

PROPOSED Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting Agenda

February 27, 2013

Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA 98504

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 a 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.

You also may submit written comments to the Board by mailing them to the RCO, attn: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison at the address above or at rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov.

Special Accommodations:

If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please notify us at 360/902-3086 or TDD 360/902-1996.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

OPENING AND WELCOME

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order	<i>Chair</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Determination of QuorumIntroduce New Policy Director, Nona SnellReview and Approval of Agenda (Decision)Approval of December Meeting Minutes (Decision)	

MANAGEMENT AND PARTNER REPORTS (Briefings)

9:05 a.m.	1. Management Report	<i>Kaleen Cottingham</i>
	A. Director's Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Legislative UpdatesPolicy Updates: Status of Manual 18 ChangesPerformance Update (written only)	<i>Nona Snell</i> <i>Brian Abbott</i> <i>Rebecca Connolly</i>
	B. Financial Report	
9:20 a.m.	2. Salmon Recovery Management Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grant Management, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, and MonitoringCompleted Projects of Note	<i>Brian Abbott</i> <i>Marnie Tyler</i> <i>Sarah Gage</i> <i>Jennifer Johnson</i> <i>Grant Managers</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Role of GSRO and Regions in Light of Contractor's ReportRegional and Lead Entity Contracts for 2013-15 BienniumVideo UpdatePCSRF ApplicationSalmon Recovery ConferenceState of Salmon in Watersheds ReportPort Susan and other projects	

10:40 a.m. BREAK

10:50 a.m. 3. Reports from Partners

- A. Council of Regions Report
- B. Lead Entity Advisory Group Report
- C. Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups
- D. Board Roundtable: Other Agency Updates

Jeff Breckel
Cheryl Baumann
Lance Winecka
SRFB Agency Representatives

General Public Comment: *Please limit comments to 3 minutes*

BRIEFINGS

11:20 a.m. 4. Report on Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)

Betsy Lyons, WDFW
Mike Ramsey

11:50 a.m. 5. Family Forest Fish Passage Program Presentation and Video

Dave Caudill
Laura Till, WDFW
Rick Kuykendall, DNR
Michelle Peterschick, DNR

12:15 p.m. 6. Service Recognition: Craig Partridge

Chair Hover

12:30 p.m. LUNCH

1:15 p.m. 7. Overview of Monitoring Program

- Current funding approach
- Status of monitoring assessment to be completed in October
- Decisions for 2013 needed in May

Brian Abbott
Keith Dublanica

DECISIONS

1:30 p.m. 8. Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Monitoring Chapter Update

Brian Abbott

Decision: Approve use of up to \$25,000 in federal fiscal year 2012 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) dollars to fund the update.

BRIEFINGS

1:45 p.m. 9. Monitoring Program Findings & Results

- Background of Intensively Monitored Watersheds (IMW) Program
- Approach and Context for Board's Program & Funding
- Relationship to Status & Trends Monitoring

- Findings and Results at IMW Locations
 - Skagit IMW

Brian Abbott
Keith Dublanica

Correigh Greene, Northwest
Fisheries Science Center

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:45 p.m. Item 9, Continued

- Findings and Results at IMW Locations
 - Straits IMW
 - Lower Columbia IMW
 - Hood Canal IMW

Bill Ehinger, Ecology

Tim Quinn, WDFW

Mara Zimmerman, WDFW

Kirk Krueger, WDFW

3:45 p.m. ADJOURN

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Director's Report

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

This memo is the director's report on key agency activities, including operations, agency policy issues, legislation, and performance management. Information specific to salmon grant management report and the fiscal report are in separate board memos.

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 Operations
- Legislative and Budget Updates
- Policy Updates
- Salmon Recovery News
- Updates on Sister Boards
- Performance Measures

Agency Operations

Staff Working on Federal Grant for Salmon Recovery

The 2013 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant announcement was posted on January 9, 2013 by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Pre-applications are due on February 14; the final applications are due March 14. The estimated total available will be \$65 million, although the maximum grant request has been lowered to \$25 million.

Like previous applications, the 2013 proposal will be a multi-partner effort between the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the Recreation and Conservation Office, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. I recently met with these partners to

kick off Washington's preparation of our annual grant application. Washington will submit a draft application February 14 and will request the maximum allowable award of \$25 million.

The application will request funds for habitat projects, hatchery reform projects, monitoring, administration, and database upgrades. The request will be aligned with the federal priorities established by NOAA in 2012.

PRISM Online

This month, we launched the new PRISM online, a web-based program that allows people to apply for grants online using PCs, Macs, and mobile devices such as iPads and other tablets. Designed as an application wizard, the system will guide applicants through the application step-by-step. As they complete each page, applicants can check for errors and determine if they have successfully completed that portion of their applications. Attachments that must be included with each application will be identified and a mapping tool will allow applicants to map the location of their projects. Users will see customized screens that show projects associated with their organizations or for which they are a contact. Users will also be able to see the location of their projects on a map. From this screen, users will be able to start new grant applications. We also enhanced our existing Project Search feature on our Web site with mapping capability, so now people looking for project information can see a map of the project location.

Meetings with Partners

- For the next several months, the **Conservation Commission** will have an interim director. I met with Ray Ledgerwood to let him know about our programs and the rich history that we have with providing funding for the conservation districts (primarily salmon recovery) and with our efforts next year to review and streamline our farmland preservation program.
- **Ag Forestry Leadership Program** – I was invited again this year to speak on a panel of state agency directors to the Ag-Forestry Leadership program. I spoke about working on multi-agency panels.
- In December, I joined the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in briefings of our **congressional delegation** staff members about salmon recovery in Washington. I talked about the grants we give and some successful projects.
- **Port Susan Bay ribbon cutting** – I was joined by Mike Ramsey, Kay Caromile, and Elizabeth Butler at the Port Susan Bay estuary restoration ribbon cutting near Stanwood at the mouth of the Stillaguamish River. After 11 years and about \$4 million in funding, The Nature Conservancy and dozens of partners gathered to celebrate the removal of 1.3 miles of dike that returned 150 acres of farmland to naturally functioning estuary – creating jobs, restoring salmon habitat, and improving flood protection for neighbors. The state provided a majority of the funding, of which \$2.1 million was from the salmon recovery fund, Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund, and Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program fund, all of which flowed through RCO.

Communications Report

Communications staff spent most of the month preparing for the launch of the *State of Salmon in Watershed Executive Summary* and Web site, as well as preparing materials for the legislative session, such as a new lead entity directory.

Legislative and Budget Update

The 2013 legislative session is well under way; it is scheduled to adjourn on April 24. Governor Inslee is hiring policy staff and setting his legislative agenda. We have been meeting with both new and experienced legislators, including those who have new committee assignments, to provide general information about RCO's programs and budget and to answer specific questions.

At this time, four main bills related to the Salmon Recovery have had public hearings. We have testified on these bills and are working with legislators, other agencies, and stakeholders to minimize the impacts to our programs.

Bill	Description
HB 1194	Landowners who allow a habitat project to be built on their land may not be held civilly liable for property damages resulting from the project. The habitat project must be included on a habitat project list and may or may not be funded by the board. This bill has been voted out of committee.
SB 5054	<p>The Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department Natural Resources, and State Parks must provide a request to, and receive approval from, the Legislature before acquiring property.</p> <p>The agencies must submit a request for real property acquisition to the Legislature and Office of Financial Management. Major elements of the request must include: 1) an operations and maintenance plan; 2) specified information on payments in lieu of taxes (PILT).</p> <p>The bill was voted out of committee.</p>
SB 5057	<p>A nonprofit organization may not restrict public access to real property for public recreational purposes beyond any restrictions in effect at the time the organization acquires the property if funds from the state were used to purchase the property or if the land was transferred from a local, state, or federal agency or tribal government where the property was acquired with funds from the state.</p> <p>State agencies must condition any grants or land transfers to nonprofit organizations to be consistent with these provisions on access for outdoor recreation.</p> <p>The bill amended and passed out of committee. The amendment allows</p>

Bill	Description
	restricted access under two circumstances: 1) the access must be consistent with the statutory conditions of a funding program; or 2) the access must address specified risks to cultural resources, natural resources, or adjacent landowners.
SB 5276	<p>The bill requires any city, county or state agency owning land designated as agricultural by a comprehensive plan or regulations adopted under the Growth Management Act to protect the land for future agricultural use.</p> <p>We provided examples where this would have prevented current restoration projects, using Smith Island and Leque Island as examples of current SRFB funded projects on public land designated as agricultural land. We will participate in a work group to draft a compromise bill.</p>

Several other bills have been introduced that could affect either the RCO programs or staff.

February 22 is the policy cutoff; that is, the last day for a policy bill to be passed out of policy committees in the house in which it originated. March 1 is the fiscal cutoff; that is, the last day for a bill to be voted out of the budget committee in the house in which it originated.

Operating Budget

Governor Chris Gregoire released her proposed 2013-15 operating, capital, and transportation budgets on December 18. The following is a summary of the operating and capital budgets, and the impact on the RCO.

RCO's general fund budget was not cut except for minor adjustments. We had submitted three operating budget decision packages. Two of the decision packages, the Habitat Work Schedule and the State Lands Inventory, did not receive funding. The Invasive Species program was shifted to the Aquatic Land Enhancement Account, as we requested. If needed, we still have time to work on funding for the Habitat Work Schedule in the 2014 supplemental budget. Some members of the Legislature remain interested in the State Lands Inventory.

The proposed budget restores the three percent temporary salary reduction and includes a contingent salary increase based on revenue forecasts. The budget also includes \$38.6 million for a new salary step that was negotiated in 2008 and 2010, but delayed both years.

Capital Budget

Governor Chris Gregoire weighed agency requests for natural resource funding in the capital budget against the Puget Sound Partnership's assessment of how the programs relate to the cleanup of Puget Sound. This table summarizes RCO's budget requests and the funding included in the capital budget. The first part of the table includes the Salmon Recovery Funding

Board programs, the second part is the Recreation Conservation Funding Board programs, and the third are other programs.

	RCO Request	Gov Gregoire	Variance
Salmon Recovery Funding Board Programs			
Puget Sound Estuary & Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	--
Puget Sound Acquisition & Restoration (PSAR)	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	--
Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) <i>State</i>	\$40,000,000	\$15,000,000	(\$25,000,000)
Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) <i>Federal</i>	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000	--
Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Programs			
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)	\$6,600,000	\$6,000,000	(\$600,000)
Boating Facilities Program (BFP)	\$9,663,000	\$6,363,000	(\$3,300,000)
Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG)	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	--
Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR)	\$800,000	\$800,000	--
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	--
Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA)	\$8,500,000	\$8,500,000	--
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	--
Wash. Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)	\$90,000,000	\$65,450,000	(\$24,550,000)
Youth Athletic Facilities	\$3,000,000	--	(\$3,000,000)
Other Programs			
Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) <i>DNR's Request</i>	\$10,000,000	\$2,000,000	(\$8,000,000)
Total	\$329,763,000	\$265,313,000	(\$64,450,000)

Other Factors Affecting RCO's Budget

Governor Inslee has indicated he will release his own version of the budgets shortly after the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council's revenue forecast, which is due on March 20. His budget may be a set of guiding principles or a full budget bill. The Legislature typically releases budgets on the same timeline.

The Legislature will develop and negotiate a final budget before fiscal year 2013 ends on June 30. The March revenue forecast may affect the amount of general fund and bonds available for appropriation in the 2013-15 biennium. Staff will update the board with specific information regarding each iteration of the budgets throughout the session.

