

## Proposed Agenda Salmon Recovery Funding Board Regular Meeting

Thursday, June 23, 2016

Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA 98501

**Time:** Opening sessions will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

**Order of Presentation:** In general, each agenda item will include a presentation, followed by board discussion and then public comment. The board makes decisions following the public comment portion of the agenda item.

**Public Comment:** If you wish to comment at the meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff. Please be sure to note on the card if you are speaking about a particular agenda topic. The chair will call you to the front at the appropriate time. Public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person. You also may submit written comments to the board by mailing them to the RCO, attn: Wendy Loosle, Board Liaison, or at [wendy.loosle@rco.wa.gov](mailto:wendy.loosle@rco.wa.gov).

**Meeting Accommodations:** Persons with disabilities needing an accommodation to participate in RCO public meetings are invited to contact us via the following options: 1) Leslie Frank by phone (360) 902-0220 or e-mail [leslie.frank@rco.wa.gov](mailto:leslie.frank@rco.wa.gov); or 2) 711 relay service. Accommodation requests should be received at least three business days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. Please provide two weeks' notice for requests to receive information in an alternative format and for ASL/ESL interpretation requests.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 23

#### OPENING AND WELCOME

**9:00 a.m. Call to Order** *Chair*

- Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
- Review and Approval of Agenda (**Decision**)

**9:05 a.m. 1. Consent Agenda** *Chair*

A. Approval of March 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes

#### MANAGEMENT AND PARTNER REPORTS

**9:10 a.m. 2. Director's Report**

- Recognition of Jeff Breckel *Kaleen Cottingham*
- Director's Report
- Legislative, Budget, and Policy Updates *Wendy Brown*
- Performance Update (*written only*)
- Financial Report (*written only*)

**9:30 a.m. 3. Salmon Recovery Management Report**

- Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Report *Brian Abbott*
  - Lead Entity Operational Reviews *Sarah Gage*
  - Salmon Recovery Network (SRNet) *Brian Abbott*
  - Board Work Plan Update
    - Communication Plan Contracting
    - State of Salmon *Jennifer Johnson*
    - 2017 Salmon Recovery Conference *Sarah Gage*
- Salmon Section Report *Kat Moore*
- Recently Completed Projects *Grant Managers*

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**10:30 a.m. 4. Reports from Partners**

- Puget Sound Partnership
- Council of Regions Report
  - Introduce New Regional Directors
- Washington Salmon Coalition Report
- Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Coalition
- Board Roundtable: Other Agency Updates
  - Columbia Basin Partnership

*Sheida Sahandy  
Jeff Breckel*

*Amy Hatch-Winecka  
Lance Winecka and Dick Wallace  
SRFB Agency Representatives  
Phil Rockefeller*

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**10:55 a.m. General Public Comment:** *Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*

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**11:00 a.m. BREAK**

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**BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS**

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**11:15 a.m. 5. State Conservation Commission's Voluntary Stewardship Program**

*Bill Eller*

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**12:00 p.m. LUNCH**

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**BOARD BUSINESS: DECISION & REQUEST FOR DIRECTION**

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**12:30 p.m. 6. Funding Issues: Short-term and Long-term**

- PCSRF Reductions and Impacts for the Current Biennium **(Decision)**
- Building Budget Requests for the 2017-19 Biennium **(Request for Direction)**

*Kaleen Cottingham  
Brian Abbott  
Wendy Brown*

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**BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFINGS**

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**2:15 p.m. 7. Monitoring Panel Update: Process and Schedule for Funding Recommendations**

*Dr. Marnie Tyler  
Keith Dublanica*

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**2:45 p.m. BREAK**

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**3:00 p.m. 8. Effectiveness Monitoring (Procurement Update)**

*Keith Dublanica*

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**3:15 p.m. 9. Updates from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

- A. Washington's Wild Future Initiative
- B. Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board

*Jennifer Quan  
Tom Jameson*

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**4:30 p.m. ADJOURN**

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**Salmon Recovery Funding Board**  
**June 23, 2016**  
**Consent Agenda**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following June 23, 2016 Consent Agenda items are approved:

- Approval of March 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes

*Moved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Seconded by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Adopted Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2016

**Title:** Director's Report

### Summary

This memo is the director's report on key agency activities.

### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

In this Report:

- Agency update
- Legislative, budget, and policy updates
- Fiscal report
- Performance update

## Agency Update

### RCO Submits Applications for Federal Salmon Recovery Dollars

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) submitted its final application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) requesting \$25 million to fund salmon recovery projects and monitoring efforts next year. Known as the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), this federal program provides more than half of the funding in Washington for salmon recovery projects statewide, excluding the state money specifically allotted to Puget Sound projects.

RCO also received a Puget Sound Chinook Critical Stock grant from NOAA. This is the seventh year RCO has applied for a grant, and this year we are receiving nearly \$300,000 for the Stillaguamish Tribe's South Fork Stillaguamish River program. To meet the short-term (5-10 years) goal of keeping the river's Chinook salmon from going extinct, the Tribe will use this grant to support its captive brood stock program. The program's goal is ambitious: to produce up to 200,000 smolts for release each spring into the river.

### Riparian Habitat Guidelines 2.0 Issued

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is finalizing updates to its *Riparian Habitat Guidelines*, on which all of RCO's grant programs rely for technical guidance on the best way to protect and restore streamside areas. The draft guidelines will be out for public review this summer. Once the guidelines are finalized, WDFW will present the guidance to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) and discuss the technical findings and management recommendations. More information about the Priority Habitats and Species Program is available at [habitatprogram@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:habitatprogram@dfw.wa.gov).

### Salmon Trip to Washington D.C.

Tara Galuska, Bob Bugert, and other salmon partners traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with the Washington congressional delegation and NOAA staff about PCSRF. They met with Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and Representatives Peter DeFazio (Oregon), Denny Heck, Jaime Herrera-Butler, Derek Kilmer, Rick Larsen, Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Dan Newhouse, and David Reichert.



### Briefing Governor on Efforts to Align Salmon and Ecology Grants

A small group briefed the Governor on a multi-agency effort (similar to Lean) to improve the grant processes for water quality and salmon grants. The group reported on a project, which is part of Results Washington, to align policies and create a portal for salmon and water grant opportunities. We also learned that seven other states are coming to Washington to learn about Results Washington as a potential model for their states.



### Meetings with Partners

- **Washington State Conservation Commission:** The directors of the two agencies met and discussed topics including the Department of Fish and Wildlife's riparian buffer guidance technical paper and the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program legislation, changes and new applications for the Farmland Preservation Category and the new Forestland Preservation Category.
- The director spoke at the grand opening of the **Lyre Conservation Area** near Port Angeles. The North Olympic Land Trust used \$3.4 million from multiple salmon recovery grants to protect about 280 acres of the Lyre River, an estuary, and a critical salmon migration corridor along the Strait of Juan de Fuca. For more information, see our [Celebrations Page](#).

### Employees on the Move

- **Justin Bush** joined RCO as the new executive coordinator of the Washington Invasive Species Council. Justin worked for the King County Noxious Weed Program and has worked on invasive species issues in Skamania County and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildlife Center in Austin, Texas.
- **Sean O'Neill** joins RCO as the new IT intern. He comes to us through the WaTech IT Internship Program from South Puget Sound Community College. Sean's past experiences include IT support, decorative concrete construction, and Army National Guard.

## Update on Sister Boards

### Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB)

The RCFB met April 27-28 in Olympia. The main business was approval of policy changes needed to align the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program with new laws and recommendations from a program review this past fall. The Departments of Natural Resources and Health presented information about their respective programs and the board adopted the proposed strategic plan performance measures.

The board also received notice of a new member: Governor Jay Inslee appointed Michael Shiosaki, the director of the Planning and Development Division of the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department, to the board in May. [See more details.](#)

### Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

The lands group met in March for both its regular quarterly meeting and annual coordinating forum. At the forum, the agencies discussed forecasted land acquisition and disposal projects for which they will seek funding in the 2017-2019 budget. Agency presentations have been posted on the [Lands Group Web page](#) and have been put together in the [2017-19 state land acquisition forecast report](#). At the regular meeting, the group discussed potential outcomes to 2016 legislation, including implementation of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program bill, and heard a presentation from State Parks on the its economic analysis.

## Legislative Update

The three RCO agency-request bills – Invasive Species Council reauthorization (SB 6162), Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group reauthorization (SB 6296), and WWRP program review implementation (SSB 6227) were passed by the Legislature in the 2016 Legislative Session. RCO also received several budget changes requested in its RCFB grant programs related to the increases from the new gas tax.

## Fiscal Report

This financial report reflects Salmon Recovery Funding Board activities as of April 2016.

### Balance Summary

Fund	Balance
Current State Balance	\$5,097,177
Current Federal Balance – Projects, Hatchery Reform, Monitoring	\$572,452
Current Federal Balance – Activities	\$3,354,724
Lead Entities	\$441,615
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) and Puget Sound Restoration	\$4,947,100

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board

For July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2017, actuals through April 30, 2016 (FM 10). 41.6% of biennium reported.

Programs	BUDGET	COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	New and Re-appropriation 2015-2017	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Completed
<b>State Funded</b>							
2011-13	\$4,890,891	\$3,906,974	80%	\$983,917	20%	\$937,137	24%
2013-15	\$11,872,091	\$11,307,308	95%	\$564,783	5%	\$2,654,386	23%
2015-17	\$14,820,200	\$11,271,723	76%	\$3,548,477	24%	\$637,131	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,583,182</b>	<b>26,486,005</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>\$5,097,177</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>4,228,654</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Federal Funded</b>							
2011	\$4,672,596	\$4,672,596	100%	\$0	0%	\$2,336,725	50%
2012	\$8,493,420	\$8,493,420	100%	\$0	0%	\$3,251,102	38%
2013	\$8,564,766	\$8,564,766	100%	\$0	0%	\$3,033,627	35%
2014	\$15,724,199	\$15,724,199	100%	\$0	0%	\$4,893,952	31%
2015	\$18,173,121	\$14,245,945	78%	\$3,927,176	22%	\$1,221,517	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,628,102</b>	<b>51,700,926</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>\$3,927,176</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>14,736,923</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>Grant Programs</b>							
Lead Entities	6,331,313	5,889,698	93%	441,615	7%	1,915,756	33%
PSAR	83,169,048	78,221,948	94%	4,947,100	6%	17,918,051	23%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>176,711,645</b>	<b>162,298,577</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>14,413,068</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>38,799,384</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Administration</b>							
Admin/ Staff	5,954,591	5,954,591	100%	-	0%	2,003,265	34%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>5,954,591</b>	<b>5,954,591</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2,003,265</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$182,666,236</b>	<b>\$168,253,168</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>\$14,413,068</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>\$40,802,649</b>	<b>24%</b>

Note: Activities such as smolt monitoring, effectiveness monitoring, and regional funding are combined with projects in the state and federal funding lines above.

## Performance Update

The following data are for grant management and project impact performance measures for fiscal year 2016. Data included are specific to projects funded by the board and current as of May 23, 2016.

### Project Impact Performance Measures

The following tables provide an overview of the fish passage accomplishments funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) in fiscal year 2016.

Grant sponsors submit these performance measure data for blockages removed, fish passages installed, and stream miles made accessible when a project is completed and in the process of closing. The Forest Family Fish Passage Program and Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program are not included in these totals.

Two hundred and seventeen salmon blockages were removed so far this fiscal year (July 1, 2015 to May 23, 2016), with 17 passageways installed (Table 1). These projects have cumulatively opened 87.41 miles of stream (Table 2).

**Table 1. SRFB-Funded Fish Passage Metrics**

Measure	FY 2016 Performance
Blockages Removed	217
Bridges Installed	8
Culverts Installed	9
Fish Ladders Installed	0
Fishway Chutes Installed	0

**Table 2. Stream Miles Made Accessible by SRFB-Funded Projects**

Project Number	Project Name	Primary Sponsor	Stream Miles
<a href="#">10-1863</a>	Calistoga Setback Levee - Construction	Orting City of	1.25
<a href="#">11-1428</a>	Klickitat Floodplain Restoration Phase 3	Columbia Land Trust	0.53
<a href="#">11-1463</a>	Clearwater River Road Removal (Phase 2)	South Puget Sound SEG	0.5
<a href="#">11-1565</a>	City of Yakima Floodplain Ecosystem Restoration	Yakima City of	0
<a href="#">12-1068</a>	W. Fork Chenois Cr Fish Barrier Correction	Chehalis Basin FTF	6.5
<a href="#">12-1102</a>	Hoko River 9000 Road Barrier Correction	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	1.93
<a href="#">12-1390</a>	Crooked Creek Tributary Culvert Replacement	Makah Tribe	1.25
<a href="#">12-1408</a>	Sands Creek Drainage Culvert Replacement	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	1.5
<a href="#">12-1428</a>	Christmas Creek Drainage Restoration, Phase 2	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	2.02
<a href="#">12-1644</a>	Klickitat Floodplain Restoration Phase 4	Columbia Land Trust	0.43
<a href="#">12-1648</a>	Ninemile Creek Riparian Restoration	Trout Unlimited Inc.	6
<a href="#">13-1029</a>	Scammon Creek Barrier Removal	Lewis County Conservation District	3.6
<a href="#">13-1114</a>	Duncan Dam Fish Passage Restoration	Lower Columbia River FEG	1.94
<a href="#">13-1128</a>	Christmas Creek Phase III	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	1.5
<a href="#">13-1313</a>	Yakima Basin Bull Trout Task Force	Mid-Columbia RFEG	47
<a href="#">13-1357</a>	LeClerc Creek Restoration Phase I	Kalispel Tribe	2.2
<a href="#">14-1168</a>	Stevens Creek Fish Barrier Culvert Correction	Chehalis Basin FTF	3.26
<a href="#">14-1975</a>	Smalle Creek Westside Calispel Rd Fish Passage Imp	Pend Oreille Co Public Works	6
<b>Total Miles</b>			<b>87.41</b>



## Grant Management Performance Measures

Table 3 summarizes fiscal year 2016 operational performance measures as of May 23, 2016.

