

# PROPOSED Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting Agenda

May 21, 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](mailto: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.

## TUESDAY MAY 21, 2013

### OPENING AND WELCOME

9:00 a.m.	<b>Call to Order</b>	Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Determine Quorum</li><li>Introduce New Chair (David Troutt) and New Members (Megan Duffy and Nancy Biery)</li><li>Review and Approve Agenda (<b>Decision</b>)</li><li>Approve February Meeting Minutes (<b>Decision</b>)</li></ul>	
	<b>Service Recognition: Bud Hover</b>	Chair
	Approve Service Resolution #2013-02	
	<b>Proposed August Meeting Date</b>	Chair
	Motion to Approve August 22, 2013 for Regular Meeting via Conference Call	

### MANAGEMENT AND PARTNER REPORTS (Briefings)

9:15 a.m.	<b>1. Management Report</b>	Kaleen Cottingham
	A. Director's Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Legislative Updates</li><li>Policy Updates</li><li>Performance Update (written only)</li></ul>	Nona Snell
	B. Financial Report	Rebecca Connolly Mark Jarasitis
9:25 a.m.	<b>2. Salmon Recovery Management Report</b>	Brian Abbott
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grant Management, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, and Monitoring</li><li>Recap of project conference</li><li>GSRO 3-5 year work plan</li><li>Update on Assessment of Board Monitoring Approach</li></ul>	
9:45 a.m.	<b>Notable Recently Completed Projects</b>	Grant Managers

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**10:00 a.m. BREAK**

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**10:15 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*  
*Robert Sendrey*  
*SRFB Agency Representatives*

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

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**11:00 a.m. 4. Federal Ruling on Tribal Culvert Case**

- Overview of issue
- Tribal Perspective
- State agency responses
  - State Parks
  - Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Department of Natural Resources
  - Department of Transportation
- Board comments and discussion

*Brian Abbott*  
*David Troutt*

*Larry Fairleigh*  
*Jennifer Quan*  
*Megan Duffy*  
*Megan White*

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**BRIEFINGS**

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**11:45 a.m. 5. Update on the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Region**

*Derek Van Marter*  
*James White*

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**12:30 p.m. LUNCH**

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**1:15 p.m. 6. Budget Update**

- Status of Legislative and Congressional Process on Budgets
- Status of 2013 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant application
- Federal Budget, Fiscal Year 2013 and Outlook for FY 2014
- State Operating and Capital Budgets, 2013-15
- Implications for Board Funding Decisions

*Nona Snell*  
*Brian Abbott*

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**DECISIONS**

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**1:30 p.m. 7. Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions**

*Brian Abbott*

- Framework and Historical Funding
- Scope of Work and Funding Considerations for Regions and Lead Entities
- Funding Scenarios within SRFB Framework and Budget

Comments from lead entities (10 minutes total)  
Comments from regions (10 minutes total)  
Other public comment (10 minutes total)

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

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**3:00 p.m.      Item 7, Funding Allocation Decisions, Continued**

Board Discussion

**If budgets are not enacted:**

Decision: Delegate authority to the director or call special meeting for final allocation decisions.

**If budgets are enacted:**

Decision: Approve Target 2013 Grant Round Funding Amount

Decision: Approve Funding Level for Lead Entity Contracts

Decision: Approve Funding Level for Regional Organization Contracts

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**BRIEFINGS**

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**3:30 p.m.      8. Monitoring Program Findings & Results**

*Jennifer O'Neal*

- Tetra Tech Effectiveness Monitoring

*Tetra Tech*

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**DECISIONS**

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**4:00 p.m.      9. Contract Awards for Ongoing Monitoring Programs**

*Brian Abbott*

- Update on Funding Plan for Projects Related to the Lower Columbia Intensively Monitored Watersheds

Decision: Approve funding for Effectiveness Monitoring

Decision: Approve funding for Intensively Monitored Watersheds

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**5:00 p.m.      ADJOURN**

Next regular meeting: October 16 – 17, Walla Walla

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## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 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 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 Updates
- Policy Updates
- Salmon Recovery News
- Updates on Sister Boards
- Performance Measures

## Agency Operations

### RCO Takes on Lean Projects

RCO is starting its Lean journey with two projects. Lean is a management tool that provides proven principles, methods, and tools for creating more efficient processes while developing a culture that encourages employee creativity and problem-solving skills. The first Lean project addresses our supply room and procedures for managing inventory, mail delivery, and surplus items. We already have seen improvements in mail delivery from this project. The second project will address which records the agency keeps after a project closes so that we meet state retention rules and our own business needs. We are looking at what records are needed, as well as the format that is most cost-effective for storage and retrieval.

## Governor Appointments

I was excited to be reappointed to serve as the director of the Recreation and Conservation Office. I got the word from Governor Jay Inslee in early March and was honored and thrilled to be able to continue my work here at RCO. Bud Hover, chair of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, got a similar call and was asked by Governor Inslee to serve as director of the Department of Agriculture, which unfortunately meant he needed to resign from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Bud has served on the board since 2007 and has been involved in salmon recovery for a decade before that. We wish him well in his new role and are glad he will be just down the hall.

The Governor also appointed current board member David Troutt as the new chair of the board and appointed Nancy Biery of Quilcene as the new citizen member (replacing Bud Hover). David is the Natural Resource Director for the Nisqually Indian Tribe. Nancy runs her own political consulting firm and was the state director of outreach for U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell. She served as the director of external affairs for Governor Gary Locke and as his special advisor when he was the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

## Meetings with Partners

I stood in for Governor Inslee at a ceremony commemorating the creation of the new San Juan Islands National Monument. President Barak Obama recently signed a [proclamation](#) creating the monument to permanently protect Bureau of Land Management Lands in the San Juan Islands. He used his authority under the Antiquities Act. The monument is composed of scores of small islands, rocks, reefs, and other properties that are sprinkled throughout the archipelago. It includes recreational areas, cultural sites used by local tribes for thousands of years, historic lighthouses, disappearing habitat and much more. The dedication was attended by hundreds of people, including Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and several members of our congressional delegation.

## Legislative Update

We have been tracking or participating with the legislative process on four bills related to salmon habitat and restoration.

- The bill that would limit the liability of landowners who allow salmon habitat projects on their land ([HB 1194](#)) passed on April 24. It is currently awaiting a decision by the Governor on whether to sign the bill into law.
- The following three bills did not pass during the 2013 session:
  - SB 5054, which would require legislative approval of state land acquisitions,
  - SB 5057, which would have limited the circumstances under which sponsors could restrict public access to project sites, and

- SB 5276, which would have prohibited agriculturally-designated lands from being used for non-agricultural purposes, including salmon recovery.
- The legislature adjourned on April 28 without adopting any of the budgets that cover salmon recovery. The Governor has called a special session that will commence on May 13<sup>th</sup> and run for 30 days. The primary purpose is to finalize the operating, capital, and transportation budgets, although there are several policy issues on the table as well. None of the policy issues affect salmon recovery.
- The following chart shows the various budgets as proposed or approved by the Governor, the House and the Senate.

#### RCO Capital Budget Salmon Programs

	Gov. Inslee	Senate	House
<b>Estuary &amp; Salmon Restoration Program</b>	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
<b>Family Forest Fish Passage Program</b>	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
<b>Puget Sound Acquisitions &amp; Restoration</b>	\$80,000,000	\$60,000,000	\$70,000,000
<b>Salmon Federal</b>	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000
<b>Salmon State</b>	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$167,000,000</b>	<b>\$147,000,000</b>	<b>\$157,000,000</b>

#### RCO Operating Budget

	Gov. Inslee	House	Senate
<b>General Fund State FY 2014</b>	\$825,000	\$814,000	\$789,000
<b>General Fund State FY 2015</b>	\$816,000	\$802,000	\$777,000
<b>General Fund Federal</b>	\$3,430,000	\$3,419,000	\$3,419,000
<b>General Fund Private/Local</b>	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000
<b>Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account</b>	\$478,000	\$478,000	\$478,000
<b>Vessel Response Account (Invasive Species)</b>	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>FARR Account</b>	\$37,000	\$37,000	\$37,000
<b>Recreation Resources Account (Boating)</b>	\$3,088,000	\$3,049,000	\$3,049,000
<b>NOVA Program Account</b>	\$965,000	\$963,000	\$963,000
<b>Youth Athletic Facilities</b>	\$201,000	\$201,000	\$201,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,866,000</b>	<b>\$9,789,000</b>	<b>\$9,739,000</b>

#### Policy Update

During the legislative session we responded daily to requests from the Legislature and responding to the Governor's and Legislature's focus on Lean processes. We also are preparing to update our strategic and work plans. For the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, we continue to work on putting together the farmland preservation program review team, one of that board's 2013 policy priorities. We also are working to complete the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and are updating the trails and Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities plans.

## Salmon Recovery News

### RCO Asks for \$25 Million in Federal Salmon Recovery Funding

RCO submitted Washington's application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for a Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund grant in March. This federal fund provides the largest source of funding for salmon habitat restoration projects in the state. Washington's application requested the maximum amount allowed (\$25 million), which would provide funding for salmon restoration and acquisition projects, administration, and monitoring disbursed through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and would provide funding to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission for hatchery and harvest reform. Final funding amounts will not be known until May.

### Salmon Recovery Conference

The 2013 Salmon Recovery Conference will be May 14-15 in Vancouver, Washington at the Vancouver Convention Center. Thanks to the Salmon grants managers and their indefatigable outreach efforts, the conference will be the most comprehensive yet, with eight concurrent tracks. The tracks cover a full range of project types—from hand placing logs to blowing up dams—and a full range of habitats—from estuaries to headwaters. Confirmed keynote speakers include: Will Stelle, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Phil Rockefeller, Northwest Power and Conservation Council; Robyn Thorson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Phil Anderson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The dinner talk will be by Lynda Mapes, reporter with the Seattle Times, who will speak on "Elwha: The Grand Experiment." To see the full agenda, visit the RCO Web site at [www.rco.wa.gov/SalmonConfAgenda.shtml](http://www.rco.wa.gov/SalmonConfAgenda.shtml). As of May 1, there were 504 registered attendees, including 37 exhibitors.

### Salmon Briefing for Congressional Staff

On May 6, WDFW Director Phil Anderson and I went to Washington D.C. to conduct a salmon briefing for the staff from the entire Washington delegation. There was a huge turnout, including staff from our newest members (as well as seasoned veterans). Also, while in D.C. we met with individual members to talk about PCSRF funding and other salmon issues.

## Update on Sister Boards

### Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB)

The RCFB met in Olympia April 4-5. Following management reports, staff presented a proposal for how the board could recognize projects that either have great vision or have a great legacy. The board will vote on a final proposal in June. Staff also presented an overview of the policies that are applied to decisions about storm water facilities on board-funded properties. The board then took a tour of local projects that integrate storm water facilities and recreational uses. On Friday, the board had an in-depth discussion on the matter and decided that guidelines within the existing policies would be appropriate, although they would like some additional guidance.

## Washington Invasive Species Council

The council met in March and discussed a wide range of topics, including the growing population of green crab on Vancouver Island, status of the permit to control Japanese eelgrass, progress made to inspect for invasive species at border check stations, an update of 2013 invasive species legislation and plans for the 2014 session, the Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council's citizen scientist monitoring efforts in 2012, and the significant progress made by the Washington Department of Transportation to include invasive species prevention specifications in its construction contracts.

