Washington Forum on Monitoring
September 11, 2009

AGENDA Item # 6

Forum Recommendations to SRFB on Monitoring Allocations

Presentation by:
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Problem/Issue Statement

In October 2008, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board indicated interest in having the Forum review and recommend an appropriate allocation for SRFB monitoring investments.

In response, the Forum convened a small workgroup to review SRFB monitoring programs and strategy documents. The forum approved the workgroup's initial recommendations at its March meeting, which were subsequently presented to the SRFB in May. Based on those recommendations, the SRFB approved one-year contract extensions for two main programs (Reach-scale Effectiveness Monitoring, and Intensively Monitored Watersheds).

The forum workgroup has subsequently developed some follow-up (longer-term) recommendations, for forum discussion and approval to transmit to the SRFB in October.

What decision is asked of the Forum?
Discuss and approve forum recommendations to the SRFB on monitoring allocations.

SRFB/Forum Monitoring Review

Review Questions for Forum:

- Is the SRFB funding the correct programs?
  - Are there gaps?
- Is the funding allocation among programs correct?
- Have we learned enough to revise or update technical design, sampling details, or general program details?
- Can we improve the timing of funding cycles, avoid last-minute requests, and improve stability of long-term programs?

Different Types of Monitoring Address Different Questions

Status & Trends

What is the current condition, or trends?

- ***at targeted sites***
- ***at random (representative) sites***

Implementation Monitoring

Were funded actions actually implemented?

Effectiveness Monitoring

Do habitat restoration projects work?
Can we actually improve fish habitat?

IMW Monitoring

Does habitat restoration actually increase fish production and abundance?

Forum Recommendations to SRFB

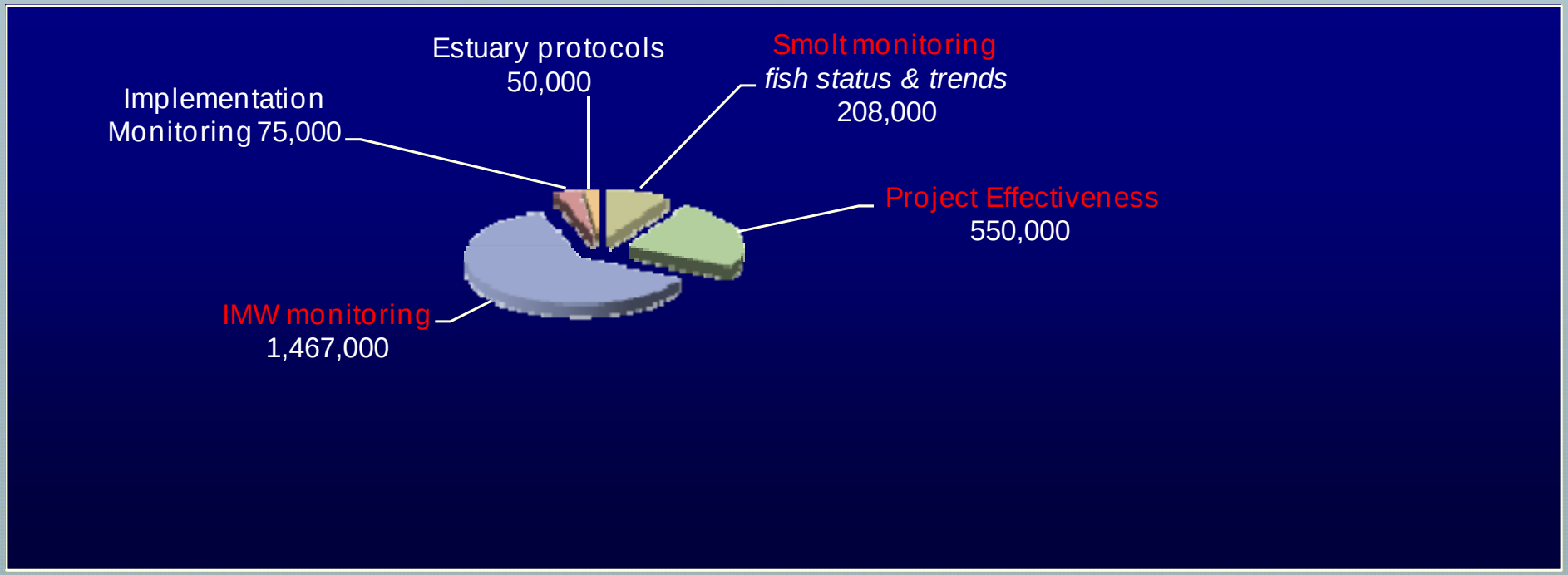
Important Monitoring Categories Include:

1) *Implementation Monitoring
2) *Project Effectiveness Monitoring
3) *IMW Monitoring
4) Status and Trends Monitoring
   *fish
   habitat and water quality
5) Nearshore / Marine Monitoring
6) Data Management

*Currently funded by SRFB

Current SRFB Funding Mix

Funding level based on 2008 PCSRF requirement for "a minimum of 10% of budget for monitoring"



Total = $2,350,000 (10% of $23,500,000) : *expect $2.6 M for 2009*

Forum Recommendations to SRFB

1) *Implementation Monitoring
2) *Project Effectiveness Monitoring
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Implementation Monitoring

1) **Continue implementation monitoring for PCSRF grants**
   - Currently funded through RCO indirect
   - Seek coordination opportunities for a broader regional approach to implementation monitoring

Forum Recommendations to SRFB

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Project Effectiveness Monitoring

1) **Stay the course with some adjustments to current contract**
   - Implement Tetra Tech 5-year review recommendations
     - Discontinue monitoring in 3 project categories
     - Combine project categories to increase sample size
   - Finish out original sampling matrix and project schedule
     - Field sampling tapers off into 2016
   - Improve adaptive management out-reach to project sponsors and lead entities
     - Web-based project category summaries with results & outcomes
     - Interactive map of project-specific data by location

Project Effectiveness Monitoring

2) **Forum should develop a statewide (multi-agency) approach to effectiveness monitoring**
   - Partner with other agencies to increase sample sizes in key project categories
   - Align protocols where possible
   - Align project effectiveness sites with fish-in/fish-out where possible
   - May need contractor support to help compile information

3) **Migrate reach-scale effectiveness monitoring data to an existing state database**
   - System should be web-enabled to promote easy access

Forum Recommendations to SRFB

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IMW Monitoring

1) **Stay the course with current program**
   - Move forward with 2010 field season
   - Complete associated data assessment and reporting

Findings

- The IMW question is consistent with the Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy and remains a high priority.
- The IMW Program as currently designed **is** capable of assessing fish population response to restoration at the watershed scale
- Policy-level coordination is needed to ensure local watersheds can support and implement the IMW treatment plans
- The recommendations offered by the ISP in 2006 remain relevant and should be revisited

IMW Monitoring

2) **SRFB should encourage Lead Entities to propose projects in IMW treatment watersheds**.
   - Funding for restoration in IMWs doesn't always support the IMW treatment plans, compromising the value of IMW monitoring.
3) **Connect IMW Monitoring staff with Lead Entities and regions to improve implementation of IMWs**
   - need policy support from SRFB for that relationship.
4) ***Improve coordination between SRFB IMW's and other IMW studies in the Pacific NW***
   - ***Forum should scope and host a state-wide IMW workshop***
5) **Develop procedures to resolve site-specific impediments to IMW success, as they emerge**

IMW Monitoring

6) **Provide a mechanism for reviewing adjustments to the IMW program**

   - e.g. incorporating new restoration approaches like nutrient addition

7) **Compare IMW protocols and data management with those used for Status & Trends, and Project Effectiveness**

8) **Improve coordination between IMW efforts and Project Effectiveness Monitoring**

   - Evaluate opportunities to include IMW restoration projects in the Project Effectiveness sampling pool

Forum Recommendations to SRFB

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Status and Trends Monitoring

1) **Continue to support fish-in/fish-out monitoring**
2) **Support development of a habitat/landscape remote sensing program**
3) **Help local and regional organizations use the Status & Trends (Ecology) monitoring framework**
   - Create a web-interface for data management system
   - "Toolkit" of standard protocols, training, field forms, data management system, etc.