**Table 3. SRFB-Funded Grants: Management Performance Measures**

Measure	FY Target	FY 2016 Performance	Indicator	Notes
Percent of Salmon Projects Issued Agreement within 120 Days of Board Funding	85-95%	<b>88%</b>	●	One hundred eighty-one agreements for SRFB-funded projects were due to be mailed this fiscal year to date. Staff mail agreements on average 57 days after a project is approved.
Percent of Salmon Progress Reports Responded to On Time (15 days or less)	65-75%	<b>90%</b>	●	A total of 507 progress reports were due this fiscal year to date for SRFB-funded projects. Staff responded to 455 in 15 days or less. On average, staff responded in 7 days.
Percent of Salmon Bills Paid within 30 days	100%	<b>100%</b>	●	During this fiscal year to date, 434 bills were due for SRFB-funded projects. All were paid on time.
Percent of Projects Closed on Time	60-70%	<b>76%</b>	●	A total of 193 SRFB-funded projects were scheduled to close so far this fiscal year. Of those, 146 projects closed on time.
Number of Projects in Project Backlog	0	<b>11</b>	●	Eleven SRFB-funded projects are in the backlog. This is an increase from the last board meeting.
Number of Compliance Inspections Completed	75	<b>48</b>	●	Staff have inspected 48 worksites this fiscal year to date. They have until June 30, 2016 to reach the target.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2016  
**Title:** Salmon Recovery Management Report  
**Prepared By:** Brian Abbott, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Executive Coordinator  
Tara Galuska, Salmon Section Manager

### Summary

The following are some highlights of work recently completed by the staff in the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and the Recreation and Conservation Office.

### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☒ Briefing

## Governor's Salmon Recovery Office

### Lead Entity Operational Reviews

The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) manages the Lead Entity program for the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board). During the current biennium, GSRO staff began conducting Lead Entity Operational Reviews. The purpose of each review is to meet with the Lead Entity Coordinator at their place of work to assess and analyze their progress on implementing their contractual scope of work; provide recommendations (as applicable) to further improve their operational efficiency; and understand the costs and funding needs of the lead entity. This review provides the opportunity to discuss what is working and what isn't in the lead entity's scope of work. GSRO is currently developing a systematic approach that utilizes a checklist for each review. After completing the reviews, GSRO prepares a report summarizing lead entity progress to share with the board. For the June 2016 meeting, Sarah Gage, GSRO Lead Entity Program Manager, will brief the board on the review process so far.

### Salmon Recovery Network

For the past year and a half, the Salmon Recovery Network (SRNet) has met regularly in workgroups facilitated by Triangle Associates and through conference calls focused on refining capacity and capital project funding needs. Currently, SRNet members are crafting an outreach strategy for decision-makers.

At the May meeting, SRNet members formed a subcommittee tasked with developing funding priorities for the next biennial budget. SRNet discussed these recommendation on a conference call in early June and will provide budget recommendations for the board to consider at the June meeting. The next scheduled SRNet meeting is June 22, 2016 at the Natural Resources Building in Olympia.

## **Board Work Plan Update**

### **Communications Plan Contracting**

RCO has contracted with Pyramid Communications to develop a communications plan and associated outreach materials. The plan will provide detailed recommendations and focus on the synergies between the board, GSRO and SRNet, building on the close affiliations that the three entities share.

The objectives of this contract are to:

- Build from the Communications Framework to write a specific and actionable communications plan for the board and GSRO.
- Develop communication materials to support the plan; these may include handouts, fact sheets, website development, or video shorts.
- Align the plan with SRNet outreach efforts, to promote collaborative communications that send consistent messaging on salmon recovery to decision-makers.
- Assist GSRO with a State of Salmon website and report outreach strategy, which should be an integrated part of the overall communications plan.

Board members Nancy Biery and Bob Bugert continue to represent the board's interests on the Communication Plan Advisory Group. In the near future, Pyramid Communications will interview board members and selected staff as part of the information gathering process.

### **State of Salmon 2016**

GSRO is working with the Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources, Tribes, recovery organizations, and consultants to prepare the 2016 State of Salmon in Watersheds website update and Executive Summary. The planned launch date for the updated and re-designed website is December 12, 2016. Most of the indicators reported in past reports will remain and some may be expanded. Automation of live, dynamic data will be expanded where possible. Use of state-owned and open source technologies such as Data.wa.gov, Esri, and WordPress will help display the data. Some improvements to the website include a tighter content focus for the target audience, alignment of messages with the Salmon Recovery Communications Plan and SRNet, a simpler way to navigate data, and making the website compatible with many different devices. GSRO has contracted with Pyramid Communications to improve the website design and messaging content. Additional partners will support expansion of the included data flows and inclusion of story maps.

### **Salmon Recovery Conference 2017 – Planning**

The board has funded and hosted five successful salmon recovery conferences since 2007. With over 2,123 projects funded at a public cost of \$454 million, these conferences are an important forum for sharing research-driven knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned. The conferences have received high praise from participants. Lead entities, regional organizations, and project sponsors support continuing this event every two years.

At the 2015 conference, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Long Live the Kings served as conference co-hosts. RCO plans to continue the partnership with these organizations, as well as seek additional organizers and sponsors, including tribal entities. An advisory subcommittee will guide conference planning and agenda development. The subcommittee is currently being assembled and will potentially include representatives of the following organizations:

- RCO and GSRO
- Washington Salmon Coalition
- Council of Regions

- Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
- Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Long Live the Kings
- Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

RCO reserved the Wenatchee Conference Center for April 25-27, 2017<sup>1</sup>. The 2017 conference, a maximum three-day event, will highlight what has worked in salmon recovery, what has not, and how to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of projects. Conference tracks will likely include: habitat restoration, nearshore restoration, acquisition, assessments, monitoring, hatchery reform, and recovery plan progress. As conference planning progresses, staff will provide periodic updates to the board.

### **Fish Barrier Removal Board**

GSRO serves on the Fish Barrier Removal Board (FBR Board), created by the Legislature in 2014. One of the FBR Board's goals is to broadly communicate the importance of opening existing habitat for salmon and steelhead blocked by man-made structures. Pyramid Communications, currently under contract with GSRO to support the FBR Board, recently completed a communications plan. A sub-committee created by the FBR Board will assist with implementing the plan and provide support by reaching out to regional organizations and lead entities, helping them select focus areas in their region comprised of sub-watersheds where significant progress can be made in fish passage through coordination and potential future funds to remove barriers. WDFW staff is working with the FBR Board to develop and prioritize a project list. WDFW is currently developing a budget request for the 2017-2019 biennium.

## **Recreation and Conservation Office - Salmon Section Report**

### **Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grant Management**

#### **2015-17 Budget Update**

The 2015-17 budget supported a \$18 million grant round in 2015. The board was briefed in March 2016 on the status of available funds (RCO anticipates approximately \$13 million for the 2016 grant round). This number may increase slightly if returned funds are higher than projected in March. The Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) account was funded at \$37 million for the biennium; there remains \$3.7 million to be obligated at the September 2016 board meeting. These projects are currently being reviewed during the 2016 grant round.

#### **2016 Grant Cycle Update**

RCO announced the 2016 grant round in early February and PRISM opened for applications February 12, 2016. The grant cycle includes PCSRF, salmon state funding, unobligated 2015-17 PSAR state funding, and developing lists of new projects for the 2017-2019 PSAR budget request. All of these funding sources and projects will go through the same review process to increase efficiency.

Using the regional allocation formula approved by the board, projects will be ranked and submitted through the lead entity process. In order to provide the Puget Sound Partnership with a project list in advance of the legislative session, sponsors will be asked to submit PSAR and PSAR Large Capital projects

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<sup>1</sup> Per state contracting requirements, RCO staff issued a Request for Proposals for the conference facility. Four proposals were received and the apparent successful vendor is the Wenatchee Conference Center, pending contract negotiations.

seeking funding in the 2017-2019 biennium. As with other board-funded projects, PSAR projects will be submitted through the lead entity process, and the Puget Sound region's allocation to lead entities will apply once the account is funded. The board will be asked to approve all projects in December 2016, although PSAR projects will not be put under agreement until after the 2017 legislative session concludes and a capital budget is finalized.

The 2016 grant round progress includes the following:

- Lead entities are conducting project review site visits with their local groups and the Review Panel. Site visits began in March in the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity and will continue through June 2016.
- Manual 18 was finalized in February and an Application Workshop webinar was held on March 8, 2016 with over 50 participants.
- The Review Panel will meet in July 2016 to start reviewing projects. All projects using unobligated 15-17 PSAR funds will come before the board in September.
- Final applications are due August 12, 2016.
- The board will be asked to approve projects at their December 2016 meeting.

## Other Programs

### Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)

ESRP received \$8 million in the capital budget for the 2015-17 biennium, funding fourteen projects on the 2015 Investment Plan. The ESRP program was recently awarded two NOAA Coastal Resiliency grants, which will further fund projects on their list, as well as provide support to a Nearshore Scientist and an outreach specialist at WDFW. WDFW put out a Request for Proposals in April of 2016. To date 25 applications have been submitted and will be reviewed by an ESRP review group. The ESRP project list will be submitted with the 2017-2019 budget request.

### Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grant Administration

#### Viewing Closed Projects

Attachment A lists projects that closed between February 1, 2016 and May 18, 2016. Select the project number link to view information about a project (e.g., designs, photos, maps, reports, etc.)

#### Amendments Approved by the RCO Director

The table below shows the major amendments approved between February 1, 2016 and May 18, 2016. Staff processed 56 project-related amendments during this period; most amendments were minor revisions related to administrative changes or time extensions.

**Table 1. Project Amendments Approved by the RCO Director**

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Amount/Notes
<a href="#">15-1124</a>	Jim Creek Restoration Ph II	Snohomish Co Surface Water	Salmon Recovery Funds	Project Cost Change	Reduced funds by \$40,000, decreasing amount of LWD on site.
<a href="#">10-1813</a>	Upper Methow Riparian Protection IV	Methow Conservancy	Salmon Recovery Funds	Project Cost Change	Increase of funds by \$39,076 to purchase two parcels totaling 3.4 acres.

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Amount/Notes
<a href="#">14-1022</a>	Fir Island Farm Restoration Construction	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	PSAR Large Capital Projects	Project Cost Change	Reduction of funds by \$1,200,000 due to lower construction costs.
<a href="#">15-1209</a>	Nason Creek Sediment Reduction Roads Inventory	Chelan Co Natural Resource	Salmon Recovery Funds	Project Cost Change	Cost increase of \$5,501 to fully fund the original scope of work.
<a href="#">14-1168</a>	Stevens Creek Fish Barrier Culvert Correction	Chehalis Basin FTF	Salmon Recovery Funds	Project Cost Change	Increase funds of \$5,000 to fully fund the original scope of work.

The following table shows projects funded by the board and administered by staff since 1999. The information is current as of May 18, 2016. This table does not include projects funded through the Family Forest Fish Passage Program nor the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program. Although RCO staff support these programs through grant administration, the board does not review and approve projects under these programs.

**Table 2. Board-Funded Projects**

	Pending Projects	Active Projects	Completed Projects	Total Funded Projects
Salmon Projects to Date	130	452	1,978	2,560
Percentage of Total	5.1%	17.7%	77.3%	

## Attachments

A. Salmon Projects Completed and Closed from February 1, 2016 – May 18, 2016

## Salmon Projects Completed and Closed from February 1, 2016 – May 18, 2016

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<a href="#">09-1415</a>	Seahurst Park Shoreline Restoration Phase II	Burien Parks & Recreation	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	3/21/2016
<a href="#">09-1429</a>	Fenster Levee Setback & Floodplain Restoration II	Auburn City of	Salmon Federal Projects	2/8/2016
<a href="#">10-1747</a>	Selective Fishing Gear - Floating Net Trap	Colville Confederated Tribes	Salmon Federal Activities	4/19/2016
<a href="#">11-1310</a>	AGR Enterprises Stream Restoration 2011	Wahkiakum Conservation Dist	Salmon Federal Projects	5/18/2016
<a href="#">11-1496</a>	Confluence Parks-Issaquah Creek Restoration	Issaquah City of	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	2/8/2016
<a href="#">11-1508</a>	Floodplain Restoration Project at Fennel Creek	Pierce County Surface Water	Salmon Federal Projects	3/16/2016
<a href="#">11-1518</a>	Silver Side Channel Protection	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Salmon State Projects	3/2/2016
<a href="#">11-1536</a>	Skagit Tier 1 and Tier 2 Floodplain Acquisition II	Seattle City Light	Salmon Federal Projects	5/18/2016
<a href="#">11-1538</a>	Burwash Ohop Acquisition	Nisqually Land Trust	Salmon Federal Projects	5/10/2016
<a href="#">11-1543</a>	Middle Goldsborough In-stream Habitat Projects	South Puget Sound SEG	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	3/14/2016
<a href="#">11-1565</a>	City of Yakima Floodplain Ecosystem Restoration	Yakima City of	Salmon State Projects	4/6/2016
<a href="#">11-1653</a>	Tribal Hatchery Reform 2011 Monitoring Projects	NW Indian Fisheries Comm	Salmon Federal Activities	4/18/2016
<a href="#">11-1654</a>	Tribal Hatchery Reform 2011 Enhancement Projects	NW Indian Fisheries Comm	Salmon Federal Activities	4/18/2016
<a href="#">12-1058</a>	Salmon Conservation Reporting Engine Phs.III: 2012	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Salmon Federal Activities	3/8/2016
<a href="#">12-1102</a>	Hoko River 9000 Road Barrier Correction	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	Salmon Federal Projects	4/28/2016
<a href="#">12-1168</a>	WRIA 27-28 Nutrient Enhancement	Lower Columbia River FEG	Salmon Federal Projects	4/27/2016
<a href="#">12-1251</a>	Lower Skykomish River Restoration Remlinger	Snohomish County of	Salmon Federal Projects	4/8/2016
<a href="#">12-1252</a>	Filucy Bay Bulkhead Removal	South Puget Sound SEG	Salmon Federal Projects	2/8/2016
<a href="#">12-1406</a>	Stillaguamish Knotweed Control & Riparian Rest II	Snohomish Co Surface Water	Salmon Federal Projects	3/14/2016
<a href="#">12-1408</a>	Sands Creek Drainage Culvert Replacement	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Salmon Federal Projects	4/12/2016
<a href="#">12-1428</a>	Christmas Creek Drainage Restoration, Phase II	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Salmon Federal Projects	2/25/2016
<a href="#">12-1436</a>	NF Stillaguamish Restoration Assessment	Snohomish County of	Salmon Federal Projects	2/11/2016