Staff attended the Invasive Species Awareness Week in Washington, D.C. and met with congressional staffers for delegates from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Nevada, and Arizona. The need for more inspections and decontaminations of boats leaving federally-managed waters that are infested with zebra and/or quagga mussels was discussed, as was the states' interest in listing quagga mussels on the injurious species list to enhance the federal role in boat inspection and enforcement.

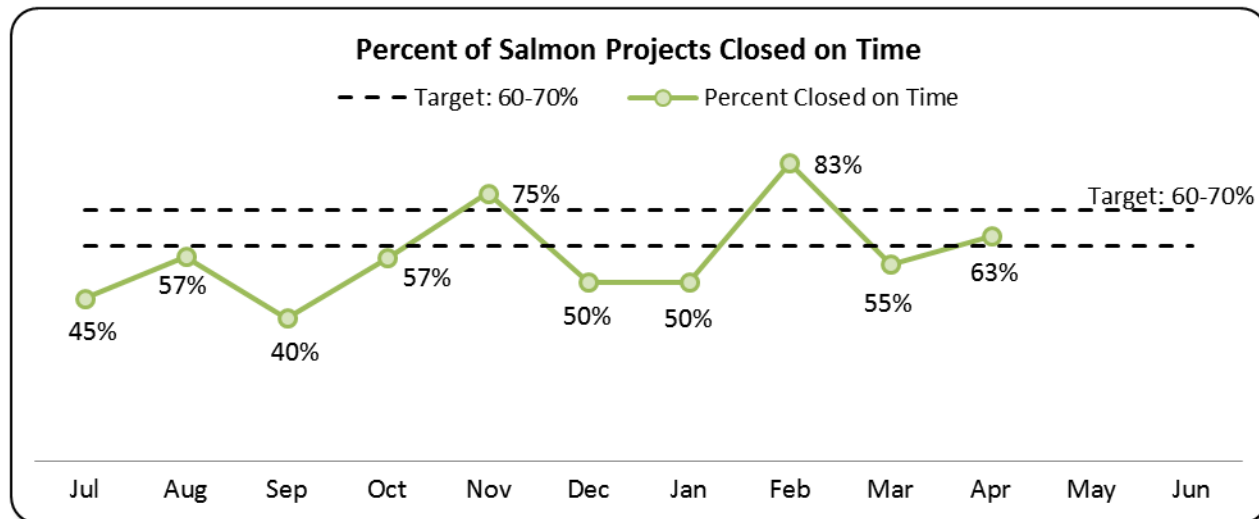
### Performance Measures

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

Measure	Target	FY 2013 Performance	Indicator
Percent of salmon projects closed on time	60-70%	58%	●
% salmon grant projects issued a project agreement within 120 days after the board funding date	85-95%	95%	●
% of salmon grant projects under agreement within 180 days after the board funding date	95%	85% (in process)	●
Cumulative expenditures, salmon target by fiscal month	49.4% (as of FM21)	41.2% (as of FM21)	●
Bills paid within 30 days: salmon projects and activities	100%	91%	●
Percent of anticipated stream miles made accessible to salmon	100%	98%	●

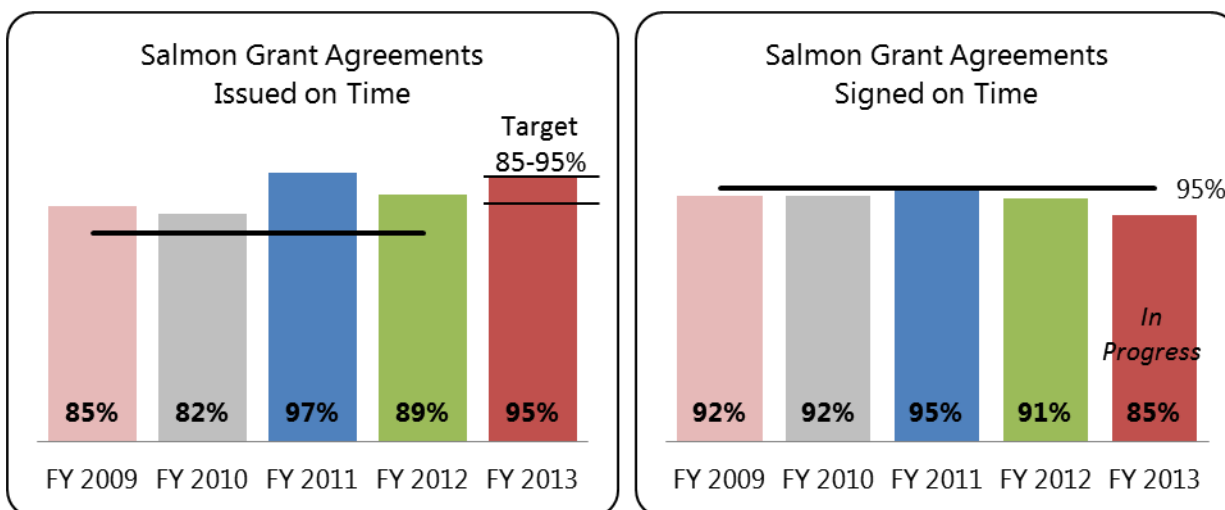


## Projects Closed on Time



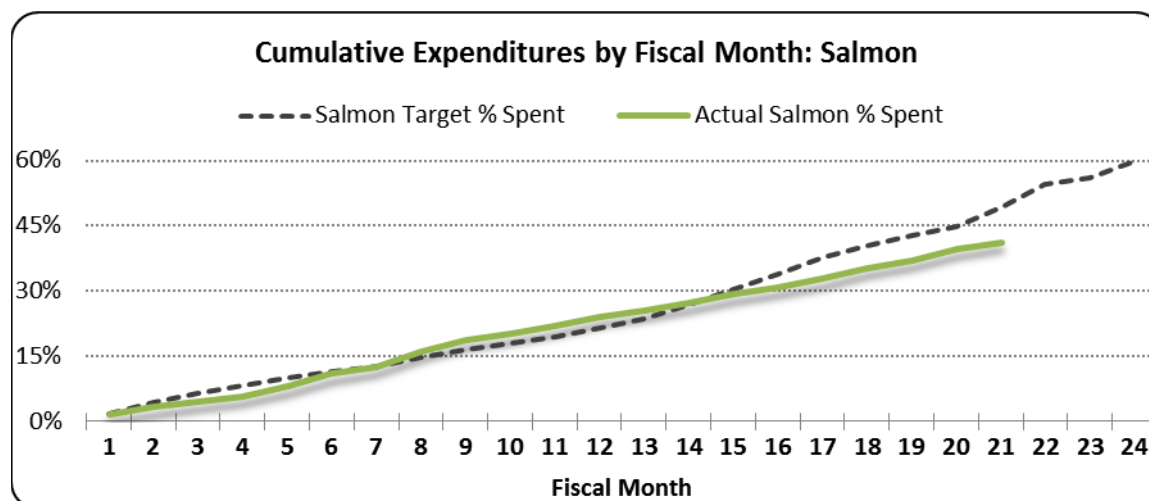
One hundred and forty-seven projects have been due for completion and closure since July 1, 2012. Staff members have closed 85 projects on time, which nears the 60-70% target range for on-time closures. Another 19 were closed late. During the spring, staff members have focused on placing projects under agreement before the summer field season.

## Project Agreements Issued and Signed on Time



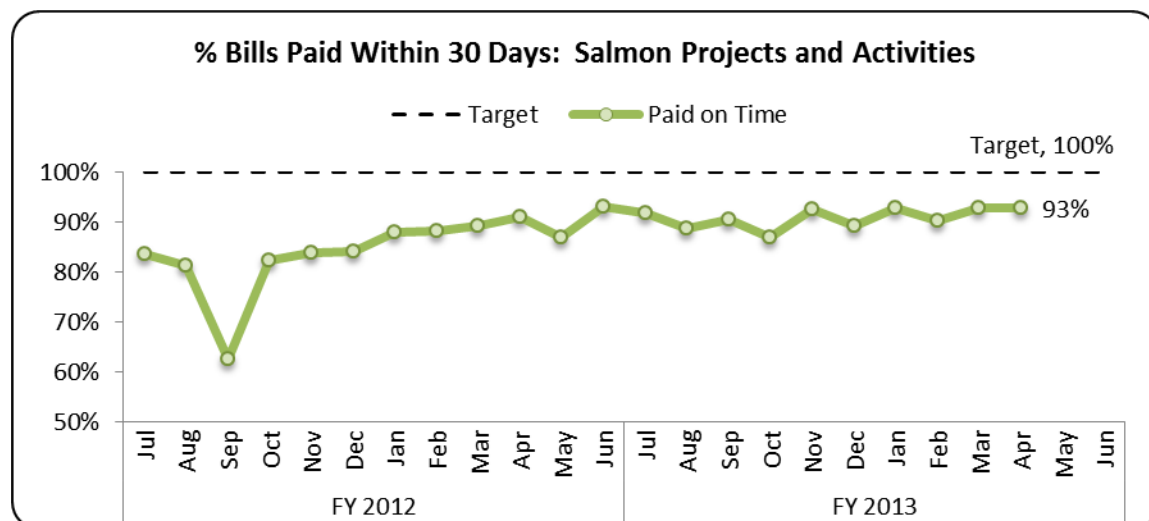
As of May 1, staff had issued 106 project agreements for grants awarded in December 2012. The deadline for issuing the agreements was April 4. Project sponsors had signed and returned 95 of the agreements; the deadline for signing the agreements is June 3. This measure includes grant awards that were amended into existing project agreements.

## Cumulative Expenditures by Fiscal Month



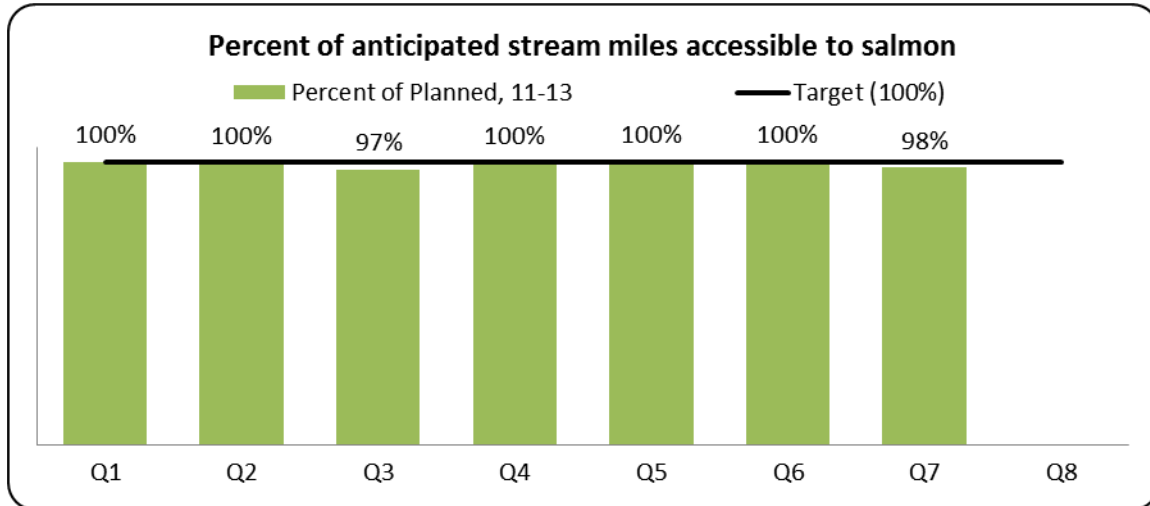
Expenditures are lagging behind expectations and the stretch targets set for this biennium. Fiscal staff is hopeful that project sponsor will begin to expend funds and submit invoices for work completed in the spring.

