

# **Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting Agenda**

June 24, 2013

**PROPOSED** 

Conference Call and Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA 98504

# **SPECIAL MEETING**

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

#### **Public Participation and Comment:**

Members of the public may participate by attending at the Natural Resources Building, Room 172, Olympia, WA or by calling Stephanie Fudurich (<a href="mailto:stephanie.fudurich@rco.wa.gov">stephanie.fudurich@rco.wa.gov</a>) to receive the phone number and other call-in information.

Please see below for public comment instructions. Members of the public also may submit written comments to the board by emailing them to Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison at <a href="mailto:rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov">rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov</a>.

#### **Special Accommodations:**

If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please notify us at 360/902-3000 or TDD 360/902-1996.

## **MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2013**

	MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2013	
10:45 a.m.	Conference Line Open	Staff
	Board members to check sound and ability to view materials	
<b>OPENING A</b>	ND WELCOME	
11:00 a.m.	Call to Order	Chair
	Determine Quorum	
<b>DECISIONS</b>		
11:05 a.m.	1. Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions	Brian Abbott Kaleen Cottingham
11:20 a.m.	Public Comment on Item #1	
	<ul> <li>If you wish to comment, you must send an email to Rebecca Connolly (<u>rebecca.connolly@rco.wa.gov</u>) by 10:30 a.m. on Monday, June 24.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>If you plan to make your comments by phone, please contact Stephanie Fu     (<u>stephanie.fudurich@rco.wa.gov</u>) to receive the phone number and other ca</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person.</li> </ul>	
11:30 a.m.	Item 1, Funding Allocation Decisions, Continued	
	<b>Board Discussion and Decision about Funding Allocation</b>	
	Option 1: Funding for fiscal year 2014 – if Legislative budget adopted by Ju	ne 24
	Option 2: Funding through August 2013 – if Legislative budget not adopted	l by June 24
	Other options at board discretion	
12:15 p.m.	ADJOURN Next regular meeting: August 22, 2013 via conference call	



# Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Item

**Meeting Date:** June Conference Call

**Title:** Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions

**Prepared By:** Kaleen Cottingham, Director

Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager

#### APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

## Summary

At its May meeting, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) deferred decisions on project, lead entity, and regional organization funding until the state budgets are known.

As of June 21, 2013 the Legislature has not adopted budgets. In light of the fast approaching start of the new biennium and the potential for a complete staff furlough should a budget not be adopted before July 1, staff has prepared two approaches for the board to consider in making funding decisions on June 24.

- The first option assumes that the Legislature finishes the budget before the June 24 special board meeting. Under this option, the board would approve funding for fiscal year 2014 based on Legislatively-approved budgets. This memo provides a framework; specific dollar amounts would be distributed on the day of the meeting if available.
- This second option assumes the Legislature will enact either a reappropriation budget or the final operating and capital budgets by July 1 or shortly thereafter. Under this option, the board would approve two months of funding for lead entity and regional organization contracts. The memo describes how this short term solution would work.

# **Board Action Requested**

r Decision
r Direction

# **Proposed Motion Language**

Proposed motions are provided with each option (Attachments A and B)

# Background

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) funds both projects and activities with the state and federal funds dedicated to salmon recovery in Washington State. Most of these funds are allocated to monitoring, capacity, and projects.

- The federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant award requires that monitoring expenditures be a minimum of 10 percent of the PCSRF amount awarded to Washington each federal fiscal year. This year (2013) the PCSRF grant counts some of the monitoring associated with hatcheries and genetics as part of the 10%. The federal grant allocates \$1,684,000 to the board for monitoring purposes, most of which was allocated by the board in May to specific monitoring contracts.
- Funding for lead entities, regional organizations, and projects are determined in light of Washington's annual PCSRF grant award and the state dollars appropriated by the Washington State Legislature each biennium. Funding amounts for projects and for lead entity and regional capacity are set annually<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Funds Available**

## **Current Budgets**

As of the writing of this memo, the Legislature has not adopted the budgets for the 2013-2015 biennium. We are expecting approximately \$960,000 in general state funds for lead entities, the same amount provided in the 2011-13 budget. We are also expecting \$15 million in capital funds for projects, which would be a 50 percent increase from the 2011-13 appropriation.

In May, NOAA gave the RCO initial notification that the Washington State award for federal fiscal year 2013 would be \$20 million. Based on that notification, \$3.33 million is available for lead entities and regions and about \$10.55 million are available for projects. This is about a 15 percent decrease in federal capacity dollars, and a 7 percent decrease in federal project dollars<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Returned Funds**

"Returned funds" refers to money allocated to projects and activities that is returned when projects/activities either close under budget or are not completed. These dollars are returned to the overall budget. The funds are available for cost increases, capacity needs, and to increase the funding available for projects in the upcoming grant round, if the legislature reappropriates the funds as part of either the regular capital budget or a stand-alone reappropriation bill.

We expect about \$3.0 million in returned funds for the 2013 grant round. Staff expects this balance to grow by December 2013. Again, use of these funds depends on a legislative reappropriation.

#### Federal Fiscal Year 2014

The President's budget included \$50 million for PCSRF for federal fiscal year 2014<sup>3</sup>. This would be a 23% reduction from 2013. We cannot know what the final budget will include for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lead entities and regional organizations received biennial federal appropriations until 2013. Annual awards were approved by the board in 2012 to improve alignment with the PCSRF grant process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Compares to average annual awards for federal fiscal years 2011 and 2012. The change to annual awards for capacity funds makes direct comparison ineffective.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Federal fiscal year 2014 runs from October 1, 2013 until September 30, 2014. Any PCSRF funds from federal fiscal year 2014 would likely be available in mid to late summer 2014.

program, or what Washington State's PCSRF grant award will be. When making its funding decisions, the board generally considers two-year federal funding scenarios, so staff has included a status quo scenario and a scenario that reflects the President's budget for federal fiscal year 2014.

