



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@rcow.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. Call to Order *Chair*

- Determine Quorum
- Introduce New Chair (David Troutt) and New Members (Megan Duffy and Nancy Biery)
- Review and Approve Agenda (**Decision**)
- Approve February Meeting Minutes (**Decision**)

Service Recognition: Bud Hover *Chair*
Approve Service Resolution #2013-02

Proposed August Meeting Date *Chair*
Motion to Approve August 22, 2013 for Regular Meeting via Conference Call

MANAGEMENT AND PARTNER REPORTS (Briefings)

9:15 a.m. 1. Management Report *Kaleen Cottingham*

A. Director's Report *Nona Snell*

- Legislative Updates
- Policy Updates
- Performance Update (written only) *Rebecca Connolly*

B. Financial Report *Mark Jarasitis*

9:25 a.m. 2. Salmon Recovery Management Report *Brian Abbott*

- Grant Management, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, and Monitoring
- Recap of project conference
- GSRO 3-5 year work plan
- Update on Assessment of Board Monitoring Approach

9:45 a.m. Notable Recently Completed Projects *Grant Managers*

10:00 a.m. BREAK

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
Lance Winecka
SRFB Agency Representatives*

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

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*

BRIEFINGS

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

*Derek Van Marter
James White*

12:30 p.m. LUNCH

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*

DECISIONS

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)

2:45 p.m. BREAK

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

BRIEFINGS

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

Jennifer O'Neal

- Tetra Tech Effectiveness Monitoring

Tetra Tech

DECISIONS

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

5:00 p.m. ADJOURN

Next regular meeting: October 16 – 17, Walla Walla



Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: May 2013
Title: Service Recognition: Bud Hover
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison

Summary

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) chairman Donald "Bud" Hover resigned from the board in March 2013 after Governor Inslee appointed him as director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture. The board is asked to recognize his service.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

Proposed Motion Language

Move to approve resolution 2013-02, recognizing the service of Bud Hover to the board.

Background

Board chairman Donald "Bud" Hover was appointed to the board in 2007, after being involved in salmon recovery efforts for nearly a decade. Governor Gregoire selected him to serve as chairman of the board in 2010. During his tenure, the board established and refined the policies and structure for its approach to salmon recovery, provided millions of dollars for projects and monitoring, and worked hard to ensure efficiencies, accountability, and effectiveness.

In March, Governor Inslee selected Bud to serve as the director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Bud resigned from the board effective March 31, 2013.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the board approve the service of former board member and board chairman Donald "Bud" Hover with the attached resolution.

Attachments

Resolution 2013-02



A Resolution to Recognize the Service of

Donald "Bud" Hover

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

WHEREAS, from 2007 through 2013, Donald "Bud" Hover served the citizens of the state of Washington as a member and the chairman of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hover brought both a big-picture perspective and a deep understanding the community-based approach to salmon recovery to the board's discussions; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hover's experience and knowledge helped the board recognize the difficult issues posed by salmon recovery in the more rural and agricultural areas of eastern Washington, thus helping the board to develop strong program policies that promoted sound investments of public money and respected the "Washington Way;"

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the board funded over 850 projects, resulting is a state and federal investment of more than \$200 million in Washington's salmon recovery effort; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hover has accepted the responsibility as director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture and resigned from the board; and

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

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

Approved by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board
in Olympia, Washington on May 21, 2013

David Troutt
Board Chair

Harry Barber
Citizen Member

Nancy Biery
Citizen Member

Josh Brown
Citizen Member

Phil Rockefeller
Citizen Member

Mike Barber
*Washington Department
of Transportation*

Megan Duffy
*Washington Department
of Natural Resources*

Melissa Gildersleeve
*Washington Department
of Ecology*

Carol Smith
*Washington State Conservation
Commission*

Jennifer Quan
*Washington Department
of Fish and Wildlife*

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Meeting Date: May 2013
Title: Proposed August Meeting Date
Prepared By: Rebecca Connolly, Board Liaison

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR KALEEN COTTINGHAM

Summary

Manual 18 calls for a Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) conference call in August to approve funding for early action Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) projects. Board members are asked to approve August 22 as the date for the call.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- Briefing

Proposed Motion Language

Move to set August 22, 2013 as the date for the board conference call.