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<a href="#">12-1453</a>	McLane Creek LWD Placement-Riparian Restoration	South Puget Sound SEG	Salmon State Projects	3/11/2016
<a href="#">12-1594</a>	NF Calawah Road Decommissioning	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Salmon State Projects	2/24/2016
<a href="#">12-1641</a>	Project Area 14 LW Restoration	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Salmon Federal Projects	4/25/2016
<a href="#">12-1646</a>	Phase II Entiat PUD Canal Conversion	Cascadia Conservation District	Salmon Federal Projects	2/17/2016
<a href="#">12-1711</a>	San Juan County Creosote Piling Removal Project	Friends of the San Juans	Salmon Federal Projects	5/17/2016
<a href="#">12-1931</a>	Lower Columbia VSP Monitoring 2013	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Salmon Federal Activities	5/5/2016
<a href="#">13-1029</a>	Scammon Creek Barrier Removal	Lewis County Conservation Dist	Salmon Federal Projects	2/26/2016
<a href="#">13-1098</a>	Mill Creek Side Channel (Leber)	Kent City of	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	2/26/2016
<a href="#">13-1107</a>	Willow Creek Daylighting Final Feasibility Study	Edmonds City of	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	4/6/2016
<a href="#">13-1114</a>	Duncan Dam Fish Passage Restoration	Lower Columbia River FEG	Salmon Federal Projects	2/29/2016
<a href="#">13-1120</a>	Quinault Trib: Camp 7 Rd Fish Passage Design	Quinault Indian Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	3/11/2016
<a href="#">13-1128</a>	Christmas Creek Phase III	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Salmon Federal Projects	4/1/2016
<a href="#">13-1142</a>	Whiteman Cove Estuary Restoration - Design	South Puget Sound SEG	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	5/3/2016
<a href="#">13-1147</a>	Hoh River Riparian Restoration Project - 2013	10,000 Years Institute	Salmon Federal Projects	4/20/2016
<a href="#">13-1204</a>	Lower Skabob Creek Restoration Preliminary Design	Mason Conservation Dist	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	3/3/2016
<a href="#">13-1233</a>	McCormick Creek Design	Clark Public Utilities	Salmon Federal Projects	4/26/2016
<a href="#">13-1250</a>	Collier Boat Ramp and Jetty	South Puget Sound SEG	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	3/11/2016
<a href="#">13-1279</a>	Skookum-Edfro Instream Design	Lummi Nation	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	5/16/2016
<a href="#">13-1283</a>	Dickey Camp Pond	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Salmon Federal Projects	2/23/2016
<a href="#">13-1313</a>	Yakima Basin Bull Trout Task Force	Mid-Columbia RFEG	Salmon State Projects	3/7/2016
<a href="#">13-1357</a>	LeClerc Creek Restoration Phase I	Kalispel Tribe	Salmon State Projects	2/26/2016
<a href="#">13-1381</a>	Snake River Reg. Salmon Recovery	Walla Walla Community College	Salmon Federal Activities	2/1/2016



<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Closed On</b>
<a href="#"><u>13-1385</u></a>	Puget Sound Reg. Salmon Recovery	Puget Sound Partnership	Salmon Federal Activities	4/1/2016
<a href="#"><u>13-1391</u></a>	Tucannon Ranch Habitat Improvement	Columbia Conservation Dist	Salmon State Projects	4/1/2016
<a href="#"><u>13-1404</u></a>	Mill Creek Fish Passage Final Design	Underwood Conservation Dist	Salmon State Projects	2/8/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1020</u></a>	Lower Cedar River Restoration Assessment	Renton City of	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	4/29/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1040</u></a>	Steamboat Slough (Mid-Spencer) Enhancement Design	Snohomish County Public Works	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	5/4/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1108</u></a>	Ala Spit Restoration, Phase 4	Island County Public Works	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	2/23/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1168</u></a>	Stevens Creek Fish Barrier Culvert Correction	Chehalis Basin FTF	Salmon State Projects	5/12/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1988</u></a>	PERS SRV Monitoring Panel Ecolution	Ecolution	Salmon Federal Activities	4/28/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1992</u></a>	PERS SRV Monitoring Panel Stillwater Sciences	Stillwater Sciences	Salmon Federal Activities	4/1/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1993</u></a>	PERS SRV Monitoring Panel Wild Fish Conservancy	Wild Fish Conservancy	Salmon Federal Activities	4/4/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1994</u></a>	PERS SRV Monitoring Panel EAS	Environmental Assessment Srvcs	Salmon Federal Activities	4/4/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-1995</u></a>	PERS SRV Monitoring Panel Fisher & Associates	Fisher & Associates LLC	Salmon Federal Activities	4/4/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-2255</u></a>	IMW Skagit FFY 2015 (WDOE)	Ecology Dept of	Salmon Federal Activities	4/22/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-2274</u></a>	IMW Hood Canal FFY 2015 (WDOE)	Ecology Dept of	Salmon Federal Activities	5/6/2016
<a href="#"><u>14-2296</u></a>	WDFW Salmon Smolt Monitoring 2015	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Salmon Federal Activities	4/27/2016
<a href="#"><u>15-1003</u></a>	PERS SRV Bisson monitoring panel assistance 2015	Bisson Aquatic Consulting LLC	Salmon Federal Activities	4/28/2016

## **WSC Executive Committee**

*Amy Hatch-Winecka, Chair  
Deschutes WRIA 13 Salmon  
Recovery Lead Entity*

*John Foltz, Vice Chair  
Snake River Salmon Recovery  
Board Lead Entity*

*Darcy Batura, Past Chair  
Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife  
Recovery Board Lead Entity*

*Richard Brocksmith  
Skagit Watershed Council*

*Jacob Anderson  
Klickitat Lead Entity*

*Dawn Pucci  
Island County Lead Entity*

*Jason Wilkinson  
Lake Washington, Cedar,  
Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8)  
Lead Entity*

*Bill Armstrong  
Quinault Indian Nation Lead  
Entity*

## **Members**

*Todd Andersen  
Kalispell-Pend Oreille Lead Entity*

*Kirsten Harma  
Chehalis Basin Lead Entity*

*Joy Juelson  
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery  
Board Lead Entity*

*Cheryl Baumann  
N.Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon*

*Jeff Breckel  
Lower Columbia Lead Entity*

*Alicia Olivias  
Hood Canal Lead Entity*

*Ashley Von Essen  
Nisqually Lead Entity*

*Tom Kollasch  
Pacific County Lead Entity*

*Doug Osterman  
Green, Duwamish and Central  
Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9)  
Lead Entity*

*Marian Berejikian  
West Sound Watershed Council*

*Becky Peterson  
WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board*

*Frank Hanson  
N. Pacific Coast & Quinault  
Indian Nation Lead Entities*

*Byron Rot  
San Juan Lead Entity*

*Lisa Spurrier  
Pierce County Lead Entity*

*Pat Stevenson  
Stillaguamish Tribe Lead Entity*

*Donald "Kit" Crump  
Co-Lead for Stillaguamish  
Watershed Lead Entity*

*Vacant:  
Snohomish Lead Entity  
WRIA 14*



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June 1, 2016

David Troutt, Chairman  
Salmon Recovery Funding Board  
WA Recreation and Conservation Office  
PO Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Chairman Troutt and Board Members,

The Washington Salmon Coalition is pleased to provide you with an update on our work and activities over the last several months:

## **LE Process Update**

Over the last several months, the statewide grant round has shifted into high gear and Lead Entities are incredibly busy. Lead Entity Coordinators are bringing together their local technical teams to review and refine the technical rigor of project proposals. Coordinators are also reviewing final proposals for completeness, executing site visits in tandem with the Review Panel, then planning and facilitating the project ranking meetings to generate a final project list.

Site visits are an integral component of the process. It is an excellent opportunity for applicants to garner advice from attendees on ways to improve their proposals, and applicants are encouraged to revise their applications in response to feedback, which comes from local and statewide reviewers. Lead Entity Coordinators assist sponsors respond to verbal and written comments and the result is a more beneficial project.

The work carried out each year by the Lead Entities is the foundation of the Washington Way. It pulls together a broad cadre of individuals with diverse backgrounds, all collaborating to create the best solution for salmon recovery in local communities throughout the state. Thanks to this robust foundation, the SRFB has supported created and supported, many funding streams call upon the Lead Entities to identify and prioritize projects that fit those individual requirements. We have seen evidence of this throughout the state, from the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan to the Fish Passage Barrier Board, Floodplains by Design, BPA funds to PSAR. The Lead Entity process is the mechanism by which recovery is occurring.



# WASHINGTON **SALMON** COALITION

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## **Washington Salmon Coalition Annual Meeting –June 8-9, 2016**

The Washington Salmon Coalition annual meeting took place in Chelan on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. This is one of the key meetings of the year where we review our progress over the last year and plan for the next. As usual, we planned on taking full advantage of our time together with a packed meeting agenda. As of the writing of this update, we hadn't met yet, and will provide additional details in person or for our next partner update.

The meeting agenda included a review of key WSC accomplishments in 2015-2016, a discussion to affirm our priorities moving forward, and the selection of WSC Executive Committee leadership. The proposed leadership group was:

Chair/Puget Sound – Amy Hatch – Winecka  
Vice Chair/Columbia Representative – John Foltz  
Past Chair/Columbia Representative – Darcy Batura  
Coastal Representative – Kirsten Harma  
Puget Sound Representative – Dawn Pucci  
Puget Sound Representative – Jason Wilkinson  
Puget Sound Representative – Byron Rot  
Columbia Representative – Jacob Anderson

At the meeting we also planned on reviewing and accepting an updated action plan. Below is an excerpt from the Mission, Structure and Action Plan as a reminder of WSC's goals:

*We WSC seeks to effectively communicate as a unified voice representing the interests of Lead Entities and their communities statewide with our partners, provide a communication forum for discussing emerging Lead Entity issues, and develop strategies for addressing these topics. WSC seeks to foster relationships and share best practices amongst colleagues and provide educational opportunities for the 25 Lead Entities in Washington State. WSC communicates as a collective voice that salmon recovery the “[Washington Way](#)” is yielding statewide results. WSC has the following goals; specific objectives can be found in Appendix A: WSC Action Plan.*

### Internal Goals:

1. Provide an official forum to:
  - a. Facilitate the interchange of information, build relationships, and support mentoring amongst Lead Entity Coordinators.
  - b. Encourage Lead Entity consensus on priority recommendations and communicate in a unified manner.
  - c. Support professional development and training opportunities.



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2. *Periodically review and reaffirm WSC's identity and strategies.*
3. *Accomplish the objectives set forth by the communications and outreach committee.*
4. *Develop strategies to improve long-term stability of capacity and capital funding for Lead Entities/WSC/Salmon Recovery.*
5. *Track, participate in, and lead where appropriate, the development of funding mechanisms that align with salmon recovery.*
6. *Support efforts to ensure effective use of reporting and communication tools.*

External Goals:

1. *Actively advise the Salmon Recovery Funding Board on local salmon recovery and Lead Entity issues.*
2. *Promote the Lead Entity Program as the local, scientifically-based program for developing salmon habitat projects that fit within local community values.*
3. *Increase Lead Entity efficacy, profile, and influence by engaging at regional, state, and national levels.*

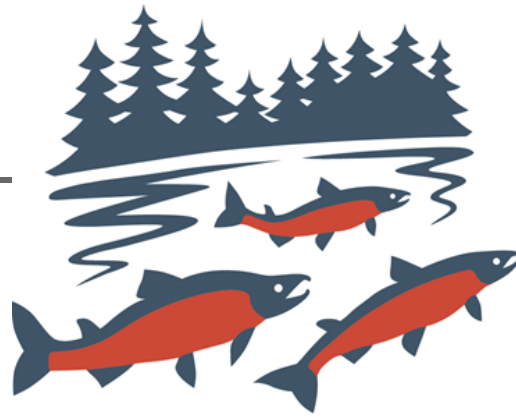
During the meeting we also plan on engaging with our partners in several sessions – specifically on strengthening our partnerships with the WDFW Science Program in conjunction with SRFB member Eric Neatherlin and with the RFEG's with the Regional Fisheries Coalition's Director Coleen Thompson. We also plan to have several sessions for learning and sharing. These focused on approaches to reach-scale acquisitions with SRFB member Bob Bugert and RCO's Leslie Connelly and a session on monitoring as a SRFB project type.

Additional planning and discussion sessions on the agenda included the WSC-COR Climate Change Workshop to be held September 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, an update on the WAC update regarding roles and responsibilities of lead entities among other things, and an update on SRNet and preparations for the 2016-2017 Legislative Session.

Thanks to RCO and GSRO staff for your support planning and realizing a worthwhile meeting! We will look forward to sharing some of the highlights and outcomes from several other sessions in person.

**New WSC Logo!**

WSC is happy to announce the release of our new logo! This has been a work in progress for several years, dating back to the time we made the decision to change our group name to the Washington Salmon Coalition. We found out that it takes a good deal of time to incorporate



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input from 25 Lead Entities and come to a consensus decision, especially when other group priorities have taken priority. The WSC Executive Committee and Communications and Outreach Team worked with Natasha Dworkin from Matterhorn Creative on a thrifty budget to complete the final logo, which includes several variations for use in different formats – the primary version is the one shown on this memo. We thank everyone’s input and patience with this particular effort.

### *Climate Change Workshop*

At the May, 2015 SRFB meeting, the Board began a discussion of climate change and how best to integrate this complex topic into our local strategies and direct our project selection process. The level of detailed science varies throughout the state, as do the views and perspectives of individuals within our communities. Washington Salmon Coalition responded by crafting a survey for all Lead Entities to respond to. We presented the outcome of this survey at the December 2015 SRFB meeting. The survey indicated that our projects do address climate change resiliency but we do not state this as a project benefit and need to communicate the multiple benefits of our restoration and conservation projects in the context of this additional paradigm.

The survey identified numerous needs that could support a more direct integration of climate change into local activities. These include:

- Technical information and guidance about which strategies are most effective for dealing with climate changed impacts, especially from a regional perspective
- A broader understanding and better technical information about the potential effects of climate change on a local scale, i.e. areas of greatest potential impact within a watershed
- Support from the SRFB and regions to encourage local decision-makers to support climate change as part of the larger salmon recovery picture.

The WSC Retreat in La Connor hosted two presentations from watersheds that are integrating their current science into prioritization criteria. And now, WSC and the Council of Regions are planning a two-day workshop on September 27-28 at the Cedar River Watershed Center in North Bend.

The Climate Workshop plans to begin with an overview presentation from UW’s Climate Impacts Group, then move to Tim Beechie will present on some NOAA’s research to date: adaptive management in the face of climate change, the vulnerability assessment (which looks a different fish and life stages to see where there are stress points), and assess which habitat restoration strategies will be most helpful for resiliency. Additional elements may be case studies, specific topic areas such as sea-level rise, etc. Discussions demonstrating how watersheds are (or could be) integrating the information will be crucial.