# Available and Potentially Available Funds

Based on the current information known about the state and federal budgets, the following funds are likely to be available, or potentially available, for the board's programs<sup>4</sup>. In reviewing Table 1, it is important to note that state funds are appropriated for the entire biennium. Some state funds must be reserved so they are available as match for the 2014 PCSRF grant application.

**Table 1: Estimated Funds for the 2013-15 Biennium** 

Purpose	Source	Funds Expected if Legislature adopts budgets	Funds Potentially Available
Lead entities	State operating budget	\$960,000	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Lead entities and regions	PCSRF (FFY 2013)	\$3,330,000	
	PCSRF (FFY 2014)		Unknown. Scenario A assumes \$3.33 million. Scenario B assumes \$2.3 million.
		\$4,290,000	\$2.3 - \$3.3 million
Projects	State capital budget	\$14,550,000	
	PCSRF (FFY 2013)	\$10,550,000	
	PCSRF (FFY 2014)		Unknown. Scenario A assumes \$10.55 million. Scenario B assumes \$8.1 million.
		\$25,100,000	\$8.1 - \$10.55 million
Projects, lead entities, regions, other	Returned funds	\$3,000,000	Unknown
Subtotal, capacity (available and potentially available):			\$6.5 to \$7.6 million
Subtotal, pro	\$33.2 to \$35.6 million		
Subtotal, capacity and projects (returned funds):			About \$3 million
	Total available and pot	entially available:	\$42.7 to \$46.2 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PCSRF funds also are available for monitoring. The board made some decisions regarding monitoring expenditures in May 2013. Other decisions have been deferred pending the assessment of the board's approach, due in October.

# 2011-13 Funding Levels

For the 2011-13 biennium, the board authorized two \$18 million grant rounds and provided the lead entities and regions with the same funding they received in the 2009-11 biennium. Maintaining the same level of funding for lead entities and regional organizations will require less in the 2013-15 biennium due to efficiencies realized through the consolidation in the Upper Columbia Region and discontinuation of the Foster Creek Lead Entity.

**Table 2: Current funding levels** 

Purpose	2011-13 Funding
Lead Entities	\$3,325,740
Regions	\$5,557,370
Projects	\$36,000,000
Total	\$44,883,110

## **Board Decisions**

At its May meeting, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) deferred decisions on project, lead entity, and regional organization funding until the state budgets are known.

As of June 21, 2013 the Legislature still has not adopted budgets. In light of the fast approaching start of the new biennium and the potential for a complete staff furlough should a budget not be adopted before July 1, staff has prepared two alternate approaches for the board to consider in making funding decisions.

# Option 1: Budget Adopted by Legislature before June 24

If the Legislature finishes its budget business before the June 24 special board meeting, the board will need to make funding decisions for fiscal year 2014. The staff proposal is described in Attachment A.

## **Option 2: Budget Adopted by Legislature after June 24**

If the Legislature has not adopted a budget by June 24, will need to make decision about a short-term approach to lead entity and region contracts to carry through two months, assuming the legislature provides either a reappropriation of other funds or subsequently passes the budgets. The staff proposal is described in Attachment B.

# **Next Steps**

Staff will present this information to the board, as well as any updates regarding the state budget and available federal budget, at the June 24<sup>th</sup> conference call. Staff has presented two options, depending on the status of legislative appropriations on June 24<sup>th</sup> and will ask the board to select one option. The goal is to have funding in place for the region and lead entity contracts on or shortly after July 1, 2013, if funds are appropriated by the legislature. The board will also meet in August and can make funding decisions for the rest of the fiscal year. The board will also make project grant award decisions in December 2013.

# Attachments

- A. Option 1: Proposal if Budget Adopted by Legislature before June 24
- B. Option 2: Proposal if Budget Adopted by Legislature after June 24

# Option 1: Proposal if Budget Adopted by Legislature before June 24

### **Board Decisions and Staff Recommendation**

If the Legislature finishes its budget business before the June 24 special board meeting, staff recommends that the board make the following funding decisions:

- A. Set a target grant round of \$18 million for calendar year 2013.
- B. Fill the funding gap for lead entities and regions in state fiscal year 2014 with returned funds.
- C. Approve funding for each regional organization for fiscal year 2014.
- D. Approve funding for each lead entity for fiscal year 2014.
- E. Approve funding for lead entity training and a chairperson.
- F. Reserve \$500,000 to be used for project cost increases in state fiscal year 2014, to be used consistent with policies in Manual 18.

Funding details will be provided on the day of the meeting based on final budget enacted.

# **Proposed Motion Language**

- Move to set a target grant round of \$18 million for calendar year 2013, with allocations as shown in Table A-4.
- Move to approve funding for each regional organization for fiscal year 2014 as shown in Table A-5.
- Move to approve funding for each lead entity for fiscal year 2014 as shown in Table A-6.
- Move to approve funding for lead entity training and a chairperson as shown in Table A-6.
- Move to fill the funding gap for lead entities and regions in state fiscal year 2014 with returned funds.
- Move to reserve \$500,000 to be used for project cost increases in fiscal year 2014, to be used consistent with policies in Manual 18.

# **Funds Available**

Staff will provide an update of Table 1 of the memo on the day of the meeting if final budgets are enacted.