Policy Update

Throughout 2012, RCO staff worked on the priorities presented in a tiered approach to the board in April 2012. These priorities were identified through board, stakeholder, and staff observations, including feedback from the regions, lead entities, project sponsors, the Technical Review Panel, and grant staff.

The policy items were categorized into four tiers: 1) Items that staff must address during 2012; 2) items staff will address in 2012 as time allows; 3) items to focus on at a later date because of the complexity and time necessary to resolve them and RCO staff's time availability; and 4) items addressed in other forums or through other RCO processes.

The Manual 18 revision released on January 31 included updates that addressed the items in tiers one, two, and four, as discussed with the board at meetings last year. This includes the policies reviewed by the board in December 2012 (beaver relocation, review panel criteria, acclimation ponds, knotweed control, and bank stabilization techniques within habitat restoration projects).

At this time, RCO staff is focusing on the salmon recovery conference, assessment of monitoring, and recommendations of the GSRO assessment. We are not aware of other critical policy revisions to Manual 18 or updates that need to be addressed during 2013, other than the items listed below.

Knotweed Control

This issue was raised by the Review Panel. The board asked that knotweed projects be part of a larger strategic plan for watershed riparian restoration, or at a minimum, be part of a strategic plan for knotweed eradication at a sub-watershed scale. As noted above, staff has begun incorporating the two-pronged approach requested by the board in the revised Manual 18. The current version of Manual 18 requires sponsors to complete a series of supplemental questions for knotweed project proposals that will clarify the project's goals, objectives, timeline, and strategy. In 2013, staff and the Review Panel will work with lead entities to understand which lead entities have a strategic watershed riparian restoration plan within their strategy and which ones would need to develop a plan.

Salmon Recovery News

NOAA Launches 'Situation Assessment' in the Columbia Basin

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently launched a situation assessment to identify key challenges facing the salmon recovery effort and help inform solutions in the Columbia Basin. The federal fish agency has invited 150 entities to participate in an interview-based process to better understand issues and interests of involved parties and situation dynamics. The list includes entities representing federal, state, and tribal governments,

as well as power, agriculture, navigation, recreation, environmental, and other interests. Recently, RCO along with the Columbia Basin regional organizations participated in a conference call with NOAA and were briefed on the assessment. NOAA stated the intent of the assessment process is to "build on the momentum of our positive collaborations with local watershed councils, recovery boards, and other local groups during the past few years and take another step forward. We want to ensure our existing and future recovery plans are comprehensive and integrated. I don't know what this will mean for RCO, so stayed tuned.

Update on Sister Boards

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB)

The RCFB met January 31. The board heard several briefings: One from State Parks on its transformation strategy, one from RCO staff on compliance work, one on an overview of the data we have collected for the state's strategic outdoor recreation plan, and one on the findings of the 2012 grant cycle surveys and the implications for process changes before the 2014 application cycle. Staff also presented a list of policy development topics for 2013 and demonstrated new online tools that improve the usability of PRISM. Finally, the board ended its one-day meeting with discussions of how sustainability was presented in the 2012 grant cycle and how it can recognize 'legacy' projects.

Washington Invasive Species Council

The Invasive Species Council is continuing their work to identify the location and impacts of 15 priority invasive species in the Puget Sound Basin. Existing data are being compiled to create maps of invasive species presence, which will be made available to state and local agencies for planning purposes. The Council has recently added language into the SEPA Environmental Checklist guidance document to include considerations of invasive species. They have also just finished working with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board to include a question on invasive species in Manual 18. The purpose of the questions in both SEPA and Manual 18 is to limit the unintended spread of invasive species during construction and restoration work. Their next meeting is March 14.

Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

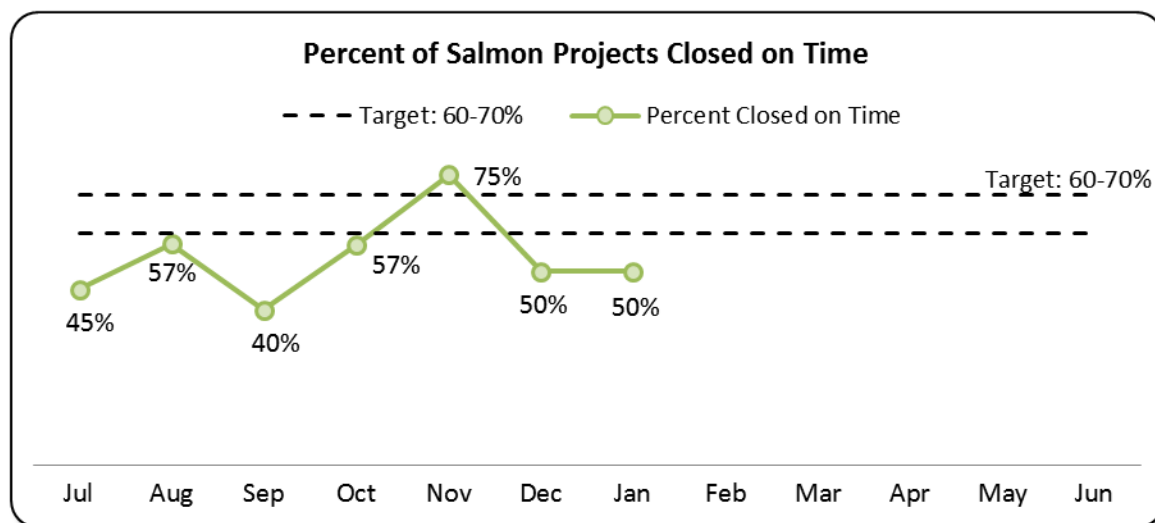
The lands group submitted its annual progress report and 2013 action plan to the Office of Financial Management. Among the 2012 highlights were the extension of the lands group to 2017, work to improve the visibility of land maintenance funding and the economic benefits of state land purchases, the fourth State Land Acquisition Coordinating Forum, and the 2012 biennial forecast of state land acquisitions. The 2013 action plan includes the second *State Land Acquisition Performance Monitoring Report*, coordination workshops for planners to discuss the details of projects to purchase state lands, the fifth State Land Acquisition Coordinating Forum, and, if funding is approved, an update to the state lands inventory.

Performance Measures

All data are for salmon grants only, as of February 1, 2013.

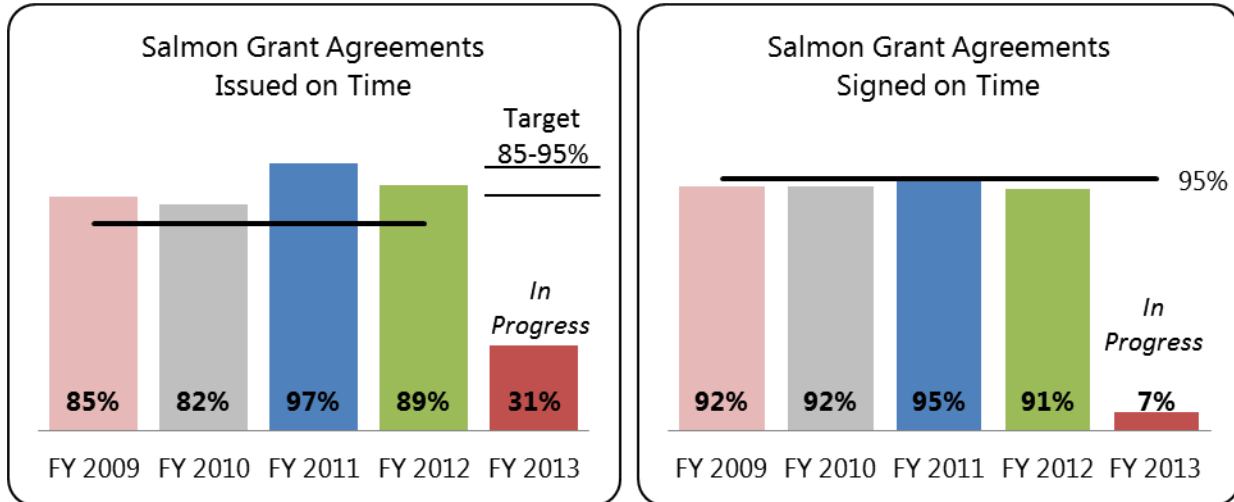
Measure	Target	FY 2013 Performance	Indicator
Percent of salmon projects closed on time	60-70%	55%	●
% salmon grant projects issued a project agreement within 120 days after the board funding date	85-95%	31% (in progress)	●
% of salmon grant projects under agreement within 180 days after the board funding date	95%	26% (in progress)	●
Cumulative expenditures, salmon target by fiscal month	40.4% (as of FM18)	35.3% (as of FM18)	●
Bills paid within 30 days: salmon projects and activities	100%	90%	●
Percent of anticipated stream miles made accessible to salmon	100%	99%	●

Projects Closed on Time



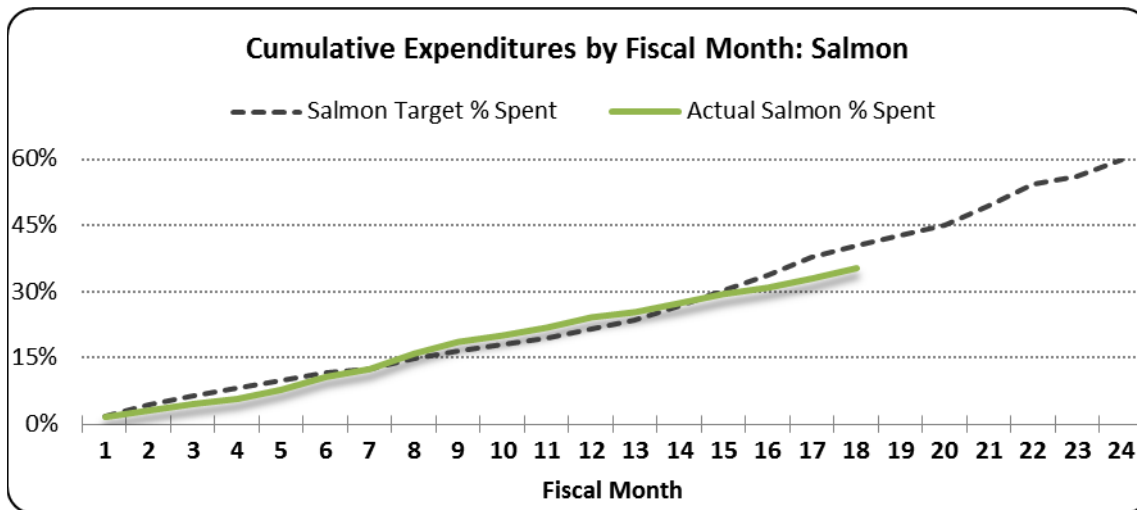
Ninety-four projects have been due for closure since July 1. Of those, 52 were closed on time, 18 were closed late, and 25 remain open. Staff members made a tremendous effort to close projects from the "backlog" in December.