## Bills Paid on Time



Between July 1, 2012 and April 30, 2013 there were 1,471 invoices due for salmon recovery projects and activities (e.g., lead entities, regions, and review panel). Of those, 1,337 were paid on time, 116 were paid late, and 18 remain unpaid. The average number of days to pay a bill was 16.

## 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. Nearly 190 miles have been made accessible since July 1, 2011. Many projects do not include this measure.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 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 March 31, 2013.

The available balance (funds to be committed) is \$12.6 million. The amount for the board to allocate is about \$3.0 million, primarily in returned funds (see Agenda Items 6 and 7). The amount for other entities to allocate is \$9.6 million.

### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

### Balance Summary

Fund	Balance
Current State Balance	\$2,090,943
Current Federal Balance – Projects, Hatchery Reform, Monitoring	\$3,271,934
Current Federal Balance – Activities	\$413,417
Lead Entities	\$0
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) & Puget Sound Restoration (PSR)	\$91,321
Estuary and Salmon Restoration	\$1,502,223
Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP)	\$5,220,436
Puget Sound Critical Stock	\$0

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Budget Summary

For the Period of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2013, actuals through 3/31/2013 (fm21) 4/15/2016

Percentage of biennium reported: 87.5%

BUDGET		COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
new & reapp. 2011-13		Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of budget	Dollars	% of comm
GRANT PROGRAMS							
State Funded 03-05	\$829,178	\$829,178	100%	\$0	0%	\$518,051	62%
State Funded 05-07	\$1,992,436	\$1,992,436	100%	\$0	0%	\$879,765	44%
State Funded 07-09	\$3,377,100	\$3,375,493	100%	\$1,607	0%	\$1,552,168	46%
State Funded 09-11	\$4,676,704	\$4,301,831	92%	\$374,873	8%	\$4,007,644	93%
State Funded 11-13	\$9,700,000	\$7,985,537	82%	\$1,714,463	18%	\$1,556,655	19%
State Funded Total	\$20,575,418	\$18,484,474	90%	\$2,090,943	10%	\$8,514,284	46%
							100%
Federal Funded 2007	\$6,771,390	\$6,771,390	100%	\$0	0%	\$6,771,390	
Federal Funded 2008	\$11,277,890	\$10,602,586	94%	\$675,304	6%	\$6,321,699	60%
Federal Funded 2009	\$10,868,773	\$10,629,667	98%	\$239,106	2%	\$6,789,996	64%
Federal Funded 2010	\$23,104,377	\$23,036,291	100%	\$68,086	0%	\$13,550,066	59%
Federal Funded 2011	\$25,374,033	\$25,374,033	100%	\$0	0%	\$9,170,539	36%
Federal Funded 2012	\$21,340,000	\$18,637,145	87%	\$2,702,855	13%	\$117,452	1%
Federal Funded Total	\$98,736,463	\$95,051,112	96%	\$3,685,351	4%	\$42,603,690	45%
Lead Entities	\$6,181,803	\$6,181,804	100%	\$0	0%	\$3,953,090	64%
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	\$37,892,542	\$37,801,222	100%	\$91,321	0%	\$18,660,798	49%
Estuary and Salmon Restoration	\$11,341,492	\$9,839,269	87%	\$1,502,223	13%	\$3,533,698	36%
Family Forest Fish Passage Program	\$14,868,397	\$9,647,961	65%	\$5,220,436	35%	\$3,731,791	39%
Puget Sound Critical Stock	\$4,301,643	\$4,301,643	100%	-	0%	\$2,109,572	49%
Subtotal Grant Programs	\$193,897,758	\$181,307,485	94%	\$12,590,273	6%	\$83,106,923	46%
ADMINISTRATION							
SRFB Admin/Staff	\$4,439,720	\$4,439,720	100%	-	0%	\$3,361,388	76%
Technical Panel	\$598,777	\$584,742	98%	\$14,035	2%	\$377,043	64%
Subtotal Administration	\$5,038,497	\$5,024,462	100%	\$14,035	0%	\$3,738,431	74%
GRANT AND ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	\$198,936,255	\$186,331,947	94%	\$12,604,308	6%	\$86,845,354	47%

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 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

The 2012 grant cycle is wrapping up. Sponsors and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff have placed nearly all projects under agreement. We expect that the projects will be actively underway as we head into the 2013 construction season.

### 2013 Review Panel

The 2013 Review Panel held its kick off meeting in early April with Kelly Jorgenson as the new chair of the panel. The former chair, Patty Michak, left for a new position in which she will review mitigation projects in Hood Canal. The Review Panel has a new member, Marnie Tyler, for this grant round.

### Starting the 2013 Grant Cycle

The 2013 grant round is officially underway.

- Sponsors are using the new PRISM Web site to submit applications.
- The Review Panel has started its technical review process and project site visits to each lead entity. To date, the panel members have completed the Skagit, NOPE, West Sound, and Island Lead Entity site visits. All site visits will be complete by June 30, 2013.

- Final applications are due to the RCO by August 16, 2013.
- Early Action Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration projects are due by July 15, 2013.

### Salmon Metric Project

This project is nearly complete; staff has only 30 final reports remaining to review and accept. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will use this data to report on the use of Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) dollars.

### Viewing Completed and Closed Projects

Attachment A lists projects that have completed and closed between February 1, 2013 and April 15, 2013. To view information about a project, click on the blue project number<sup>1</sup>. 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 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (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 February 1, 2013 and April 15, 2013. Staff processed a total of 21 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
08-1741	Monahan Creek Restoration	Cowlitz Conservation District	Salmon Federal	Scope Change	To add 12 large wood structures to project within existing budget.
09-1705	Skamokawa Creek Community Watershed Implementation	Wahkiakum Conservation District	Salmon State	Cost Increase/ Project Type Change	\$30,000 cost increase. Change from restoration to combination restoration/acquisition project.
11-1531	Mashel Shoreline Protection	Nisqually Land Trust	PSAR	Cost Increase	\$13,000 to cover Phase 2 Environmental Assessment
11-1441	Upper Chumstick Barrier Removal	Chelan County Natural Resources	Salmon State	Cost Increase	\$23,000 to complete fifth barrier removal in scope

### Grant Administration

The following table shows projects funded by the board and administered by staff since 1999. Information is current as of April 15, 2013.

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

- 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	1	90	141	232
Salmon Federal or State Projects	23	276	1,192	1,491
	<b>24</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>1,333</b>	<b>1,723</b>

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

### Three to Five Year Work Plan

Last fall, the RCO worked with an independent consultant to assess the roles and structure of the Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO). One key recommendation from the consultant’s report was that the GSRO should develop a strategic work plan.

GSRO staff has held two retreats and done considerable staff work to develop a plan that reflects statutory requirements, financial realities, and the views of staff and stakeholders, as expressed in the consultant report. The draft plan, which they hope to have ready for the May board meeting, provides a three-to-five year framework of work to accomplish within the expected constraints imposed by the state budget.

### Board Monitoring Investment Strategy Assessment

In December, the board approved funds for an assessment of its monitoring strategy. Stillwater Sciences was awarded a contract for this assessment in February 2013, following a competitive bid process.

Stillwater Sciences, GSRO, and RCO staff hosted a kick-off meeting in March with members of a steering committee. This committee has more than a dozen participants from federal, state, tribal, and local organizations. The contractor submitted a draft work plan in mid-April for review by staff and the steering committee. The parties met again on May 6 to finalize the work plan (Attachment B).

The final assessment is scheduled to be presented to the board later this year. Staff will determine over the summer whether the board discussion of the report should take place at the October meeting or the December meeting.



## Other Topics of Note

### Lead Entity Retreat

The lead entities held a training retreat in Walla Walla on April 16 and 17. Updates on the grant round were provided by RCO staff. More information is in the lead entity report (Item 3B).

### Salmon Video Update

In September 2012, the board approved funds to create a video component to the State of the Salmon Web site. The GSRO solicited bids and hired North 40 Productions film company to make the video.

The video will focus on salmon recovery in Washington State, the return on our investments, and the need for continued support. It will include interviews with salmon advocates such as former Congressman Norm Dicks, Nisqually Tribal Chair Cynthia Iyall, Nisqually Tribal Vice Chair Willie Frank Junior III, and Bill Ruckleshaus.

The key messages will remind viewers:

- we have had some success in salmon recovery
- how and why salmon are important to our state
- what salmon recovery does for the economy and the ecosystem
- that there is work to do to achieve harvestable recovery
- we can recover salmon

The video will be shown at the Salmon Recovery Conference and will be on our Web sites.

### Salmon Recovery Conference

The 2013 Salmon Recovery Conference will be held on May 14-15 in Vancouver, Washington at the Vancouver Convention Center. Staff will review the conference with the board at the May meeting.

As of April 19, 2013 (the deadline for early registration), 439 people had registered. The goal is to have 500 people registered before the start of the conference. The agenda for the conference can be found at this link: <http://www.rco.wa.gov/SalmonConfAgenda.shtml>.

## Attachments

- A. Salmon projects recently completed and closed
- B. Work plan to assess board monitoring strategy

## Salmon Projects Completed and Closed Between February 1, 2013 and April 15, 2013

Number	Name	Sponsor	Program	Closed On
<a href="#">10-1757</a>	Gull Harbor Estuary Barrier Removal	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Capitol Land Trust	2/4/2013
<a href="#">10-1801</a>	Middle Methow River Acquisition RM 48.7	Salmon Federal Projects	Methow Salmon Recovery Found	2/7/2013
<a href="#">09-1282</a>	Middle Pilchuck River Reach Assessment & Design	Salmon Federal Projects	Snohomish County	2/11/2013
<a href="#">08-2080</a>	PSAR Technical Assistance to Watersheds	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Puget Sound Partnership	2/12/2013
<a href="#">10-1933</a>	Bailey- Trib to Porter Cr R9	FFFPP Grants	Grays Harbor Conservation District	2/13/2013
<a href="#">08-2003</a>	Wolf- Davis Creek R6	FFFPP Grants	Grays Harbor Conservation District	2/13/2013
<a href="#">10-1760</a>	Skarperud Timber Company- Mox Chehalis R8	FFFPP Grants	Grays Harbor Conservation District	2/14/2013
<a href="#">05-1615</a>	Wiley Slough Estuarine Restoration	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Skagit River System Cooperative	2/14/2013
<a href="#">07-1675</a>	Abernathy Habitat Restoration and Riparian Protect	Salmon Federal Projects	Cowlitz Conservation District	2/20/2013
<a href="#">08-1564</a>	2008 Tolt San Souci Reach Acquisition	Salmon Federal Projects	King County DNR & Parks	2/21/2013
<a href="#">10-1509</a>	Pysht Floodplain Acquisition Phase Two	Salmon Federal Projects	North Olympic Land Trust	2/22/2013
<a href="#">10-1773</a>	McLane Creek Watershed Project Development	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	South Puget Sound SEG	2/27/2013
<a href="#">10-1935</a>	Baker- Goliath Creek R9	FFFPP Grants	Wild Fish Conservancy	3/6/2013
<a href="#">07-1601</a>	Goodman Creek Road Decommission	Salmon Federal Projects	Clallam Conservation District	3/6/2013
<a href="#">09-1586</a>	Mill Creek Sills Passage	Salmon Federal Projects	Tri-State Steelheaders Inc	3/18/2013
<a href="#">07-1674</a>	Zmrhal/Rauth Coweeman Restoration	Salmon Federal Projects	Cowlitz Conservation District	3/18/2013
<a href="#">10-1699</a>	Cedar River Elliot Bridge Reach Acquire II 2010	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	King Co Water & Land Resources	3/26/2013
<a href="#">08-1918</a>	Lower Cedar River Acquisition	Salmon Federal Projects	King Co Water & Land Resources	3/26/2013