# **Funding Proposal**

The following proposal assumes that funding is provided as indicated in Table 1 of the memo. Staff will update this proposal to reflect final budgets on the day of the meeting as needed.

At the May meeting, board members asked that staff clearly indicate the effects that this year's funding decisions could have on the board's state fiscal year 2015 funding decisions. To that end, staff prepared funding scenarios for state fiscal years 2014 and 2015 based on the known budgets and two possible scenarios for the federal budget in federal fiscal year 2014. The board does not need to choose Scenario A or B at its June meeting; they are presented for reference only.

- The first scenario (Scenario A) for federal fiscal year 2014 assumes that the board will receive the same amount of PCSRF funding for projects, lead entities, and regional organizations.
- The second scenario (Scenario B) for federal fiscal year 2015 assumes that PCSRF will be reduced from \$65 million to \$50 million, and takes a proportionate reduction to projects, lead entities, and regional organization funding.

For projects, the staff funding proposal relies heavily on returned funds and PCSRF in the first year of the biennium so that more of the state funds can be used in the second year of the biennium. Doing so creates a buffer if PCSRF funding falls below current levels, as shown in Scenario B.

For lead entities and regional organizations, the goal is to provide each with the same funding that they received in 2011-13. As highlighted with red type, there is a gap of about \$525,000 in funding capacity at status quo levels. This amount increases dramatically if PCSRF drops in federal fiscal year 2014. Options for addressing the gap in fiscal year 2014 are below.

**Table A-1: Staff Funding Proposal: Grant Round Project Funding** 

	State Fiscal Year	State Fiscal Year 2015	State Fiscal Year 2015
Source	2014 Funding	Scenario A: PCSRF @ \$20 M	Scenario B: PCSRF @ \$15.3 M
PCSRF (Projects)	\$10,550,000	\$10,550,000	\$8,115,384
13-15 State Salmon	\$4,950,000	\$9,600,000	\$9,600,000
Returned Funds	\$2,500,000		\$284,616
<b>Grant Round</b>	\$18,000,000	\$20,150,000	\$18,000,000

Table A-2: Staff Funding Proposal: Lead Entity and Regional Organization (Capacity) Funding

	Status Quo	State Fiscal Year 2014 Funding	State Fiscal Year 2015 Scenario A: PCSRF @ \$20 M	State Fiscal Year 2015 Scenario B: PCSRF @ \$15.3 M
PCSRF (Capacity)	\$2,778,685	\$2,400,150	\$2,400,150	\$1,630,038
Lead Entity Contracts				
State General Fund	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$480,000
PCSRF (Capacity)	\$1,076,500	\$929,850	\$929,850	\$631,499
GAP (See Options)		\$525,185	\$525,185	\$1,593,648
Total Capacity	\$4,335,185	\$4,335,185	\$4,335,185	\$4,335,185

# **Analysis**

# **Options Concerning Capacity Funding**

Funding for capacity comes from the state general fund and PCSRF. Lead entities receive funding from both sources, while regional organizations are funded solely by PCSRF. Capacity funds from both sources are reduced; the general fund support has declined steadily over the years, and the reduction of PCSRF led to a 9 percent decrease in capacity funds. Together, these created a \$525,000 gap for capacity funding in state fiscal year 2014; a similar situation is likely for state fiscal year 2015.

Staff proposes that the board consider the following three options to address the funding gap:

- 1. **Fill the budget gap** by allocating older PCSRF returned funds from projects, lead entities, and regions to the state fiscal year 2014 contracts. Doing so would help maintain the current project-to-capacity ratio (see below). Staff expects that many regional and lead entity contracts for 2011-2013 will close without expending all of the budgeted funds; there may be returned funds of at least \$200,000 just from these contracts.
- 2. **Partially fill the budget gap** by instituting an across-the-board cut of 10 percent to all capacity grants (lead entities and regional organizations). Doing so would reduce the gap by about \$430,000. Returned funds may be used to fill the remaining gap of about \$95,000. The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office asked the regional organizations to document how they would take a 10 percent cut in their 2013-15 scope of work. Staff will share with the board how a 10 percent cut would affect regional organizations.
- 3. **Do not fill the gap**, and instruct staff to develop recommendations on funding reductions to Regional Organization and consolidation of lead entities.

# The Balance of Projects and Capacity in Fiscal Year 2014

In each biennium since 2003, the percent distribution among projects, monitoring and capacity has remained fairly consistent.

In May, the board noted that one consideration would be the effect of the proposal on the balance of funding between projects, capacity, and monitoring. Tables A-3 compares the average historical budgeted distribution of board funds from state fiscal year 2004 through fiscal year 2013 to the proposal 2014.

**Table A-3: Funding Comparison for State Fiscal Year 2014** 

		Capacity	Projects	Monitoring
	2004 – 2013 Average	16.0%	76.5%	7.4%
Option for addressing	1 Fill the budget gap. Regions & lead entities funded at status quo level	17.8%	73.7%	8.5%
2014 funding gap	2 Partially fill the budget gap. Regions & lead entities 10% reduction.	16.3%	75.0%	8.7%
	3 Do not fill the gap.	15.9%	75.3%	8.7%

# **Reserve Funding for Potential Project Cost Increases**

Board policy allows project sponsors to request cost increases under certain circumstances. Increases may be approved by the director, board subcommittee, or the board<sup>5</sup>. The board has typically reserved between \$500,000 and \$750,000 for cost increases.

