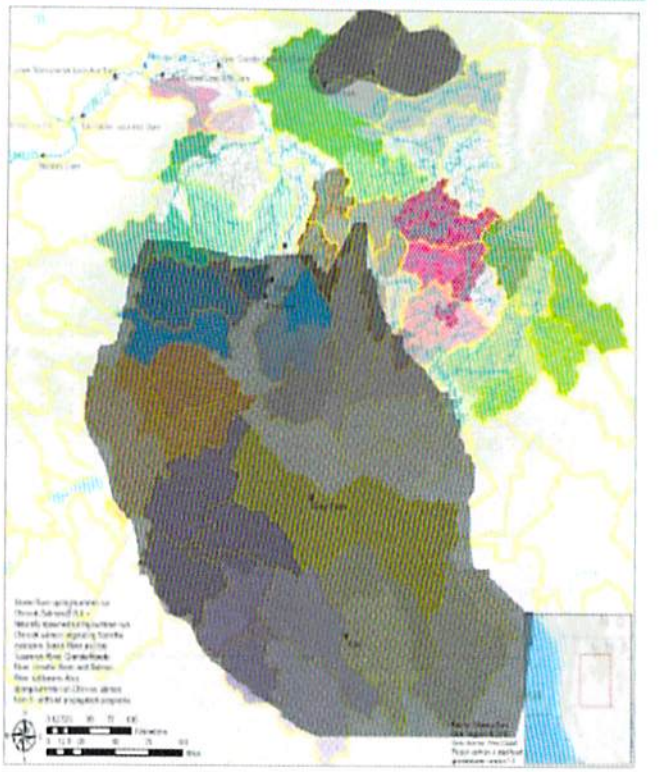
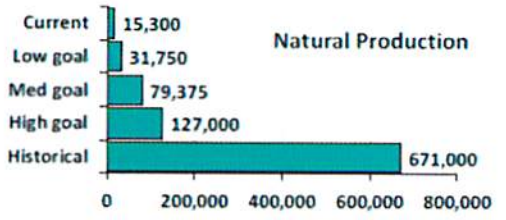
Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook | **ESA: Threatened** | **Life History: Stream-type rearing**

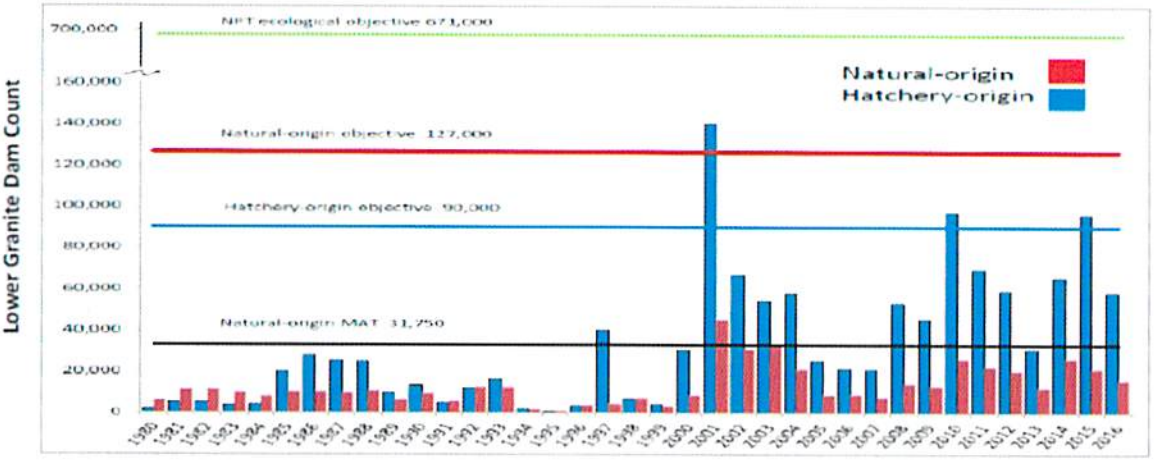
- *Inhabit moderate to high elevation areas of major Snake R tributaries.*
- *Historical production areas located upstream from the Hells Canyon Dam complex are not currently ccessible.*
- *Harvest occurs entirely in freshwater and has been substantially reduced from historical levels.*
- *Many populations impacted by land and water use in spawning and rearing areas but others occur in high quality wilderness habitats.*
- *Significant hatchery production occurs as mitigation for human impacts.*