Item 2, Attachment A

<a href="#"><u>09-1567</u></a>	WRIA 13 Three Year Workplan Project Development	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	South Puget Sound SEG	3/28/2013
<a href="#"><u>09-1463</u></a>	Livingston Bay Pocket Estuary Restoration	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	The Nature Conservancy	3/29/2013
<a href="#"><u>05-1412</u></a>	Vogel - Anderson Creek Trib R3	FFFPP Grants	Nooksack Salmon Enhance Assn	4/9/2013
<a href="#"><u>09-1568</u></a>	WRIA 14 Three Year Workplan Project Development	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	South Puget Sound SEG	4/15/2013

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 2013  
**Title:** Federal Ruling on Tribal Culvert Case  
**Prepared By:** RCO Staff

**APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

### Summary

On March 29, federal district court Judge Ricardo Martinez issued a permanent injunction requiring the Washington State Departments of Transportation (DOT), Natural Resources (DNR), Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and the State Parks and Recreation Commission (Parks) to remove barriers to fish passage at state owned stream crossings. The agencies will provide briefings to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board at the May 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

### Background

The salmon culvert legal battle stems from the 1974 U.S. District Court case, United States v. Washington. The ruling, known as the Boldt Decision, found that when Indian tribes signed treaties in the 1850s, they reserved the right to catch up to 50 percent of the harvestable fish.

The "Culvert case" was filed in 2001, when 21 tribes asked the federal court to rule that the state of Washington has a treaty-based duty to preserve fish runs. The tribes also asked the court to compel the state to repair or replace culverts that impede salmon migration to or from spawning grounds. In 2007, the court ruled in favor of the tribes, declaring that under the treaties, the state must "refrain from building or operating culverts under state-maintained roads that hinder fish passage and thereby diminish the number of fish that would otherwise be available for tribal harvest."

The case was set for trial, which was held in 2009 with the final arguments heard in 2010. The court delayed its ruling so the state and tribes could negotiate a settlement. Because they were

unable to negotiate a resolution, on March 29, 2013, the court issued a permanent injunction that ordered Washington State to take the following steps:

- Within the next six months, the defendants (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, State Parks, and Washington State Department of Transportation) must complete a list of all culverts under state-owned roads in Western Washington that are salmon barriers;
- Fix about 180 culverts that are owned by WDFW, DNR, or State Parks by October 31, 2016;
- Fix about 817 barrier culverts that are owned or operated by DOT by 2030; and
- Ensure that any new culverts comply with standards to provide fish passage.

On April 12, the House Capital Budget Committee held a work session that addressed the potential effects of the ruling on state agency budgets. Presentations from that work session are included as Attachments A through C. Preliminary estimates by the state's Office of Financial Management put the cost of the repairs for culverts owned or operated by DNR, DFW, and State Parks at \$55.3 million<sup>1</sup>. DOT estimates that correcting its culverts will cost about \$2.4 billion over the next 17 years. The work session can be viewed on the TVW Web site at [http://twv.org/index.php?option=com\\_twvplayer&eventID=2013040100](http://twv.org/index.php?option=com_twvplayer&eventID=2013040100).

The Attorney General's Office has until May 28 to decide whether to appeal the ruling.

## Attachments

- A. Presentation to the House Capital Budget Committee from DNR
- B. Presentation to the House Capital Budget Committee from DFW
- C. Presentation to the House Capital Budget Committee from State Parks
- D. Presentation for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board from the Department of Transportation

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<sup>1</sup> The agency presentations estimate the cost at about \$32 million.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 2013  
**Title:** Budget Update  
**Prepared By:** Nona Snell, Policy Director  
Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager

**APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

### Summary

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) pays for projects, lead entities, regional organizations, and monitoring efforts with a combination of state and federal funds. This memo summarizes the funding available to the board for the 2013-15 biennium. The funding allocation decisions are presented in Items 7 and 9.

### 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

## Federal Funding

The board receives federal funding through the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund. The grants are made on an annual basis according to the federal fiscal year.

### Status of 2013 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant application

On March 12, the RCO submitted Washington State's application for a 2013 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The proposal requested the maximum grant – \$25 million – on behalf of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the RCO, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. The state requested funds for habitat projects, hatchery reform projects, monitoring, administration, and database upgrades.

The federal government generally announces the awards and makes funds available in mid- to late summer. If the state receives the maximum award, \$10.9 million would be available for projects and \$3.67 million would be available for lead entities and regional organizations in state fiscal year 2014. The distribution is illustrated in Table 1.

**Table 1**

Category	Amount	Percent
Site-specific salmon habitat protection & restoration projects	\$10,904,041	43.60%
Support to salmon recovery regions and lead entities to implement salmon recovery plans	\$3,670,000	14.70%
Hatchery and harvest reform projects managed by NWIFC	\$1,405,740	5.60%
Hatchery reform projects managed by WDFW	\$3,423,611	13.70%
Monitoring (10% of award)	\$2,500,000	10.00%
Salmonid population and habitat monitoring necessary for exercise of tribal treaty rights	\$1,296,608	5.20%
Lower Columbia monitoring to fill gaps	\$750,000	3.00%
RCO administration and grant management	\$750,000	3.00%
SRFB technical review panel	\$200,000	0.80%
Reporting database updates	\$100,000	0.40%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$25,000,000 100%</b>

### Federal Budget Outlook for FY 2014

Federal funding in the second year of this biennium (federal fiscal year 2014) is unknown. The president's fiscal year 2014 budget proposes \$50 million for PCSRF. Staff will provide updated information, if available, at the board meeting.

### State Operating and Capital Budgets, 2013-15

The 2013 regular legislative session adjourned on April 28. Governor Inslee called a special session that will begin on May 13, and may last up to 30 days. The state must enact an operating budget by June 30, 2013.

At this time, the Legislature and Governor are continuing to negotiate budgets. We anticipate small changes from the 2011-13 operating and capital budgets. Staff will provide updated information at the board meeting.

### Operating Budget

The operating budget includes general fund appropriations for RCO administration, the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO), and lead entities. For 2011-13, the total was \$1.7 million (Table 2).

The proposed 2013-15 operating budgets from the Governor, House, and Senate each represent a

**Table 2**

Operating Budget Item	11-13 Amount
GSRO	\$500,908
RCO/SRFB/Salmon Admin	\$261,031
Lead Entity Grants	\$960,061
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,722,000</b>

decrease for RCO from the current biennium. We expect one general fund appropriation for the GSRO, RCO/Salmon administration, and the lead entity grants. The proposed reductions in RCO general fund appropriations are as follows:

- The Senate budget: 9 percent
- The House budget: 6 percent
- Governor Inslee budget: 5 percent

This continues a downward trend; the 2011-13 budget was a five percent reduction from the 2009-11 biennium.

## **Capital Budget**

The proposed House, Senate, and Governor capital budgets are identical with regard to funding for the board's salmon grant program; each has provided \$15 million in state bond funds.

The Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program received \$60 million in the Senate capital budget, \$70 million in the House, and \$80 million in the Governor's budget.

Two other programs of interest to the board appear to be receiving the amount requested in the budgets proposed by Governor Inslee, the House, and the Senate:

- Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP): \$10 million
- Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP): \$2 million

## **Implications for Board Funding Decisions**

### **Funds to be Allocated**

If budgets are enacted, the board will need to allocate some of its state and federal funding at the May meeting. The board will be asked to allocate the following:

- State capital funds
- State operating funds for lead entities
- Federal fiscal year 2013 PCSRF grant funds

The funds will be used in state fiscal year 2014 to support the board's grant round, lead entity contracts, regional organization contracts, and monitoring programs<sup>1</sup>.

If the 2013-15 budgets were adopted as proposed, and Washington State receives the amount of funding requested in the PCSRF application, there would be sufficient funding for the staff proposal through fiscal year 2014. Funding for fiscal year 2015 is less certain due to the federal budget situation. For that reason, staff will recommend a status quo approach to fiscal year 2014, which will allow the board more flexibility in fiscal year 2015.

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<sup>1</sup> Contracts for lead entities and regional organizations often are referred to as "capacity" by the board and staff.



## **Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration**

The board will not be asked to make decisions about Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) funds for projects or lead entity contracts in May. The board has made decisions about those funds separately in the past, and staff recommends that the board continue to consult with the Puget Sound Partnership, which establishes percentages for distributing the funds. Historically, the Partnership has allocated about 6 percent of PSAR funds to support lead entities in Puget Sound. The remainder has been allocated to projects, and the funds have been awarded according to the policies set forth in Manual 18<sup>2</sup>.

## **State Returned Funds**

“Returned funds” refers to money allocated to projects and activities that is returned when projects/activities either close without spending their entire budget or are not completed. These dollars are returned to the overall budget. The board typically uses “returned funds” for cost increases, capacity needs, and to increase the funding available for projects in the upcoming grant round. There is currently about \$3 million in returned funds available to support the 2013 grant round and other needs as determined by the board.

## **Policy Implications**

As the board makes its decisions and considers the staff proposal in Item 7, there are a few policies it will need to keep in mind:

- State salmon bond funds cannot be used to fund contracts for lead entities or regional organizations.
- State general fund dollars may be used to fund lead entity contracts, but are also used to fund the RCO director and policy director, the Board’s administrative and travel costs, the administration of lead entity contracts, and the Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office.
- Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund dollars may be used to fund lead entities and regional organizations, but doing so is a lower priority for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) than on-the-ground projects. The current 2013 grant application pending with NOAA has a fixed amount (\$3,670,000) allowed for regions and lead entities.

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<sup>2</sup> The applicable policies regarding allocation and awards are in Manual 18, Appendix P:  
[http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/manuals&forms/Manual18Appendices/Appendix\\_P\\_Pug\\_Sound\\_Acq\\_Rst\\_Fund.pdf](http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/manuals&forms/Manual18Appendices/Appendix_P_Pug_Sound_Acq_Rst_Fund.pdf)

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 2013  
**Title:** Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions  
**Prepared By:** Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager

**APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

### Summary

At its May meeting, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) will need to determine funding levels for the 2013 project grant round and for regional organizations and lead entities.

### 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

Proposed motion language will be provided at the meeting.

## Background

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) funds both projects and activities with the federal and state 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.

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. Funding amounts are set annually<sup>1</sup>. As of the writing of this memo neither the

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<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.

state or federal funding levels have been determined by the legislature or our federal grantor (NOAA).