# **Funding Tables for Adoption**

## **Grant Round**

Table A-4

Region	Į.	Allocation
Hood Canal Coordinating Council		\$1,195,165
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board		\$2,700,000
Northeast Washington	•	\$360,000
Puget Sound Partnership		\$6,795,035
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board		\$1,598,400
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board		\$1,953,000
Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership		\$1,620,000
Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board		\$1,776,600
	Total	\$18,000,000

# **Regional Organization Funding**

Table A-5

Region	Previous Biennium 2011-2013	State Fiscal Year 2014  July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014
Lower Columbia	\$813,700	
Lower Columbia	\$613,700	\$406,850
Hood Canal	\$750,000	\$375,000
Puget Sound	\$1,378,324	\$689,162
Snake	\$667,176	\$333,588
Upper Columbia	\$870,000	\$435,000
Washington Coast	\$508,170	\$254,085
Yakima	\$570,000	\$285,000
To	sal \$5,557,370	\$2,778,685

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Manual 18, Appendix B

# **Lead Entity Funding**

Table A-6

Table A-6	D : B: :	C. C. E. L.V. COL
Region and Lead Entities	Previous Biennium 2011-2013	State Fiscal Year 2014 July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014
Lower Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$160,000	\$80,000
Hood Canal Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$160,000	\$80,000
Northeast Region*	\$100,000	\$50,000
Puget Sound	<b>4100,000</b>	450,000
Green/Duwamish & Central Sound Lead Entity	\$120,000	\$60,000
Island County Lead Entity	\$100,000	\$50,000
Lake Washington/Sammamish Lead Entity	\$120,000	\$60,000
Mason CD Lead Entity	\$84,000	\$42,000
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	\$125,000	\$62,500
North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity	\$160,000	\$80,000
Pierce County Lead Entity	\$110,000	\$55,000
San Juan County Lead Entity	\$100,000	\$50,000
Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity	\$160,000	\$80,000
Snohomish Basin Lead Entity	\$125,000	\$62,500
Stillaguamish Co-Lead Entity	\$124,000	\$62,000
Thurston CD Lead Entity	\$80,000	\$40,000
West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity	\$100,000	\$50,000
WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	\$130,000	\$65,000
Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$130,000	\$65,000
Upper Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$308,000	\$135,000
Washington Coast		
Grays Harbor Lead Entity	\$110,000	\$55,000
Pacific Lead Entity	\$100,000	\$50,000
North Coast Lead Entity	\$90,000	\$45,000
Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity	\$90,000	\$45,000
Yakima		
Klickitat County Lead Entity	\$110,000	\$55,000
Yakima Basin Regional Salmon Recovery	\$130,000	\$65,000
Subtotal, Lead Entities	\$3,126,000	\$1,544,000
Lead Entity Training	\$16,000	\$8,000
Lead Entity Chair	\$9,000	\$4,500
Subtotal, Lead Entity Support	\$25,000	\$12,500
Total	\$3,151,000	\$1,556,500

<sup>\*</sup> Regional organization administering the lead entity

# Option 2: Proposal if Budget Adopted by Legislature after June 24

## **Board Decisions and Staff Recommendation**

If the Legislature has not adopted a budget by June 24, staff recommends that the board make the following funding decisions:

- A. Support Director's extension of existing lead entity and region contracts through August 31, 2013.
- B. Delegate authority to the Director to use available funds to fund the ongoing monthly administrative functions of the regions and lead entities through August 31, 2013 as shown on Tables B-1 and B-2.
  - a. These funds will be added to the scope of the extended existing contracts.
  - b. Available funds are either reappropriated returned funds or newly appropriated funds from the state general fund and PCSRF, if the Legislature approves a budget by July 1.
- C. Continue the practice of allowing the Director to use returned funds for project cost increases, consistent with policies in Manual 18, up to \$500,000 per fiscal year.
- D. Defer setting the target grant round amount until the August 22 board meeting.

# **Proposed Motion Language**

- Move to extend existing contracts with lead entities and regional organizations through August 31, 2013.
- Move to delegate authority to the Director to use either reappropriated returned funds or newly appropriated funds to fund the ongoing monthly administrative functions of the regions and lead entities through August 31, 2013 as shown on Tables B-1 and B-2.
- Move to reserve \$500,000 to be used for project cost increases in fiscal year 2014, to be used consistent with policies in Manual 18.

# **Funding Proposal**

Table B-1: Regional Organizations, Funding for July and August 2013

Region	July 2013	August 2013	Totals
Lower Columbia	\$33,904	\$33,904	\$67,808
Hood Canal	\$31,250	\$31,205	\$62,500
Puget Sound	\$57,430	\$57,430	\$114,860
Snake	\$27,799	\$27,799	\$55,598
Upper Columbia	\$36,250	\$36,250	\$72,500
Washington Coast	\$21,174	\$21,174	\$42,348
Yakima	\$23,750	\$23,750	\$47,500
Total	\$231,557	\$231,557	\$463,114