Project Agreements Issued and Signed on Time



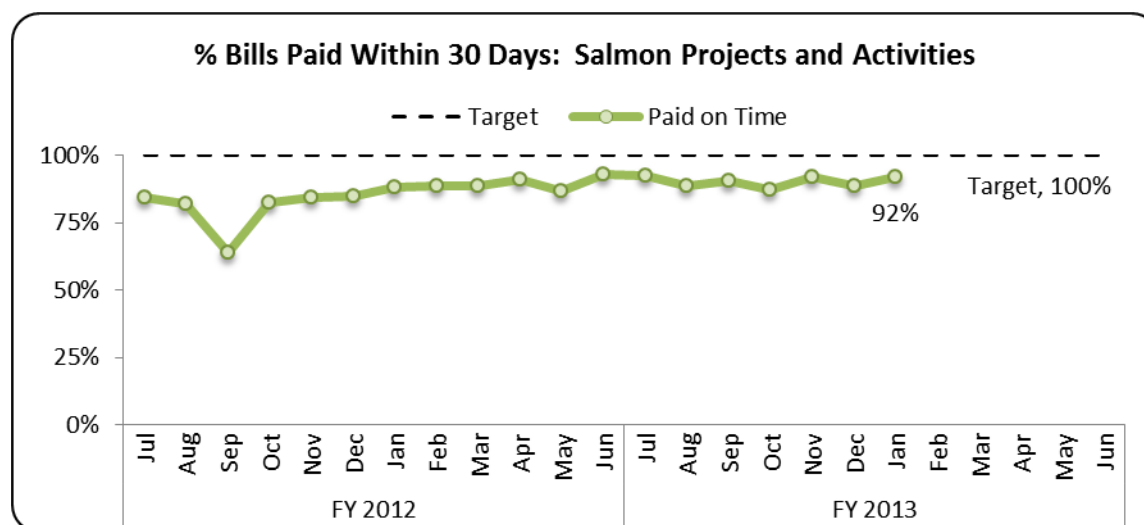
As of February 1, staff had issued 34 project agreements for grants awarded in December 2012. The deadline for issuing the agreements is April 4. Project sponsors had signed and returned eight of the agreements; the deadline for signing the agreements is June 3.

Cumulative Expenditures by Fiscal Month



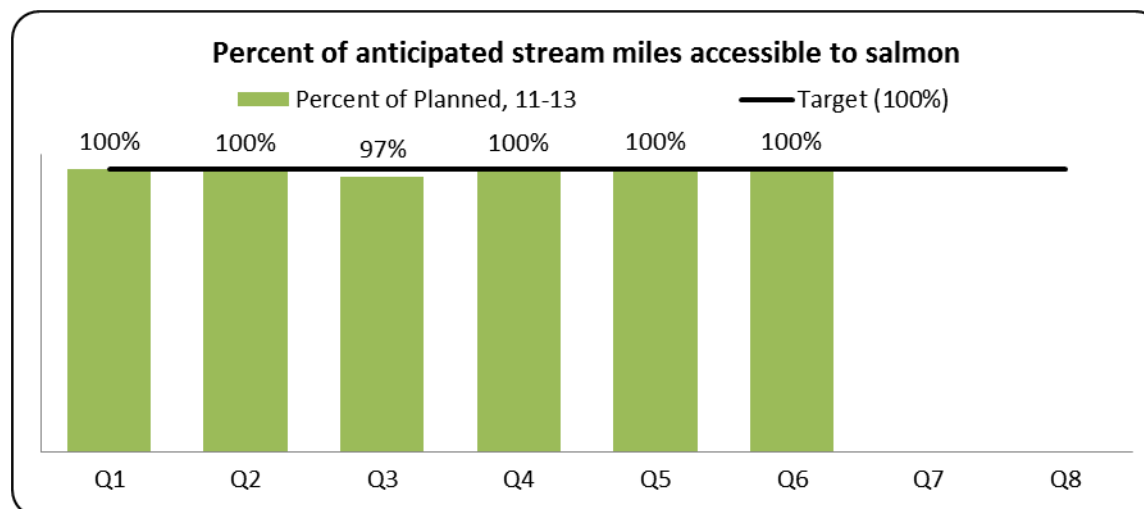
Expenditures are lagging behind expectations and the stretch targets set for this biennium. Fiscal staff is hopeful that project sponsor will begin to expend funds and submit invoices for work completed in the spring.

Bills Paid on Time



Between July 1 and January 31, there were 1075 invoices due for salmon recovery projects and activities (e.g., lead entities, regions, and review panel). Of those, 970 were paid on time, 88 were paid late, and 17 remain unpaid. The average number of days to pay a bill was 12.

Stream Miles Made Accessible



This is one of many measures that the RCO collects about the benefits of projects. The measure compares the number of stream miles expected to be opened (at application) to the number of miles actually made accessible at project closure. Over 160 miles have been made accessible since July 1, 2011. Not all projects include this measure.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Management Status Report: Financial Report
Prepared By: Mark Jarasitis, Chief Financial Officer

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

This financial report reflects Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) activities as of December 31, 2012.

The available balance (funds to be committed) is \$17.2 million. The amount for the board to allocate is \$0.5 million, and the amount for other entities to allocate is \$16.7 million.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Balance Summary

Fund	Balance
Current State Balance	\$59,498
Current Federal Balance – Projects, Hatchery Reform, Monitoring	\$6,144,879
Current Federal Balance – Activities	\$392,318
Lead Entities	\$8,378
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) & Puget Sound Restoration (PSR)	\$427,958
Estuary and Salmon Restoration	\$3,564,670
Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP)	\$6,610,701
Puget Sound Critical Stock	\$0

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Budget Summary

For the Period of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2013, actuals through 10/31/2012 (fm16) 11/1/2012
 Percentage of biennium reported: 66.6%

BUDGET new & reapp. 2011-13		COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
		Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of comm
GRANT PROGRAMS							
State Funded 03-05	\$829,178	\$829,178	100%	\$0	0%	\$467,864	56%
State Funded 05-07	\$1,992,436	\$1,957,976	98%	\$34,460	2%	\$681,784	35%
State Funded 07-09	\$3,377,100	\$3,377,100	100%	\$0	0%	\$460,142	14%
State Funded 09-11	\$4,676,704	\$4,656,198	100%	\$20,506	0%	\$4,536,705	97%
State Funded 11-13	\$9,700,000	\$9,695,468	100%	\$4,532	0%	\$1,479,607	15%
State Funded Total	\$20,575,418	\$20,515,919	100%	\$59,498	0%	\$7,626,102	37%
Federal Funded 2007	\$6,771,390	\$6,771,390	100%	\$0	0%	\$6,771,390	100%
Federal Funded 2008	\$12,772,515	\$12,695,984	99%	\$76,531	1%	\$5,583,890	44%
Federal Funded 2009	\$11,189,547	\$11,139,089	100%	\$50,458	0%	\$6,242,908	56%
Federal Funded 2010	\$24,028,172	\$23,969,454	100%	\$58,718	0%	\$12,137,063	51%
Federal Funded 2011	\$24,728,261	\$22,886,220	93%	\$1,842,041	7%	\$6,845,371	30%
Federal Funded 2012	\$21,340,000	\$16,830,552	79%	\$4,509,448	21%	\$0	0%
Federal Funded Total	\$100,829,885	\$94,292,689	94%	\$6,537,196	6%	\$37,580,622	40%
Lead Entities	\$6,124,540	\$6,116,162	100%	\$8,378	0%	\$3,230,240	53%
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	\$37,892,542	\$37,464,584	99%	\$427,958	1%	\$16,580,415	44%
Estuary and Salmon Restoration	\$11,009,147	\$7,444,477	68%	\$3,564,670	32%	\$3,386,303	45%
Family Forest Fish Passage Program	\$14,868,397	\$8,257,696	56%	\$6,610,701	44%	\$3,584,205	43%
Puget Sound Critical Stock	\$4,301,643	\$4,301,643	100%	\$0	0%	\$1,864,997	43%
Subtotal Grant Programs	\$195,601,572	\$178,393,170	91%	\$17,208,402	9%	\$73,852,884	41%
ADMINISTRATION							
SRFB Admin/Staff	\$4,439,720	\$4,439,720	100%	-	0%	\$3,151,132	71%
Technical Panel	\$598,777	\$598,777	100%	-	0%	\$365,451	61%
Subtotal Administration	\$5,038,497	\$5,038,497	100%	-	0%	\$3,516,583	70%
GRANT AND ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	\$200,640,069	\$183,431,667	91%	\$17,208,402	9%	\$77,369,467	42%

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Salmon Recovery Management Report
Prepared By: Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager and GSRO Coordinator

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

The following are some highlights of work being done by the salmon section staff in the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office.

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

Grant Management

Wrapping up the 2012 Grant Cycle and Starting the 2013 Grant Cycle

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) approved funding for over 100 projects at the December 6-7, 2012 meeting. Since then, staff has been developing project agreements with sponsors and routing them electronically for signature.

At the same time, staff members have been gearing up for the 2013 grant round. The board approved the administrative changes and minor policy clarifications for inclusion in Manual 18 at the December 2012 meeting. Staff completed a draft of the document and made it available to lead entities and regional organizations to review through the first two weeks of January 2013. Staff posted the manual to the RCO web site in late January. It is available at: http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/manuals&forms/Manual_18.pdf.

RCO staff is in the process of scheduling Review Panel site visits for the 2013 grant round. We will have the calendar completed by February 28. Staff also is in the process of scheduling application workshop(s) for March. Like last year, we will record the workshop and have it available online for future reference.

Family Forest Fish Passage Program Projects Underway

RCO staff has been working closely with partner agencies to get the additional \$10 million to projects that remove fish passage barriers in small, private forests. More information is in Item 5.

Salmon Metric Project Almost Complete

We are in the final stages of collecting the PCSRF metrics. All of the metrics have been collected, and we are processing the project final reports. Clean-up work remains and will need to transfer the data to NOAA, but we have reached a major project milestone. RCO received an extension from NOAA to February 28, 2013 to complete the project. Special thanks go to Sarah Gage for her patience and persistence (in a friendly way) and to the Salmon Section staff who did extra work collecting and reviewing final reports.

Viewing Closed Projects

Attachment A lists projects that have closed between November 1, 2012 and January 31, 2013. To view information about a project, click on the blue project number¹. From that link, you can open and view the project attachments (e.g., design, photos, maps, and final report).

Amendments Approved by the Director

In December 2011, the board asked that this report include a list of major scope and cost increase amendments approved by the director. The table below shows the major amendments approved between November 1, 2012 and January 15, 2013. Staff processed a total of 203 amendments during this period, but most were minor revisions related to the metrics update project or time extensions.

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Amount/Notes
11-1573	S. Fork Asotin Stream Channel Restoration	WDFW	Salmon Federal	Restoration	Cost Increase - \$13,045 Cultural resources and additional wood
10-1794	Camp Creek Culvert Replacement	Pacific Salmon Coalition	Salmon State	Restoration	Cost Increase - \$50,000 Increased construction costs
11-1263	Middle Pilchuck River Habitat Enhancement	Sound Salmon Solutions	State Salmon	Restoration	Cost Decrease - \$81,200 Property owner did not grant permission for the in water restoration work
10-1852	Howard Miller Steelhead Park Off Channel Enhancement	Skagit Fish Enhancement Group	Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	Restoration	Cost Increase - \$22,891 Increased cost of construction

¹ Must be connected to the internet; Depending on the computer, you may have to right click and select "open hyperlink."

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Amount/Notes
09-1447	Lower Finney Supplemental LWD	Skagit Fish Enhancement Group	Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	Restoration	Cost Decrease - \$22,891 Project scope completed under budget remainder moved to #10-1852
11-1285	McDonald Creek Restoration	Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force	Salmon Federal	Restoration	Cost Increase - \$7,000 Storm related damage
09-1623	Lower Wenatchee River Flow Enhancement Project	Trout Unlimited	Salmon Federal	Restoration	Cost Increase - \$98,678 Bid was much higher than expected. Other funds provided \$151,322.

Grant Administration

The following table show projects funded by the board and administered by staff since 1999. Information is current as of February 5, 2013.