## Framework and Historical Funding

### Relationship to Strategic Plan

The board supports its strategic plan through its funding decisions. The strategic plan identifies the board's funding allocation strategy as:

*Within the limits of the board's budget and priorities, fund projects, monitoring, and human capital in a way that best advances the salmon recovery effort.*

The key funding actions identified in the plan provide funding for the following:

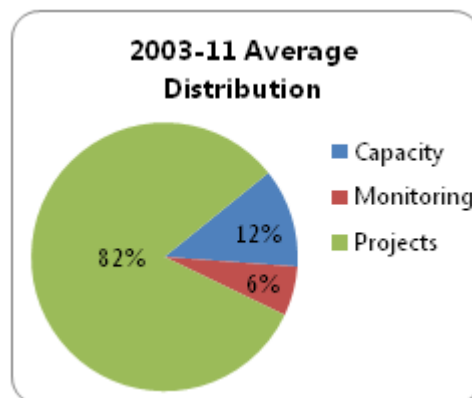
- Projects that produce measurable and sustainable benefits for salmon
- Monitoring to measure project implementation, effectiveness, and the long-term results of all recovery efforts
- Human capital that identifies, supports, and implements recovery actions.

### Historical Allocations

It may be helpful for the board to note that in each biennium since 2003, the percent distribution among projects, monitoring and capacity has remained fairly consistent, with little variation. The average historical distribution is displayed in the chart.

The actual amounts have varied significantly, depending on the funds available.

The board's previous funding decisions have recognized the value of the state's bottom-up approach and the belief that funding for lead entity and regional organization capacity is integral to salmon recovery. The decision making process has included much discussion about how to achieve the right balance between capacity and projects.



The board has generally supported the concept of maintaining capacity funding levels, and has acted in the past to offset the loss of state general funds for lead entities with PCSRF dollars. However, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) set forth priorities in 2012 that indicate a preference for PCSRF dollars to be used for projects. Applications that propose more project than non-project funding are likely to be more competitive.

### Change in Timing for Capacity Grant Funding

The PCSRF grant program within NOAA has shifted to a more competitive format over the last two years, and now requires that funding requests be allocated among four priorities. As explained in a

September 2012 memo to the board<sup>2</sup>, Washington State had been requesting two years of capacity funds (lead entities and regional organizations) in every other annual application. Continuing this practice under the new priority format would have put the state at a competitive disadvantage because it created an imbalance between projects and capacity. The board approved a shift to annual capacity fund requests. The funding models below reflect that shift.

## Board Decisions

The board will be asked to make the following decisions in May. Staff will have a presentation to support the decision making process.

### **If budgets are not enacted by the Legislature before the May board meeting:**

Decision: Delegate authority to the director or call special meeting for final allocation decisions.

### **If budgets are enacted:**

Decision: Approve Target 2013 Grant Round Funding Amount

Decision: Approve Funding Level for Lead Entity Contracts

Decision: Approve Funding Level for Regional Organization Contracts

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the following if budgets are enacted as proposed:

- Set the project funding level for the 2013 grant round at \$18 million.
- Approve fiscal year 2014 funding for regional organizations at a level equal to half the amount approved for the entire 2011-13 biennium to reflect a new approach to the federal grant application (Table 2).
- Approve fiscal year 2014 funding for lead entities at a level equal to half the amount approved for each lead entity for the entire 2011-13 biennium to reflect a new approach to the federal grant application (Table 3).
- Approve fiscal year 2014 funding for lead entity training and a lead entity chairperson at a level equal to half the amount approved for the entire 2011-13 biennium (Table 3).

As noted in Item 6, the proposed state budgets recommend further reductions (five to nine percent) in general fund dollars for lead entities. The RCO and GSRO recommend that such a cut be managed by moving the funds from regional organization funds to lead entities. Accordingly, the RCO asked the regional organizations to document how they would take a five or 10 percent cut in their 2013-15 scope of work.

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<sup>2</sup> Item 4: [http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/salmon/agendas/S0912\\_all.pdf](http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/salmon/agendas/S0912_all.pdf)

## Scope of Work and Funding Considerations for Regions and Lead Entities

Staff members are working with regional organizations and lead entities to finalize their two-year scope of work. Tasks will be split between year one and year two to reflect the shift to annual funding. New contracts will be in place by July 1, 2013.

### Regional Organization Highlights

Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) and regional salmon recovery organizations have drafted scopes of work for 2013-2015 grant agreements that balance the need for statewide consistency with the need for tailored work plans that fit the circumstances of each regional organization.

Each scope of work uses the following standard work categories:

- Organizational development and maintenance
- Recovery plans and implementation schedules
- Recovery plan implementation and reporting
- Monitoring and adaptive management
- Communication and outreach
- Finance strategies for operations and implementation

Within each category, GSRO has worked with the regions to develop specific tasks, deliverable work products, and due dates that fit the characteristics of the region's recovery plan and reflect its progress to date. This tailoring reflects the relationship between the lead entity work and the activities of the regional organization. For example, tailoring may result in a region passing some of its funding to a lead entity for work on high-priority regional tasks, or to integrate the work of the region and its lead entities.

### Priority Activities in Lead Entity Scope of Work

We anticipate maintaining the following priorities for the 2013-2015 grant agreements.

- **Strategies.** Revise lead entity strategies as needed to be consistent with applicable recovery plans.
- **Sponsor Outreach.** Conduct outreach to project sponsors and the broader community in developing habitat project proposals.
- **Project Lists.** Develop project lists, including technical and citizen committee review and ranking, consistent with board guidance and schedule.
- **Project Information.** Provide basic project tracking and reporting information in PRISM, and in Habitat Work Schedule (HWS) or an equivalent data management system, consistent with statewide guidance.

A standard template for the lead entities' scope of work is tailored to fit each lead entity. This is particularly true for Puget Sound lead entities that also use Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) capacity funds for future project development and may receive money to support watershed scale capacity from the Puget Sound Partnership's board-funded grant.

## Integration of Regional and Lead Entity Work

Five of the regional organizations are combined regional and lead entity organizations, while two regional organizations have separate lead entities within their regional areas. Integration of regional and lead entity work in the contracts is tailored to the organizational relationship.

Regardless of organizational structure, the scope of work aspects related to integration focus on: 1) continued consistency between lead entity strategies and projects and recovery plans, and 2) improved coordination of tracking, reporting, and management of implementation information.

## Funding Scenario

### Assumptions

**State Funding for 2013-15 and Federal Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2014:** As of this writing, the RCO does not know the actual amount of funding that will be available. The funding scenario assumes that (1) state capital funding is near the proposed level of \$15 million for the biennium, (2) the PCSRF grant award from NOAA is between \$22.5 and \$25 million, and (3) state general fund cuts for lead entities do not exceed 9 percent and can be managed through cuts to regional organizations. If the PCSRF grant award falls below \$22.5 million, the scenario would need to be revised.

**Status Quo Approach to Funding:** If the funding assumptions prove accurate, there would be sufficient funds in the proposed 2013-15 budgets to fund the staff proposal for fiscal year 2014. Funding for fiscal year 2015 is less certain due to the federal budget situation. For that reason, staff recommends a status quo approach to fiscal year 2014, which will allow the board more flexibility in fiscal year 2015 if the situation improves.

**Maintain Balance of Projects and Capacity:** As noted above, the board believes that both projects and lead entity and regional organization capacity are integral to salmon recovery. If the funding assumptions prove accurate, RCO and GSRO staff recommends the board maintain the level of funding provided in 2011-13 for each region. The amounts are annualized to reflect the change in PCSRF funding.

**Options to Maintain Lead Entity Funding if there are Cuts to State General Funds:** If the final state budget cuts the general fund dollars for lead entities, and the board wants to maintain lead entity funding at 2011-13 levels, staff proposes that the funds be shifted from the regional organization funding rather than project funding. Doing so will maintain the state's current project-to-capacity ratio in the PCSRF application process, which appears to be fairly competitive. State bond funds cannot be used to fund lead entities.

### Grant Round

Staff recommends that the board approve an \$18 million grant round for projects in 2013. Funds would be distributed as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,000,000</b>

### Regional Organization Funding

Staff recommends that the board approve \$2,778,685 in regional organization funding for 2013 from PCSRF funds. This amount is equal to one year (50 percent) of the funding awarded in the 2011-13 biennium. Funds would be distributed as shown in Table 2. If the PCSRF grant award falls below \$22.5 million, this recommendation would need to be revisited.

**Table 2**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Previous Biennium 2011-2013</b>	<b>State Fiscal Year 2014 July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014</b>
Lower Columbia	\$813,700	\$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
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,557,370</b>	<b>\$2,778,685</b>

### Lead Entity Funding

Staff recommends that the board approve \$1,556,500 in lead entity funding for 2013. This amount is equal to one year (50 percent) of the funding awarded in the 2011-13 biennium for each lead entity<sup>3</sup>. Funds will be distributed as shown in Table 3. As noted in Item 6, the state general fund contributed \$960,000 in 2011-13 to support lead entities, with the remainder coming from PCSRF. We do not know the amount of general funding available for the coming biennium, although we expect a reduction of between 5% and 9%. If the PCSRF grant award falls below \$22.5 million, this recommendation would need to be revisited.

<sup>3</sup> The total for state fiscal year 2014 is less than half the total for the previous biennium due to efficiencies realized through the consolidation in the Upper Columbia Region and discontinuation of the Foster Creek Lead Entity.

Table 3

Region and Lead Entities	Previous Biennium 2011-2013	State Fiscal Year 2014 July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014
<b>Lower Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery</b>	<b>\$160,000</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
<b>Hood Canal Regional Salmon Recovery</b>	<b>\$160,000</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
<b>Northeast Region</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>Puget Sound</b>	<b>\$1,638,000</b>	<b>\$819,000</b>
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
<b>Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery</b>	<b>\$130,000</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>
<b>Upper Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery</b>	<b>\$308,000</b>	<b>\$135,000</b>
<b>Washington Coast</b>	<b>\$390,000</b>	<b>\$195,000</b>
Grays Harbor Lead Entity	\$110,000	\$55,000
Pacific Lead Entity	\$100,000	\$50,000
North Coast Lead Entity	\$90,000	\$45,000
Quinalt Indian Nation Lead Entity	\$90,000	\$45,000
<b>Yakima (Includes Klickitat)</b>	<b>\$240,000</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
Klickitat County Lead Entity	\$110,000	\$55,000
Yakima Basin Regional Salmon Recovery	\$130,000	\$65,000
<b>Subtotal, Lead Entities</b>	<b>\$3,126,000</b>	<b>\$1,544,000</b>
Lead Entity Training	\$16,000	\$8,000
Lead Entity Chair	\$9,000	\$4,500
<b>Subtotal, Lead Entity Support</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$12,500</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,151,000</b>	<b>\$1,556,500</b>



## **Next Steps**

Staff will present this information to the board, as well as any updates regarding the state budget, at its May meeting. Staff will ask for decisions about funding levels and contract mechanisms at that time. The region and lead entity contracts need to be in place by July 1, 2013. The board will make project grant award decisions in December 2013.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 2013  
**Title:** Monitoring Program Findings & Results: Effectiveness Monitoring  
**Prepared By:** Keith Dublanica

**APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

### Summary

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) has supported a reach-scale effectiveness monitoring program since 2004. The program is carried out through a contract with Tetra Tech. This memo and the presentation at the board meeting will provide an update on the program's results and findings.

### 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

Effectiveness monitoring is key to the concept of "adaptive management." The long-term intent of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) program is to document project performance through monitoring, and provide useful feedback on what makes projects successful. The intent is that future projects would be modified or designed to incorporate new understandings identified by the monitoring.