Key limiting factors:

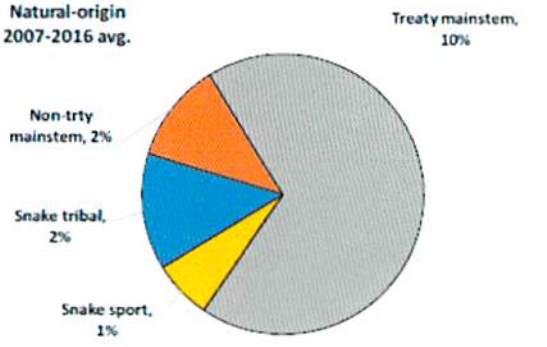
- *Impairment of tributary habitat forming processing and functions.*
- *Lost access to historical habitat due to blocked or impaired fish passage.*
- *Altered hydrology, reduced flow, warm water temperatures, and entrainment by irrigation diversions.*
- *Altered migration conditions and delayed passage due to hydrosystem effects in Columbia and Snake Rivers.*
- *Pinniped predation on adults and avian predation on juveniles.*
- *Ongoing development of low-elevation habitats in private ownership.*





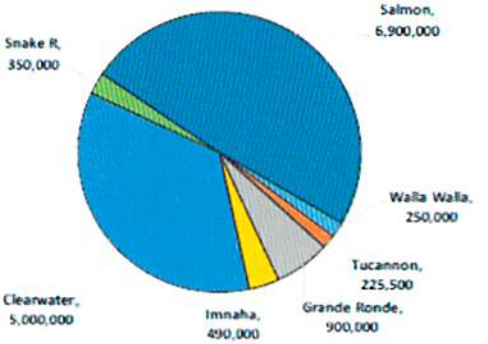


Fishery Distribution
Natural-origin
2007-2016 avg.



Total	14.4%

Hatchery Production by release area (smolts)