- Staff is working with sponsors to place the “pending” projects under agreement, following approval at the board meeting in December 2012.
- Active projects are under agreement. Sponsors are working on implementation, with RCO staff support for grant administration and compliance.

	Pending Projects	Active Projects	Completed Projects	Total Funded Projects
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	3	94	135	232
Salmon Federal or State Projects	97	217	1,182	1,496
	100	311	1,317	1,728

This table does not include projects funded through the Family Forest Fish Passage Program or the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, although RCO staff support those programs through grant administration.

Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office

State of the Salmon in Watersheds Report

The 2012 State of Salmon made its debut in January. This web-based report can now reach a large audience with one click to the [State of Salmon in Watersheds](#) report and interactive Web site. The Web site puts online what previously was available as a printed biennial report to the Legislature, provides more maps and data, and shares more perspectives from regional salmon recovery organizations around the state. The printable Executive Summary is easy to understand, as are the stories about salmon recovery in the online report. Many of the online charts are

data-driven, showing data that can be easily updated using the state's data.wa.gov tools. This new way of reporting makes data more accessible to the public, and makes all the data providers more transparent and accountable.

SRFB Monitoring Investment Strategy Assessment

In December, the board approved funds for an assessment of its monitoring strategy. Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) staff developed and advertised a request for qualifications and quotations (RFQQ). Two firms responded to the RFQQ. Staff has assembled an evaluation team to score the proposals, and will announce the successful contractor in February.

Role of GSRO in Light of Contractor's Report

As noted at the December board meeting, the RCO worked with an independent consultant to assess the roles and structure of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office. The work was done through interviews and surveys with staff and key partners. The report, entitled "An Assessment of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and Recommendations for the Future," was completed December 20, 2012.

The report presents the key findings from the interviews and surveys, the consultant's interpretation of the mutual interests of the parties, and recommendations for the future role, responsibilities and organizational structure of the GSRO.

Staff has discussed the recommendations and considering the options. The RCO director will make a final decision on the recommendations after the Legislature sets the 2013-15 biennial budget.

Regional and Lead Entity Contracts for 2013-15 Biennium

Staff will initiate discussions with lead entities to prepare the scope of work for next biennium. GSRO staff also will schedule annual reviews with each regional organization in the coming months. Part of the review will establish the scope of work for the next biennium.

At the May 2013 board meeting, staff will present capacity funding options for lead entities and regions that the board will consider based on the budget established by the Legislature and funding that may be available from the federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund grant.

Other Topics of Note

Salmon Video Update

In September 2012, the board approved funds for staff to work with a consultant to create a video component to the State of the Salmon Web site. Fourteen companies responded to a request for qualifications and quotations (RFQQ). The evaluation team included six representatives: two from regional organizations, one from a lead entity, and three GSRO/RCO

staff. Five companies were invited to an interview; North 40 Productions, LLC was selected to complete this project. Work will begin soon.

Salmon Recovery Conference

The 2013 Salmon Recovery Conference will be held on May 14-15 in Vancouver, Washington at the Vancouver Convention Center. Sarah Gage will organize this effort for RCO, with other staff and organizations providing input and assistance along the way. RCO staff will be working through February to complete a draft conference agenda. Staff will also be working with a planning committee to review the timeline, consider potential keynote speakers, workshop presentations, exhibitors, and other details.

Attachments

- A. Salmon Projects Closed Between November 1, 2012 and January 31, 2013

Salmon Projects Closed Between November 1, 2012 and January 31, 2013

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
10-1807	South Fork DS of Hutchinson Creek ELJ Design	Nooksack Indian Tribe	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	11/2/12
07-1722	Simmons Creek Restoration	Underwood Conservation District	Salmon Federal Projects	11/2/12
10-1525	Big Quilcene Estuary Acquisition Planning	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	11/2/12
10-1744	QIN F-15 Road Impounded Pond Enhancement Design	Quinault Indian Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	11/2/12
11-1299	Trib to Steven's Creek Fish Passage Improvement	Grays Harbor Conservation District	Salmon Federal Projects	11/5/12
10-1745	QIN F-17 Road Impounded Pond Enhancement Design	Quinault Indian Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	11/6/12
10-1557	QIN Trib to N.F. Moclips Open Channels Project	Quinault Indian Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	11/6/12
10-1743	QIN Open Channels in Cook Creek Basin	Quinault Indian Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	11/6/12
07-1847	SF Nooksack Chinook Supplementation	Lummi Nation	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	11/7/12
05-1560	Stillaguamish Riparian Restoration Crew2	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	Salmon Federal Projects	11/7/12
09-1391	Gold Basin Landslide Feasibility and Design	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	Salmon State Projects	11/8/12
10-1733	Clear Creek Fish Passage Design Project	Wahkiakum Co. Public Works	Salmon Federal Projects	11/8/12
08-1916	Project Development White Salmon Tributaries	Mid-Columbia RFEG	Salmon Federal Projects	11/13/12
10-1520	Royal Arch Reach Acquisitions - Phase II	Seattle Public Utilities	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	11/20/12
10-1891	QIN S.F. Salmon River Culvert Replacement Design	Quinault Indian Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	11/21/12
09-1772	Eschbach Park Levee Setback & Restoration Design	Yakima County Public Services	Salmon Federal Projects	11/28/12
10-1754	WRIA 13 Nearshore Acquisition Assessment	Capitol Land Trust	Salmon Federal Projects	11/28/12
11-1556	Spurgeon Creek Acquisition & Restoration	Capitol Land Trust	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/4/12

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
08-1571	Stillaguamish Knotweed Control & Riparian Rest.	Sound Salmon Solutions	Salmon Federal Projects	12/6/12
08-1768	Cashmere Pond Off-Channel Habitat	Chelan County Natural Resource	Salmon Federal Projects	12/6/12
07-1874	Lower Dungeness River Floodplain Acquisition II	Clallam County Community Development	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/6/12
09-1472	Nason Creek LWP Floodplain Reconnection Assessment	Chelan County Natural Resource	Salmon Federal Projects	12/10/12
10-1125	Mill Creek Conf./Green River Design	City of Kent	Salmon Federal Projects	12/11/12
10-1795	Davis Slough Hydrologic Connectivity	Skagit Fish Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	12/13/12
10-1542	East Fork Lewis River Helicopter Log Jams	Mount St. Helens Institute	Salmon Federal Projects	12/24/12
10-1734	Indian Creek Fish Passage Correction	Underwood Conservation District	Salmon State Projects	12/26/12
07-1770	Juvenile Salmon Prey Base Protection (WRIA2)	KWIAHT	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/27/12
09-1458	Deer Lagoon Restoration Assessment 2009	Wild Fish Conservancy	Salmon State Projects	12/31/12
06-2288	Dosewallips Floodplain Acquisition II	Jefferson County Public Health	Salmon State Projects	12/31/12
07-1845	San Juan Derelict Fishing Net Removal	NW Straits Marine Cons Found	Salmon State Projects	12/31/12
10-1789	Wild Salmon Recovery in San Juan County	Friends of the San Juans	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/31/12
09-1633	Big Beef Creek Conservation	Great Peninsula Conservancy	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/31/12
08-1996	Skokomish River GI, Phase 2 & 3	Skokomish Tribe	Salmon Federal Projects	12/31/12
07-1591	Shorecrest Lagoon Protection	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/31/12
07-1638	Snow/Salmon Cr. 2007 Riparian Project	Jefferson Co Cons District	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/31/12
09-1459	Whidbey Island-Swan Lake Restoration 2009	Skagit Fish Enhancement Group	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	12/31/12
07-1632	Salmon Estuary Wood Waste Removal and Restoration	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	1/2/13

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
10-1898	Carpenter Creek Estuary Restoration	Kitsap County Community Development	Salmon State Projects	1/2/13
07-1743	SF Stillaguamish Knotweed Control	Sound Salmon Solutions	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	1/3/13
11-1577	President Channel Shoreline	San Juan County Land Bank	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	1/3/13
09-1383	Nisqually River Knotweed CWMA	Pierce Co Conservation District	Salmon Federal Projects	1/3/13
06-1712	Traylor- Frazer Creek -R4	Okanogan Conservation District	FFFPP Grants	1/4/13
08-1864	Ala Spit Restoration	Island County Health Department	Salmon Federal Projects	1/4/13
06-2343	Skokomish Confluence Reach	Forterra	Salmon State Projects	1/7/13
02-1589	Smoke Farm North Floodplain Acquisition & Restoration	Forterra	Salmon State Projects	1/8/13
08-2012	Sadilek- Unnamed Trib to Clallam River	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	FFFPP Grants	1/8/13
07-1811	Lower Dungeness River Floodplain Acquisition	Clallam County Community Development	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	1/14/13
09-1460	Upper Rattlesnake Creek Restoration	Mid-Columbia RFEG	Salmon Federal Projects	1/18/13
10-1820	Chatman Conservation Easement Acquisition	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Salmon Federal Projects	1/18/13
06-2208	McMurray- Clugston Creek R4	Stevens County Conservation District	FFFPP Grants	1/23/13
09-1473	Peshastin Creek Reconnection Alternatives Analysis	Chelan Co Natural Resource	Salmon Federal Projects	1/24/13
09-1672	Chico Creek Inst. Restoration Phase 2 Construction	Kitsap County Community Development	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	1/29/13
09-1649	Jimmycomelately Riparian Protection	North Olympic Land Trust	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	1/30/13

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Report on Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)
Prepared By: Betsy Lyons, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mike Ramsey, Grant Manager

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) will be briefed on the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) at the February meeting. This memo provides background on the program.

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

In 2001, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) initiated the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project to identify the problems and solutions for nearshore degradation in Puget Sound. Five years later, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife created the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program to support the priorities of that broad restoration effort.

The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program provides grants to protect and restore the Puget Sound nearshore. The program initially advanced “urgent and obvious” early action projects, but also was envisioned as a long-term program that could implement the nearshore restoration actions in Puget Sound that were not a good fit for the Corps.

Organization

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) is cooperatively managed by WDFW, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) through an interagency agreement. They work together, but have separate responsibilities that reflect each agency’s strengths.

- WDFW provides technical leadership, leads the evaluation process, and manages the overall program.
- The RCO provides fiscal support and contract administration. Grant funding for the program is part of the agency's capital budget.
- The PSP supports the program through the state funding process, endorses the actions as a restoration component of the Action Agenda, and participates in the project evaluation process. The Leadership Council endorses the projects lists.

The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program fosters strategic partnerships to meet its mission of nearshore ecosystem restoration. The three managing agencies – WDFW, RCO, and PSP – rely on the combined expertise of other agencies to support program and policy development, project selection, and program management. These other partners include:

- Army Corps of Engineers
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Navy
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Geologic Survey
- Department of Natural Resources
- Northwest Straits Commission
- Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
- The Nature Conservancy
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- University of Washington

Funding and Grants

Most of the program's funding comes from state bond funds appropriated by the legislature in the state capital budget. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Community Based Restoration Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Environmental Protection Agency have provided some federal funding.

In 2006, the Legislature appropriated \$2.5 million in capital funds to WDFW to fund habitat restoration and protection projects in Puget Sound through ESRP. Since then, the program has received and invested \$26.5 million in state capital funds and an additional \$2.5 million in federal partnership funds in restoration or protection projects¹.

The Grant Process

All phases of project development – from feasibility through monitoring – are eligible for funding.

¹ The appropriation for the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program was in the budget for WDFW until the 2009-11 biennium. In the 2009-11 biennium, it was shifted to the RCO with a \$7 million appropriation. In 2011-13, it received \$5 million.