The board's program was originally designed to continue for a minimum of 12 years based on response times of key measures and variables and the implementation timing of projects. With nine years of monitoring now complete, Tetra Tech has collected data that allow us to compare the relative effectiveness of project approaches to achieve specific habitat outcomes. This data helps us to compare the results of projects that appear to be headed for success, with projects that appear to be less than successful.

A key feature of the board's effectiveness monitoring program is that a third-party contractor conducts the monitoring, using standardized methods and protocols. This objectivity allows an impartial analysis and observation of project performance. Comparing projects that are very successful with those that are less successful allows for maximum learning. In fact, the most

important lessons often emerge from less-than successful projects or in areas where we are not seeing the expected habitat outcomes.

## **Findings and Results**

The project scale effectiveness monitoring program has completed monitoring in two categories and discontinued monitoring in another category:

- Monitoring for fish passage projects and diversion screening projects have been completed
- Monitoring for spawning gravel projects was discontinued due to lack of projects.

Both fish passage projects and diversion screening projects were found to be effective at providing passage for both juveniles and adults, and preventing entrainment (i.e., removal from river).

## **Preview of Board Presentation**

The presentation at the May board meeting will summarize results and observations about project performance in two project categories: instream habitat projects and floodplain enhancement projects. These categories were identified by the salmon recovery regions as being areas where most regions need additional information on project performance, and are requesting more monitoring. Lessons have been learned in several areas:

- Achieving specific habitat outcomes;
- Improving project design and reducing costs;
- Integrating project scale data with watershed scale data; and
- Improving the program in the future

Results to be presented in the May meeting will identify the specific habitat elements that are significantly affected by floodplain enhancement and instream habitat projects. Tetra Tech also will show results from a comparison of the relative effectiveness of these two project types with respect to fish use and densities by species. This information can help project sponsors select approaches that are most likely to result in use by their target species, or group of species. Data will also be presented on how monitoring data can be used to better understand fish use of specific projects, and how it can be incorporated directly into the design process to reduce costs, and improve the specificity of designs targets.

## **Next Steps**

Staff and the contractor expect that additional years of monitoring will lead to more lessons learned about these and other project attributes. The presentation at the May board meeting will include a discussion of how monitoring results can be incorporated into future project planning, project design, and subsequent project implementation. Related discussions will take place at the board-sponsored Salmon Project Conference on May 14 and 15.

Staff and the contractor recommend that the board consider ways to:

- integrate the monitoring data across major programs to provide longer-term context for project scale data with respect to patterns in fish populations and provide a process for quantifying progress in addressing limiting factors (e.g., effectiveness, fish in/out, status and trends)
- coordinate monitoring needs across regions and lead entities, and
- encourage project sponsors to use monitoring data as part of the design process.

As an aspect of adaptive management, these actions will increase both the effectiveness and efficiency of restoration efforts.

## Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

**Meeting Date:** May 2013  
**Title:** Contract Awards for Ongoing Monitoring Programs  
**Prepared By:** Brian Abbott, Salmon Section Manager

**APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM**

### Summary

This memo presents background on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board decisions to fund monitoring efforts required by the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, and requests board decisions for use of potential funds in federal fiscal year 2013.

### Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

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

### Proposed Motion Language

Move to approve \$217,000 to continue the existing project effectiveness program with TetraTech through April 1, 2014, pending receipt of PCSRF funds for federal fiscal year 2013..

Move to approve \$1,467,000 for intensively monitored watersheds, through June 30, 2014, pending receipt of PCSRF funds for federal fiscal year 2013.

## 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 PCSRF grant program requires that 10 percent of the overall state award be dedicated to monitoring efforts. Goals of this requirement include analyzing (1) the impact of funded projects on salmon habitat and (2) whether the projects are impacting fish populations.

### Board Approach to Monitoring Allocations

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) allocates PCSRF dollars for salmon recovery projects and monitoring efforts. Monitoring funding is aligned with the priorities established by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), as well as the state's strategies and

priorities. Historically, the board has funded three large, long-term monitoring efforts (project effectiveness, fish-in/fish-out and intensively monitored watersheds) and smaller, related efforts as funds are available. The latter efforts have been vetted through a work group.

## **Review of Board Approach**

As mentioned in the Salmon Management Report (Item 2), Stillwater Science is assessing the board's monitoring activities and associated funding allocations, with the end result being a revised strategic approach for investing the monitoring funds. This report will be completed in October 2013; staff expects that the report's recommendations will influence monitoring allocations and activities beginning in 2014. The decisions to be made for 2013 must rely on the board's current monitoring strategic approach.

## **Funding Available**

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) has not yet received a decision from NOAA about the amount of funding Washington will receive from PCSRF for federal fiscal year 2013. If we receive the amount requested (\$25 million), the amount dedicated to monitoring efforts would be \$2.5 million.

## **Intensively Monitored Watersheds**

Staff from the Washington Departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife presented information to the board in February 2013 about the four intensively monitored watershed (IMW) complexes that receive board funding. In 2012, the board requested information from the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board about possible approaches for implementing the restoration component of its IMW; their report is in Attachment A. A single IMW contract with a total cost of about \$1.4 million covers the cost of continuing the program in the four complexes for one year.

## **Effectiveness Monitoring**

Staff from TetraTech will present information at the May 2013 meeting (Item 8) about results from the effectiveness monitoring program. The annual contract with TetraTech costs about \$287,000. Due to the timing of the board meeting, the RCO Director approved "bridge funding" of \$70,000 to avoid a break in monitoring activity. The balance of \$217,000 is requested.

## **Decision Requested**

RCO staff is asking the board to allocate a portion of the monitoring funds from the anticipated 2013 PCSRF award at its May board meeting, and to delegate authority to the director to enter into the contracts as they expire.

## **Staff Recommendation for Monitoring Allocations**

Staff recommends that the board fund the following contract extensions of existing monitoring efforts. Additional expenditure of 2013 monitoring funds should be postponed until after the consultant report is delivered in October.

## **Summary of Staff Recommendations for Funding**

- Approve \$217,000 to continue the existing project effectiveness program with TetraTech through April 1, 2014, with a focus on habitat protection, in-stream structures, and floodplain enhancement projects.
- Approve \$1,467,000 for intensively monitored watersheds, through June 30, 2014. Funds will be distributed as follows:
  - \$246,124 for the Skagit River Estuary
  - \$368,110 for the Hood Canal
  - \$406,462 for the Strait of Juan de Fuca
  - \$446,304 for continuation of the fish-in/fish-out monitoring and/or continued nutrient enhancement efforts in the Lower Columbia

Both funding decisions would be contingent on receipt of PCSRF funds for federal fiscal year 2013.

## **Next Steps**

Upon receipt of the PCSRF grant award, staff will prepare contract documents for approval by the RCO director.

## **Attachments**

- A. Report on options for implementation of restoration projects in the Lower Columbia IMW

# SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS, MAY 21, 2013

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## 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: Federal Ruling on Tribal Culvert Case	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 5: Update on the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Region	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 6: Budget Update	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 8: Monitoring Program Findings & Results	There were no follow-up actions.

## Agenda Items with Formal Action

Item	Formal Action	Follow-up Actions
Minutes	<a href="#">Approved</a> Minutes from September 2012	There were no follow-up actions.
Item 7: Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions	<a href="#">Deferred funding decisions</a> and direct the chair to call a special meeting via conference call once budgets are authorized.	Chair to call a special meeting via conference call for future funding decisions.
Item 9: Contract Awards for Ongoing Monitoring Programs	<a href="#">Approved</a> \$217,000 from 2012 PCSRF funds to continue the existing project effectiveness program with TetraTech through April 1, 2014.  <a href="#">Fully funded the intensively monitored watersheds</a> through 2013 field season, pending receipt of PCSRF funds for federal fiscal year 2013, and subject to review in October, and delegated authority to director to negotiate an appropriate contract.	Staff to present findings of monitoring assessment in October.



# **SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES**

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**Date:** May 21, 2013

**Place:** Olympia, WA

## **Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members Present:**

<b>David Troutt, Chair</b>	Olympia	<b>Jennifer Quan</b>	Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Josh Brown</b>	Kitsap County	<b>Carol Smith</b>	Conservation Commission
<b>Phil Rockefeller</b>	NWPCC	<b>Megan Duffy</b>	Department of Natural Resources
<b>Nancy Biery</b>	Jefferson County	<b>Mike Barber</b>	Department of Transportation
<b>Harry Barber</b>	Washougal		

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**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 David Troutt called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and a quorum was determined. New members Nancy Biery and Megan Duffy introduced themselves.

**Josh Brown moved to adopt the agenda.**

**Seconded by:** Phil Rockefeller

**Motion:** APPROVED

**Phil Rockefeller moved to adopt the February 2013 minutes.**

**Seconded by:** Josh Brown

**Motion:** APPROVED

## **Service Recognition: Donald R. "Bud" Hover**

Chair Troutt read the resolution and thanked Hover for his service as a board member and as board chairman. Other members also shared their thanks, memories, and good wishes.

**Josh Brown moved to approve service resolution #2013-02.**

**Seconded by:** Phil Rockefeller

**Motion:** APPROVED

## **Proposed August Meeting Date**

**Josh Brown moved to approve August 22, 2013 for regular meeting via conference call**

**Seconded by:** Harry Barber

**Motion:** APPROVED

### **Item 1: Management Reports**

Director Cottingham stated that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) informed her that the state will receive a \$20 million PCSRF grant for federal fiscal year 2013. This is less than previous awards and the amount requested. She does not have details about where the cuts will need to be taken.

Nona Snell gave an update on the special legislative session, which began on May 13, noting that she would give more information about budget later in the day. She reviewed HB 1194, which passed during legislative session. Director Cottingham noted that they do not expect any other bills to come forward during special session that affect the board.

### **Item 2: Salmon Recovery Management Reports**

Brian Abbott reviewed the 2013 grant round, noting that site visits are underway and they are using the PRISM online application for the first time. The system is capturing more information and ensuring greater accuracy. The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office is working on a strategic plan, and is nearly ready to submit a draft to the director. He reviewed the work plan for the monitoring assessment strategy, which was submitted on May 17 and incorporated into the board materials.

The salmon recovery conference had 626 attendees. He thanked Sarah Gage, the conference coordinator, as well as the salmon staff, presenter, and presentation moderators. They are currently conducting a survey of participants.

The board viewed the salmon video that was created to supplement the State of the Salmon report.

### **Projects of Note**

Marc Duboiski presented two projects of note from the Upper Columbia region: the Dillwater Large Woody Debris Enhancement on the Entiat River (10-1843) and the Poorman Creek Barrier Removal on the Twisp River (08-1985).

### **Item 3: Reports from Partners**

**Council of Regions:** Jeff Breckel noted that Julie Morgan had left the Upper Columbia Region. In addition, the regions are looking at the effects of potential budget cuts on their programs. They are working with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Natural Resources on better communication and priority setting. They are engaged with GSRO on the monitoring assessment strategy as members of the steering committee.

**Lead Entity Advisory Group:** Cheryl Baumann noted that the lead entity coordinators are busy helping project sponsors with the grant round. Many of them were at the project conference. They also had a training conference in April, where they did considerable work on strategic planning for the advisory group. They are focused on an update of their mission and goals, enhanced information exchange among lead entities (e.g., idea sharing, business solutions), and long-term funding. The committees working on those topics already have been meeting. LEAG will meet again in June to set short term goals.