Total	14,115,500

Natural Production		Abundance			Potential Goal Range		
MPG	Population	Recent	1950s	1800s	Low	Med	High
Lower Snake	Tucannon (ext)		0	22,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Asotin (ext)		0	10,000	500	1,250	2,000
Dry Clearwater	Potlatch (ext)		0		500	1,250	2,000
	Lapwai/Big Canyon (ext)		0	15,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Lawyer (ext)		0	13,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Upper South Fork (ext)		0	22,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
Wet Clearwater	N Fk Lower mainstem (ext)		0		?		?
	N Fk Upper mainstem (ext)		0		?		?
	Lolo (ext)		0	15,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Lochsa (ext)		0	24,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	Meadow (ext)		0	8,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Moose (ext)		0	12,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Upper Selway (ext)		0	18,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
Grande Ronde / Imnaha	Wenaha	431	na	13,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Minam	539	na	14,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Catherine	194	na	22,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Lookingglass (ext)	0	na	3,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Lostine/Wallowa	635	na	36,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	U Grande Ronde	71	na	31,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	Imnaha	489	na	38,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Big Sheep (ext)	0	na		500	1,250	2,000
South Fork Salmon	Little Salmon			14,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Secesh		828	15,000	750	1,875	3,000
	South Fork Salmon	794	4,096	24,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	East Fork South Fork		537	19,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
Middle Fork Salmon	Chamberlain	938	806	11,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Bik	288	718	19,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	Lower Middle Fork	6	88	6,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Camas	57	246	8,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Loon	77	633	9,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Upper Middle Fork Salmon	102	586	17,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Sulphur	106	371	4,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Bear Valley	694	1,621	16,000	750	1,875	3,000
	Marsh	515	606	7,000	500	1,250	2,000
Upper Salmon	North Fork Salmon	133	353	6,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Lemhi	322	1,195	43,000	2,000	5,000	8,000
	Lower Mainstem Salmon	139	2,151	46,000	2,000	5,000	8,000
	Pahsimeroi	365		15,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	East Fork Salmon	563	1,433	18,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	Yankee Fork Salmon River	163	263	7,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Valley	190	656	9,000	500	1,250	2,000
	Upper Mainstem Salmon	530	1,572	22,000	1,000	2,500	4,000
	Panther (ext)	13			750	1,875	3,000
	Totals	**8,354**	**18,699**	**671,000**	**31,750**	**79,375**	**127,000**
Middle Snake	Burnt River						
	Crane Creek/Lower Weiser R						
	Eagle Creek						
	Little Weiser River						
	Pine Creek						
	Powder River						
	Upper Weiser River						
	Wildhorse Creek						
Malheur	North Fork Malheur						
	Upper Malheur						
	Willow Creek/Lower Malheur R						
Payette / Boise	Big/Little Willow						
	Boise						
	North Fork Payette						
	South Fork Payette						
	Squaw Cr						
Owyhee	Little Owyhee						
	Lower Owyhee						
	South Fork Owyhee						
	Upper Owyhee						
Upper Snake	Canyon Cr						
	Lower Bruneau						
	Rock Cr						
	Salmon Falls Cr						
	Upper Bruneau						
	Totals						

TBD

Hatchery Production				Current Production			Return	Future
Location (Program)	Release	Type	Brood	Smolts	Other	Return	Goal	production
McCall Hatchery	Johnson's Cr	Summer	100	150,000			8,000	same
	S Fk Salmon	Summer	648	1,000,000				same
	Curtis/Callers Cr	Summer	175		300,000			same
Pahsimeroi Hatchery	Pahsimeroi	Summer	648	1,000,000			8,000	same
TBD	Panther Cr	Summer						TBD
Carson NFH	Walla Walla	Spring	165	250,000				same
Tucannon/Lyons Ferry	Tucannon	Spring	150	225,500			1,152	same
TBD	Asotin Cr	Spring						TBD
Lookingglass Hatchery	Catherine Cr	Spring	100	150,000			5,820	same
	U Grande Ronde	Spring	165	250,000				same
	Lostine	Spring	165	250,000				same
	Lookingglass Cr	Spring	165	250,000				same
	Imnaha	Spring	320	480,000			3,210	same
Rapid River Hatchery	Rapid	Spring	1,621	2,500,000			24,000	same
	Little Salmon	Spring	100	150,000				same
	Hells Cyn Snake R	Spring	230	350,000				same
Sawtooth Hatchery	Salmon R	Spring	972	1,800,000			19,445	same
Crystal Spr/Sawtooth	Yankee Fk Salmon	Spring	200	300,000				same
Nez Perce Tribal Hat	Meadow (Selway)	Spring	285		400,000		9,135	same
	Lolo Cr	Spring	106		150,000			same
	Newsome Cr	Spring	55		75,000			same
NPTH / Dworshak NFH	Clearwater R	Spring	130	200,000				same
Dworshak NFH	U Selway R	Spring	215		300,000			same
	NF Clearwater R	Spring	690	1,050,000				same
Kooskia Hatchery	Clear Cr	Spring	425	650,000				same
Clearwater Hatchery	Other locations	Spring	260	1,000,000			11,915	same
	Clear Cr	Spring	415	900,000				same
	Red River	Spring	715	1,200,000				same
TBD	Upper Snake	Spring		0				4,000,000
Subtotal			**12,000**	**14,315,500**	**1,225,000**	**90,677**		**18,115,500**

