Snake River Salmon Recovery

Date: January 23rd, 2024
Place: Dayton Best Western
Format: Regular Meeting started at 4:00 p.m.
Board Members in Person: Jon Jones (WC), Marty Hall (CC), Larry Hooker (WW), Mike Denny (WW), Brian Shinn (AC), Sean Thurston (CC), and Kris Fischer (CTUIR)
Board Members on Phone: Brad Johnson (AC), Jerimiah Bonifer, (CTUIR) Justin Dixon (GC)
Others in Person: Steve Martin, (SRSRB), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Ali Fitzgerald (SRSRB), and Roland Schirman (Citizen).
Others on Phone: None

Verify Quorum / Agenda Approval and Public Comment

SRSRB chair Bowles called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and verified a quorum (7 in person, 3 on phone).
No public comment was provided.

A motion was made by Briann Shinn to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Marty Hall and the Board approved the motion by consensus.

Action – A motion was made by Jon Jones to approve the consent agenda as presented which included three items (1) November and (2) December expenses as well as (3) the December 12, 2023 meeting notes.Sean Thurston seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion by consensus.

Discussion Items: /Action:

- **Draft BPA Parent Contract**
  Kris displayed a table showing the budget items contained within the $197,069 parent contract with BPA for administering/managing the Tucannon Habitat Programmatic. He described the Project Areas, the assessment that informed those areas and high level restoration priorities for the reaches and noted the upcoming Project Area 5 to Project Area 15 assessment of infrastructure and opportunities to restore river function for ESA listed salmon. The fiscal year for this parent contract is April 1 to March 31 of each year and has been an ongoing agreement with BPA since 2012. It is one of three administrative/operations contract that the board is responsible for.
- **FY Lead Entity program (state funds) and FY 24 Regional Operations (federal funds) budget updates and recommendation to address administrative support and technical support needs**
  Steve provided a digital handout in the meeting packet email and displayed it on the screen that showed the three contracts with associated budgets and a strategy to meet the needs of the Board and staff which are administrative support and technical support. This draft is for further consideration with details to unfold over the next month or so but Steve is looking for support to move in the direction represented on the Table.

Action – A motion was made by Mike Denny to approve the BPA parent contract as presented by Kris and the Regional Operations (federal funds) budgets as presented. The motion was seconded by Brian Shinn and the Board approved the motion by consensus.

With this decision regarding the two federal contract budgets, staff will refine recommendations for the Lead Entity (state funds) budget and recommend how to use these state funds to maintain on-going partner support and meet the needs of the organization (administrative and technical support) which may be in the form of part time or full time staff, or consultant services. As noted, of these state funds that total $305,000, $46,000 can only be spent on capital items (projects or designs that directly lead to a project). Steve is scoping options with WWCC administrative team and the Water Center to see about job-share or other arrangements for the Admin/Operations position. Mike Denny noted that if we use consultants to be clear in any contract that the consultant is directed by the Executive Director, not the Board.

- **Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Bylaws**
  Our bylaws require the Board to review and make updates (if warranted) every two years. Staff reviewed them and Steve presented the recommended updates for the Board to consider with the intent of taking action at the February Board meeting. Sean Thurston asked for clarification about the Purpose statements and Kris Fischer noted that he had the same thoughts and offered to work with Steve and Sean on revisions to the Purpose to reflect the current role of the Board in salmon recovery. Steve will distribute a draft set out in advance of the February Board meeting that will show recommended changes in yellow highlight for board to consider taking action at that meeting.

Update – Announcements and Items of Interest

Executive Call Actions – No actions take but the confidential recently completed federal mediation process for the Columbia River hydropower system, with an emphasis on the 4 Lower Snake River dams, was recognized as a topic the Board should learn more about

RTT Update – Kris Fisher noted the RTT met last week and discussed its bylaws, 3-year work plan update process, and heard from Ali about the 2024 Grant Round

2024 Grant Round Update - Ali mentioned the three sources of funding that we will have access to for this year's grant round. Those are (1) the traditional Lead Entity program in the amount of approximately $2 M, (2) Riparian Account with $2.4 M which was created by legislature in response to the Climate Commitment Act and (3) Large Capital Projects with $20M for projects (pending the legislative decision this session) across the state of which each salmon recovery region can submit up to 6 large capital projects defined as at least $1 M and less than $5 M. The Lead Entity Committee will use the existing scorecard to score projects in each of the categories and then the projects specific to the Lead Entity category will be ranked amongst themselves, the Riparian Account projects will be ranked amongst themselves, and the large cap will be ranked amongst themselves with the highest ranked project receiving 6 points, the second highest receives 5 points and so on down the list of 6. The state will accept those "regional priority points" as indicators of regional-specific priorities when it ranks all of the Large Capital projects submitted across the 7 salmon recovery regions.