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The Workshop will strive to take high-level specifics to make them applicable at the watershed scale, to ensure participants gain the knowledge and specifics that will support their efforts at the local and regional levels. The effort is currently continuing to plan while seeking funding to ensure strong facilitation and thorough planning to execute a successful event.

### **Lead Entity Funding - LLTK / Cascadia Capacity Support Extension**

The Washington Salmon Coalition would like to draw your attention to and seeks your support of Item 7: *Lead Entities and Regional Organizations Funding*, in the SRFB's meeting packet. As noted above, the Lead Entities represent the foundation of community-based salmon recovery in Washington State. To aid us in development and growth, Lead Entities and WSC have benefitted from the facilitation and organizational support provided by Long Live the Kings and Cascadia Consulting.

The successes noted over the preceding year of WSC and LE's (collaborative approach to Legislative Outreach, the WSC logo, finalizing the Lead Entity Reference Guide, etc.) have been largely a result of the support that the SRFB provided to WSC when you unanimously approved the Washington Salmon Coalition request in 2014 and 2015. This action allowed the use of \$50,000 in anticipated unspent lead entity SRFB capacity grant funds to support WSC's statewide efforts as outlined in our Action Plan.

With these successes in mind, we believe WSC is accomplishing our goals and are working towards the embodiment of our broader vision of collaborative, multi-partner investment in salmon recovery. The organizational support has been critical and we hope that we can renew this contract into 2017. Please refer to the letters of support within your packet. Thank you for your support!

### **Lead Entity Vacancies**

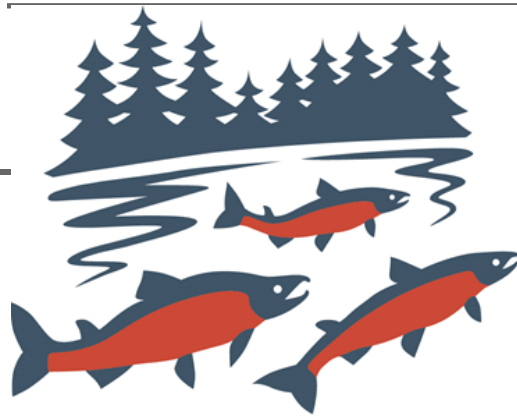
- Snohomish Lead Entity
- WRIA 14: Kennedy / Goldsborough

### **Statewide LE News and Updates**

#### ***Chehalis Basin Lead Entity:***

This Lead Entity demonstrated how Lead Entities are the foundation for recovery funding from a variety of sources when the citizen's committee was invited by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to take on a key role in delivery of the "near term" aquatic habitat restoration and protection project solicitation and ranking. The \$6 million for these projects was granted by the Washington State Legislature as part of the 2015-2017 "Chehalis Basin Strategy" funding.





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The Lead Entity's work group was brought into this process because of their experience running the annual SRFB round. They became involved in late fall 2015, with the deadline of notifying sponsors of project success by early February 2016. With effectively three months to develop and implement the grant round, this process needed to be highly expedited, and thus could be modeled on, but not replicate, the process used for the annual SRFB round.

Twenty five on-the-ground restoration projects that protect and restore valuable habitat for salmon and a variety of other species have recently been selected for funding through the Chehalis Strategy's Habitat Restoration and Protection (HRP) funding stream. The projects will take place throughout the Chehalis River basin, in Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, over the next year and a half. Implementing these projects will bring up to \$6 million into the basin, creating local restoration and construction jobs.

Altogether, the projects will open up 130 miles of stream habitat for salmon spawning and rearing, and will benefit these and other aquatic species by improving the flow of water and nutrients in area streams. The projects improve culverts on county or private roads, so will have the added benefit of reduced flooding of transportation corridors.

***Puyallup / White & Chambers Clover Lead Entity (WRIA's 10/12):***

The Puyallup / White & Chambers Clover Lead Entity facilitated the Fennel Creek Restoration and Calistoga Levee Setback project, using funds from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) fund and Floodplains by Design. The project reconnected 53 acres of floodplain and moved 1.5 miles of levee to more than double the width of the river. The project also installed log jams to add complexity and reduce erosion.



The project, in tandem with other setbacks on the Puyallup River, have been credited with raising the flood warning level for this section of the river from 4,500 cfs to 10,000 cfs.

*(Calistoga levee setback)*



## WASHINGTON **SALMON** COALITION

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### ***Island County Legislative Tour:***

On April 29, Island County Lead Entity and the Island County Local Integrating Organization sponsored a watershed tour of two recently completed and one proposed shoreline restoration projects for elected officials Senator Barbara Bailey, Representative Dave Hayes (and Mrs. Hayes), directors from Senator Murray, Senator Cantwell, Congressman Larsen and Governor Inslee's offices, Island County Commissioners Helen Price Johnson and Rick Hannold, Oak Harbor City Council Tara Hizon, and Terry Williams of the Tulalip Tribes all joined us for a boat tour of the sites. The group also included 15 additional members of the US Navy, private citizens, county department directors, the marine resource committee and TAG and CAG Chairs.

The tour visited Cornet Bay Beach Restoration in Deception Pass where we heard Jack Hartt (manager of Deception Pass Park) talk about how he has witnessed the way people use the beach now and how different it was when it was creosote bulkhead and lawn. Terica Ginther, who owns Deception Pass Tours, talked about the benefits to her business now that the beach is natural again and there aren't as many geese to clean up after. We also watched our MRC volunteers beach seine and witnessed the fish that use the nearshore. We were able to show them Chinook, pink and chum juvenile salmon, caught in the seine.



We then visited Ala Spit Beach Restoration which was a shoreline armor removal project. Dawn Glavick, who lives nearby and visits the beach each day, spoke about her connection to the beach and what the restoration meant to her. Hugh Shipman was able to talk about the importance of beach building processes. Jeanette Dorner and Jeff Parsons spoke on funding and how the large PSAR year last biennium enabled this project to be done.

*(Lead Entity Coordinator Dawn Pucci guides the boat tour to project sites)*

We then visited the proposed Maylor Point armor removal project which is on Navy property. We discussed how the Navy is partnering and also talked about some of their salmon-friendly projects and monitoring on the base.

We focused on highlighting partnerships and the benefit to Island County citizens. We tied in economic benefits where possible.





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We have had fantastic feedback that everyone thoroughly appreciated seeing the work on the ground and in person. They thought it was very impactful. The most salient points to the elected officials were hearing from Terica the business owner, Dawn the resident and beach user and seeing the actual fish.

It was a great success and worth the work it took to put together. And we are still very grateful to Jeff Parsons who helped contact the legislators and ensure our invitations were being received.

*(Beach seining in Island County)*



Thanks again for your support!

Amy Hatch-Winecka  
WSC Chair  
Deschutes WRIA 13 Lead Entity Coordinator



## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2016

**Title:** Funding Issues: Short-term and Long-term

**Prepared By:** Brian Abbott, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Executive Coordinator  
Wendy Brown, Recreation and Conservation Office Policy Director

#### Summary

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) received notice from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) that Washington's 2016 award for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) will be \$18.5 million. The award is 26 percent less than the \$25 million application request and 7.5 percent less than the \$20 million awarded in 2015. The reduction in federal funding affects current capacity funding and the projected grant round amount for December 2016, influences the budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for the 2017-2019 biennium, and affects monitoring decisions to be made in September. At the June 2016 meeting, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) will make decisions on how to distribute fiscal year (FY) 2017 capacity funds to the regions and lead entities, given the reduced PCSRF amount. The board will also discuss how to frame the August 2016 decision on the amount of state funds to include in its operating and capital budget requests.

#### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

## Background

### Federal Funding Levels

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) submits a biennial budget request for the 2017-2019 biennium to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) in early September 2016. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) will make decisions at its August 2016 meeting on the amount of state funds to include in the operating and capital budget requests related to salmon recovery activities and programs. In addition to state funding, the board receives annual federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) awards administered through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The PCSRF announcement and awards are on an annual cycle. RCO applies for each award in the spring and receives funding in October. This year, RCO applied for \$25 million and has received confirmation from NOAA that we will only receive \$18.5 million which is 26% less than requested.

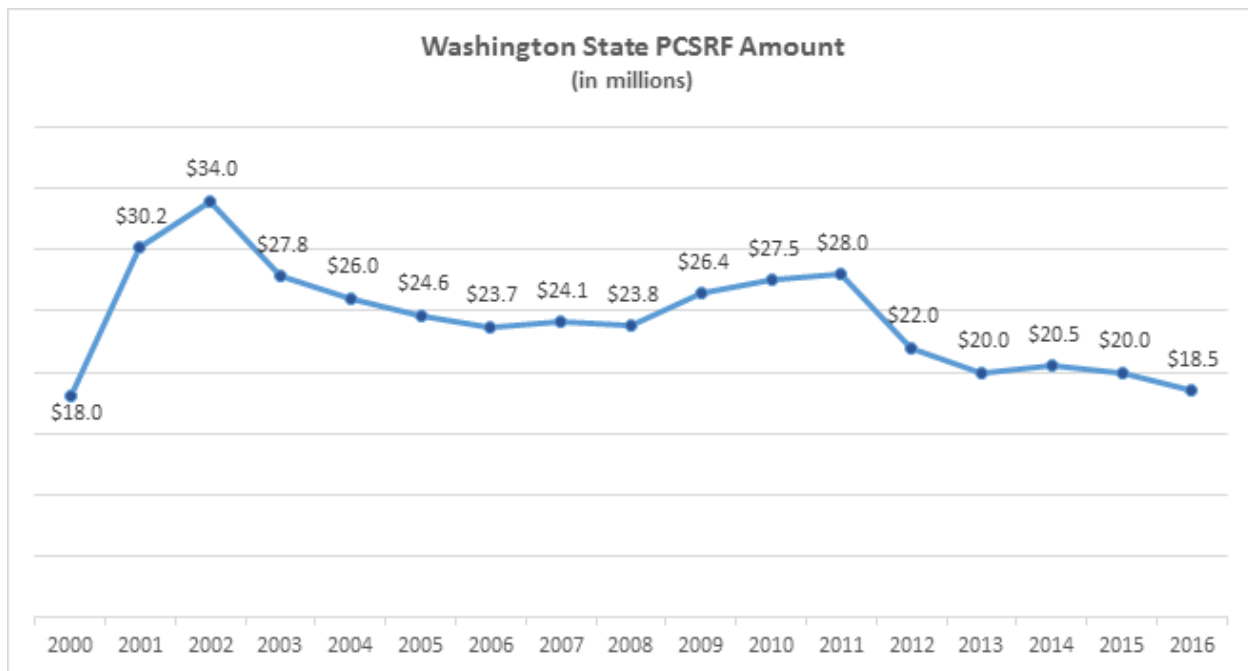
Six western states are eligible to compete for the \$65 million of PCSRF funding available. NOAA has three priorities identified in the application guidelines, each prioritized in this order of importance:

1. **Projects:** Projects that address factors limiting the productivity of Pacific salmon and steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), or those populations necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing.
2. **Monitoring:** Effectiveness monitoring of habitat restoration actions at the watershed or larger scales for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead, status monitoring projects that directly contribute to population viability assessments for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead, or monitoring necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing on salmon and steelhead.
3. **Capacity and Activities:** Other projects consistent with the Congressional authorization with demonstrated need for PCSRF funding. This includes projects that are necessary precursors to implementing activities under the above priorities including outreach, planning and coordination.

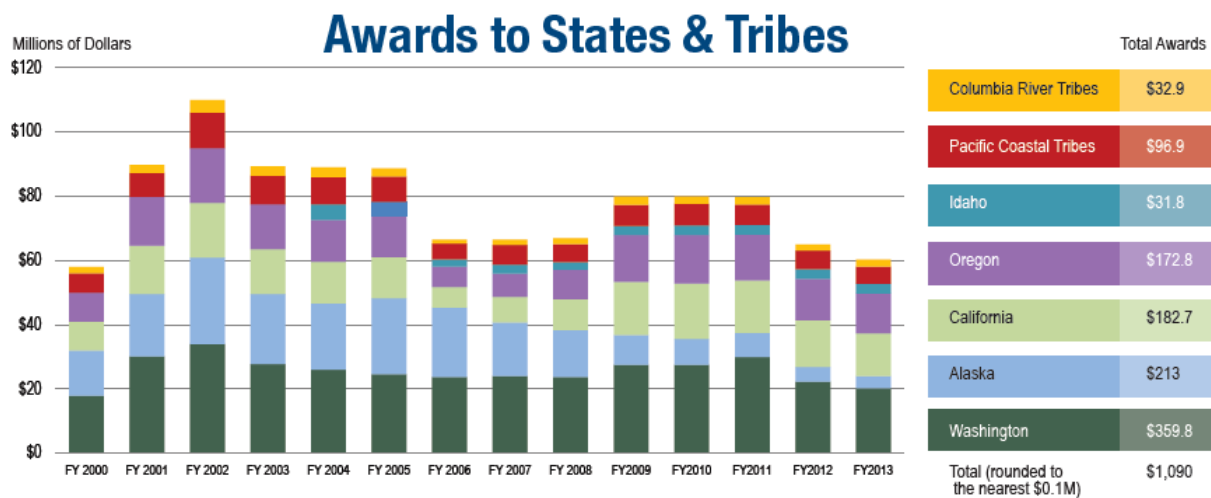
This year, as in the previous two years, the award amount was significantly reduced because Washington has 18% of its application in capacity funding for lead entity and regional organization funding, which qualifies in the third or lowest priority for NOAA. Recent conversations with NOAA staff indicate the reduction in funding is directly tied to the capacity funding requested in the priority 3 category. NOAA's clear priority for allocating PCSRF funding is for priority one projects and activities. NOAA indicated that the other states put a majority of their grant requests into priority 1 projects.

Figure 1 shows the Washington federal PCSRF award through 2016, and Figure 2 shows how NOAA has distributed the PCSRF award from 2000-2013. Washington is still a very successful competitor for PCSRF funds, but the decrease in funding for the past several years has the potential to impact all the funding received from the state. Not only does it directly impact capacity funding, but it will have a ripple impact on how much the legislature believes is required (i.e. the minimum necessary) as state match for PCSRF. Taken together, the reductions have created a downward spiral in all funding sources for salmon recovery.