Background

The board adopted its 2013 meeting schedule in December 2012. In January, the board adopted revisions to Manual 18 that included a schedule for funding early action Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) projects. This schedule calls for a board conference call in August 2013 that was not part of the previously-adopted meeting schedule.

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff contacted board members to determine their availability on August 22, 2013. Board members have indicated that they can participate.

Decision Requested

The board is asked to approve August 22, 2013 for the conference call.

Next Steps

Staff will file the information with the Washington State Register, and will confirm the exact time and call details with board members as the date approaches.

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

Agenda Items without Formal Action

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

Agenda Items with Formal Action

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

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: February 27, 2013

Place: Olympia, WA

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members Present:

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

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

Opening and Welcome

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

Phil Rockefeller moved to adopt the agenda.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Phil Rockefeller moved to adopt the December 2012 minutes.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Item 1: Management Reports

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

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

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

Item 2: Salmon Recovery Management Reports

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

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

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

Item 3: Reports from Partners

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

General Public Comment

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Item 5: Family Forest Fish Passage Program Presentation and Video

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

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

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

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

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

Item 6: Service Recognition: Craig Partridge

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

Phil Rockefeller moved to approve service resolution 2013-01.

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Item 7: Overview of Monitoring Program

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

Item 8: Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines Monitoring Chapter Update

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

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

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

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

Seconded by: David Troutt

Motion: APPROVED

Item 9: Monitoring Program Findings & Results

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

Skagit IMW

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Straits IMW

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

He concluded with the following preliminary results and findings:

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

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

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

Lower Columbia IMW

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

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

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

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

Hood Canal IMW

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Final Comments

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Minutes approved by:

Bud Hover, Chair

Date

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:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- 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 13th 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
Estuary & Salmon Restoration Program	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
Family Forest Fish Passage Program	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Puget Sound Acquisitions & Restoration	\$80,000,000	\$60,000,000	\$70,000,000
Salmon Federal	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000
Salmon State	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
Total	\$167,000,000	\$147,000,000	\$157,000,000

RCO Operating Budget

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

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. 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.

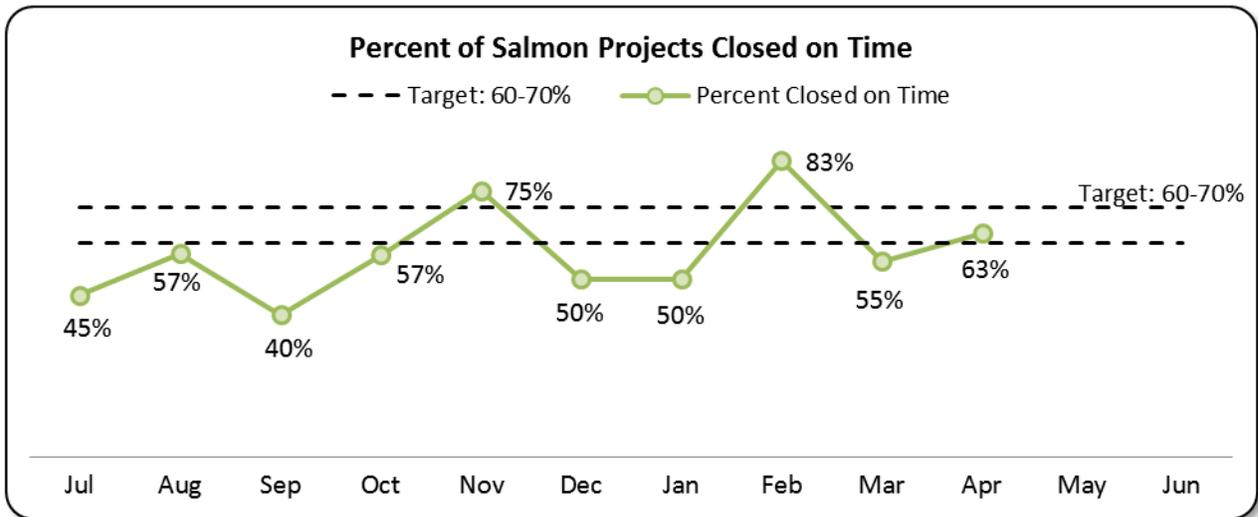
Staff attended the Invasive Species Awareness Week in Washington, D.C. and met with congressional staffers for delegates from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Nevada, and Arizona. The need for more inspections and decontaminations of boats leaving federally-managed waters that are infested with 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.