Fisheries / Harvest			Exploitation rates		High	Harvest	
	Location		Avg.	Limits	goal	10 yr avg	High goal
Wild/Natural	Ocean	--	0%	--	--	--	--
	Mainstem Nonz Trty	v Col R	1.7%	5.5-17%	20-50%	450	110,000
	Mainstem Trty	v Col R	10.1%			2,900	
	Snake R Sport	v L Gr	3.3%	9.4%		600	
	Snake R Tribes	v L Gr					
	Total	v Col R	*14.4%*	*5.5-19%*	*20-50%*	*3,950*	*110,000*
Hatchery	Ocean	--	0%	--	--	--	--
	Mainstem Nonz Trty	v Col R	12.1%	--	68%	10,300	108,300
	Mainstem Treaty	v Col R	10.1%	--		8,200	
	Snake R Sport	v L Gr	18.0%	--		10,900	
	Snake R Tribes	v L Gr	18.0%	--		10,900	
	Total	v Col R	*47.1%*		*≤80%*	*40,300*	*108,000*

Total Return	Abundance	IP goals		
	Recent	Low	Med	High
@ Columbia R Mouth	**112,900**	**141,500**	**283,000**	**469,000**
Wild/Natural	27,400	56,000	166,000	312,000
Hatchery	85,500	85,500	117,000	157,000
% hatchery	76%	60%	41%	33%
Lower Granite Dam	**75,100**	**96,500**	**173,250**	**256,000**
Wild/Natural	17,600	16,000	98,000	166,000
Hatchery	60,500	60,500	75,250	90,000
% hatchery	77%	63%	43%	35%
Escapement*	**50,100**	**66,550**	**114,375**	**162,000**
Wild/Natural	15,300	31,750	79,375	127,000
Hatchery	34,800	34,800	35,000	35,000
% hatchery	69%	52%	31%	22%
Harvest (all fisheries)	**64,250**	**48,300**	**110,000**	**218,000**
Wild/Natural	3,950	8,000	42,000	110,000
Hatchery	40,300	40,300	68,000	108,000
% hatchery	91%	83%	62%	50%

* Escapement to spawning grounds and hatchery return

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RCO's draft budget request: Steve walked the Board through the proposed 2019-2010 RCO Budget Request including operating budgets and capital budget requests:

RCO's 2019-2021 Budget and 2019 Legislative Session related to Salmon Recovery:

Operating Budget Requests

PROJECT/FUNCTION	REQUEST
Fund lead entities with general-fund dollars, shift from capital to operating, and fund salmon recovery regions to engage in orca recovery efforts related to increased hatchery production of Chinook salmon	$866,500
Facilitated process to update statewide salmon recovery strategy	$150,000
Shift of funds from WDFW and Ecology budgets to RCO budget for GSRO support	$288,000
Invasive species emergency fund	$500,000
Total Request	**$1,804,500**

Capital Budget Requests

PROGRAM	2017-19 FUNDING	2019-21 REQUEST	PERCENT FOR CHINOOK*
State			
Salmon Recovery (SRFB-State) $76.5 m projects $9.8 m targeted investment in Hood Canal – delisting $2.604 lead entity funds	$16,500,000	$88,904,000	78%
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	$40,000,000	$79,600,000	89%
Estuary and Salmon Restoration	$8,000,000	$20,000,000	93%
Family Forest Fish Passage Program	$5,000,000	$20,000,000	31%
Coastal Restoration Grants	$12,500,000	$12,438,000	71%
Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board Grants	$19,747,000	$50,000,000	17%
Federal			
Salmon Recovery - Federal	$50,000,000	$50,000,000	73%

*The percentage for Chinook is based solely on currently active and closed projects. Does not include project applications currently being considered for funding.

The Board will review and discuss potential priorities next month.