Other Items

Jerimiah B

Action: February 27, 2024 Board meeting to be held at the Best Western in Dayton, WA at 4 PM — A motion was made by Sean Thurston and seconded by Marty Hall to hold the next Board meeting on February 27th, 2024 at the Best Western in Dayton, WA at 4 PM. The Board approved by consensus.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 by Chair Bowles.

Signed By: _____ Date: _____

Bill Bowles, Chair, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

2022 SRFB Grant Round Final Ranking Summary June 23rd, 2022*

Final Rank	Average Score	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Project Type	RP Final Review	SRFB Request	Project Match	Project Total	Match %
1	144.6	Tucannon PA 26 Phase III/IV Construction***	Columbia Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$545,500	$1,042,942	$1,588,442	66%
2	136.4	Asotin Creek PA 6 Construction	Asotin Conservation District	Restoration	Conditioned	$225,000	$80,000	$305,000	26%
3	127.6	Cummings Creek Channel Complexity	Nez Perce Tribe	Restoration	Cleared	$121,986	$55,266	$177,252	31%
4	127.0	Kelly Creek PA45 Restoration	Asotin Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$70,000	$30,500	$100,500	30%
5	123.7	Touchet RM 42 Construction	Walla Walla County Conservation Dist.	Restoration	Cleared	$349,504	$351,000	$700,504	50%
6	123.3	Couse Creek PA 78 Restoration	Asotin Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$164,500	$70,500	$235,000	30%
7	122.3	Panjab Creek Low-Tech Process-Based Restoration	Trout Unlimited	Restoration	Cleared	$123,131	$22,000	$145,131	15%
8	118.1	Tucannon River Project Area 5-15 Assessment and Design	Confed. Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation	Planning	Cleared	$150,001	$269,150	$419,151	64%
9	116.9	Asotin Creek PA 11.2 Design	Asotin Conservation District	Planning	Cleared	$96,000	$24,000	$120,000	20%
10	116.5	Tenmile Creek PA 68.1 Construction	Asotin Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$43,600	$18,700	$62,300	30%
11	114.6	Asotin Creek PA 3.2 Design	Asotin Conservation District	Planning	Conditioned	$84,000	$21,000	$105,000	20%
12	113.5	Snake Region Beaver Relocation Framework	Trout Unlimited	Restoration	Cleared	$106,231	$28,000	$134,231	21%
13	112.9	Walla Walla River 32.5 Design	Confed. Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation	Planning	Conditioned	$165,000	$60,000	$225,000	27%
14	111.3	Tumalum Creek LTPBR Phase 4	Pomeroy Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$116,325	$21,000	$137,325	15%
15	105.8	Steptoe Creek Culvert Replacement	Palouse Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$249,000	$44,000	$293,000	15%
16	100.2	Steptoe Creek PALS Phase II	Palouse Conservation District	Restoration	Cleared	$45,000	$7,941	$52,941	15%
17	85.2	Túuši Wána - Touchet River Design	Confed. Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation	Planning	Conditioned	$65,000	$160,000	$225,000	71%
18	68.6	McNary National Wildlife Refuge Wallula Unit Design	Confed. Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation	Planning	Cleared	$150,000	$15,000	$165,000	9%
						$2,869,778	**$2,320,999**		
		^Regional Allocation: $1,688,000 + $1,984,630 = $3,672,630		Amount remaining		**$802,852**			

*Final ranked list as ranked by the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity on June 23rd, 2022. No fatal flaws were identified.

***Tucannon PA26 is seeking funding through SRFB Targeted Investment concurrently. If Targeted Investment funds are received, it will be removed from the project list.

^The regional allocation is $1,688,000 plus an additional $1,984,630 that can be used for 2022 or 2023 grant rounds for total of up to $3,672,630 available for 2022.

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