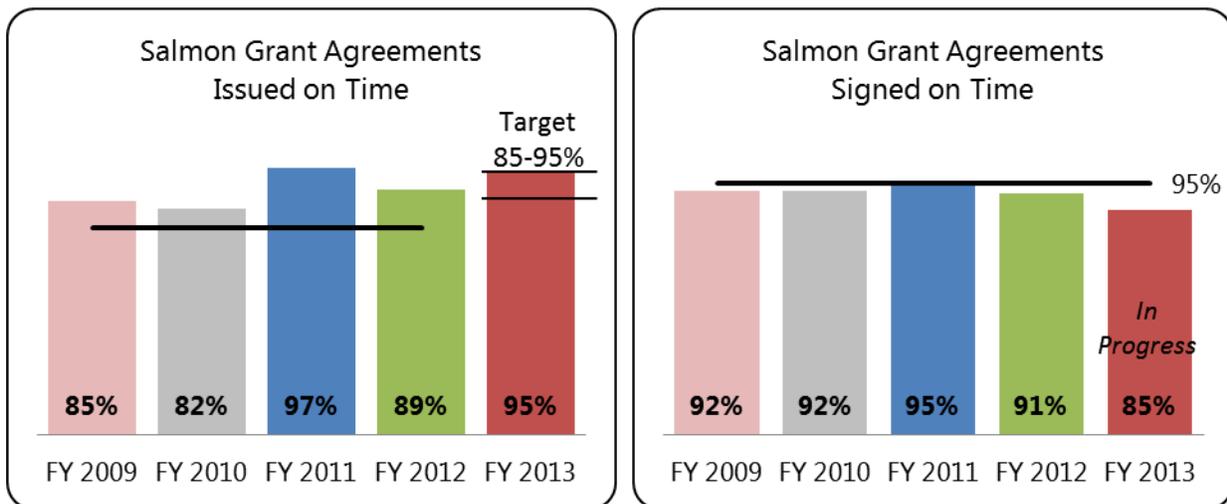
Measure	Target	FY 2013 Performance	Indicator
Percent of salmon projects closed on time	60-70%	58%	●
% salmon grant projects issued a project agreement within 120 days after the board funding date	85-95%	95%	●
% of salmon grant projects under agreement within 180 days after the board funding date	95%	85% <i>(in process)</i>	●
Cumulative expenditures, salmon target by fiscal month	49.4% <i>(as of FM21)</i>	41.2% <i>(as of FM21)</i>	●
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