Discussion: RTT Monitoring Sub-Committee Update and Draft Letter to BPA and NWPCC

John shared that the monitoring sub-committee of the RTT is working on identifying regional monitoring priorities both for general need purposes and also to potentially tie into future SRFB monitoring proposals. The group also coalesced on the need for monitoring in the Tucannon with the loss of the CHaMP program funded by BPA. Regional partners have worked on a draft letter to BPA and the Power Council to formulate a monitoring plan in the Tucannon to fill the void of CHaMP and also to meet the needs of the partners. John believed the letter was in-line with the Board's

priorities, but wanted to make sure there was general support before committing time and potentially resources in developing a Tucannon monitoring plan. The Board was supportive of moving forward.

Discussion: Mid-Columbia Steelhead Focused Investment Strategy

John provided background on the mid-Columbia steelhead focused investment strategy that was first discussed at the state SRFB meeting in 2017 – both Hood Canal summer chum and mid-Columbia steelhead were identified as being the closest to reaching viability in the state. The state SRFB decided to move forward with a Hood Canal focused capital request through the RCO for this biennium, but not with the mid-Columbia focused strategy. The reasoning for this is that Hood Canal is closer to meeting viability and the needs are very clear and specific; the timeline to reach viability for mid-Columbia steelhead is longer, involves more stakeholders (including the state of Oregon), and is less certain. Additionally, Hood Canal's work towards reaching delisting will support the Mid-Columbia steelhead process in the future.

In leiu of moving forward with a capital budget request for the Mid-Columbia, John, along with the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and Klickitat County Lead Entity, sought support from the state SRFB to move forward with developing a plan to reach viability with the goal of bringing in the necessary stakeholders and identifying a capital budget request for the 2021-23 biennium through RCO. The state SRFB was supportive of this.

At this point, John wanted to make sure the Board is aware of this effort and supportive of spending the time and potentially some future funding in developing the plan. John is currently working with the Yakima Basin and Klickitat Lead Entity on drafting a plan outline. The Board was supportive of this effort – John will report back when more detail is available.

Action 2: Letter of Resignation – Reid Camp
John informed the Board of Reid Camp's letter of resignation. John commended Reid for his work on Habitat Work Schedule as well as the quality products Reid produced since being hired. A motion was made by Jerry Hendrickson and seconded by Larry Hooker to accept Reid Camp's letter of resignation and the Board approved the motion.

Action 3: Contract support for Habitat Work Schedule tasks
John explained the immense value of having a devoted data steward for the SRSRB and while Reid accomplished a great deal during his tenure as part-time staff, there were still Habitat Work Schedule tasks we would like to see accomplished with the remaining allocated funds of $30,000 for this year that were to go towards staff time. John expressed the desire to move this money to a contract in order to continue the tasks outlined for Habitat Work Schedule. John asked if there was Board support to send this work out for RFP. A motion was made by Brian Shinn and seconded by Jerry Hendrickson to approve the creation of an RFP to hire a contractor to complete identified Habitat Work Schedule tasks and data management needs.

Action 4: Pinniped Congressional Bill Support Letter
John outlined the draft SRSRB letter of support for recently proposed legislation centered on pinniped predation on Mid-C and Snake River Chinook and steelhead populations. A motion was made by Bill Bowles and seconded by Justin Dixon to approve this draft letter for signature by Chairman Schirman. The Board approved the motion.

Action 5: Approve October 16, 2018 for next Board meeting to be held in Pomeroy at the USFS Building starting at 4:00 PM.

The Board discussed the meeting schedule for the remainder of the year and confirmed the dates and times of the October and December meetings. There is no November meeting as it falls on the Thanksgiving holiday. A motion was

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made by Justin Dixon and seconded by Larry Hooker to hold the next Board meeting at 4 p.m. in Pomeroy at the USFS Building. The Board approved by consensus.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m. by SRSRB Chair, Roland Schirman.

Signed By: Roland Schirman Date: 10/23/2018

Roland Schirman, Chair, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board