**Conservation Commission:** Carol Smith noted that various versions of the budget have only modest cuts for the Conservation Commission, so they are hopeful. The federal Office of Management and Budget recently took action made funding available for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). They had been on hold since October 1 when the Farm Bill expired, even though legislation was passed



exempting the program. Two counties may receive funding to develop plans for the Voluntary Stewardship Program.

**Northwest Power Council:** Phil Rockefeller noted that the solicitation for input on the update to Power Council's *Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program* is underway and will continue through July 19.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW):** Jennifer Quan discussed the trip back to Washington DC. They had good conversations hatchery, harvest reform, and habitat; many of their private and tribal partners were there. She reiterated the need to continue to tell the story of all-H integration in the salmon recovery story.

WDFW is restructuring the watershed stewards program so that there is more generalized expertise; they will do a careful transition so that there is better integration within their agency.

**Department of Natural Resources:** Megan Duffy noted that three pieces of agency legislation were passed during session and will be signed by the Governor. She highlighted details of the derelict vessel removal program bill. For the budget, they have some concerns for some programs, including Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plans (RMAPs), but the aquatic program fared well in the proposed budgets.

**Department of Transportation:** Mike Barber reported that the budget includes about \$35 million for fish passage. This summer, they have about 20 projects moving forward. They have another \$25 million to correct two chronic environmental deficiency projects; construction will start in 2014.

#### General Public Comment

There was no general public comment.

#### Item 4: Federal Ruling on Tribal Culvert Case

Brian Abbott noted that there was an overview in the memo.

David Troutt offered the tribal perspective, noting that he was presenting as a representative of the Nisqually Tribe, not as the board chair. He reported that the tribes were pleased with the decision, and that the courts have said there have to be fish, therefore it is appropriate that salmon must have habitat. The tribes made the case that fish were losing habitat faster than it was being restored. The amount of funding is substantial, but can be budgeted. They are mitigations for actions in the past. Troutt stated that this is a focused case, and noted that the general preference is not to litigate, but rather to work together to find and implement solutions.

Brian Abbott noted that this case is specific to the treaty tribes in Western Washington, and that it does not address other barriers on state, federal, and private land across the state.

Member Brown stated that he is frustrated because there are opportunities for collaboration and partnership. He gave an example from Kitsap County where they are working with the Suquamish Tribe to remove a barrier on Chico Creek. If there is not a concerted focus to address maintenance and issues such as barriers, no one does it.

**Department of Transportation:** Megan White, Director, Environmental Services, reviewed the presentation provided in board materials about the Department of Transportation (DOT) actions to

replace barriers. Work is already underway. She noted that the ruling requires that they use a specific approach. They have had a program in place since the 1990s to replace the barriers; the ruling puts it on a more aggressive timeline. The overall plan will cost \$2.4 billion. In this biennium, they will focus on design and scoping so that they increase the pace of corrections in future biennia. They are looking at ways to improve their approach so they can implement the projects more efficiently. The \$20 million requested to expedite the work was approved by the Governor on May 20.

In response to a question from Member Rockefeller, Member Mike Barber noted that there are about 700 barriers outside the case area. White noted that some work is being done on those barriers, and they are trying to have the legislature not forget about the barrier outside the case area, but they may not be able to address those barriers while they focus in the case area.

Brown asked about prioritization and communication with cities and counties in situations where a state-owned culvert may be surrounded by local or private property or culverts. He stated that he was concerned about the litigation driving outcomes that are not the highest priorities, and having that decrease the political will and funding. White responded that they work with WDFW, and the ruling requires them to use habitat as the focal point for prioritization. Further, they are guided by the principle of opening up the greatest amount of habitat in the shortest amount of time. They want to work with others to share information.

Member H. Barber asked how they manage maintenance after the culvert is replaced so that new blockages are not created. White responded that they have an active maintenance program.

**Department of Natural Resources:** Member Duffy presented the slides from the board materials. DNR has 87 barriers remaining in the case area. She noted that DNR is moving ahead to meet the obligation by 2016, but needs to find at least \$3.4 million in additional funding; the stream simulation required by the ruling may increase that figure. Member Rockefeller referred to funding slide and asked why Bonneville funds were used. Liz Klumpp, Bonneville Power, was seated in the audience and explained they had shared access roads on DNR land.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW):** Jennifer Quan presented the slides from the board materials, noting that they are fixing culverts in the case area and RMAP areas. There are 23 culverts in the case area, 16 are nearly complete. They prioritized fixing the culverts in the capital budget. Their concern includes the ongoing monitoring cost.

**State Parks:** Larry Fairleigh, Assistant Director of State Parks, noted that they have 72 blockages in the case area. Of those, fifty affect salmon, but only 16 are on roads. The rest are on trails. They will address seven in 2013, four were included in the 2013-15 budget request. They have asked for funding for the remaining five.

### **Item 5: Update on the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Region**

Derek Van Marter, Associate Director, and James White, Program Manager, presented information about activity in the Upper Columbia region. Van Marter gave an overview of the region, including their mission statement, listed species, recovery plan, and adaptive management framework. He and James White explained their four main programs:

- Project Selection and Funding;
- Science and Integrated Recovery Reporting;



- Forest Health; and
- Internal Operations.

They focus on collaborative efforts and wise resource management to achieve the goals in the recovery plans through these programs. White explained the significant work they are doing to share and use scientific information to improve projects through the adaptive management cycle. They also have sought to diversify funding in all of their programs, leveraging board funds with other public sources, tribal support, and private foundation monies. Van Marter noted that their ongoing challenges include stewardship to protect investments, clear roles, and integrated recovery. Van Marter concluded by reviewed the progress they are making, as indicated by data about the abundance of specific populations.

Board members noted that the Upper Columbia is on the cutting edge for the use of science and adaptive management, and thanked them for their leadership.

### **Item 6: Budget Update**

Nona Snell and Brian Abbott reviewed the information provided in the staff memo. Snell noted that the special session is scheduled to end June 11, and the next revenue forecast is due June 18. She hopes that the budget is completed by June 30.

Since the publication of the memo, the only new information is regarding NOAA funding. Snell noted that NOAA had informed the RCO verbally that the state would receive only \$20 million in 2013 PCSRF funds, rather than the \$25 million requested. Director Cottingham noted that specific reductions for habitat grants and capacity funding are unknown at this time.

Member Biery asked if there was any outreach to try to change the award for 2013. Director Cottingham responded that it was a competitive grant. Member Quan noted that the outreach happens as the budget is developed, and they are seeking to increase the amount above \$50 million for federal fiscal year 2014.

### **Item 7: Project, Lead Entity, and Regional Organization Funding Allocation Decisions**

Brian Abbott, Section Manager, noted that there were no approved budgets and described the two options for the board to take. The first would be to delegate authority to the director and the second would be to set a special meeting for decisions. He reviewed the briefing memo, reminding the board that it had changed the contracts for the lead entities and regions to an annual basis. He stated that even with the reduction in PCSRF funds, the staff is not changing the recommendations in the memo.

Abbott explained that the regions had been asked to model five and ten percent reductions in their budgets and scopes of work to accommodate the lead entity budget.

Chair Troutt asked if the premise was to maintain the balance between projects, monitoring, and capacity. Abbott said that the intent was to do that, and not to take money from projects to fund capacity. Chair Troutt suggested that the proportions could be shifted, and are not dictated by NOAA, despite that agency's stated PCSRF priorities.

### **Public Comment**

Cheryl Baumann stated that the lead entity advisory group appreciated the support and recognition that the funding has remained static for thirteen years. Many lead entities operate on a part time basis. The board is faced with tough decisions, but the lead entities are very cost effective. They appreciate the effort

to maintain the status quo. Their reality is that the contracts end June 30; without a funded contract, some of them will not have a job in July. This also will affect the grant round.

Jeff Breckel said that on behalf of the regions, they appreciate the effort to maintain funding. It has been crucial to create the recovery plans and now implement them. Many of the regions also are lead entities. No one argues that the infrastructure is critical. Many of them are in a tough funding spot because other sources are drying up. Collectively, the regions are willing to work with the board and staff to make the resources work as well as possible to maintain the infrastructure.

Alex Conley questioned why the board would defer a decision, given that the net change seemed to be positive compared to the previous biennium. He stated that preserving the status quo would be a significant accomplishment.

#### Board Discussion

Member H. Barber suggested that their philosophy would not change if the numbers changed; this makes him comfortable delegating authority. Member Brown asked what would have to happen to change the recommendation. Director Cottingham responded that the proposal uses a lot of the available money, and that they would need to think about the effect on the second year of the biennium.

Chair Troutt stated that he thought that there was too much that was unknown, funding is a critical decision, and that he wanted to be involved in the decision once there was information. He leaned toward having a special session. Member H. Barber suggested that delegation of authority would work if the funding available did not change significantly from the memo assumptions. Chair Troutt clarified that his concern had more to do with the negotiation about the split of federal funds and the lack of direction from NOAA.

The board members asked for more information before the special meeting about how the funding is allocated between projects, capacity, and monitoring. Member Brown noted that he thinks it is important to find a way to keep the regions and lead entities whole.

Chair Troutt noted that the board needs the lead entities and regions to tell them at what point they can no longer leverage funds. Director Cottingham said that she was told that the high proportion of capacity funds (priority four) to project funds (priority one) made the PCSRF application less competitive. Chair Troutt said that he hoped that the formal response from NOAA was clear on that point this year because he found the direction to be vague about capacity.

Member Quan addressed the question of whether the hatchery projects were the factor that made the application less competitive. She noted that in the PCSRF application, there are four priorities. There are hatchery reform priorities in categories one and two. The projects in category two are the ones that affect the competitiveness of the state application. She was told that other states had improved their applications, while our application continued the status quo.

**Josh Brown moved to defer funding decisions and direct the chair to call a special meeting via conference call once budgets are authorized.**

**Seconded by: Nancy Biery**

**Motion: APPROVED**

### **Item 8: Monitoring Program Findings & Results**

Jennifer O'Neal presented information about findings from the Effectiveness Monitoring program funded by the board. She gave an overview of the project, reviewing the costs, categories, timeline, monitoring locations, metrics used, and how they ensure data compatibility. She then reviewed some key findings from projects regarding floodplain enhancement approaches and instream structures. She noted that projects are effective at achieving habitat outcomes, but further work needs to be done to document fish response. O'Neal also provided findings showing that some project types are more effective for specific goals and species and showed how monitoring data can be used to improve project design. She shared how the information is being shared with sponsors and the public.

She concluded the presentation by noting that there are opportunities to do more integration across programs and existing data sets so that everyone gets a better understanding of fish response to projects and habitat preferences. Doing so will maximize the investments in monitoring. It is important to develop partnerships across the state with local entities and other agencies.

Member Quan asked how they are coordinating with the Upper Columbia on protocols. O'Neal responded that they are coordinating so that the efforts are complementary. Member Quan also asked how many years of data the design would capture at a single site. O'Neal responded that the most data that they have at a single site is eight years. The question is how long it takes habitat and fish to respond; ten years is an average to give habitat and fish a chance to respond.

Member Rockefeller asked if these findings should be incorporated into Manual 18. Director Cottingham responded that the appropriate place is the Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines, which the board just helped to update. Brian Abbott explained that the guidelines provide scientific guidance for projects, and reminded the board that they are currently updating the monitoring appendix of those guidelines. Member Rockefeller suggested that the board could reduce the cost of monitoring by using this science up front to design better projects. Chair Troutt suggested that the information is being used informally now since it is available on Habitat Work Schedule.