Table B-2: Lead Entities, Funding for July and August 2013

Lead Entities	July 2013	August 2013	Totals
Lower Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Hood Canal Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Northeast Region	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Puget Sound			
Green/Duwamish & Central Sound Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
Island County Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
Lake Washington/Sammamish Lead Entity	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Mason CD Lead Entity	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$7,000
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	\$5,208	\$5,208	\$10,416
North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Pierce County Lead Entity	\$4,583	\$4,583	\$9,166
San Juan County Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Snohomish Basin Lead Entity	\$5,208	\$5,208	\$10,416
Stillaguamish Co-Lead Entity	\$5,167	\$5,167	\$10,334
Thurston CD Lead Entity	\$3,334	\$3,334	\$6,668
West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	\$5,416	\$5,416	\$10,832
Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$5,416	\$5,416	\$10,832
Upper Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$11,250	\$11,250	\$22,500
Washington Coast			
Grays Harbor Lead Entity	\$4,583	\$4,583	\$9,166
Pacific Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
North Coast Lead Entity	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$7,500
Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$7,500
Yakima (Includes Klickitat)			
Klickitat County Lead Entity	\$4,583	\$4,583	\$9,166
Yakima Basin Regional Salmon Recovery	\$5,416	\$5,416	\$10,832
Subtotal, Lead Entities	\$128,667	\$128,667	\$257,334
Lead Entity Training	\$667	\$667	\$1,334
Lead Entity Chair	\$375	\$375	\$750
Subtotal, Lead Entity Support	\$1,042	\$1,042	\$2,084
Totals	\$129,709	\$129,709	\$259,418
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<sup>\*</sup> Regional organization administering the lead entity

#### WASHINGTON STATE'S REGIONAL SALMON RECOVERY ORGANIZATIONS

June 24, 2013



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

PugetSoundPartnership

**Dear Chairman Troutt:** 



We recognize that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) faces a challenging task in deciding how to best allocate its funding resources to further Washington's salmon recovery efforts. We also appreciate the SRFB's efforts to maintain stable funding for habitat projects and the capacity of regional recovery organizations and lead entities.



On June 11, the Council of Regions met with Kaleen Cottingham and Brian Abbott to discuss the funding outlook and possible scenarios the SRFB might consider in making its fiscal year 2014 funding decisions. We were pleased to see that it would be possible to maintain current funding levels for habitat projects and for regional organizations and lead entities in fiscal year 2014, given the PCSRF grant award and the funding levels under consideration in the legislature at that time. Moreover, it appears that it may also be plausible to sustain those funding levels through fiscal year 2015.



Should this outlook prove to be the case, we hope the SRFB will take action to maintain current funding levels. Doing so will continue to provide the stable foundation critical to recovery efforts in every region of the state. It will allow regional organizations, lead entities, and project sponsors to be more strategic and efficient in planning and implementing habitat projects. It will allow regional organizations to continue to engage with their federal, state, tribal, and local partners to pursue the full suite of habitat, hatchery, harvest, and hydro actions essential to achieving recovery. And, finally, it will allow regional organizations and lead entities to leverage additional resources critical to recovery efforts.



Yet, while the SRFB has been successful in maintaining status quo funding levels for 3 biennia, increasing costs have resulted in a real reduction in the capability to implement habitat projects and the capacity of regional organizations to further broader recovery efforts. Still most regional organizations believe that current capacity funding levels are manageable. All have worked to reduce costs and are now budgeting to absorb possible future funding cuts. Some have left vacancies unfilled, further reducing their capacity to implement recovery plans.



However, the current budget situation presents particularly difficult challenges for two regions. Since fiscal year 2010, operational funding for the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board has declined by over 20 percent due in large part to the decline of watershed management funding from the Department of Ecology. The LCFRB has reduced staffing and its costs for goods and services, but despite these actions, the LCFRB faces a further reduction in operational funding of over 6 percent even if its current SRFB funding level is maintained. This additional reduction will likely result in the loss of an additional staff and will jeopardize the ability of the LCFRB to be effective as a regional organization and lead entity.

The Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership faces a different but equally challenging situation. The Partnership is working hard to build organizational capacity comparable to the other regional recovery organizations and to begin implementing the just-completed Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Plan. We believe that both of these organizations deserve special consideration and we recommend that the funding levels for each organization be increased by \$50,000 for FY 2014.

Looking beyond FY 2014, the regional organizations strongly believe there needs to be a concerted effort to narrow the growing salmon recovery funding gap. An analysis prepared for The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and the regional organizations in 2011 demonstrated a significant gap between estimated funding needs and availability. Even though status quo funding levels have been maintained in the face of fiscal constraints, the gap has continued to grow. Clearly action is needed to expand funding for all aspects of salmon recovery and we are eager to work with the SRFB and others to do so. It is time to begin working for the adequate and stable long-term funding needed to sustain salmon recovery efforts.

Finally, while it is too early to be able to make any definitive decisions regarding funding levels and allocations for fiscal year 2015, we recommend that planning and discussion of possible funding scenarios begin well in advance of the need to make a decision and we urge the SRFB to engage the Council of Regions and the Lead Entity Advisory Group in such discussions. As in the past, regional organizations are committed to working with the SRFB to forge workable and effective scenario and to assist in making the difficult decisions should it be necessary.

Sincerely,

Miles Batchelder

WA Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership

Milu Batchelden

Jeff Breckel

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Chair, Council of Regions

Jeanette Dorner

**Puget Sound Partnership** 

Steve Martin

Scott Brewer

Hood Canal Salmon Recovery Board

yth Srlwy

Vice Chair, Council of Regions

**Alex Conley** 

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery

Board

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

Derek Van Mater

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

Cc: Brian Abbott

Kaleen Cottingham



# LOWER COLUMBIA FISH RECOVERY BOARD

**2013 BOARD** 

Tom Linde, Chairman Skamania County Citizen Designee

F. Lee Grose, Vice Chairman Lewis County Commissioner

Randy Sweet, Treasurer Cowlitz County Citizen Designee Private Property Representative

Taylor Aalvik Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Bob Anderson Skamania County Commissioner

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Todd Olson Hydro-Electric Representative

Don Swanson SW WA Environmental Representative

Dean Takko WA State Legislative Representative

Charles TenPas Lewis County Citizen Designee

Jade Unger Clark County Citizen Designee

Dennis Weber Cowlitz County Commissioner

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Jeff Breckel Executive Director June 24, 2013

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

**Dear Chairman Troutt:** 

It is our understanding that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) will be meeting on June 24 to consider possible funding allocations for Fiscal Year 2014. We further understand the scope and extent of any decisions by the SRFB depends on the status of the Legislature's efforts to adopt a budget for the 2013-15 biennium.