The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program distributes funds through a competitive project selection and evaluation process. First, WDFW solicits project proposals through a Request for Proposals, which lists the criteria that projects must meet. The project proposals are then evaluated by a multi-disciplinary technical review team composed of members from multiple agencies and organizations throughout Puget Sound. This team ranks projects against the criteria to develop a ranked list of projects called an Investment Plan. The plan includes the projects, funding recommendations, and additional provisions (e.g., developing funding conditions). This evaluation process identifies the most sound and promising restoration and protection opportunities that are ready to advance for implementation to the Legislature and Governor for funding.

New versus Portfolio Projects

Applications are received and evaluated either as “new” or “portfolio” projects. New proposals may include requests for a single or multiple phases of a project, depending on complexity of the project and anticipated timeline. More complex projects often need to be implemented in phases over multiple grant cycles. To keep these important, well-deserving projects moving forward, program staff developed a streamlined “portfolio” process. A “portfolio” project begins as a request for funding for feasibility and design only. After that work is completed and approved by ESRP, and the project is showing good progress, the project is eligible for the portfolio process. The remaining phases require the applicant to submit a simplified application that is reviewed by program staff, rather than going through the full technical review each grant competition. The projects also may receive priority funding in future funding cycles. Typically, two to four portfolio requests are submitted each grant cycle.

Funding Schedule and the 2013-15 Biennial Request

Most ESRP funding is distributed in the first year (odd numbered year) of each biennium. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife conducts the Request for Proposals and project evaluation process during the late summer or early fall of even-numbered years. Successful projects are presented to the Governor and Legislature for inclusion in the biennial budget.

In preparation for the 2013 legislative session, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and RCO asked the Governor to include \$10 million for ESRP in the state capital budget. Governor Gregoire’s budget proposal to the Legislature included the full \$10 million. The 2013 Investment Plan has been developed and was endorsed by the PSP Leadership Council on February 7.

A summary and the project lists for the 2013 ESRP investment plan can be found here:

http://www.pugetsoundnearshore.org/esrp/files/2013_draft_investment_plan.pdf

Completed Projects

Typical projects include nearshore restoration and protection activities that restore natural ecosystem processes and functions. Examples of previously funded projects include:

- Protection of nearshore and wetland habitat
- Restoration of salmon habitat and estuaries
- Removing or breaching dikes
- Removing bulkheads to restore sediment supply and transport to beaches
- Feasibility and design
- Decommissioning roads and fill removal
- Monitoring

Staff from the RCO and WDFW will share examples of upcoming and completed projects of note at the February board meeting.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Family Forest Fish Passage Program Presentation and Video
Prepared By: Dave Caudill, Grant Manager

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

This memo provides an overview of the Family Forest Fish Passage Program and a brief update on its progress in implementing projects related to the funding in the 2012 supplemental budget. Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and partner agency staff will describe the program in more detail and share a video at the February meeting.

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

Program Background

As part of Washington's salmon recovery efforts, all private forest owners are required to fix artificial, in-stream fish barriers. In May 2003, the state Legislature committed to helping small forest landowners pay for these repairs by creating the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP). Landowners enrolled in the program will not be required to correct their fish passage barriers until the state can provide financial assistance.

The FFFPP provides funding to repair or remove fish passage barriers for small forest landowners¹. Funding comes from the Legislature through the sale of general obligation bonds. The program is implemented by three state agencies; each provides different program services:

- The Small Forest Landowner Office at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) assists landowners, provides outreach, and looks for additional funding sources.

¹ A small forest landowner is a landowner that harvests fewer than 2 million board feet of timber each year from lands owned in Washington. To put this amount in perspective, a 40-acre stand of healthy second growth timber yields about 2 million board feet of timber. This amount would fill about 400 log trucks.

- The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) evaluates and ranks projects, and provides information on fish barriers, fish species, habitat, and watershed groups.
- The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) administers program funding and manages program contracts, billing, and reimbursement.

The projects can be sponsored by the landowner or by another organization (e.g., a conservation district, Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group, local non-profit organization, tribe, etc.) More information about the program is in an August 2011 memo to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board)².

Since inception, FFFPP partners have completed 188 projects. This includes 16 projects completed in 2012: twelve finished as scheduled with typical FFFPP funding, and four projects used supplemental budget funding (see below).

2012 Supplemental Budget Update

The 2012 state supplemental budget included \$10 million in additional funds for the program. This funding was a significant increase for FFFPP, and came with an ambitious goal of completing about 100 projects by December 31, 2014.

WDNR, WDFW, and RCO developed a plan to accomplish the work on time. Plan elements include outreach to eligible landowners and project sponsors, more frequent reviews of applications, and grant management.

Since last summer, RCO grant manager Dave Caudill has been working closely with partner agencies to award the additional funds to projects that remove fish passage barriers on their, privately owned forest land roads. Forty-eight projects were approved for funding in 2012-13. The list of projects for the 2014 construction season is under development.

Of the 48 projects currently funded, four are complete (as noted above) and 44 others are now being designed and prepared for 2013 construction. The partner agencies will provide more information to the board at the February meeting.

Video Description

The partner agencies developed a video to educate landowners, salmon restoration professionals, and others involved or interested in the recovery of salmon on small forest landowner properties. The video incorporates footage of FFFPP projects before, during, and after construction along with discussions by program experts about benefits of the program and testimonials from landowners who have participated in the program.

The partner agencies will share the video with the board at the February meeting.

² The memo is available at http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/salmon/agendas/2011/08/S0811_8.pdf.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Service Recognition: Craig Partridge
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) member Craig Partridge has announced his retirement from state service. The board is asked to recognize his service.

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

Proposed Motion Language

Move to approve resolution 2013-01, recognizing the service of Craig Partridge to the board.

Background

Board member Craig Partridge was appointed to the board in 1999 as the designee for the Department of Natural Resources. Craig has remained on the board since then, serving a key role in the development of the state's bottom-up approach to salmon recovery. During his tenure, the board established and refined the policies and structure for its approach to salmon recovery, provided millions of dollars for projects and monitoring, and worked hard to ensure efficiencies, accountability, and effectiveness.

In February, Craig announced that he would retire from state service on April 30, 2013. The board will be asked to recognize his service at the February 27, 2013 meeting. Craig is the longest-serving member of the board.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the service of board member Craig Partridge with the attached resolution.

Attachments

Resolution 2013-01



A Resolution to Recognize the Service of

Craig Partridge

To the Residents of Washington State and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board

WHEREAS, from 1999 through 2013, Craig Partridge served the citizens of the state of Washington and the Washington Department of Natural Resources as the agency's designee on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board); and

WHEREAS, as the board's longest-serving member, Mr. Partridge's dedication and commitment to the board over the years gave him a "big picture" perspective of issues that helped the board promote salmon recovery by protecting and restoring salmon habitat; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Partridge's intellect, deep understanding of key issues, and exceptional ability to perceive the policy implications of complex situations, provided the board with insight that helped it to develop strong program policies that promoted sound investments of public moneys and respected the state's "bottom up" approach to salmon recovery; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the board funded over 1,700 projects, creating a state and federal investment of more than \$376 million in Washington's salmon recovery effort; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Partridge plans to retire from state service at the end of April 2013; and

WHEREAS, members of the board wish to recognize his support, leadership, and service, and wish him well in future endeavors;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the residents of Washington and in recognition of Mr. Partridge's dedication and excellence in performing his responsibilities and duties as a member, the board and its staff extends their sincere appreciation and compliments on a job well done.

Approved by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board
in Olympia, Washington on February 27, 2013

Bud Hover
Board Chair

Harry Barber
Citizen Member

Josh Brown
Citizen Member

Phil Rockefeller
Citizen Member

David Troutt
Citizen Member

Melissa Gildersleeve
Washington Department
of Ecology

Carol Smith
Washington State Conservation
Commission

Jennifer Quan
Washington Department
of Fish and Wildlife

Mike Barber
Washington Department
of Transportation

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Overview of Monitoring Program
Prepared By: Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager and GSRO Coordinator
Keith Dublanica, GSRO Science Coordinator

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

This memo and the staff presentation at the February board meeting will provide a brief overview of the monitoring program funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board). This is intended to provide (1) an update on the contractor hired to develop the board's monitoring investment strategy, (2) the context for the request to fund a monitoring chapter in the Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines (Item 7), and (3) the briefing on the Intensively Monitored Watersheds program (Item 8).

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

The state of Washington applies for a federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant each year to fund salmon recovery projects throughout the state. The Washington State award has ranged from about \$23 million to \$28 million in each of the last ten years. The PCSRF grant program requires that 10 percent of the overall state award be dedicated to monitoring efforts.

Current Funding Approach

The board currently has a strategic approach to allocating the monitoring funding. This approach was developed in 2003 and has been informed by several key efforts: 1) the Washington Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy; 2) the Framework for Monitoring Salmon Population Listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act and Associated Freshwater Habitats; and 3) the board's 2003 Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy for Habitat Restoration and

Acquisition Projects¹. The board's monitoring strategy is focused on effectiveness and validation monitoring and provides:

- Prioritized monitoring by type and category;
- Estimated costs over ten years; and
- Metrics agreed upon by the board, NOAA Fisheries, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Bonneville Power Administration.

The board has been using its strategy to guide key monitoring funding decisions and to determine monitoring priorities. In 2009, the board asked the Monitoring Forum to review its monitoring priorities and either (a) reaffirm and/or (b) provide additional recommendations.

Based on its strategy (and the Forum's review), the board allocates most of its monitoring funding to three larger, longer-term monitoring efforts:

- Project effectiveness monitoring;
- Fish-in/fish-out (as its status and trends monitoring component): and
- Intensively monitored watersheds (IMW).

The different types of monitoring are designed to answer different questions. The fish-in/fish-out monitoring is done in conjunction with the IMW monitoring at the IMW complexes. More information may be found in Item 8.

Effectiveness Monitoring	Fish in/Fish Out (Status & Trends)	IMW Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Do habitat restoration projects work?•Can we actually improve fish habitat?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Estimate the status of fish populations and track over time indicators of habitat, water quality, water quantity, and other factors that impact watershed health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Does habitat restoration actually increase fish production and abundance?

Status of monitoring assessment to be completed in October 2013

In December 2012, the board approved up to \$75,000 for an assessment of its monitoring program and the development of a Monitoring Investment Strategy.

¹ *"The Washington Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy and Action Plan for Watershed Health and Salmon Recovery* http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/monitoring/Executive_Report_final.pdf; *"Washington State Framework for Monitoring Salmon Populations Listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act and Associated Freshwater Habitats:* http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/monitoring/Framework_Document.pdf; *"Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy for Habitat Restoration and Acquisition Projects"* http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/monitoring/SRFB_Monitoring_Strategy.pdf

A Request for Qualifications/Quotations was posted on December 31, 2012. Staff evaluated and ranked the responses, interviewed the respondents, and identified an apparent successful contractor. The RCO expects to enter into a contract with Stillwater Sciences in mid-February, and hold a “kick-off” meeting with the contractor and the steering committee before the end of the month. The contractor will provide a draft assessment to RCO in mid-April. Staff will brief the board in May and then work with the consultant and steering committee throughout the summer to refine the draft strategy. Staff will present a final report with recommendations at the board’s October meeting. The recommendations will be designed for implementation with federal fiscal year 2014 PCSRF funds.

Funding decisions for 2013 that will be needed in May 2013

Some of the existing monitoring contracts expire before the assessment will be completed, so the board will need to make decisions about the use of 2013 PCSRF monitoring funds and existing contracts in May. The RCO director has approved bridge funding for the Tetra Tech contract to start the preliminary field work and landowner/sponsor outreach for the effectiveness monitoring sites. The bridge funding extends the current effectiveness monitoring contract until the May meeting, when the board will be asked to approve funding for the remainder of the field season as noted below. The board will also be asked to approve funding for the IMW work during the 2013 field season.

