

Date: June 28th, 2022

Place: Dayton Best Western

Format: Regular Meeting started at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members in Person: Jon Jones (WC), Kris Fischer (CTUIR), Marty Hall (CC), Larry Hooker (WW), Mike Denny (WW), and Brad Johnson (AC).

Board Members on Phone: Bill Bowles (GC), Michael Largent (WC), Brian Shinn (AC), Todd Kimball (WW), and Sean Thurston (CC).

Others in Person: John Foltz (SRSRB), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Ali Fitzgerald (SRSRB), Roland Schirman (Citizen), Joe Bumgarner (WDFW), and Becky Johnson (NPT)

Others on Phone: Steve Martin (WDFW), Joanna Cowles-Cleveland (WWCCD), Lance Frederick (Pomeroy CD), and Aneesha Dieu (CCD).

Verify Quorum / Approve Agenda / Public Comment

SRSRB Vice Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and verified a quorum (6 in person, 5 on phone).

Action: A motion was made by Kris Fischer to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Marty Hall and the Board approved the motion.

Public Comment: Mike Denny told the SRSRB he was writing an article about the Board for the Union Bulletin and is asking for any review and input. He will send it out for review before publishing.

Action: A motion was made by Bill Bowles to approve the May 24, 2022 meeting minutes Jon Jones seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion. It was noted that we do not have April or May expenses for approval yet, as expected, with the College blackout period.

Presentation: Nez Perce Tribe Coho Project Overview & Hatchery Infrastructure Needs – Becky Johnson, Production Division Director, Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries Resource Management, presented an overview of Coho reintroduction efforts by the Nez Perce Tribe with reintroduction beginning in 1995 in the Clearwater and 2017 in southeastern Oregon. However, there is very little money to fund these efforts and hatcheries are keeping those populations going. Currently there is no funding for hatchery operations and maintenance and as the existing hatcheries age, the need for funding is more critical than ever. Becky will share her presentation slides with the Board.

Joe Bumgarner also briefly presented on WDFW's hatchery efforts as well as plans for improving juvenile survival as they out-migrate (Joe will share his presentation slides). Joe and Becky asked for a letter of support from the SRSRB prior to the upcoming Northwest Power Planning Council meeting on July 13th where they are asking for additional funding.

A motion was made by Marty Hall for John to draft a letter of support with help from Joe and Becky to be signed by the SRSRB Chair. Jon Jones seconded the motion and it passed by consensus.

Action: Approve Fiscal Budget for FY2023 – John provided an overview of the draft FY 2023 Board operating budget at the May meeting. This budget needs approval and includes the WWCC indirect rate and the RCO authorizing resolution (to allow the Chair to sign our grant contract from RCO). The budgets include the Regional Base Budget and the Lead Entity budget, including the WWCC indirect rate.

A motion was made by Brian Shinn to approve the FY2023 budget as presented. Larry Hooker seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.



Action: Approve Partner Contracts for FY2023 – John also summarized planned partner contracts and associated costs as presented in May. Details can be found in associated handouts but include funding for WRIA 35, NPT, CTUIR, Palouse CD, Asotin CD, Pomeroy CD, Walla Walla CD, and Columba CD.

A motion was made by Larry Hooker to approve the FY2023 partner contract scope and budgets as presented. Marty Hall seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

Discussion: 2022 SRFB Funding Increase and Allocation Process and Preparation for 2023 – We discussed the Legislature Approved Salmon Recovery Funding Board Funding Increases at the last several meetings and also submitted a recommendation letter to the state SRFB following the May meeting. The SRFB subsequently decided on how to allocate the funding earlier this month, and now that we know the allocations available to the SRSRB, staff is seeking direction on how to proceed.

John provided an overview of the SRFB decisions as well as the funding, funding criteria including the requirement of preliminary designs, and timelines related to those decisions. The Snake Region received an additional \$1,984,630 to be used for the 2022 and 2023 regular SRFB grant rounds. When presented to the Lead Entity Committee, they were supportive of funding the 2022 project list in full having identified no fatal flaws in the projects with the remainder of the funding going towards the 2023 ranked list.

John also summarized the \$4,790,000 that the Snake Region received. This funding can go to one large priority project within the region with a total budget of \$5M+, or potentially two projects if matching funds bring both projects to a total budget of \$5M+ each. John recommended releasing a formal RFP for sponsors as soon as possible to apply with a letter of intent due July 25th. John and Ali would present the list of projects with letters of intent submitted at the July meeting with support from the Board to proceed or not at that point in time. The Lead Entity Committee requested a voluntary remote meeting to learn about any project proposals as part of the application process and to also serve as the remote "site visit" for the SRFB Technical Review Panel. Project proposals are due by September 1st and the SRSRB must formally approve the chosen project at the September meeting.

The SRSRB was supportive of the plan to utilize this funding as described above and to publish an RFP seeking applications for the additional large cap funding. The Board also asked if Mill Creek Fish Passage would be eligible and submit a proposal as expected, noting that this opportunity would be a good fit for that project – staff noted that they expect a proposal for Mill Creek and the Lower Touchet Floodplain project, suggesting that the former would be the priority but that it would be good to have a backup. Staff also noted that the other potential large-scale projects that had been identified in the workplan don't have preliminary designs completed at this time.

Discussion: Film Screening and Outreach – John and Sean Thurston discussed the potential opportunity to show a film called Ocean to Idaho. Sean, John, and Brad pre-screened the movie and thought that it was a good film for outreach. They suggested taking some time to plan an event that would include several additional films to make for a longer event (the Ocean to Idaho film is about 20 minutes in length). The Board was supportive of this plan.

Update – Announcements and Items of Interest

Executive Call Actions – No actions taken. John shared that long time BPA contracts manager Andre L'Heureux was retiring and suggested that the Board present him a plaque of appreciation for his above and beyond support of the Tucannon Habitat Programmatic and regional habitat restoration projects. Several Board members echoed John's sentiments and were supportive of a plaque and inviting him to the August Board meeting.

RTT Update – Regional partners provided updates on projects and project implementation planned and ongoing for this summer. Ali also reviewed the 2022 SRFB grant round and provided some early insight into the 2023 grant round with the intent to have a future conversation about large projects and priorities. Lastly, the RTT reviewed and discussed a recent scientific literature review on how artificial levees impact floodplain functions and the values floodplain provide.



July Meeting Preparations —The SRFB ranked list will be presented for approval, so a quorum is needed. The August legislative outreach meeting will need to be moved. A few dates were presented (August 22, 24th, 25th, 29th, and 30th) and general support for August 30th. John will work with Gary and follow-up with more information.

Action: July 26, 2022 for next Board meeting to be held at the Dayton Best Western at 6 PM in Dayton, WA.

— A motion was made by Bill Bowles and seconded by Larry Hooker to hold the next Board meeting on July 26, 2022 at the Best Western in Dayton, WA. The Board approved by consensus.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m. by Vice Chair Johnson.

Signed By: Bill Bowles Date: July 26, 2022
Bill Bowles, Chair, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board