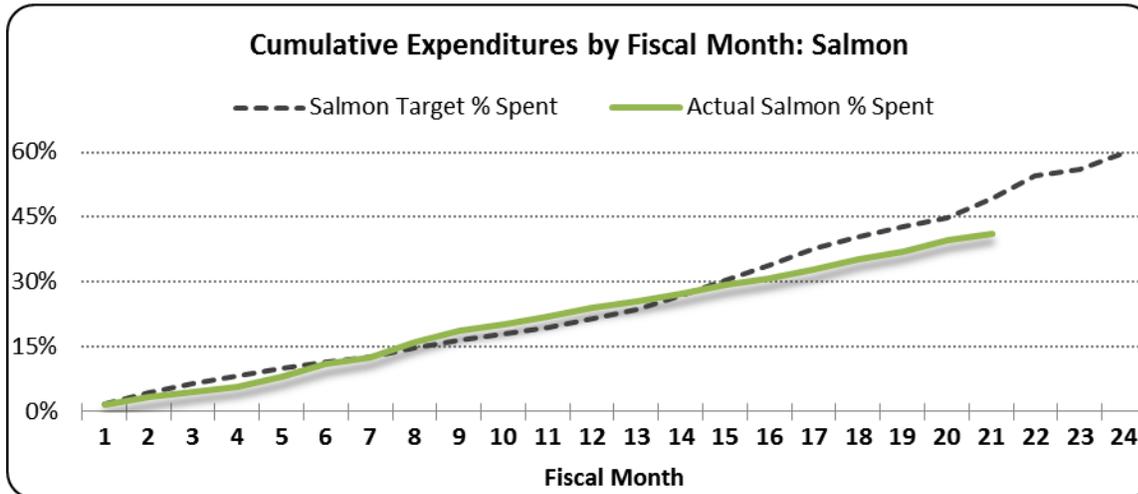
One hundred and forty-seven projects have been due for completion and closure since July 1, 2012. Staff members have closed 85 projects on time, which nears the 60-70% target range for on-time closures. Another 19 were closed late. During the spring, staff members have focused on placing projects under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

Project Agreements Issued and Signed on Time



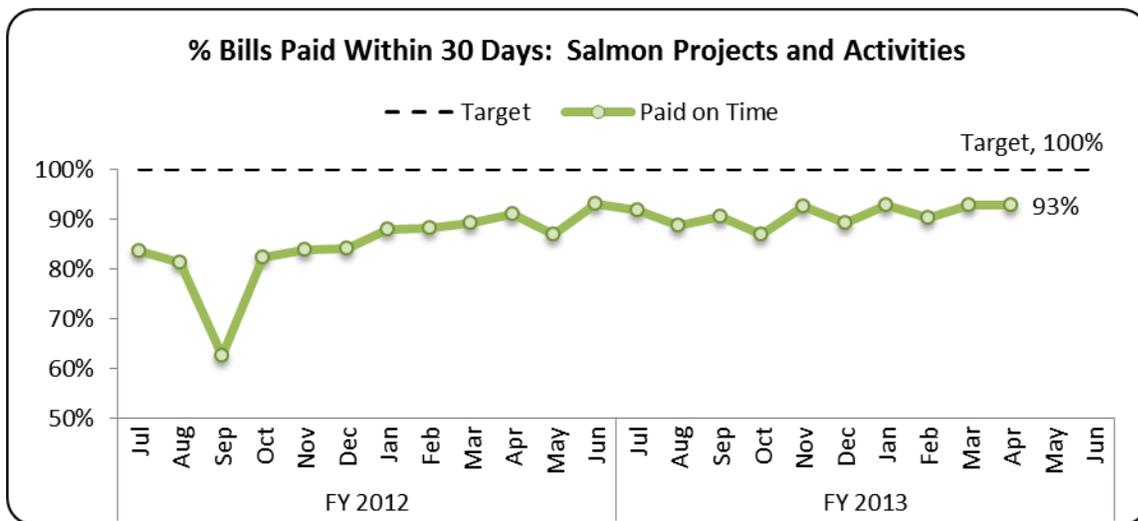
As of May 1, staff had issued 106 project agreements for grants awarded in December 2012. The deadline for issuing the agreements was April 4. Project sponsors had signed and returned 95 of the agreements; the deadline for signing the agreements is June 3. This measure includes grant awards that were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