**Figure 1. Historic Funding Levels for Washington State from the federal NOAA Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund award (all figures shown in millions)**



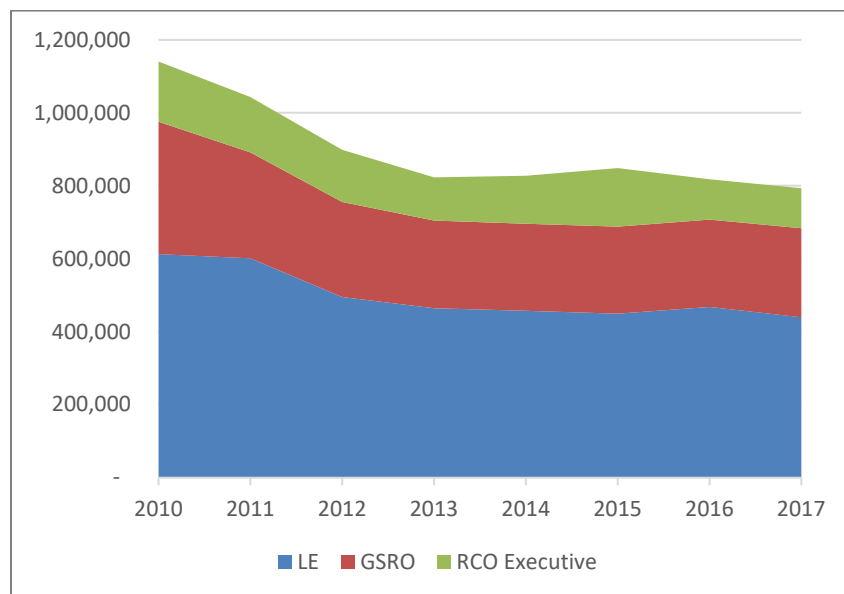
**Figure 2. PCSRF Awards through 2013 from the PCSRF 2014 Report to Congress, U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA.**



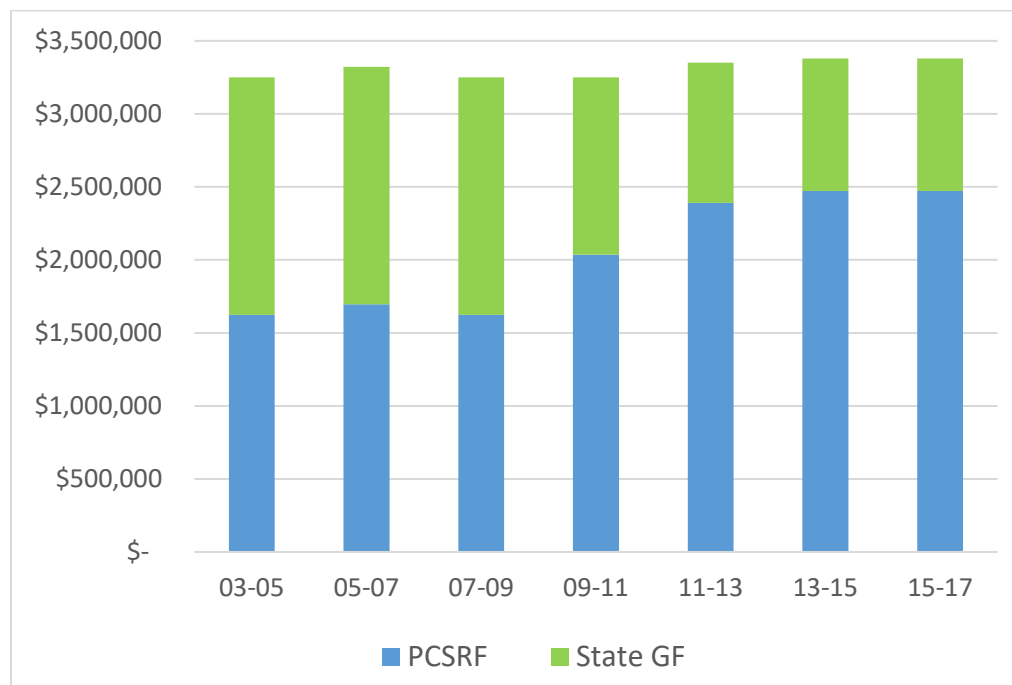
### State Funding Levels

Since 2003, the state general fund amount available for lead entity capacity has been cut by 56 percent (see Figure 3). In the 2003-2005 biennium, the amount of state general fund that funded lead entities was \$1.625 million, which was a 50 percent proportion of the total lead entity funding (see Figure 4). Beginning in 2009, state funding began to decline measurably every two years, with state general funding now at \$907,000 in the current biennium – 27 percent of the total lead entity funding. As a result of loss of capacity funding at both the state and federal level, the SRFB will need to make both short and long-term budget and salmon recovery process decisions to address this significant funding reduction that has the potential to impact our state salmon funding. Given the narrowing of the federal grant requirements and contracts, it is no longer possible to shift project funds to fill capacity funding gaps.

**Figure 3. RCO Budgeted General Fund State 2008 – 2017**



**Figure 4. Lead Entity Federal and State Appropriations by Biennium (2003-2017)**



### Short Term Capacity Funding Issues

There are 25 lead entities and 7 regional organizations that perform an essential role in salmon recovery in Washington State. Under RCW 77.85.050, lead entities are responsible for recruiting, reviewing, and prioritizing projects to be funded by the board and to develop the three-year work plans for future projects consistent with the approved regional recovery plans. Established by RCW 77.85.090, the Regions plan, coordinate, and monitor the implementation of regional recovery plans. Regions also guide recovery funding investments.

Due to the \$1.5 million decrease in PCSRF funding for the coming year, the capacity funds to regions and lead entities must be decreased by \$801,685, which is a 19.5% decrease. This decision must be made in June 2016, so that amendments to current contracts can be put in place to be effective on July 1, 2016. While there are several options below to meet the decreased funding, shifting project funding or monitoring funding to capacity funding is not an option, given RCO's contract with NOAA.

**Option 1:** The funding decrease comes out of the 7 regional contracts. Regional contracts were set-up for a two year scope of work. Some regions might be behind in their spending of FY 2016 funds, the balance of which could be carried forward lessening the funding needed to implement the 2017 scope. At this time it is not known how much of the FY 2016 funding is unspent, as not all bills have been submitted for the last several months of FY 2016.

**Option 2:** The funding decrease comes out of the 25 lead entity contracts. Like in past years, the board has used unspent funds to fund the Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) logistical support and provide funding for the WSC chair and WSC trainings. Unspent funds remaining are returned and utilized in the grant round. At this time, it is not known how much of the FY 2016 funding is unspent, as not all bills have been submitted for the last several months of FY 2016.

**Option 3:** The funding decrease of \$801,685 is split equally across regional and lead entity contracts. There may be an opportunity to use unspent funds from FY 2016 to decrease the cuts to regional and lead entity contracts in 2017. At this time, it is not known how much of the FY 2016 funding is unspent, as not all bills have been submitted for the last several months of FY 2016. Please see attachment A and B for specific breakdown.

**Table 1. Estimated Funding Levels Associated with the 3 Short-Term Options**

<b>PCSRF Funding Options</b>	<b>Lead Entities PCSRF Portion</b>	<b>Regional Organizations</b>	<b>Total PCSRF</b>
Option 1	\$1,236,000	\$2,077,000	\$3,313,000
Option 2	\$434,315	\$2,878,685	\$3,313,000
Option 3	\$835,158	\$2,477,842	\$3,313,000

NOTE: The PCSRF funding reductions will also impact RCO's administrative rate and the amount of funding available for monitoring. The RCO administrative rate is a fixed percentage of the total award (3%). The amount available for board directed monitoring in FY 2017 is \$2 million, which is a 14.02% reduction from the current year. Decisions on monitoring will be made at the September meeting.

The only scheduled board meeting before the beginning of the new biennium (July 1, 2016) occurs in June. Decisions to support salmon recovery capacity for fiscal year 2017 must be made in June. Staff recommends that the board fund capacity at a total of \$3,313,000 from 2016 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Funds and \$453,500 in state general fund lead entity funding for a total of \$3,766,500. Staff recommends Option 3 for allocating the PCSRF reductions. Table 2 summarizes the current fiscal year 2016 funding amounts and staff recommendations for proposed fiscal year 2017 funding amounts.

**Table 2. Proposed Lead Entity and Regional Organization Funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017**

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Current Funding FY 2016 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)</b>	<b>Proposed Funding FY 2017 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)</b>
Lead Entities	\$1,677, 000	\$1,276,158
Lead Entity Training and Chairperson	\$12,500	\$12,500
Regions	\$2,878,685	\$2,477,842
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,568,185</b>	<b>\$3,766,500</b>
<b>Washington Salmon Coalition Support</b>		
Washington Salmon Coalition Facilitation	\$50,000	\$35,000**
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,618,182</b>	<b>\$3,801,500</b>

*\*plus unspent 2016 funds.*

*\*\* Any balance remaining in Lead Entity contracts June 30<sup>th</sup> will be used to support the Washington Salmon Coalition, Lead Entity training and chairperson*

See Attachments A and B for the allocations to individual regions Once funding decisions are made by the board, GSRO staff will amend contracts before July 1, 2016 to include the 2017 funding.

## Long-term Capacity Funding Issues

As discussed above, the continued reduction in federal funding and pressures on the state budget will have a significant impact on the future capacity of lead entities and regional organizations. At this critical juncture, Washington state must address the capacity issue for salmon recovery in a sustainable way in order to continue funding high quality salmon recovery projects and implementing recovery plans. The state needs long-term, viable options to continue salmon recovery work, if we are to realize gains toward implementing the recovery plans. If the PCSRF application continues to be reduced, OFM and the legislature may continue to reduce what they believe is the minimum needed to match the federal PCSRF award. This is not a sustainable trajectory toward salmon recovery, reducing the capacity to bring projects forward, and potentially reducing the number of projects funded.

Moving forward toward the legislative session and submitting budget request, there are several options to consider to address the funding gap for capacity needs.

**Option A:** Request additional capacity funding (state general funds) in the 2017-2019 operating budget to make up for the reduction in the PCSRF capacity funding. The Salmon Recovery Network (SRNet) has recommended that RCO request funding to increase capacity of lead entities, regional organizations, and regional fishery enhancement groups, but that was before the PCSRF reduction was known.

The goal of this option is to put the majority of our federal funding request into Priority 1 (projects) as part of our 2017 PCSRF application, therefore being more successful in the federal PCSRF award amount in 2017-2019, and to get most of the capacity need met by state funds through the state budget request process.

The risk of Option A is that if the legislature does not approve additional funding for capacity, then the potential for future budget reductions in capacity at both the state and federal level could prove catastrophic for funding the Washington Way. We would have to carry on salmon recovery into 2019 with severe deficits for capacity.

**Option B:** Take a LEAN approach to salmon recovery. Hire a LEAN specialist to identify cost reductions from efficiencies to the process. This approach will take time and require participation and flexibility from all partners to implement cost savings measures in salmon recovery. The end goal would be to be more efficient and absorb the budget reduction.

The goal of Option B is to maximize efficiencies with our current process, and possibly make some adjustments at the recommendation of a LEAN specialist.

The risk of Option B is that we still do not address the need for capacity or infrastructure in its current state, and there will still be budget requests for capacity. If the goal is to get the capacity request out of the PCSRF application and into the state budget, this may not be the stand alone approach, but perhaps a hybrid of Options A and B.

**Option C:** Force or incentivize the consolidation of Lead Entities to realize a cost savings in capacity. The areas where this could be done is in Klickitat, Puget Sound, and the Coast.

The goal of this option is to maximize efficiencies and realize cost savings in the face of budget reductions to capacity. However, there is still a need for capacity and project list development at the regional level, and this option does not completely address the need for capacity at the state and federal budget level.



This was achieved in 2013 with the consolidation of the lead entities in the Upper Columbia Region. Other areas have not been willing so far to consider consolidation.

**Option D:** Change the statutory construct that is “The Washington Way.” This will require a major statutory overhaul of the salmon recovery statute, RCW 77.85, to create a more streamlined approach to salmon recovery in the state. This will be very difficult to achieve without the participants being willing and without a facilitated process driving the review and stakeholder work required in such an undertaking.

The goal of this option is to downsize the salmon recovery infrastructure to make salmon recovery work within available funding, meet our federal requirements, and have success for our endangered salmon species.

The risk is that we have created the Washington Way, a bottom up approach to salmon recovery that has been successful and that has engaged so many people throughout the state. Despite the success and praise for this bottom up approach, neither the state nor the federal funders have been willing over the past decade to fund the salmon recovery infrastructure. Now is the time to decide whether to make changes or to allow the current structure to atrophy due to lack of funding. The timing of this would be essential to address to ensure we make adaptive measures in time for the next PCSRF application.

## **Planning for 2017-19 Operating and Capital Budget Requests**

Washington State enacts budgets on a two-year cycle, effective on July 1 of each odd-numbered year. The budget approved for the 2017-19 biennium will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) will submit its 2017-19 biennial budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) in September 2016. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) must make decisions at its August 2016 meeting regarding the amount of state funds that RCO should include in its operating and capital budget requests related to salmon activities and programs. The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board will make decisions at their July 2016 meeting about the funding levels for other RCO-administered grant programs, such as the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and the Youth Athletic Facilities program.

As of the writing of this memo, RCO has not yet received guidance from OFM on the process and substance of budget submittals. We expect this guidance to be issued in mid-June and expect that it will severely limit the types of acceptable budget additions, especially for State General Funds. If the budget process is similar to previous years, RCO must submit the budget requests for the 2017-19 biennium to OFM in mid-September. OFM staff will analyze the proposals and develop budget recommendations for the Governor, who will then propose budgets (operating, capital, and transportation) to the Legislature for the upcoming biennium. The Governor’s proposed budgets will be released on or before December 20. The Legislature prepares a final budget before they adjourn their 2017 session, which becomes effective July 1, 2017.

The 2017-19 operating budget outlook is predicted to be very challenging because of increased state obligations for maintaining current programs, potential increases in caseload (number of prisoners, students, entitlement recipients, etc.), and to address court rulings on education funding. The shortfall in basic maintenance funding for current programs is predicted to be greater than it was in 2015-17, even before the funding obligations necessary to meet the Supreme Court’s education funding decision.

The capital budget outlook will likely be stable, barring spikes in interest rates or drastic changes in economic factors. While RCO administers many capital grant programs, this memorandum focuses on the



funding for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant program. Other salmon recovery grant program funding level requests will be decided based on recommendations from other state agencies who jointly manage those programs (Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program, and Family Forest Fish Passage Program).

### **Operating Budget**

One of the board's objectives is to enhance the current capacity for lead entities. However, since the lead entity program was first created in 1999, the board has not been able to significantly increase funding for the program. In October of 2013, the board decided to have an annual base funding amount of \$60,000 as a minimum for each lead entity. This decision did bring funding for twelve lead entities up slightly, but did not do anything to address the overall capacity needs. And as projects become more complex, there is a greater workload associated with each project. Current lead entity capacity is barely able to keep up with new demands.