Monitoring Type	Monitoring Performed by	Estimated Timeline for Work and Contract²
Effectiveness Monitoring	Tetra Tech	June 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014
IMW Monitoring	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	June 1, 2013 through June 30 2014

Depending on the amount of PCSRF funds available, the board also may be asked to authorize a subgroup that would recommend an allocation of any remaining unobligated monitoring funds.

Next Steps

At the board’s request, during the February board meeting, scientists from the Departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife will update the board on the current status and findings of the intensively monitored watersheds monitoring. Due to scheduling conflicts, the update on the Tetra Tech project effectiveness monitoring will be presented at the May board meeting.

RCO staff will prepare detailed funding requests for monitoring contracts at the May 2013 meeting.

² The actual contract timeline may vary, depending on the recommendations of the monitoring assessment.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Monitoring Chapter Update
Prepared By: Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager and GSRO Coordinator

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

Project sponsors and others have identified a need for an update to the Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Monitoring Appendix. The board will be asked to fund the work at the February meeting.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

Proposed Motion Language

Move to approve use of up to \$25,000 in federal fiscal year 2012 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) dollars dedicated to monitoring to fund the update.

Background

The Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines (Guidelines) promote a process-based natural stream restoration that rehabilitates aquatic and riparian ecosystems. The Guidelines provide consistent standards and techniques for restoration planners, designers, policy makers, and regulatory staff while also setting the standard for restoration practices across the region. These guidelines were developed in partnership with multiple state and federal agencies, as well as local groups focused on habitat restoration in Washington.

Although the new edition of the Guidelines¹ issued in April 2012 had significant revisions and additions, the *Appendix J, Monitoring*, was not updated due to resources and timing. The appendix is intended to provide general guidelines for monitoring stream restoration projects. The information currently in that appendix is from the 2004 edition.

¹ The update can be found at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01374/wdfw01374.pdf>

Effect on Projects and Sponsors

Project sponsors and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff who work on salmon recovery projects have noted that the lack of a monitoring appendix update in the Guidelines has been a challenge for implementation monitoring and inspections. As written, the Guidelines do not provide sufficient project-specific information. A further complication is that – due to its brevity -- the monitoring appendix is inconsistent with RCO's more thorough guidance, which also tends to focus on effectiveness monitoring rather than project implementation monitoring.

Board Decision Requested

The board is being asked to approve the use of up to \$25,000 in federal fiscal year 2012 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) dollars to fund the update to the Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Appendix J. This funding would be part of the 10 percent dedicated to monitoring, of which \$158,000 of the 2012 grant remains to be allocated.

The update will establish a baseline that is consistent with current monitoring protocols and will provide better guidance for implementation monitoring of board projects either by project sponsors or during RCO final inspections.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the proposal.

Proposal

RCO staff and members of the Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Committee are proposing that Appendix J be updated. The scope of work would be as follows:

- Scope Item 1
 - Further define monitoring types using regionally accepted definitions;
 - Provide descriptions for the monitoring variables described to help identify the specific data elements required to calculate them;
 - Provide additional information from regional references; and
 - Add a discussion of sample designs, quality assurance procedures, and analysis approaches.
- Scope Item 2
 - Make general recommendations for project-specific monitoring based on project types identified in the Guidelines and objectives associated with those projects;
 - Provide examples of monitoring approaches and protocols used to evaluate the effectiveness of specific project types and how these data can be used to evaluate design criteria developed for the project during the design and implementation phases; and

- Document case studies illustrating projects in which monitoring data were used to provide additional information on project performance that improved the understanding of project function and could be used to demonstrate project effectiveness.
- Scope Item 3
 - Develop specific procedures and data forms that could be used to actually monitor projects that are included in the techniques described in the Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines. Discussion of data analysis procedures would also be included, and examples of graphical representations of data would be provided.
 - Additional elements within this approach consist of the following:
 - Include specific field procedures and data collection forms by project type as attachments ;
 - Provide illustrated examples of data presentation for project level monitoring and for comparison across project types; and
 - Analyze cost-effectiveness of project types for which monitoring data have been collected.
- Scope Item 4
 - Provide assistance in creating the RCO/Salmon Recovery Funding Board final inspection documentation procedure for future monitoring and compliance activities.
- Scope Item 5
 - Develop a presentation to convey the content of the monitoring appendix to those who may be interested in obtaining additional training in Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines.

Analysis

Investing funding for this update is consistent with the current monitoring program and would provide a better link between habitat restoration actions and post project monitoring to help answer the question of project effectiveness. The utility of an updated monitoring appendix will extend beyond board-funded projects. Greater consistency in monitoring will benefit everyone when trying to understand the impact of stream restoration projects on salmon recovery. In short, this project will give anyone who wishes to conduct implementation or effectiveness monitoring the basic tools and knowledge to complete the task at specific restoration sites.

Next Steps

If approved, RCO staff will work to draft a scope of work. We will assess current monitoring contracts to determine if it would be appropriate to add this work through a contract amendment, or may award the contract through a competitive bid process. The work would start this spring and be completed over the summer of 2013.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: February 2013
Title: Monitoring Program Findings and Results: Intensively Monitored Watersheds
Prepared By: Keith Dublanica, GSRO Science Coordinator
Bill Ehinger, Department of Ecology
Tim Quinn, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) supports the Intensively Monitored Watersheds (IMW) program, and has asked for annual updates on IMW progress. In particular, the board requested an analysis of the Skagit River Estuary IMW before the 2013 funding decision, which is scheduled for May. This memo will highlight the integration of fish-in/fish-out monitoring within the IMWs and provide an update of preliminary findings and results. Presentations at the meeting will give additional detail, with an emphasis on the Skagit and Straits IMWs

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

The Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) program is designed to determine whether restoration efforts result in more salmon by comparing changes in salmon production among experimental treatment (restoration) and control (no restoration) watersheds.

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) funds four IMW complexes. Three – Hood Canal, Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Lower Columbia – are conducted in freshwater habitat, while the fourth – the Skagit River Estuary – is conducted in estuarine habitat.

Each IMW includes two distinct elements: (1) implemented restoration projects and (2) monitoring to determine if those restoration projects are improving habitat conditions and fish abundance and productivity. The restoration and monitoring elements are managed and funded separately.

- *Restoration projects* can be funded through many sources, which may include the board's grant process.
- The board funds the *monitoring element* as part of its overall monitoring program.

2012 Board Funding and IMW Program Review

The board receives annual updates on the progress of the IMW program. In 2012 -- as in previous years -- the board expressed some concerns about the length of the program commitment, whether there would be widespread applicability of the results, and the potential "disconnects" between the monitoring and restoration components.

Following in-depth discussions by the board in June and August, the board funded all four IMWs. The board also incorporated a review of the program into its overall monitoring assessment, which is being conducted by an independent contractor and is due in October 2013.

Finally, the board requested a review of the Skagit River Estuary IMW before the May funding discussions. Staff is hopeful that the board's questions about the Skagit IMW, as well as any questions about the IMW program generally, can be answered at the February meeting, before the funding request for a one-year extension is presented in May 2013.

Fish-in/Fish-out Monitoring

The board funds fish-in/fish-out monitoring as the status and trends component of its overall monitoring program. This monitoring compares the number of smolts that leave an area to the number of returning adult salmon that return to the spawning grounds in following years. With this monitoring, productivity can be tracked as well as carrying capacity estimated.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) identified 28 Major Population Groups (MPGs) and found that a minimum of 86 primary populations may require monitoring to effectively assess delisting criteria in Washington State.

Since there is insufficient funding to monitor all 86 salmon populations and their habitats at the level of intensity suggested by NOAA, Washington State has focused on the most important populations. Washington State monitors juvenile migrants at the mouths of 34 rivers. With this approach, the state can gather information on 70 of the primary populations.

The board contributes to a portion of the Department of Fish and Wildlife's fish-in/fish-out monitoring. The work is accomplished through a contract with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). The work is done in various tributaries throughout the state. WDFW also conducts fish-in/fish-out monitoring in the Hood Canal and Lower Columbia IMWs through a separate contract with the Department of Ecology. The board contributes about 7 percent of the total funding for WDFW fish-in/fish-out monitoring.

Every IMW design incorporates fish-in/fish out monitoring as an essential tool for determining if restoration actions are affecting fish productivity. Using the board's funds in this manner not

only fills gaps in the statewide “fish-in/fish-out” framework but also promotes the success of those IMWs in the most comprehensive way

Staff from WDFW will present findings from the fish-in/fish-out monitoring as part of the IMW presentations at the board meeting in February.

Analysis

In February, staff from the Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO), Department of Ecology (Ecology), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and local partners will present information about the findings and results at each of the board-funded IMW complexes. The following are brief summaries for each of the sites. Attachments A through D are more in-depth documents.

Skagit River Estuary

This IMW is conducted by WDFW, the Skagit River Systems Cooperative, and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Purpose

This IMW is designed to examine the responses of Skagit River Chinook salmon to reconnection and restoration of estuarine habitat. It does this through long-term monitoring of juvenile Chinook salmon rearing in tidal delta channels, nearshore, and offshore estuarine habitats.

Results of population monitoring directly address three general questions:

1. Are salmon limited during the early estuarine life stages by capacity and connectivity constraints?
2. Does broad-scale restoration influence local population density?
3. Has estuary restoration resulted in population or system-level responses?

Design

The amount of restoration work that has been completed in the tidal delta to date is about 12 percent of the overall goal documented in the *Skagit River Chinook Recovery Plan 2005*. Such restoration actions include tide gate removal or replacement, removal of dikes to reconnect drained tidelands, and restoring access to existing habitat.

Preliminary Results/Findings

Our results show that 1) additional restoration in the Skagit River tidal delta is needed to address capacity and connectivity limitations, 2) local restoration improved rearing densities for juvenile Chinook salmon, and 3) system-wide responses can be detected using a before/after control-impact (BACI) design. The number of fish using the nearshore habitat is not yet at the increase expected, possibly due to access. More and varied restoration actions in tidal and delta areas are needed.

These findings also shed light on the utility of extensive monitoring to document effects of restoration. Responses to restoration would have been impossible to determine without long-

term, pre-restoration status monitoring and WDFW's juvenile migrant trapping throughout both pre- and post-restoration phases. For example, we identified tidal delta habitat as the limiting factor based on (1) WDFW's long-term smolt monitoring and (2) the Skagit River System Cooperative's monitoring of juvenile chinook's use of habitat within the delta and Skagit Bay. Monitoring of transitional estuarine rearing habitats at multiple life stages is helping to pinpoint the contribution of various rearing areas within the Skagit tidal delta.

Strait of Juan de Fuca Intensively Monitored Watershed

This IMW is conducted by Ecology, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Lower Elwha Tribe, and NOAA fisheries in partnership with Weyerhaeuser.

Purpose

The Strait of Juan de Fuca IMW tests the watershed scale response of steelhead and coho to restoration.

Design

The "Straits" IMW includes two treatment watersheds (East Twin River and Deep Creek) and one control watershed (West Twin River).

- Restoration treatments were completed in 2011, and include large woody debris placement, road removal, culvert removal, off-channel habitat creation, and riparian planting.
- Monitoring of physical habitat and densities of summer parr began in 2004. Smolt and adult monitoring predates the IMW program, and began as early as 1998 in Deep Creek. Project-scale habitat monitoring began in the mid-1990s.