SRFB funding plays a particularly critical and ever more important role in supporting salmon recovery efforts in the Lower Columbia. It is the single most important funding source for habitat restoration efforts in the region. It is also an increasingly important source of capacity funding for the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB), which is both the regional organization and lead entity, representing the five Southwest Washington counties and 17 watersheds. As the regional organization, the LCFRB works with federal, state, tribal and local partners to implement the full range of habitat, harvest, hatchery, and hydro actions set forth in the recovery plan. As lead entity, the LCFRB maintains a regional habitat strategy, recommends projects for funding and works with project sponsors and landowners to identify, develop and implement sound restoration projects. Additionally, the LCFRB is the designated lead agency for 2 multi-WRIA watershed planning units.

Although the SRFB has been successful in maintaining stable funding levels over the past several biennia for habitat projects and the capacity of regional organizations and lead entities, overall capacity funding for the LCFRB has dropped dramatically. This drop is attributable primarily to the continuing decline in watershed management funding the LCFRB received from the Department of Ecology. In 1998, at the urging of the state, the LCFRB chose to integrate salmon recovery and watershed management planning. This effort furthered both salmon recovery and water management efforts while at the same time leveraging resources and providing efficiencies of scale.

In Fiscal Year 2010, watershed management funding represented over 20 percent of the LCFRB operational or capacity funding. Since that time watershed funding has declined incrementally each year. In Fiscal Year 2013, it represented about 6 percent of the LCFRB capacity funding. The funding will end entirely in Fiscal Year 2014. The LCFRB has had some success in offsetting the loss of watershed management funding through several smaller, relatively short-duration grants. Over the last two years, the Board has also reduced costs for goods and services by 7 percent, frozen all staff salaries for the past 2 years, and left one staff position unfilled, reducing staff from 6 to 5 positions.

To: Chairman Troutt
FR: Tom Linde, LCFRB
RE: FY14 Funding Request

Page 2

Based on anticipated funding in Fiscal Year 2014, the LCFRB faces another drop in capacity funding of over 6 percent even if the SRFB maintains status quo funding for capacity. Such a reduction will place another staff position at risk and seriously jeopardizes the ability of the LCFRB to sustain a viable and effective program.

While the LCFRB will continue to pursue other funding, we feel at this time that we have no other choice, if we are to continue to be effective, but to request the SRFB's help in closing our funding gap. According, we ask that the SRFB increase our status quo regional organization/ lead entity funding level by \$50,000 from \$486,850 to \$536,850.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Linde, Chairman

Cc: Brian Abbott Jeff Breckel

Kaleen Cottingham

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board members

Public Comment Received for the June 24, 2013 Meeting of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board

# **PugetSoundPartnership**

LEADING PUGET SOUND RECOVERY

June 23, 2013

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

RE: Lead Entity and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decision memo for your June 24, 2013 meeting

#### Dear Chair Troutt:

In the memo before you for your June 24 meeting the status quo capacity funding for regions and lead entities combined is given as \$4,335,185 for one fiscal year which can be calculated as \$8,670,370 for the biennium (SRFB Briefing Memo, Item 1, Project Lead Entity and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions, page 2, Table A-2.) However in a briefing memo to the SRFB for the May 2011 meeting the status quo base amount for capacity funding that was recommended forward was \$8,863,370, a difference of almost \$200,000. (SRFB Briefing Memo, Item 5B, Scope of Work and Funding Considerations for Regions and Lead Entities, p.4).

The full excerpt from the May 2011 memo reads as follows:

## "Base Capacity Grants, 2009-11

The base grant awards for regional and lead entity organization capacity in 2009-2011 can provide a starting point for considering a stable funding level to support scopes of work for 2011-2013.

The following amounts are assumed as "status quo capacity" in memo #5C, which explains possible approaches to the board's allocation decision.

Regional Base Amount	\$5,737,370
Lead Entity Base Amount	\$3,126,000
Total 2011-2013 Base Amount	\$8,863,370

Proposed Shifts in Funding:

Within this base funding, GSRO, working with the regions and lead entities, proposes the following adjustments to the way funds are distributed. There would be no other changes from the approach used in 2009-11.

- Move \$200,000 from the Puget Sound Partnership regional grant to the Puget Sound lead entities to support enhanced tracking, data management and reporting of implementation information for use in monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management processes and in communicating implementation results.
- Move \$20,000 from the Foster creek Lead Entity to the North Pacific Coast Lead Entity."

This memo excerpt documents the agreement that was made last biennium to transfer \$200,000 from the Puget Sound regional organization capacity funding to Puget Sound lead entity capacity funding to support enhanced implementation data reporting by Puget Sound lead entities. This biennium, as a result of that agreement, our regional base contract amount was \$200,000 less and this funding was instead added to Puget Sound lead entity contracts to support enhanced implementation tracking in Habitat Workschedule.