Putting a new context to building capacity of the lead entities is the recent reduction in the 2016 federal PCSRF award. With the \$1.5 million decrease in funding, the shift in focus moves from increasing capacity to maintaining current capacity and enabling the lead entities to continue their critical function. The message from NOAA is clear that the state of Washington must change course and become more competitive in our PCSRF application. One important way to do this is to reduce the request for priority 3 category funding. What follows from this at the state level – whether we request additional general fund state dollars to fill the capacity funding gap or seek solutions that do not require more state funding – will dictate what the RCO operating budget request will be for 2017-19.

Subsequent to the board discussion and decisions made at the June meeting, RCO will prepare an operating budget request to present to the board for decision at the August meeting.

### **Capital Budget**

Of the four salmon programs administered by RCO, three are managed jointly with other agencies: Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP), Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program (PSAR), and Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP). The Salmon Recovery Funding Board has exclusive authority over the SRFB grant program and shares authority over the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program with the Puget Sound Partnership.

This discussion will focus exclusively on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant program. Budget requests for the other grant programs will be set in consultation with the other managing agencies. The board will be asked to support the funding requests in those other grant programs.

### **Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grant Program**

Several factors influence the amount of capital funding RCO requests for the state portion of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant program:

1. The amount needed to match federal Pacific Coastal Recovery Funds (PCSRF);
2. The number of project applications and their requested funding amounts; and
3. The amount of available bond funding.

### Federal Pacific Coastal Recovery Funds Match

PCSRF provides a significant portion of the funds necessary for salmon recovery in Washington and requires a minimum 33 percent match from the state. The state bond funds appropriated for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant program are used for match. In years when the Legislature has appropriated less than the full 33 percent, RCO has relied on a portion of the bonds appropriated for the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration and Family Forest Fish Passage programs to meet our match requirement. However, this is risky as the Puget Sound Partnership may need to use PSAR as match for federal funding it receives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

With the PCSRF award for 2017 at \$18.5 million and an assumption that we are able to increase that amount to \$20 million in 2018, the state would receive \$38.5 million in federal funds next biennium, which would require a minimum state match of \$12.7 million. For context, table 3 lists historic funding levels of both state and federal funds since 2005.

**Table 3. Historic Funding Levels for Salmon Projects (all figures shown in millions)**

Biennium	State Request	State Appropriation	Federal Award	State Match Required
05-07	\$30.0	\$18.0	\$47.9	\$15.8
07-09	\$42.0	\$18.0	\$46.9	\$15.5
09-11	\$24.0	\$10.0	\$54.0	\$17.8
11-13	\$19.8	\$10.0	\$50.0	\$16.5
13-15	\$40.0	\$15.0	\$40.5	\$13.4
15-17	\$40.0	\$16.5	Estimate: \$38.5	\$12.7
<b>Average</b>	<b>\$32.6</b>	<b>\$14.6</b>	<b>\$46.6</b>	<b>\$15.3</b>

### Requests for Grant Funding

The number and amount of grant requests for salmon recovery projects is a factor in determining the amount of money that should be requested in the next biennium.

In total the salmon grant programs fund less than half of the salmon recovery habitat projects needed on a biennial basis, according to a study commissioned by regional recovery organizations in March 2011. Also, project design and construction costs have risen significantly over the last decade due to inflation and increases in project complexity and size.

In lieu of soliciting grant applications in advance of the budget submittal for 2017-2019, the Habitat Work Schedule can be used to generate a list of proposed projects (and costs) based on current work plans for each region. Table 4 gives a general sense of future project need over the next 3 to 4 years currently entered into [Habitat Work Schedule](#)<sup>1</sup>. The SRFB may choose to base a funding request on a reasonable percentage the projected four-year need.

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<sup>1</sup> The Habitat Work Schedule system is the mapping and project tracking tool that allows Lead Entities to share habitat protection and restoration projects with funders and the public. HWS helps Lead Entities relate proposed, current, and past project achievements to salmon recovery goals.

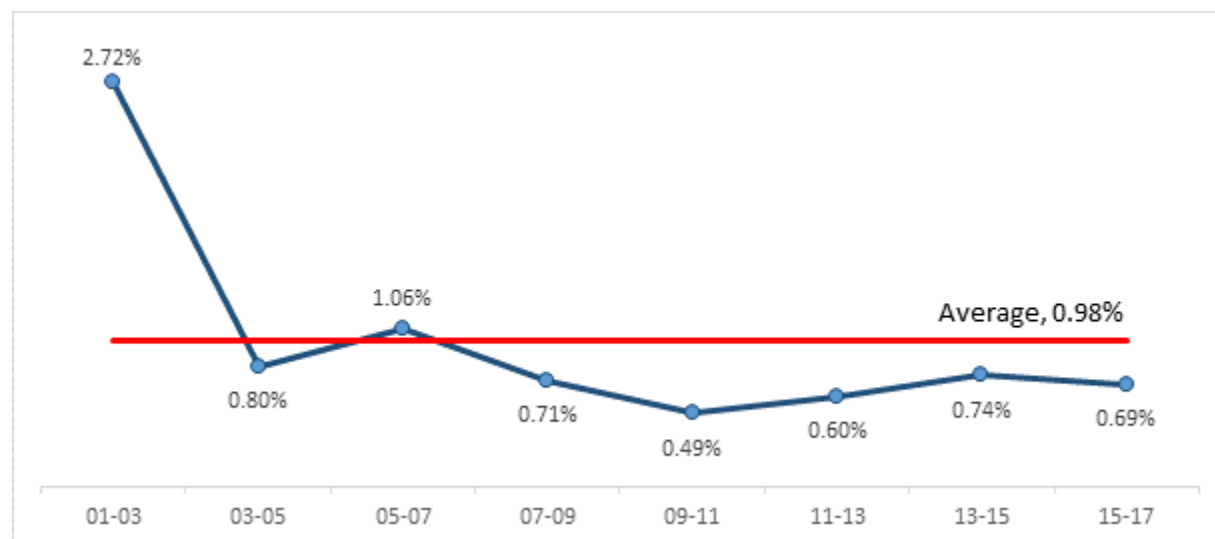
**Table 4. Proposed Salmon Habitat Restoration Projects from 3 or 4-Year Regional Work Plans**

Region	Number of Proposed Projects	Proposed Project Amounts <i>(all figures shown in millions)</i>
Coast	43	\$7.4
Hood Canal	42	\$35.0
Klickitat	10	\$1.6
Lower Columbia	36	\$8.0
Northeast	1	\$0.3
Puget Sound*	176	\$130.5
Snake	27	\$9.0
Upper Columbia	40	\$6.3
Yakima	15	\$3.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$201.9</b>

\*Puget Sound regional work plan also includes the project lists for PSAR funding.

### Amount of Available Bond Capacity

The projected available bond capacity for the 2017-19 capital budget is \$2.3 billion. This is an increase from the last biennium. Although an average of approximately 0.98 percent of the total amount of bonds appropriated have been appropriated for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant program (Figure 5), the 2017-19 biennium will include challenges due to the school funding lawsuit and significant deficits in the Model Toxics Control Account that could be filled with bond funds.

**Figure 5. SRFB as a percent of Bond Capacity, Listed by Biennium (RCO 2016)**

## Next Steps

Based on the direction of the board, RCO staff will move forward with whatever option(s) the board chooses and prepare draft operating and capital budget requests for board consideration at the August 2016 meeting. If necessary, the staff will also prepare draft legislation if that is the chosen course. Following the board's August meeting, RCO will submit its 2017-19 biennial budget request to OFM in early September 2016.

## Attachments

- A. Funding Table for Regional Organizations
- B. Funding Table for Lead Entities

## Funding Table for Regional Organizations

Regional Organization	Board Funding Approved 2016	Proposed Funding FY 2017
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	\$456,850	\$393,236
Hood Canal Coordinating Council	\$375,000	\$322,783
Puget Sound Partnership	\$689,162	\$593,181
Snake River Recovery Board	\$333,588	\$287,096
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	\$435,000	\$374,488
Washington Coast Sustainable Partnership	\$304,085	\$261,743
Yakima Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board	\$285,000	\$245,315
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,878,685</b>	<b>\$2,477,842</b>

## Funding Table for Lead Entities

Lead Entity	Board Funding Approved FY2016	Proposed Funding FY 2017
WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity	\$65,000	\$49,463
San Juan County Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity	80,000	60,878
Stillaguamish Co-Lead Entity (Stillaguamish Tribe)	25,000	19,024
Stillaguamish Co-Lead Entity (Snohomish County)	37,000	28,156
Island County Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Snohomish Basin Lead Entity	62,500	47,561
Lake WA/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Green/Duwamish & Central PS Watershed Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Pierce County Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	62,500	47,561
Thurston Conservation District Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Mason Conservation District Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
West Sound Watersheds Council Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity	80,000	60,878
North Pacific Coast Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Quinalt Indian Nation Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Grays Harbor County Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Pacific County Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Klickitat County Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Pend Oreille Lead Entity	60,000	45,658
Upper Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery	135,000	102,743
Yakima Basin Regional Salmon Recovery	65,000	49,463
Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery	65,000	49,463
Lower Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery	80,000	60,878
Hood Canal Regional Salmon Recovery	80,000	60,878
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,677,000</b>	<b>\$1,276,158*</b>

\*Note the lead entity totals include state funds of \$453,500. The amount of Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund is \$835,158 for Lead Entity support including \$12,500 for Lead Entity training and chairperson.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2016

**Title:** Monitoring Panel Update: Process and Schedule for Funding Recommendations

**Prepared By:** Keith Dublanica, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Science Coordinator

#### Summary

This memo outlines the monitoring panel's process for developing project recommendations and recommends a new process in 2017. The purpose in establishing a new process and schedule in 2017 is to facilitate timely initiation of contracts with monitoring practitioners. The schedule leading up to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's funding decisions in December 2016 is also included here.

#### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

### Background

At the March 2014 meeting, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) approved the creation of a five-member monitoring panel (expanded in 2015 to include two subject matter experts), supported by funding from the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF). The decision was made in response to the recommendations published in Stillwater Sciences' report: *Monitoring Investment Strategy for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board* (2013).

The purpose of the monitoring panel is to update the board's overarching monitoring strategy, develop an adaptive management framework, and provide guidance and funding recommendations to the board on the monitoring program.

Following the September 2016 funding decision by the Board, the contract process between RCO and the monitoring practitioners is initiated. A September funding decision leaves little time to have contracts in place with all contractors by October 1. This has in particular been a challenge for the western Washington IMWs, given the administrative structure that includes several subcontracting government agencies. As a result, the western Washington IMW coordinating agency, Washington Department of Ecology, has requested an earlier decision making process so that contracts can be in place by October 1. GSRO, in coordination with Ecology and the Monitoring Panel, has developed a revised schedule proposed for 2017. Nothing will change for the 2016 schedule, which will retain a September funding decision.



## Monitoring Panel Progress and Work Schedules

The monitoring panel held their first kick-off meeting in January 2016. Since then, they have met monthly to discuss the evaluation process, met with principle investigators to review their annual reports, and began the process of developing monitoring program recommendations for the board to consider.

### 2016 Schedule

1/26/2016	WebEx: Monitoring panel kick-off
2/11/2016	WebEx: Prepare for meeting with Project Effectiveness Principal Investigators
3/10/2016	WebEx: Meet with Project Effectiveness Principal Investigators to discuss fish sampling, data interpretation, project types, and sampling frequency
4/20/2016	WebEx: Overview of annual evaluation process
6/21/2016	Work Session: Formulate SRFB recommendations
<b>6/23/2016</b>	<b>Board Meeting: Present Panel updates</b>
7/26/2016	WebEx: Resolve any outstanding issues
8/26/2016	Final monitoring panel annual report due to GSRO
9/7/2016	Salmon recovery regions funding recommendations due to GSRO
<b>9/15/2016</b>	<b>Board Meeting: Present monitoring panel recommendations</b>
11/4/2016	Final regional monitoring forms posted
<b>12/8/2016</b>	<b>Board Meeting: Board makes final decisions on Intensively Monitored Watersheds restoration and regional monitoring projects</b>

### Proposed 2017 Schedule

The 2017 schedule is being revised to accommodate the principle investigators' field season and to better align with contract timing. Reporting is moved up in the schedule, as is the preview of recommendations to be presented to the board in June 2017 for decisions in September 2017.

12/30/2016	Project Effectiveness and Fish In/Fish Out (Snow Creek and overview) and Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) annual reports due to monitoring panel
3/14/2017	WebEx: Meet with principal investigators if needed/requested
3/21/2017	WebEx: Formulate SRFB recommendations for funding Project Effectiveness, Intensively Monitored Watersheds, Fish In/Fish Out
4/18/2017	WebEx: Finalize recommendations for the board
5/30/2017	Final monitoring panel annual report due to GSRO
<b>6/22-23/2017*</b>	<b>Board Meeting: Present monitoring panel preview of recommendations for Project Effectiveness, Intensively Monitored Watersheds, Fish In/Fish Out and Monitoring Panel. Board makes tentative decisions on Monitoring Panel recommendations. Board delegates authority to the RCO director to enter into contracts once the PCSRF award is known.</b>
<b>9/15-16/2017*</b>	<b>Board Meeting</b>
<b>12/7-8/2017*</b>	<b>Board Meeting: Board makes funding decisions on any IMW restoration treatment and regional monitoring projects.</b>

*\*The board meeting dates for 2017 have not been established at this time. These dates are estimated based on the 2016 meeting calendar.*

## September 2016 Monitoring Decisions

### 1) Intensively Monitored Watersheds (IMWs)

- Managed by the Washington Department of Ecology and Ecological Research
- Current allocation: \$1,602,941 (Department of Ecology) / \$28,000 (Ecological Research)
- The board supports five IMWs in Washington state, including Skagit, Straits, and Hood Canal IMWs in the Puget Sound salmon recovery region; the Abernathy IMW complex in the Lower Columbia; and the Asotin IMW in the Snake River region. Each of these IMW contracts is processed as a separate agreement. The four western Washington IMWs are managed through the Department of Ecology, and the fifth (Asotin) is managed by Ecological Research, Inc. All of the IMW principal investigators presented their annual reports to the monitoring panel earlier this year, and attended a full-day interactive meeting in May 2016.

### 2) Project Effectiveness Monitoring

- Managed by consultant, TetraTech, Inc. and sub-contractor Natural Systems Design
- Current allocation: \$243,047, PRISM #15-1570
- Anticipated 2016 request: \$276,847
- The project effectiveness program is entering its final phase. The 2017-2018 scope of work is under review by Department of Enterprise Services (DES) for a sole source contract to complete Phase One. If DES does not support sole source contract, RCO will initiate a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process in early summer 2016.