Member Rockefeller asked if the results can be generalized from one watershed to another. O'Neal responded that the information is useful, but does not take the place of watershed-level knowledge.

### **Item 9: Contract Awards for Ongoing Monitoring Programs**

Brian Abbott noted that there are two requests described in Item 9, and reminded the board that the monitoring assessment is ongoing. There is about \$508,000 in remaining 2012 PCSRF funds; one option would be to use a portion of that to fund the TetraTech continuation. He explained the request for additional Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) funds, noting that the board had heard information about the program at previous meetings. Funding would come from the fiscal year 2013 PCSRF funds when they become available.

Jeff Breckel, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, reported that they have been unable to find additional funding for the restoration projects needed to support the IMW in the Lower Columbia. They funded two projects last year, hope to fund one this year, and will design two next year. If they continue funding the implementation element of the IMW through the regional allocation, it will take about six years to complete. Director Cottingham noted that she had heard that that PCSRF might fund a project in the IMW through the Cowlitz Tribe. Breckel confirmed that he had heard the same.



Member Rockefeller asked what level of monitoring could be done at that level of restoration. Bill Ehinger, Department of Ecology, stated that it would be hard to scale back on the monitoring and have results that make any sense. Member H. Barber asked if there was monitoring related to the carcass analog work. Ehinger responded that the analogs went in during 2010; they do not yet have results from that monitoring work. Chair Troutt asked if the monitoring could be redesigned to focus on that question. Ehinger responded that the only monitoring that could be dropped would be habitat, but even that would be difficult to do because it might be necessary in the future. Chair Troutt suggested that the board was struggling with the idea of whether the IMW could be redesigned to focus on nutrient enhancement.

Member Quan stated that the questions were (1) could they fill the project funding gap, (2) could they prioritize funding toward these priority treatment areas, and (3) is this the right time to change investments when the assessment is still outstanding?

Member Smith asked if the money is the problem, or is the problem a reticence on the part of landowners. Breckel responded that the work needs to be done on Department of Natural Resources land, so the problem is mostly money. They are talking with the private landowners who need to be involved.

Member H. Barber said he would like to see the nutrient enhancement piece driven to conclusion in the Lower Columbia IMW. Jeff Breckel agreed. The board discussed this option at length, considering the potential costs, practical considerations, impacts, timing, and continuing value of the IMW. Board members identified information that would be needed from Ecology before they could make a decision to change the focus of the IMW.

Member Duffy noted that the discussion of changing the IMW approach ignored the threshold question of whether the board wants to invest in restoration actions. She suggested that it would be better to address that question, and then think about how to change the approach for IMW. Member Quan asked for opportunity to talk to staff about habitat investments. Director Cottingham stated that the board could maintain status quo until after they hear recommendations from the board-funded assessment in October. Member Brown stated that it was a logical approach. Member Rockefeller asked if deferment gave them an opportunity to consider the funding gap for restoration. Director Cottingham responded that it spread the investment in treatments over a longer period.

Chair Troutt asked if they approved status quo funding, and then wanted to change direction after receiving the assessment, if they negotiate a change to the approach. Ehinger responded that he believed that they could. Chair Troutt stated that he thinks that getting ahead of the assessment is premature. Director Cottingham noted that the assessment would include a plan to ramp-down any monitoring that they recommended the board discontinue.

**Phil Rockefeller moved to approve \$217,000 from 2012 PCSRF funds to continue the existing project effectiveness program with TetraTech through April 1, 2014.**

**Seconded by: Harry Barber**

**Motion: APPROVED**

**Josh Brown moved to fully fund the intensively monitored watersheds through 2013 field season, pending receipt of PCSRF funds for federal fiscal year 2013, and subject to review in October, and to delegate authority to director to negotiate an appropriate contract.**

**Seconded by: Phil Rockefeller**


**Motion: APPROVED**



Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes approved by:

  
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David Troutt, Chair

  
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Date

**Washington Council of Salmon Recovery Regions  
Report to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board  
May 2013**

The directors met in February and March to advance their work with state natural resource agencies. In February they met with the Department of Natural Resources and in March with Fish and Wildlife.

DNR topics included State Owned Aquatics Lands, 10-Years with Forest and Fish, and, Habitat Conservation Plan for managing public lands. The SOAL discussion focused on identifying the overarching concept of the program, understanding how a sponsor can identify SOAL, and ways to communicate early with staff. It was emphasized that sponsors need to clearly understand what working in a SOAL area could mean for their restoration projects. DNR is developing a SOAL database that is expected to launch later this year to foster coordination. As a result of the lessons learned over the past few SRFB grant rounds, everyone agreed that more and frequent communication will be imperative to minimize project implementation delays.

Staff from DNR's Forest Practices Board recapped what's working and what's not in the program. The directors expressed interest in ensuring that regional recovery plans play a role in agency decisions affecting salmon recovery and watershed health. Through the board's Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation and Research (CMER) committee a significant number of studies are underway to evaluate several limiting factors such as riparian prescriptions, channel migration zones, unstable slopes, road maintenance, fish passage, pesticides, wetland protection and more.

In March the directors met with members of the Fish and Wildlife management team to review accomplishments over the past 10 years. The group discussed a number of challenges facing salmon recovery including agency reorganization, staff capacity, budget reductions and program reforms. Each team member gave an overview of their areas of interest such hatchery and harvest reform, monitoring and habitat management. The directors encouraged DFW to continue to provide and expanded their engagement and technical support to the regional organizations. The discussion concluded with an overview of the department's state and federal funding outlook for the next biennium. The group agreed to check-in next month via conference call for an update on the state budget development.

The directors also discussed the SRFB assessment of monitoring activities. An overview of the contractor's work plan was considered. The directors encouraged GSRO to offer a work session for SRFB members this summer to help inform and shape potential funding decisions this fall. Finally, the group received a presentation from the Upper Columbia regional organization on their forest collaborative process and began discussions on COR's mission and goals for the next biennium.

## **Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG)**

### **Report to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board**

**MAY, 2013**

Lead Entity Coordinators from across the state attended a two-day training and planning retreat hosted by the Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG) in Walla Walla, Washington April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

A major portion of the retreat involved strategic planning with members working through LEAG's mission, goals and what lead entities want and need LEAG to be as it evolves. The sessions included brainstorming of lead entity and LEAG existing conditions and opportunities as well as formation of a short term Action Plan which includes the following short term goals:

Goal 1: to update our Mission, Goals and Operations descriptions within our LEAG charter  
Goal 2: to enhance Information Exchange Among LEAG Members  
Goal 3 to develop Strategies to Improve Longterm Stability of Lead Entity/LEAG funding, including Funding Sources to support Advocacy.

The strategic planning work was lead by facilitator Ben Floyd of Anchor QEA. Three subcommittees were formed to work on the above short term goals. Those committees will report back at a LEAG meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> in Leavenworth. Committee leads include John Foltz of the Klickitat Lead Entity, Island County Lead Entity's Dawn Pucci and Doug Osterman of the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watersheds.

Other retreat topics included: A look at statewide monitoring, the use of social media for education and outreach opportunities, the importance of legislative outreach and education, as well as exploration of possible funding opportunities and updates from RCO & GSRO.

The retreat also included an indepth tour of projects with in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Region, and networking which allowed for idea sharing and problem solving among colleagues. This is particularly beneficial for newer lead entity coordinators, of which there are several.

Usually LEAG hosts a retreat every two years, so having this retreat was unique in that it followed one held a year ago. Last year's conference organizers decided to save some funding for this additional training because of the work to be done and the benefits to be gained. This year's conference organizing work was done by the LEAG Executive Committee, working together with our representatives of our Snake River Salmon Recovery Region - hosts Steve Martin and Kris Buelow. They arranged for the retreat to be held at the William A. Grant Water & Environment Center at Walla Walla Community College. The center focuses on natural resource issues with an emphasis on community collaboration and education for environmental and economic sustainability and was a wonderfully appropriate fit.

**The following are updates of activities and items of interest as reported by some of our lead entity members:**

**Green-Duwamish Watershed:**

The Green-Duwamish has been accepted as one of a handful of watersheds in the nation into the Urban Waters Federal Partnership(UWFP). This will enhance the abilities of federal agencies to work together with the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum and others to build needed capacity to address complex regional sustainability, governance and environmental justice issues in the watershed.

Designation as an UWFP site also helps leverage existing collaborative efforts in the watershed and improve inclusivity, coordination, and implementation of *locally- identified* priorities for dealing with complex and large, cross-jurisdictional regional issues such as restoring degraded habitat and water quality.

A key benefit of the UWFP designation is the enabling of federal agencies to work with the many local governments of the watershed and others to identify and act on environmental actions in which a concerted federal effort will make a difference. The Natural Resources and Conservation Service and the Forest Service will jointly lead the Green-Duwamish UWFP. A national press announcement is expected this month, with a local launch event planned this summer in the Green-Duwamish Watershed. The WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum has been working with the Forest Service during the past year to build support for the UWFP designation.

*- Report Submitted by Doug Osterman, Green-Duwamish Watershed Coordinator*

**Klickitat Lead Entity:**

In 2007, the Klickitat Lead Entity supported a proposal from the Columbia Land Trust which was awarded a SRFB grant to acquire and restore floodplain along a two-lane, private, paved haul road that traverses the active floodplain of the Klickitat River from the confluence of the Little Klickitat River north to Dead Canyon Creek.

Since that time, Columbia Land Trust and its partner, the Yakama Nation Fisheries Program; has secured and implemented three additional SRFB grants for restoration work on over 3 miles of road. Phase 4 restoration is set to start this summer and planning is underway for Phase 5. A project tour is occurring on May 29<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.to showcase the completed work and get feed back on that, as well as ongoing effortms, management and monitoring approaches.

To RSVP or for more information contact Lindsay Cornelius at (360/921-1073) or email [lindsayc@columbialandtrust.org](mailto:lindsayc@columbialandtrust.org).

*- Report Submitted by John Foltz, Klickitat Lead Entity Coordinator*

### **Pierce Lead Entity- Puyallup-White Watershed:**

More than a year ago, the Russell Family Foundation chose to work on a Puyallup Watershed Initiative. As part of that effort, they have spent the past year learning about the Puyallup Watershed and efforts to restore it. They began by hosting a celebration to recognize the work being done and brought together community members who are part of the watershed, including educators, scientists, advocates, government staff, farmers, business owners, community members, and Puyallup Tribal Members. They all worked together to envision the watershed's future. The process was captured in an illustration which recognizes many of the successful community restoration efforts to date, and as well as visions for tomorrow.

The Foundation spent the rest of 2012 deepening their understanding of the issues, opportunities, communities and institutions that exist within the watershed. They are now inviting community members to hear about what was learned, meet leaders and organizations influential in developing the Foundation's Puyallup Watershed Initiative, get a preview of next steps anticipated by the Foundation's long-term investment, and interact with fellow community members around the needs and assets that exist within the watershed. That meeting will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Pioneer Park Pavilion in Puyallup. RSVP to [TRFFWatershed@gmail.com](mailto:TRFFWatershed@gmail.com)

Restoration practitioners and others concerned about the Puyallup River Watershed are looking forward to this next step of the Puyallup Watershed Initiative and what it will mean for watershed health.

*- Report Submitted by Lisa Spurrier, Pierce County Lead Entity Coordinator*

*LEAG Report Submitted by Cheryl Baumann, LEAG Chair 5-6-13*