The current 2013-15 status quo capacity funding recommendation from staff in the memo before you does not include carrying forward the \$200,000 for Puget Sound lead entities as part of their base capacity in the new biennium. The Puget Sound region has been informed that the agreement at the beginning of this biennium for transfer of funds did not include an agreement to carry forward those funds into future biennium as part of the base capacity. We had a different perspective. However, it is difficult to confirm or deny since all the original people involved in that agreement no longer are at RCO or PSP. It also is not explicitly clarified in the language from the above excerpted memo. However we want the SRFB to be aware that this is a real decision that has a real consequence for the capacity Puget Sound lead entities will have in the next biennium for enhanced Habitat Work Schedule implementation tracking tasks.

If you in your meeting accept the staff recommendation with the new proposed level of base funding for regions and lead entity capacity I request that you acknowledge that this will be a real reduction in capacity funding for Puget Sound in the coming biennium.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Dorner

Director of Ecosystem and Salmon Recovery

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#### WASHINGTON STATE'S REGIONAL SALMON RECOVERY ORGANIZATIONS

June 24, 2013



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

PugetSoundPartnership

**Dear Chairman Troutt:** 



We recognize that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) faces a challenging task in deciding how to best allocate its funding resources to further Washington's salmon recovery efforts. We also appreciate the SRFB's efforts to maintain stable funding for habitat projects and the capacity of regional recovery organizations and lead entities.



On June 11, the Council of Regions met with Kaleen Cottingham and Brian Abbott to discuss the funding outlook and possible scenarios the SRFB might consider in making its fiscal year 2014 funding decisions. We were pleased to see that it would be possible to maintain current funding levels for habitat projects and for regional organizations and lead entities in fiscal year 2014, given the PCSRF grant award and the funding levels under consideration in the legislature at that time. Moreover, it appears that it may also be plausible to sustain those funding levels through fiscal year 2015.



Should this outlook prove to be the case, we hope the SRFB will take action to maintain current funding levels. Doing so will continue to provide the stable foundation critical to recovery efforts in every region of the state. It will allow regional organizations, lead entities, and project sponsors to be more strategic and efficient in planning and implementing habitat projects. It will allow regional organizations to continue to engage with their federal, state, tribal, and local partners to pursue the full suite of habitat, hatchery, harvest, and hydro actions essential to achieving recovery. And, finally, it will allow regional organizations and lead entities to leverage additional resources critical to recovery efforts.



Yet, while the SRFB has been successful in maintaining status quo funding levels for 3 biennia, increasing costs have resulted in a real reduction in the capability to implement habitat projects and the capacity of regional organizations to further broader recovery efforts. Still most regional organizations believe that current capacity funding levels are manageable. All have worked to reduce costs and are now budgeting to absorb possible future funding cuts. Some have left vacancies unfilled, further reducing their capacity to implement recovery plans.



However, the current budget situation presents particularly difficult challenges for two regions. Since fiscal year 2010, operational funding for the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board has declined by over 20 percent due in large part to the decline of watershed management funding from the Department of Ecology. The LCFRB has reduced staffing and its costs for goods and services, but despite these actions, the LCFRB faces a further reduction in operational funding of over 6 percent even if its current SRFB funding level is maintained. This additional reduction will likely result in the loss of an additional staff and will jeopardize the ability of the LCFRB to be effective as a regional organization and lead entity.

The Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership faces a different but equally challenging situation. The Partnership is working hard to build organizational capacity comparable to the other regional recovery organizations and to begin implementing the just-completed Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Plan. We believe that both of these organizations deserve special consideration and we recommend that the funding levels for each organization be increased by \$50,000 for FY 2014.

Looking beyond FY 2014, the regional organizations strongly believe there needs to be a concerted effort to narrow the growing salmon recovery funding gap. An analysis prepared for The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and the regional organizations in 2011 demonstrated a significant gap between estimated funding needs and availability. Even though status quo funding levels have been maintained in the face of fiscal constraints, the gap has continued to grow. Clearly action is needed to expand funding for all aspects of salmon recovery and we are eager to work with the SRFB and others to do so. It is time to begin working for the adequate and stable long-term funding needed to sustain salmon recovery efforts.

Finally, while it is too early to be able to make any definitive decisions regarding funding levels and allocations for fiscal year 2015, we recommend that planning and discussion of possible funding scenarios begin well in advance of the need to make a decision and we urge the SRFB to engage the Council of Regions and the Lead Entity Advisory Group in such discussions. As in the past, regional organizations are committed to working with the SRFB to forge workable and effective scenario and to assist in making the difficult decisions should it be necessary.

Sincerely,

Miles Batchelder

WA Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership

Milu Batchelden

Jeff Breckel

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Chair, Council of Regions

Jeanette Dorner

**Puget Sound Partnership** 

Steve Martin

Scott Brewer

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Cc: Brian Abbott

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To: Chairman Troutt
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Linde, Chairman

Cc: Brian Abbott Jeff Breckel

Kaleen Cottingham

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board members

# SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, JUNE 24, 2013

# **Agenda Items with Formal Action**

Item	Formal Action	Follow-up Actions	
Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions	<ul> <li>The board approved the following:</li> <li>Extended the existing contracts with lead entities and regional organizations through August 31, 2013.</li> </ul>	Staff to present funding options fo the remainder of fiscal year 2014 at the August 22 meeting	
	<ul> <li>Delegated authority to the Director to use either reappropriated returned funds or newly appropriated funds to fund the ongoing monthly administrative functions of the regions and lead entities through August 31, 2013 as shown on Tables B-1 and B-2.</li> </ul>		
	• Reserve \$500,000 to be used for project cost increases in fiscal year 2014, to be used consistent with policies in Manual 18.		

# SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: June 24, 2013, SPECIAL MEETING

Place: Olympia, WA; MEMBERS PARTICIPATING VIA CONFERENCE CALL

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members Present:

David Troutt, Chair Olympia Harry Barber Washougal

Josh Brown Kitsap County Jennifer Quan Department of Fish and Wildlife

Phil RockefellerNWPCCCarol SmithConservation CommissionNancy BieryJefferson County

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

### **Opening and Welcome**

Chair David Troutt called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and a quorum was determined.

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#### **Decisions**

## Item 1: Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions

Director Cottingham noted that the budget was not passed over the weekend, so Option 2 was needed. It is a short-term fix that would amend current contracts. She noted that three letters were submitted; they were emailed to board members and posted to the web.

Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager, reviewed the information provided in the advance materials, which were posted to the web site on June 21, 2013. He reviewed Table 1 (page 3 of the memo), which estimated available funds for the biennium. He ran through Option 1; Director Cottingham noted that due to budget uncertainty, staff was recommending Option 2. Chair Troutt noted that he preferred to keep the discussion focused on option 2.

Brian explained that Option 2 would delegate authority to the director to approve funding through the end of August for lead entities and regional organizations. Grant round funding for 2013 and funding for the remainder of the year for lead entities and regions would be approved in August. Director Cottingham noted that Option 2 requires the Legislature to adopt a budget.

Chair Troutt clarified that this would not require the board to have another meeting. Director Cottingham confirmed that, and noted that she would be sending out notices suspending the contracts after midnight June 30. Carol Smith asked if the amounts would be reduced if the budget were adopted after July 1; Director Cottingham responded that she expected that the budget would be backdated to July 1.

Abbott noted that the funding tables were in Attachment B of the memo. The figures were determined by dividing the annual totals by twelve.

#### **Public Comment**

Jeanette Dorner, Puget Sound Partnership, submitted a letter to the board noting that the funding for the Puget Sound region had been decreased in 2011-13 by \$200,000 to fund work done by the lead entities. That funding was not reinstated for either the region or lead entities in the staff proposal. She did not speak at the meeting.

Jeff Breckel, Council of Regions, said that the letter they submitted really addressed interests and concerns for fiscal year 2014 and beyond. They appreciate the actions of staff to sustain operations over the next couple of months. This is a busy time for all, and it is important to maintain continuity over the summer. There will be questions about the process, but those are things they can work with RCO staff to address.

Cheryl Baumann, LEAG, thanked the staff and board for the efforts to keep work going during this critical time. One thing that concerns her is the recommendation to defer setting the target round until August. This will make the PSAR early action process more difficult.

Director Cottingham noted that she is optimistic that staff can recommend an \$18 million grant round, but it depends on what the Legislature adopts.



Josh Brown moved to adopt Option 2, inclusive of the three motions presented in the staff memo.

Seconded by:

Phil Rockefeller

Motion:

**APPROVED** 

Director Cottingham noted what to expect in the next few days. Sponsors can expect notice of suspension of contracts effective of July 1. RCO hopes to rescind that notice if the Legislature acts before July 1. Regions and lead entities also will receive contract extensions. Once the budget is adopted, they will get a scope change and cost increase for two months.

Minutes approved by:

David Troutt, Chair

Date

Table B-1: Regional Organizations, Funding for July and August 2013

Region		July 2013	August 2013	Totals
Lower Columbia		\$33,904	\$33,904	\$67,808
Hood Canal		\$31,250	\$31,205	\$62,500
Puget Sound		\$57,430	\$57,430	\$114,860
Snake		\$27,799	\$27,799	\$55,598
Upper Columbia		\$36,250	\$36,250	\$72,500
Washington Coast		\$21,174	\$21,174	\$42,348
Yakima		\$23,750	\$23,750	\$47,500
	Total	\$231,557	\$231,557	\$463,114

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Table B-2: Lead Entities, Funding for July and August 2013

Lead Entities	July 2013	August 2013	Totals
Lower Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Hood Canal Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Northeast Region	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Puget Sound			
Green/Duwamish & Central Sound Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
Island County Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
Lake Washington/Sammamish Lead Entity	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Mason CD Lead Entity	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$7,000
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	\$5,208	\$5,208	\$10,416
North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Pierce County Lead Entity	\$4,583	\$4,583	\$9,166
San Juan County Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$13,334
Snohomish Basin Lead Entity	\$5,208	\$5,208	\$10,416
Stillaguamish Co-Lead Entity	\$5,167	\$5,167	\$10,334
Thurston CD Lead Entity	\$3,334	\$3,334	\$6,668
West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	\$5,416	\$5,416	\$10,832
Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$5,416	\$5,416	\$10,832
Upper Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery*	\$11,250	\$11,250	\$22,500
Washington Coast			
Grays Harbor Lead Entity	\$4,583	\$4,583	\$9,166
Pacific Lead Entity	\$4,167	\$4,167	\$8,334
North Coast Lead Entity	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$7,500
Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$7,500
Yakima (Includes Klickitat)			
Klickitat County Lead Entity	\$4,583	\$4,583	\$9,166
Yakima Basin Regional Salmon Recovery	\$5,416	\$5,416	\$10,832
Subtotal, Lead Entities	\$128,667	\$128,667	\$257,334
Lead Entity Training	\$667	\$667	\$1,334
Lead Entity Chair	\$375	\$375	\$750
Subtotal, Lead Entity Support	\$1,042	\$1,042	\$2,084
Totals	\$129,709	\$129,709	\$259,418
Pogional organization administoring the lead entity	1		, ,

<sup>\*</sup> Regional organization administering the lead entity

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