### 3) Status and Trends Monitoring (Fish In/Fish Out)

- Managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- Current allocation: \$275,000, PRISM# 15-1569
- Anticipated 2016 request: \$275,000
- WDFW's Fish In/Fish Out monitoring program focuses on specific index streams that represent a fraction of the total Fish In/Fish Out monitoring performed throughout the state. The 2015 WDFW monitoring contract totaled \$208,000 and covered regular historic sampling.

## Next Steps

Following the briefing at the June 2016 board meeting, staff will continue to work with the monitoring panel to prepare final recommendations for board consideration at the September 2016 meeting.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2016

**Title:** Project Effectiveness Monitoring: Procurement Update

**Prepared By:** Keith Dublanica, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Science Coordinator

#### Summary

The Recreation Office (RCO) currently holds a contract with Tetra Tech Inc. for project effectiveness monitoring. This memo outlines RCO's approach for completing the final 30 months of Phase One project effectiveness monitoring.

#### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Decision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Direction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Briefing

### Background

For over ten years, Tetra Tech Inc. has been the prime contractor for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) in implementing reach-scale effectiveness monitoring for salmon restoration projects across Washington State. Currently, Tetra Tech Inc. provides ongoing environmental services in support of the board's monitoring program and partners with Natural Systems Design, an entity responsible for providing technical data.

The Tetra Tech Inc. contract expires on October 31, 2016. To support continuation of the program, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is working with the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) to secure approval for a sole source contract with Tetra Tech Inc. The sole source contract would fund the balance of Phase One (approximately 30 months), while the monitoring panel develops Phase Two. Both RCO and the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) believe this is the most efficient approach, saving time and ensuring a consistent work flow.

### Completing Phase One: Project Effectiveness

The project effectiveness monitoring program is eighty-five percent complete; the final 30-month portion of Phase One, scheduled to begin November 1, 2016, will complete the remaining fifteen percent. The value of the 30-month contract is estimated at \$613,876. The contract, to span multiple fiscal years, is contingent upon board approval and the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) award, which RCO applies for and is awarded on an annual basis in August.

If DES denies the sole source contract request, RCO will release a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) in early summer for the remaining 30 months of Phase One. The board will then be asked to enter into an

agreement with the successful respondent at its September 2016 meeting. Staff anticipate a response regarding DES' determination by mid-June.

### **Looking Ahead: Project Effectiveness**

The monitoring panel has been assessing the relative success of monitoring efforts over the past twelve years and will meet later this year to make recommendations on the future of project effectiveness monitoring. If project effectiveness monitoring is to continue, there will be a competitive RFP posted in early 2018.

# SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

June 23, 2016

Item	Formal Action	Follow-up Action
<b>1. Consent Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes</li> </ul>	Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
<b>2. Director's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognition of Jeff Breckel</li> <li>Director's Report</li> <li>Legislative, Budget, and Policy Updates</li> <li>Performance Update (<i>written only</i>)</li> <li>Financial Report (<i>written only</i>)</li> </ul>	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
<b>3. Salmon Recovery Management Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Report                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead Entity Operational Reviews</li> <li>Salmon Recovery Network (SRNet)</li> <li>Board Work Plan Update                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communication Plan Contracting</li> <li>State of Salmon</li> <li>2017 Salmon Recovery Conference</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Salmon Section Report</li> <li>Recently Completed Projects</li> </ul>	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
<b>4. Reports from Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Puget Sound Partnership</li> <li>Council of Regions Report                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce New Regional Directors</li> </ul> </li> <li>Washington Salmon Coalition Report</li> <li>Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Coalition</li> <li>Board Roundtable: Other Agency Updates                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Columbia Basin Partnership</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Briefings	The WDFW guidelines and recommendations on riparian habitat will be published this summer; Member Neatherlin suggested a briefing to the board on the topic at the September meeting, and a briefing on Steelhead early marine survival research in December.
<b>5. State Conservation Commission's Voluntary Stewardship Program</b>	Briefing	No follow-up action requested.
<b>6. Funding Issues: Short-term and Long-term</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PCSRF Reductions and Impacts for the Current Biennium</li> </ul>	Decision:	<p>The board moved to fund FY 2017 for lead entities and regions as set forth in Item 6, Table 2, Attachments A and B.</p> <p>The board directed staff to conduct an analysis of return funds from lead entity and regional FY 2016 contracts to ascertain funds available to</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building Budget Requests for the 2017-19 Biennium</li> </ul>	Request for Direction	<p>backfill the \$801,685 contract reductions for FY 2017.</p> <p>Staff was also directed to communicate with lead entities and regions to submit final billing by July 15, in order for staff to conduct analysis by July 31.</p> <p>The board moved to direct GSRO staff to convene a workgroup, consisting of GSRO, two board members (David Troutt and Bob Bugert), regional directors, and two lead entity representatives from the WSC.</p>
<b>7. Monitoring Panel Update: Process and Schedule for Funding Recommendations</b>	Briefing	The board directed monitoring panel staff to make recommendations based on reductions necessitated by the reduced PCSRF award. The monitoring panel will provide recommendations to the board as part of a published report this summer and at the September meeting.
<b>8. Effectiveness Monitoring (Procurement Update)</b>	Briefing	No follow-up action requested.
<b>9. Updates from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washington's Wild Future Initiative</li> <li>Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board</li> <li>Updated State Wildlife Action Plan (<i>for salmon</i>)</li> </ul>	Briefing	No follow-up action requested.

## SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

**Date:** June 23, 2016

**Place:** Natural Resource Building, Room 172, 1111 Washington St SE, Olympia, WA

### Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members:

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<b>David Troutt, Chair</b>	Olympia	<b>Carol Smith</b>	Department of Ecology
<b>Nancy Biery</b>	Quilcene	<b>Susan Cierebiej</b>	Department of Transportation
<b>Bob Bugert</b>	Wenatchee	<b>Erik Neatherlin</b>	Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Sam Mace</b>	Spokane	<b>Megan Duffy</b>	Department of Natural Resources
<b>Phil Rockefeller</b>	Bainbridge Island	<b>Brian Cochrane</b>	Washington State Conservation Commission

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**It is intended that this summary be used with the materials provided in advance of the meeting. The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) retains a recording as the formal record of the meeting.**

### Opening and Welcome

Chair David Troutt called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and welcomed the board, staff, and audience. Staff called roll and a quorum was determined. Member Bugert was excused.

**Motion:** Agenda adoption  
**Moved by:** Member Phil Rockefeller  
**Seconded by:** Member Nancy Biery  
**Decision:** Approved

### Item 1: Consent Agenda

The board reviewed the consent agenda, which included approval of the March 16, 2016 meeting minutes.

**Motion:** Consent Agenda  
**Moved by:** Member Nancy Biery  
**Seconded by:** Member Phil Rockefeller  
**Decision:** Approved

### Management and Partner Reports

#### Item 2: Management Report

**Director's Report:** Director Cottingham shared a resolution drafted by RCO on behalf of the board to honor Jeff Breckel for his 18 years of service. Mr. Breckel thanked the board, shared a brief history of his work, and expressed gratitude for the opportunities shared with the board. Member Rockefeller moved to approve the resolution; Member Biery seconded. Motion carried.

**Legislative and Policy Updates:** Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, welcomed the new Invasive Species Coordinator, Justin Bush. She then provided an update on the work of the RCO policy team, including developing a new Forestland Preservation Program and figuring out how the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) can support underserved community needs. She concluded by briefly



summarizing the process for preparing budget proposals, on which the board will make decisions at their August meeting.

### **Item 3: Salmon Recovery Management Report**

**Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO):** Brian Abbott, Executive Coordinator GSRO, invited Salmon Recovery Network (SRNet) members to provide an update on their work and progress. Jeff Breckel, Colleen Thompson, Amy Hatch-Winecka, and Rebecca Benjamin joined him.

The group began by sharing the foundational document, *Extinction is Not an Option*, the statewide strategy to salmon recovery from September 1999, which lays the framework for the bottom-up approach to addressing recovery efforts in Washington State. Mr. Abbott described the process for establishing SRNet. Mr. Abbott explained the process for determining capacity funding needs and the exercise SRNet used to support both the capital and operating budget requests.

Ms. Thompson discussed the impacts to the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (RFEs) program revenue as a result of current budget challenges, and the negative implications at the ground-level for accomplishing respective RFE goals and operational work. She highlighted the positive outcomes of participating on SRNet, including efforts to increase capacity funding and achieve recovery goals.

Mr. Abbott shared information about the capital and operating budget requests from other agencies, particularly Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. He provided suggestions for funding strategies, detailing various program requests, and methods for encouraging support across partners. He concluded by summarizing the budget proposal from SRNet: capacity funding for regions, lead entities, and RFEs at \$1.87 million; capital funding for habitat projects at \$50 million; and support for other salmon related operating and capital funding requests.

Ms. Hatch-Winecka explained the efforts of the Washington Salmon Coalition to partner with the regional organizations to develop budget strategies, implement projects, and demonstrate the strength across the bottom-up framework in Washington. Mr. Breckel discussed the contributions made that support salmon recovery successes and the need to continue advancing this collaborative work.

Mr. Abbott and Director Cottingham responded to board questions about how the budget proposals were formulated, and the inclusion of the RFEs. Jennifer Quan addressed the board regarding WDFW's support of the RFEs and inclusion in their budget requests. Given the salmon focus of the RFEs, both agencies believe that their implementation work warrants fiscal support. Ms. Benjamin added that the recognition of RFEs also underlines the need for sustainability in their program, and the power of messaging and local engagement with legislators.

**Salmon Grant Management Report:** Kat Moore, Salmon Section Senior Grant Manager, provided a brief update on the 2016 grant round, including an update on the Review Panel, Lead Entity site visits, and draft application numbers. RCO anticipates approximately \$13 million for the 2016 grant round, and \$3.7 million for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) projects. The grant cycle includes PCSRF, salmon state funding, unobligated 2015-17 PSAR state funding, and developing lists of new projects for the 2017-2019 PSAR budget request. Ms. Moore concluded with an update on the salmon grant administration and the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program.

**Recently Completed Projects:** Alice Rubin, Salmon Outdoor Grants Manager, presented information about the Elliott Slough Acquisition project (RCO #[13-1033](#)). Marc Dubowski, Salmon Outdoor Grants Manager, presented the Skagit Tier 1 and 2 Floodplain Acquisition projects, two reach-level acquisition grants (RCO Projects #[11-1536](#) and #[11-1683](#)).

#### **Item 4: Reports from Partners**

**Puget Sound Partnership (PSP):** Sheida Sahandy, Laura Blackmore, and Martha Kongsgaard addressed the board regarding the recent reduction in staff and capacity at PSP, resulting budget impacts, and strategies for moving forward. Ms. Sahandy described the steps for 2015 and 2016 to address the budget imbalance; this phased approach involves staffing needs, legislative strategies, and decision management frameworks. She clarified that PSP mission and goals remain the same despite these setbacks, and communication about these changes continues to be a priority.

Ms. Blackmore described the ongoing successes of PSP, including improved coordination, establishment of the Salmon Science Advisory Group, and updates to the PSAR grant round. PSP intends to make further progress towards their organizational goals by updating their watershed plan, common indicators for measuring recovery efforts, and guidance for how to use these indicators. Ms. Blackmore described PSP's process for leveraging PCSRF funds across program updates and staffing support, and plans for completing the 2016-17 phase of their contract with RCO. She gratefully acknowledged the contributions of Jeanette Dorner in these efforts, who is leaving PSP.

Member Rockefeller acknowledged the budget difficulties that lead entities and regions are facing, and welcomed suggestions for finding efficiencies or other economies of scale. Ms. Blackmore outlined a proposal regarding lead entity consolidation, although this is still in discussion and must come from the lead entity. They continue to explore options locally and are looking for further opportunities to scale back without losing necessary momentum.

The board and PSP staff discussed the opportunities for building on the positive work in place, using SRNet as a partner, and engaging in communication efforts to coordinate and garner further support. Ms. Sahandy described the staffing structure and the re-distribution of responsibilities after the budget reductions, mainly affecting the mid-managerial functions of the agency. Anticipated challenges also include not being able to meet progress and statutory deliverables due to reduced capacity. Member Neatherlin encouraged PSP to communicate about losses to salmon recovery efforts due to the budget reductions as a strategy for gaining legislative support.

**Council of Regions Report (Council):** Jeff Breckel, Chair, introduced each of the new regional organization directors: Jessica Helsley (Washington Coast, replacing Miles Batchelder), Melody Kriemes (Upper Columbia, replacing Derek Van Marter) and Steve Manlow (Lower Columbia, replacing Jeff Breckel). Each provided brief background and thanked the board. Mr. Breckel will continue to work with COR. He concluded by emphasizing the Washington model's importance to salmon recovery.

**Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC):** Amy Hatch-Winecka, WSC Chair, and John Foltz, WSC Vice-Chair, provided an update on the work of WSC during the past quarter, including a lead entity update, information about their annual meeting, new communication and marketing, funding issues, projects completed across the state, and a climate change workshop to be held in September. Details of each activity are outlined in their report in the board materials (Item 4).

**Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology):** Member Smith shared information about a real-time data-collection effort on streamflow and water quality, aiming to report information in a way that is accessible to the public and easily understood. More information about this work can be found at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/flow/index.html>.

**Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC):** Member Cochrane discussed WSCC's proposed budget packages which address a necessary balance between cost and project implementation.

**Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT):** Member Cierebiej shared information about WSDOT's efforts to continue opening up fish passage barriers.

**Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NWPCC):** Member Phil Rockefeller shared information about recovery goals across the Columbia Basin watershed, a collaborative effort to find achievable outcomes for conservation, recovery, and harvest. Member Rockefeller announced his retirement from the NWPCC in July, but he will continue to serve on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. He shared an opportunity for public participation in developing recovery goals in the Columbia Basin.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW):** Member Neatherlin attended the WSC meeting in early June; he thanked WSC for the opportunity. Member Neatherlin provided information about WDFW staff accomplishments and budget proposals to address capacity. The WDFW guidelines and recommendations on riparian habitat will be published this summer; Member Neatherlin suggested a briefing to the board on the topic at the September meeting, and a briefing on Steelhead early marine survival research in December.