Preliminary Results/Findings

Fish responses may need between 7 and 10 years before a "signal" or response to the treatment can be quantified. However, preliminary results suggest that there are some improvements in pool habitat and small increases in steelhead adults and smolts in East Twin River and coho adults in Deep Creek. Given that restoration treatments were completed only recently, and habitat typically does not respond immediately to treatment a minimum of seven to ten years of monitoring are needed after implementation of the last treatments to determine if there is a watershed-scale fish response to the restoration actions.

The treatments in these basins have been predominantly the installation of large woody debris structures, but an additional treatment of off-channel enhancements also has been discussed. An in-depth comprehensive report of the Straits is due in June 2013. That report will include the conclusions to date and recommendations about additional treatments.

Lower Columbia Intensively Monitored Watersheds

This IMW is conducted by the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, NOAA, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ecology, and Weyerhaeuser.

Purpose

The Lower Columbia Intensively Monitored Watersheds study evaluates the response of coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead to habitat restoration actions.

Design

The study focuses on three adjacent watersheds (Mill, Abernathy, and Germany creeks) that flow into the Lower Columbia River. The study is designed as a before-after control-impact study with Mill Creek as the control watershed and Abernathy and Germany creeks as the treatment watersheds. In Germany Creek, completed restoration projects include a culvert replacement, a large woody debris and off channel project, and bank stabilization as well as three years of watershed scale carcass analog treatments. In Abernathy Creek, completed or in-progress restoration projects include road abandonment and road removals, channel restructuring, and large woody debris placements. Additional projects, identified in the Abernathy and Germany Creeks Intensively Monitored Watershed Treatment Plan, are yet to be implemented.

The abundance, survival, and distribution of all three species are assessed annually at three life stages – spawner, summer parr (coho and steelhead only), and outmigrant (smolts). Habitat characteristics, such as large woody debris counts and pool frequency, are quantified on an annual basis. Water quality characteristics, such as flow and temperature, are measured on a continuous basis at gaging stations in each watershed while water chemistry is measured monthly.

Preliminary Results/Findings

Pre-project monitoring began in 2005 with an additional four years of collecting outmigrant fish data before this time. Currently, post-project monitoring includes two years of data from Germany Creek. Restoration in Abernathy Creek has not yet been substantive enough for “post-treatment” monitoring. Two years of data are insufficient to draw conclusions with any amount of certainty.

As discussed by the board at the June and August 2012 meetings, securing results from the monitoring component of this IMW is heavily reliant on successful implementation of additional restoration treatments. The board tabled a discussion of its involvement in funding such restoration until May 2013, to allow the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board to work with partners on a broad funding strategy and landowner outreach.

Hood Canal Intensively Monitored Watersheds

Monitoring for this IMW is conducted by Ecology, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Weyerhaeuser, in partnership with the University of Washington facility on Big Beef Creek, the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group.

Purpose

The Hood Canal Intensively Monitored Watersheds study evaluates the response of coho and steelhead to habitat restoration actions.

Design

The study focuses on four adjacent watersheds (Little Anderson, Big Beef, Seabeck, and Stavis creeks) that flow out of the Kitsap Peninsula into eastern Hood Canal. The study is designed as a before-after control-impact study with Stavis Creek as the control watershed and Seabeck, Big Beef, and Little Anderson creeks as the treatment watersheds. In Little Anderson Creek, completed restoration projects include one culvert replacement and two large woody debris additions. In Seabeck Creek, completed and in-progress restoration projects include three culvert replacements and one undersized bridge replacement. In Big Beef Creek, final plans are being developed to remove bank armoring and reconnect a wetland in the lower watershed.

The abundance, survival, and distribution of coho are assessed each year at three life stages – spawner, summer parr, and outmigrant. Habitat characteristics, such as large woody debris counts and pool frequency, are quantified on an annual basis. A stream flow gaging station, located on Big Beef Creek, provides an index of seasonal flows for the four watersheds.

Preliminary Results/Findings

Pre-project monitoring began in 2005 with an additional 14-25 years of outmigrant fish data prior to this time. Post-project monitoring includes three years on Little Anderson Creek. Post-project monitoring on Seabeck Creek will begin in 2013, now that three culvert replacements and one undersized bridge replacement were implemented. At the February meeting presenters will provide a summary of their three-years of monitoring on Little Anderson Creek, but substantive conclusions cannot yet be cited.

Next Steps

Staff from WDFW, Ecology, and other partners will present key results and findings to the board in February, and answer questions about the monitoring. The board will be asked to fund continuing monitoring efforts in May 2013.

Attachments

- A. Monitoring Population Responses to Estuary Restoration by Skagit River Chinook Salmon
- B. Strait of Juan de Fuca Intensively Monitored Watershed Draft 2013 Synthesis Report
- C. Intensively Monitored Watersheds Synthesis Report Lower Columbia River 2013
- D. Intensively Monitored Watersheds Synthesis Report Hood Canal 2013

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, FEBRUARY 27, 2013

Agenda Items without Formal Action

Item	Follow-up Actions
Item 1: Management Reports	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 2: Salmon Recovery Management Reports	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 3: Reports from Partners	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 4: Report on Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 5: Family Forest Fish Passage Program Presentation and Video	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 7: Overview of Monitoring Program	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 9: Monitoring Program Findings & Results	There were no follow-up actions.

Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Follow-up Actions
Minutes	Approved Minutes from September 2012	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 6: Service Recognition, Craig Partridge	Approved Resolution 2013-01 recognizing the service of Craig Partridge	There were no follow-up actions
Item 8: Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Monitoring Chapter Update	Approved use of up to \$25,000 in federal fiscal year 2012 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) dollars to fund the update.	There were no follow-up actions.

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: February 27, 2013

Place: Olympia, WA

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members Present:

Bud Hover, Chair	Okanogan County	Jennifer Quan	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Josh Brown	Kitsap County	Carol Smith	Conservation Commission
Phil Rockefeller	NWPCC	Craig Partridge	Department of Natural Resources
David Troutt	Olympia	Melissa Gildersleeve	Department of Ecology

It is intended that this summary be used with the notebook provided in advance of the meeting. A recording is retained by RCO as the formal record of meeting.

Opening and Welcome

Chair Bud Hover called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was determined.

Phil Rockefeller moved to adopt the agenda.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Phil Rockefeller moved to adopt the December 2012 minutes.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Item 1: Management Reports

Director Cottingham presented information as described in her director's report, highlighting the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant application, PRISM online, and the NOAA situation assessment.

Policy Director Nona Snell reported that the first policy cutoff was the previous Friday, and the coming Friday was the cutoff for bills with a fiscal impact. The next milestone would be in mid-March, when bills would need to be voted out of the house of origin. On March 20, the next revenue forecast will be announced. It will be the basis for the 2013-15 budget discussions. The governor likely will be more specific about budget priorities as the date approaches, and the Senate and House will release their budgets shortly after the forecast. Session ends on April 28.

Snell mentioned a bill that would require that publicly-owned land designated for agriculture could be used only for agricultural purposes; the result would limit salmon recovery and transportation mitigation projects. The RCO has testified against it. The bill seems to be addressing some specific concerns in Snohomish County.

Item 2: Salmon Recovery Management Reports

Salmon Section Manager Brian Abbott reviewed the information from the management report. He noted that they are working on a new strategic work plan for GSRO, and anticipate completing it in the next few months. The board will be discussing the scopes of work for lead entities and regions at the May 2013 meeting, and will be asked to award funds for the contracts at that time. He reminded the board that they had approved an annual PCSRF funding request in September, so staff is working on two-year contracts with annual scopes of work. Projects approved in December are being placed under agreement, and staff members are working on a successful applicant workshop, which will be available via the Web site. RCO is working on the 2013 grant round, and is scheduling site visits and the application workshop. Abbott also discussed the PCSRF application and the upcoming project conference. Member Rockefeller noted that the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NWPCC) and others are planning a conference in Vancouver on May 15 to address Invasive Species such as Quagga mussels.

Jennifer Johnson provided an update on the State of the Salmon Web site, which was launched in January. She explained that they tried to use as much live data as possible to keep the site fresh, and are now working on a content strategy to update information that is static. She handed out copies of the printed Executive Summary. Director Cottingham noted that sharing data is the new paradigm. Chair Hover noted that it's important to ensure that the data are aligned and integrated. It also helps justify funding.

Grant manager Elizabeth Butler reviewed the recently-completed Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration project, which returned 150 acres to estuary, enhancing blind tidal channels, salt marsh habitats, and native vegetation. The board contributed funds for the acquisition of the site, a feasibility study, and restoration of the site. Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program also contributed funds. Butler shared photos of the site before, during, and after the dike removal. The project sponsor was The Nature Conservancy, who worked with neighboring landowners and other stakeholders.

Item 3: Reports from Partners

Council of Regions: Jeff Breckel presented the Council of Regions report. He noted that they have engaged with RCO on the review of the investment of monitoring funds, and they would be discussing that at the COR meeting tomorrow. They also continue to work with the state agencies more comprehensively with regard to salmon recovery.

Lead Entity Advisory Group: Cheryl Baumann presented the Lead Entity Advisory Group report that was sent to the board in the advance materials. Many of the lead entities are now involved in the grant round and also are focused on outreach and education to the Legislature. They did a Lead Entity Day on February 12 to visit with legislators, and had participants from across the state. They will be working on doing some site visits with officials during the summer. She noted some key staff transitions for some of the lead entities.

Derek Van Marter noted that the lead entity consolidation in the Upper Columbia was complete and successful. The final report to RCO was on its way.

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups: Lance Winecka noted that the RFEGs were excited about the upcoming project conference in May. The RFEGs are working on the upcoming 2013 grant round and are participating in the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) process. They have four projects underway now. They are working with state and federal representatives to address their federal funding. They have received 41 percent of their allotment (about \$30,000 per group), but the remainder is uncertain. He

introduced and played a video produced by the Nooksack RFEG. The video is available on the Web at <http://www.n-sea.org/about-nsea-1>.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW): Member Jennifer Quan noted that in December the Fish and Wildlife Commission passed new policy about fishing in the Lower Columbia and explained the details. They are hoping to bring Oregon to the board's project conference because they have passed a similar policy; the two states are working together. WDFW also is working with the Puget Sound Partnership and Long Live the Kings on a proposal to do more studies about marine survival for the steelhead recovery plans, and to advance the chapters in other recovery plans. NOAA may be interested in moving at the federal level on steelhead, but conversations are just beginning.

Conservation Commission: Member Carol Smith invited board members and the audience to the millionth tree planting celebration in Whatcom County on Earth Day, April 20. On April 9 there will be a conservation incentives workshop.

Department of Natural Resources: Member Craig Partridge mentioned the derelict vessel legislation sponsored by DNR and encouraged board members to pay attention to it.

Department of Ecology: Member Melissa Gildersleeve thanked Brian for his work to help Ecology distribute their federal funds to projects that are ready to be implemented. She also noted that they have had to dramatically cut back on the number of stream gages they have in place because they are paid for through the state general fund. They will need to make further cuts, and will be gathering feedback about which gages support are critical to other monitoring work.

Northwest Power Council: Member Rockefeller noted that the NWPCC needs to maintain a fish and wildlife program within the Columbia Basin. Starting in April, the Council will be soliciting recommendations from the federal and state agencies, tribes, and other stakeholders about how to improve the fish and wildlife program, and how to measure or monitor it for effectiveness. They will be issuing a formal letter to invite comment.