Forum Recommendations to SRFB

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Nearshore / Marine Monitoring

1) **Follow-up with development of a nearshore monitoring approach and strategy**

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Data Management

1) Build on success of WQ and smolt data exchanges

- Don’t over-reach on statewide data mgt strategies
- Next step: add adult salmon to smolt data exchange network
- Support state proposals to consolidate agency GIS layers
- Support Status & Trends web interface
- Support effectiveness monitoring data archive and migration (consider aligning with S&T data mgt system)

SRFB/Forum Monitoring Review

- Is the SRFB funding the correct programs? **Yes**
  - **Currently funded programs address core monitoring questions**

- Are there gaps? **Yes:**
  - **Habitat status & trends (especially landscape-scale)**
  - **Nearshore – awaiting proposal**
  - **Data mgt – address next steps; caution against over-reaching**

SRFB/Forum Monitoring Review

- Is the funding allocation among programs correct?

Implementation monitoring

- ***RCO costs***

IMW monitoring

- ***"right-sized" for current program scope***

Project effectiveness

- ***Incorporate technical and design recommendations***
- ***Re-scope for 2010 (and beyond?)***
- ***Develop web tools for outreach (adaptive management)***
- ***Develop statewide strategy***

SRFB/Forum Monitoring Review

- Is the funding allocation among programs correct?

Status and trends

- ***SRFB contributes a small amount to fish-in / fish-out***
- ***Need support for landscape-scale remote sensing***
- ***Need to web-enable data mgt system and outreach to locals***

Nearshore monitoring

- ***awaiting proposal***

Data management

- ***Don't over-reach on statewide strategy***
- ***Address next steps: adult salmonid data exchange***

SRFB/Forum Monitoring Review

- Have we learned enough to revise or update technical design, sampling details, or general program details? **Yes**
  - **Technical and design recommendations for project effectiveness**
  - **Policy & coordination recommendations for IMWs**
  - **"Toolkit" recommendations for status & trends**
  - **Coordinate sampling frames, protocols, metrics, data mgt systems, reporting**
- Can we improve the timing of funding cycles, avoid last-minute requests, and improve stability of long-term programs? **Yes**
  - **Annual monitoring contracts should extend 18 months or > to allow for start-up, field prep, sampling, data evaluation, and reporting**
  - **2010 field sampling contract timeframe ~ Oct 2009 – April 2011**

SRFB/Forum Monitoring Review

Next Steps:

- Finalize Forum recommendations
- Present to SRFB in October
- Potential new tasks for Forum (if requested by SRFB?)
  - **Forum should facilitate development of a statewide (multi-agency) approach to effectiveness monitoring**
  - **Forum should scope and host a state-wide IMW workshop**

Recommended funding levels

	Current	Proposed
Implementation	$75K	$75K
Project Effectiveness	~ $550K	$400K
▪ Add web interface	0	---
IMW	$1,467K	$1,467K
Fish-in / fish-out	$210K	$210K
Nearshore	$50K	---
Total	**$2,352K**	**$2,252K**
Projected savings		$100K
2009 PCSRF increment		$300K
Total new		$400K ???

Recommended funding levels

	Proposed
Projected unallocated	$400K
▪ ***Proj effect web enable (re-program)***	***$50K***
▪ ***Nearshore (carry-over)***	***$50K***
▪ **Statewide Effectiveness Monitoring Coord**	**$50K**
▪ **IMW and Effectiveness Workshops**	**$5K**
▪ Status & Trends web interface	$140K
▪ Habitat remote sensing:	
WDFW demonstration project	$100K
▪ Add adult salmon to smolt data exch (est)	$100-200K
▪ Effectiveness monitoring data migration (est)	$100K