***Break 11:38 a.m. – 11:51 a.m.***

**General Public Comment:**

**Jeanette Dorner**, PSP, addressed the board, providing a history of her work, accomplishments, and partnership with the board. She thanked the board for these opportunities and spoke to the positive, supportive salmon community. She commented on the potential impacts of reduced organizational capacity and cautioned the board about further limitations to staff as a significant detriment to achieving salmon recovery goals. She suggested a collaboration among local, state, and federal partners to continue the long-term commitment to consistent, stable funding.

Chair Troutt acknowledged her message and thanked her for her service.

**Board Business: Briefings**

**Item 5: State Conservation Commission's Voluntary Stewardship Program**

Bill Eller, State Conservation Commission's Director, provided a presentation on the voluntary stewardship program (VSP), available on the [WSCC website](#). He began with a history of the development and creation of the VSP program. WSCC administers funds for counties to develop watershed-scale plans that will:

- Identify critical areas, resource concerns, and agricultural activities in the critical areas;
- Create a plan for targeted outreach to assist landowners in developing farm plans that address agricultural impacts to critical areas on their property; and
- Identify and maintain economically viable agriculture while protecting and restoring critical areas.

He described the components of the program listed above, including the "five critical areas," the structure for administering funds to participating counties, and role of the VSP technical panel which responsible for reviewing counties' work plans and assessing their viability. He explained the process for implementing work plans, highlighting voluntary participation as a key factor. The SCC is responsible for reporting the progress of the VSP program to the Legislature; further communication is achieved through a periodic VSP newsletter.

Mr. Eller responded to questions about counties that have opted out of the program, alignment with the board grant application and project management processes, and how monitoring is included in respective work plans. The board discussed challenges in tracking and measuring whether goals are met through the monitoring process. Ron Walter, Chelan County Commissioner, explained the steps taken by counties who

have adopted the program in the early stages, challenges and lessons learned, and how incentives are used to encourage landowner participation.

***Lunch 12:25 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.***

### **Board Business: Decision & Request for Direction**

#### **Item 6: Funding Issues: Short-term and Long-term**

Brian Abbott, Executive Coordinator GSRO, and Wendy Brown, RCO Policy Director, summarized the funding issues resulting from the reduced Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) award and implications for RCO's 2017-19 capital and operating budget proposals. RCO will receive an \$18.5 million PCSRF award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA); the reduced federal funds will affect the current grant round, the 2017-19 biennial budget request to the Office of Financial Management, and monitoring decisions made in September 2016. Mr. Abbott explained that the board will need to decide how to distribute fiscal year (FY) 2017 capacity funds for regions and lead entities, and discuss how to determine the amount of state funds requested in the operating and capital budget requests. The board must decide on action before the new biennium begins on July 1, 2016.

Mr. Abbott began by providing a breakdown of the budget for the PCSRF grant. In discussing the challenges facing lead entity and regional capacity funding, Mr. Abbott presented short-term funding options as outlined in the board materials (Item 6, Table 1, Page 5). The board discussed the potential for utilizing unspent capacity funds from the current fiscal year, which ends later this month, although it may not cover the full funding shortfall for fiscal year 2017.

Staff recommends that the board approve Option 3, where the board funds capacity at a total of \$3,313,000 from 2016 PCSRF funds and \$453,500 in state general fund lead entity funding for a total of \$3,766,500. Mr. Abbott shared two tables that break down the funding allocations across lead entities and regions (see Item 6, Attachments A and B).

### **Public Comment**

**Paul Ward, Ron Walter, Steve Jenkins, Melody Kreimes, and Joy Juelson**, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Lead Entity Coordinator, addressed the board. Mr. Ward provided some history of the region's work. Ms. Kreimes discussed the region's intent to continue moving forward with their work and the potential impacts of lead entity consolidation. Mr. Walter spoke to similar experiences in the past with budget cuts and staff reductions, relating the actions to the importance of maintaining the "Washington Way" of conducting salmon recovery efforts. He provided specific background and context for the Upper Columbia region, and encouraged the board to begin early engagement with legislative representatives to communicate funding needs. Mr. Jenkins shared a story to highlight the importance of collaboration, communication, and partnerships to promote salmon messaging at the state and federal levels. Ms. Juelson focused her comments on the issue of lead entity consolidation; she encouraged the board to consider requesting other lead entities and regions to consolidate, provided that they are fully supported through the transitional process. She highlighted the benefits, and suggested providing incentives to facilitate streamlining and add efficiencies. Mr. Ward concurred, requesting some guidance from the board in this capacity. The board was reminded of their commitment to insulate consolidated lead entities from further budget cuts.

**Jeff Breckel**, Council of Regions and Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, and regional organization directors, **Steve Martin, Scott Brewer, Jessica Helsley, Melody Kreimes, Darcy Batura, and Jeanette Dörner**, addressed the board regarding the reduced funding and impacts to capacity. Mr. Breckel reiterated the sentiments and options presented in their letter to board, included in the board materials (see Correspondence). Primarily, their request included a deferment of any funding decision, a work group

formulated to address these issues, and contract extension for regional organizations that hold current funding in place through August.

The board responded to their proposal, with differing perspectives on short-term versus long-term impacts of funding contracts at the current level, given the current budget situation. Further suggestions included communicating with NOAA about the matching funds leveraged with the PSCRF award.

Chair Troutt suggested using SRNet as the focal point through which consistent, firm messaging would be shared most effectively.

**Jessica Helsley**, representing the Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership, addressed the board regarding impacts to Pacific salmon, acknowledging Washington's salmon recovery efforts. She read an excerpt from the Washington Coast recovery plan and shared comments received at a citizen committee meeting of the lead entity. The lead entity request involved deferring a decision until a solution can be found that does not negatively impact staffing or progress in salmon recovery goals.

Ms. Helsley also provided comment on behalf of the North Pacific Coast Lead Entity. Her comments focused on streamlining and efficiencies, and suggested using a collaborative workgroup to determine the best approach moving forward.

**Amy Hatch-Winecka**, Washington Salmon Coalition, **Joy Jueslon**, UCSRB, **John Fultz**, WSC, **Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz**, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, and **Doug Osterman**, WRIA 9 Salmon Recovery Manager, addressed the board as lead entity coordinators. Ms. Hatch-Winecka reiterated the options put forth in their written comment to the board (see Correspondence, board materials). Their request included a deferment of any funding decision until the August meeting, a work group formulated to address these issues, contract extensions that hold current funding in place through August, and continued communication with NOAA about the importance of PSCRF and how it supports leveraging funds for projects and capacity. Mr. Mulvihill-Kuntz echoed these comments. Mr. Osterman commented on his letter submitted this morning (WRIA 9), emphasizing the communication impacts resulting from reduced support and the perspective of other partners in the work.

**Jeanette Dorner** and **Laura Blackmore**, Puget Sound Partnership, described the impacts to staff capacity and related work that would not be funded based on the current PSCRF reductions. Ms. Blackmore spoke to PSP's support for lobbying efforts at the federal level. Ms. Dorner commented further on lead entity consolidation impact.

**Dawn Pucci**, Island County Lead Entity Coordinator, spoke from the perspective an entity with limited staff and capacity prior to the funding reductions.

Chair Troutt suggested forming a committee to determine alternative solutions prior to the August meeting. If consensus is not reached, the board would discuss the issue further at the August meeting.

Member Rockefeller suggested that the board carry forward current capacity funding level (FY 2016) on a monthly basis through July 2016 subject to certain expectations. Further, regions meet via workgroup to collaborate on FY 2017 recommendations beyond July. If none arise, RCO would allocate the remaining FY 17 dollars on a prorated basis. A regional workgroup would report to RCO by July 31. By mid-July, regions and lead entities would report unspent capacity funds (submit billing) and begin discussions of cost-saving measures, i.e. consolidation, and report to RCO by July 31 and continue to meet and submit information in time for RCO to address PSCRF reductions.

Member Biery suggested that recommendations for possible consolidation be made by the end of the year. The board discussed the challenges and opportunities involved for various lead entities, leaning towards cost-efficiencies and streamlining (versus consolidation). Suggestions included moving more of the PCSRF application into priority one categories, or leveraging match funds.

Mr. Abbott built upon Member Rockefeller suggestion, reformulating his proposal to include changes that allow RCO until July 31 or early August to determine the amount of unspent capacity funding; ask lead entities (specifically PSP) for capacity balances that can be spent in other areas.

**Motion:** Move to fund FY 2017 for lead entities and regions as set forth in Item 6, Table 2, Attachments A and B.

**Moved by:** Member Phil Rockefeller

**Seconded by:** Member Sam Mace

**Decision:** Approved

The board directed staff to conduct an analysis of return funds from lead entity and regional FY 2016 contracts to ascertain funds available to backfill the \$801,685 contract reductions for FY 2017. Return funds include PCSRF and in the Puget Sound region, PSAR capacity. Staff was also directed to communicate with lead entities and regions to submit final billing by July 15, in order for staff to conduct analysis by July 31.

**Motion:** Move to direct GSRO staff to convene a workgroup, consisting of GSRO, two board members (David Troutt and Bob Bugert), regional directors, and two lead entity representatives from the WSC. The goal of this workgroup is to provide a recommendation to the board by August 11 regarding allocation of unspent FY 2016 capacity funds to meet the budget shortfalls to the extent possible, with guidance to prioritize funding for the Upper Columbia lead entity (\$32,257), and then to the facilitation of the Washington Salmon Coalition (\$35,000). The board also directed the workgroup to continue to identify short term and long term streamlining and cost-saving opportunities for the coming year and into the next biennium, and to report back at the board meetings in September and December.

**Moved by:** Member Phil Rockefeller

**Seconded by:** Member Nancy Biery

**Decision:** Approved

***Break 2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.***

Ms. Brown summarized guidance provided by the Office of Financial Management (OFM), a timeline for preparing and submitting RCO's capital and operating budget requests and options for each budget proposal as outlined in the board materials (Item 6).

Director Cottingham encouraged lead entities to enter projects in Habitat Work Schedule as a communication mechanism. Member Cochrane commented further on the options presented, addressing capacity funding, consistent messaging to funders, prioritization, and funding allocation. The board discussed further strategies for communication, engaging legislators, and collaborating or unifying across agencies versus issuing individual needs and messaging. Chair Troutt suggested calling on COR to support building the operating and capital budget requests.

## **Board Business: Briefing**

### **Item 7: Monitoring Panel Update: Process and Schedule for Funding Recommendations**

Keith Dublanica, GSRO Science Coordinator, and Dr. Marnie Tyler, Monitoring Panel Chair, outlined the monitoring panel process to develop project recommendations and a schedule leading up to the board's funding decisions at the September 2016. Dr. Tyler shared that Pete Bisson will assume the role of chair.

Dr. Tyler reviewed the 2016 and 2017 monitoring panel schedule; the 2017 schedule would accommodate the field season, better align contract timing, present recommendations to the board in June, and fund projects in September. The September 2016 monitoring funding decision requests include Intensively Monitored Watersheds, project effectiveness monitoring, and status and trends monitoring. The proposed 2017 schedule would allow for early decisions on monitoring projects.

Member Smith agreed with moving the decision period for 2017 to June. She asked that the board provide direction to the monitoring panel to prioritize funding across all projects and draft recommendations that fit the current budget scenario. Dr. Tyler clarified that the purpose of the prioritization exercise would be to identify areas for potential cuts with the least amount of negative impact. Mr. Bisson suggested that, based on the expertise of panel members, the exercise focus on the scientific soundness and quality of the projects, and the board should use this information to make their priority or funding decisions.

The board directed monitoring panel staff to make recommendations based on reductions necessitated by the reduced PCSRF award. The monitoring panel will provide recommendations to the board as part of a published report this summer and at the September meeting.

### **Item 8: Effectiveness Monitoring (Procurement Update)**

Keith Dublanica, GSRO Science Coordinator, reviewed RCO's approach for completing the final 30 months of Phase I project effectiveness monitoring. Tetra Tech Inc. provides ongoing environmental services in support of the board's monitoring program and partners with Natural Systems Design, who provides technical data. Mr. Dublanica indicated that the current Tetra Tech Inc. contract expires October 31, 2016. Based on feedback from the Department of Enterprise Services, RCO is not able to extend or use a sole source contract with Tetra Tech for the remainder of the work. Thus, RCO will open a competitive RFP process to solicit contractors for use of the remaining project effectiveness monitoring funds to complete Phase I work. The new RFP may include a process to examine new components that weren't addressed through the current contract.

### **Item 9: Updates from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Jennifer Quan and Tom Jameson, WDFW, presented information on Washington's Wild Future Initiative (initiative) and the Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board (FPBR Board).

Ms. Quan summarized information on the initiative from WDFW's spring 2016 progress report. The initiative began with the hiring a new agency director. Due to poor public perception of the agency and continued struggles with the state Legislature, WDFW developed an initiative based on a new way of doing business to develop publicly supported 2017 legislative proposals. Ms. Quan summarized the public response and resulting values, grouped by themes such as recreational opportunities, law enforcement present, simpler rules, clearer communication, habitat restoration, effective land stewardship, conservation for future generations, and youth outreach. From these themes, WDFW developed 2017 goals, an implementation plan, and potential revenue sources. Some of the related salmon recovery actions included in the initiative proposals include support for RFEGs, monitoring, an inventory of high priority fish passage barriers, etc. The proposals also outline new fishing opportunities across the state. Ms. Quan concluded by summarizing next steps. More information available at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/wildfuture/>.



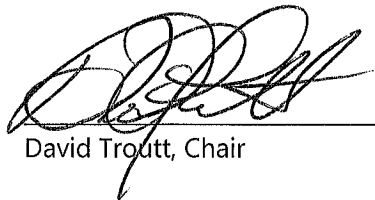
Mr. Jameson is the new Fish Passage and Screening Division Manager in the Habitat Program at WDFW, who will eventually succeed David Price as Chair of the FPBR Board. He provided some details on barrier data collected from fish passage sites across the state; how the Legislature established the FPBR Board (Senate Bill 2SHB 2251); required actions to remove barriers and meet injunction requirements (RCW 77.95.180); funding needs and methods for securing match funds/resources; and current activities including cost estimates, preparing funding packages, arranging legislative tours, communications and messaging, and developing project lists for the 2017-19 and 2019-21 biennia.

Mr. Jameson described the two "pathways" for achieving this work: coordinated, in partnership with local entities and specific stream barriers, and watershed, looking at whole stream reaches and prioritizing barriers with the greatest impact to salmon populations. He responded to board questions about identified barriers, coordinated efforts and funding responsibilities, and incorporating geology into design plans. Member Cochrane suggested incorporating floodplain management design into marketing and communication plans to highlight the habitat benefits provided by the FPBR Board's work.

### **Closing**

Chair Troutt adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for August 11, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Troutt, Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date