General Public Comment

Lloyd Moody thanked Butch Ogden the Conservation Commission for their efforts to help with the transition after the passing of Mike Johnson in Pacific County. He noted additional staffing changes for the Skagit Watershed Council.

Alex Conley, Yakima Basin, thanked Jennifer Johnson for her efforts to get the State of the Salmon Web site completed. He thinks this work needs to be continued and managed on an ongoing basis.

Item 4: Report on Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)

Mike Ramsey, RCO Grant Manager, and Betsy Lyons, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), presented the information as described in the memo. Lyons explained that the program is the nearshore component of the Puget Sound Action Agenda. She discussed program funding, the project selection process, and the legislative fact sheet, which was distributed to the board. The program received requests for \$26 million in this application cycle; its 2013-15 budget request is \$10 million. She described some proposed projects, noting that some are on both the ESRP and Puget Sound Acquisition and

Restoration (PSAR) large capital projects list. Ramsey described several completed projects throughout the Sound, noting that some projects use funds from multiple sources.

Member Troutt asked why ESRP excluded enhancement projects. Lyons responded that projects with enhancement designation tended to be seen as having less opportunity for restoring function. They might be good projects, but they just are not a good fit for ESRP.

Director Cottingham noted that legislators have asked the RCO to explain how the funding sources fit together. The RCO is trying to graphically display how they all complement each other.

Item 5: Family Forest Fish Passage Program Presentation and Video

Dave Caudill, RCO Grant Manager, introduced Laura Till from WDFW and Michelle Peterschick from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Caudill noted that the 2012 supplemental budget included \$10 million for the program, which equates to funding for about 100 projects. They approved a list of 48 projects in May 2012, and they are working on implementing it now. They anticipate completing construction by the end of May 2013. They will allocate the remaining funds in the coming months. The program has 500 landowners in the backlog, but they do not all have high priority projects.

Peterschick noted that FFFPP has increased outreach and education, including radio and television spots, new partnerships, and the video being shared with the board. The video is available online at: www.rco.wa.gov/downloads/FFFPP.mp4

Caudill concluded by sharing before and after photos of some completed projects.

Chair Hover stated that Member Rockefeller was the prime sponsor of the legislation creating FFFPP, and congratulated him on the success of the program. Member Rockefeller noted that one issue was prioritizing the work, and asked the presenters if the program still "moves up the river." Till responded that they looked at the downstream barriers, and the amount of habitat that would be gained by replacing the culvert. She explained how they identify other barriers and work to get them corrected. Member Partridge noted that some of the bridges shown were sizable, and asked if the projects were still among the most cost effective. Caudill noted that the average project was still about \$90,000. The benefit is to the juvenile salmon, not for the adults.

Item 6: Service Recognition: Craig Partridge

Chair Hover noted the contributions of member Partridge, who will retire from state service in April 2013. The chair and members shared personal recollections of their work with Partridge, and thanked him for his service, intellect, good nature, unflappable nature, thoughtful solutions, and dedication. Partridge commented that he was grateful that he was able to serve on the board and thanked everyone for their work to implement the work to recover salmon.

Phil Rockefeller moved to approve service resolution 2013-01.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Item 7: Overview of Monitoring Program

Brian Abbott reviewed the information from the staff memo, explaining the background of the board's current monitoring approach. Keith Dublanica provided an update on the monitoring investment strategy development, which will be completed in October 2013. Abbott noted the funding decisions that would be requested in May.

Item 8: Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Monitoring Chapter Update

Brian Abbott described this request, as presented in the staff memo. He explained that the update would establish a baseline that is consistent with current monitoring protocols and would provide better guidance for implementation monitoring of board projects either by project sponsors or during RCO final inspections.

Member Quan asked if the update was part of the monitoring proposed in the 2012 PCSRF application. Abbott responded that it was part of the monitoring component, and that it was consistent with the NOAA priorities. Director Cottingham noted that they had not reformed the group to reallocate the unspent funds because they wanted to see what the recommendations of the new strategic approach to investment would be.

Member Troutt asked if it was consistent with the work being done by Ken Dzinbal at the Puget Sound Partnership. Dzinbal, who was in the audience, nodded his assent.

Josh Brown moved to approve use of up to \$25,000 in federal fiscal year 2012 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) dollars to fund the update.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Item 9: Monitoring Program Findings & Results

Keith Dublanica introduced the topic and the presenters. He provided a brief background and overview on the Intensively Monitored Watersheds (IMW) program.

Skagit IMW

Correigh Greene, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, explained the purpose and design of the Skagit IMW. He noted that there are two aspects that limit salmon: habitat and connectivity (access). Restoration projects are designed to address both. He reviewed the baseline data collected by DFW and the Skagit River Systems Cooperative. He noted the four life history types of Chinook that are found in the IMW, and the impact of estuary restoration on them. He noted that 757 acres were restored; another 557 acres are planned for restoration. The goal is 60% increase in capacity; once the planned restoration is complete in five years, they will be at 28%. He reviewed some results, noting that data currently show that the density and abundance of delta fry have increased. The data need additional analysis before they can tell if restoration improves marine survival and adult returns.

Member Troutt noted that the research is great, but he does not think it fits with the IMW program or meets the criteria. Greene responded that it was designed to fill the gap in IMW design by looking at Chinook salmon and estuary restoration. He agreed, however, that the point is valid because it does focus on estuary restoration rather than the entire watershed.

Member Troutt asked what additional information they would get by continuing the investment. Greene responded that they would have more projects coming, and they would get the information about the effect on the adults.

Member Gildersleeve said that her understanding was that the Skagit was supposed to have a wealth of historical data, which was a part of choosing the location. Greene responded that at the time the decision was made, one criterion was the number of years of monitoring. A component of that was a freshwater outmigrant trap; this area had a number of data points.

Member Rockefeller asked for clarification about density; the charts discussed a decrease in density, whereas the conclusion slide noted an increase in density. Greene responded that the charts showed a decrease at the system level, but the conclusion slide was noting that there was a density increase at the local level. Board members expressed concern that the fish may just be moving from one area to another, and wanted assurance that there were, in fact, more fish.

Member Rockefeller asked how much restoration was needed to make predictions about fish response. Eric Beamer, Skagit River Systems Cooperative, responded that it varies based on connectivity, but is about 3,000 acres. Member Rockefeller suggested that they try to relate the results to the percent of restoration completed.

Member Troutt noted that a significant concern is that it is unlikely that they will complete all of the restoration activities. He reiterated that monitoring and research are good, and noted the components that he found most useful. He stated that he would have fewer concerns if it were managed outside the IMW. He thinks other IMWs are near 100 restoration, and doesn't think it is likely that they will see results from this IMW soon. Eric Beamer responded that while they do not have 100 percent of restoration complete, they do have enough done to get answers to the questions.

Smith noted that she likes the more limited scope, regardless of the name, and the results that are coming from the IMW. She noted that each IMW is limited by the perceived limiting factors.

Partridge noted that ultimately, the goal is to help determine where to invest in salmon recovery. He noted that even if there are constraints, if there is a positive signal from the IMW, it would seem to be useful information indicating that investments in estuaries are making a difference and should be continued.

Straits IMW

Bill Ehinger, Department of Ecology, stated that since the board had received a very detailed review of this IMW in June 2012, he would give only a brief update. He reviewed that purposed and design, noting the various types of monitoring and metrics collected. Ehinger shared a map of completed restorations, noting that the most recently completion was in 2012; they will need 7-10 years to see the effects. They seem to be seeing some improvement in pool habitat. They have found that larger parr have better survival. For restoration, this could mean that they need better overwintering habitat (i.e., if habitat responds to the wood treatment, then the proportion of fall migrants should decrease). It might also be a matter of food resources.

He concluded with the following preliminary results and findings:

- Initial response suggests some improving trends possibly due to restoration
- Full physical response to recently implemented restoration not expected for a few years

- Additional monitoring needed to detect biological response with statistical confidence once physical response has occurred
- PIT tagging providing useful info to confirm bottlenecks

Member Gildersleeve asked what a habitat response would be, and how long they would need to see it. Ehinger responded that habitat response will require high flows of water to move material around the wood; this can require a few years. It will then take a few years of biological response to develop confidence in the results. Director Cottingham asked if there were other recommended treatments to address the overwintering. Ehinger responded that Phil Roni was working on a report that would be due in June.

Lower Columbia IMW

Mara Zimmerman, WDFW, presented information about this IMW. Zimmerman noted that after the salmonids leave this watershed, they still have 50 miles of freshwater before they reach saltwater, which makes this IMW unique. She noted the types of monitoring done, noting that data collection began here in 2005. She explained the design, including focal species, life stages, and measures that they study. Zimmerman identified the restorations that have been completed, and how winter storms have changed the systems during the study period. Jeff Breckel noted that while they have been doing work in the creeks for a longer period, they have done IMW-specific restoration work only since 2009.

Zimmerman reviewed results for coho, steelhead, and Chinook. She concluded with the following preliminary findings:

- No increase in smolt production or growth following nutrient enhancement in Germany Creek.
- No trend in smolt production or growth in Abernathy Creek – additional restoration needed.
- Life stage analysis for coho salmon demonstrates growth and survival bottlenecks in summer and overwinter habitats.

The board expressed serious concerns about the lack of restoration actions and fish response. Director Cottingham asked if the report requested by the board in 2012 would be ready for the May meeting; Jeff Breckel responded that it would be.

Hood Canal IMW

Kirk Krueger, WDFW presented this IMW, which includes four watersheds. He explained what is taking place in the IMW, noting that although restoration is happening, more and larger projects would speed the success of the program. He showed maps identifying potential project opportunities. The potential effects of projects on habitat are beginning to be apparent; some are statistically significant while others are not. The effects on Coho also are beginning to become apparent, but many of the data points are not statistically significant and cannot be considered reliable.

Member Troutt asked how far along they are with restoration actions. Krueger responded that there is not a comprehensive plan for this IMW, so in a way, this is testing the Washington process. The lead entity will ask for suggestions about projects, but otherwise, the IMW has no control over restoration actions. This is a weakness in the approach.

Richard Brocksmith, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, noted that there is a disconnect between the IMW and the Hood Canal salmon recovery programs, because the latter is focused on the recovery plan. The watersheds in the IMW are small and have lower priority in the recovery plan. They have done projects in

Little Anderson Creek and Big Beef Creek. He said that is that if this is important, then the funding should be identified for those restoration actions.

Member Troutt asked if there was an EDT analysis for these streams; Krueger responded that there was, as well as a limiting factor analysis. The point is to determine if the correct factors were identified. There may be a disconnect between funding for restoration projects and the IMWs, but that is because the IMWs were selected for the ability collect data.

Bill Ehinger explained that there isn't a formal plan for this IMW, like there is on the Lower Columbia, but they have done some strategic planning based on expert advice and available information. Member Troutt asked if this was a good fit for the IMW program. Ehinger responded that there are a core set of things they look at and study design. The difference among the IMWs is the priority placed on restoration for monitoring versus restoration for recovery; the former may not be a priority.

Member Brown noted that it might not make sense to do monitoring if that isn't where they are putting resources. Member Rockefeller noted that the root cause of the problem is that the restoration is funded and managed separately.

Director Cottingham noted that this is a fundamental weakness of the IMW program – funding restoration and the time it takes. The board has continually rejected the notion of funding restoration separately from the project funding. She suggested that it be something that be incorporated in the monitoring assessment currently being performed.

Final Comments

Director Cottingham stated that the Governor had forwarded requests to the Senate to confirm Josh Brown and Bud Hover as members of the board.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Minutes approved by:



David Troutt, Chair

Date