Cumulative Expenditures by Fiscal Month



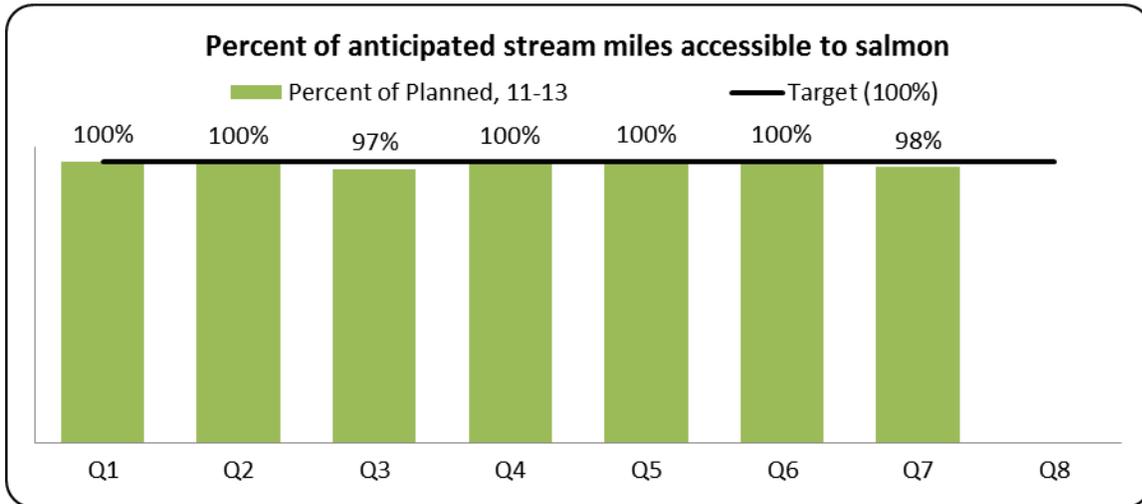
Expenditures are lagging behind expectations and the stretch targets set for this biennium. Fiscal staff is hopeful that project sponsor will begin to expend funds and submit invoices for work completed in the spring.

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%
Federal Funded 2007	\$6,771,390	\$6,771,390	100%	\$0	0%	\$6,771,390	100%
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, NOPL, 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 number¹. From that link, you can open and view the project attachments (e.g., design, photos, maps, and final report).

Amendments Approved by the Director

In December 2011, the 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.

¹ 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
	24	366	1,333	1,723

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

Item 2, Attachment A

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



WORK PLAN

DATE: 17 May 2013
TO: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
FROM: Dr. Jody B. Lando
SUBJECT: Developing a Monitoring Investment Strategy for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board

The following workplan was guided by a review of key monitoring reports identified in the scope of work, by input from Steering Committee members during meetings on March 18 and May 6, 2013 and by additional discussions with individual Steering Committee members. In order to frame our evaluation and expand on existing resources, we specifically searched for a clear articulation of Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) goals and objectives with respect to monitoring.

Considerable monitoring guidance has been produced in the past decade for various agencies. There is a collective benefit to building on the past, however, in order to stay focused on goals specific to the SRFB, our approach for evaluating the monitoring strategy will be based on the principles articulated in the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (n.d.). One of the three primary SRFB goals directly applies to monitoring, and we use this narrative as our overarching guidance:

Goal 2: Be accountable for board investments by promoting public oversight, effective projects, and actions that result in the economical and efficient use of resources.

This goal is detailed in the SRFB Strategic Plan as follows.

Monitoring Strategy: Key Actions

Provide accountability for board funding by ensuring the implementation of board-funded projects and assessing their effectiveness, participate with other entities in supporting and coordinating state-wide monitoring efforts, and use monitoring results to adaptively manage board funding policies.

- Conduct implementation (compliance) monitoring of every board-funded project to ensure the project has been completed consistent with pre-project design objectives and criteria.
- Conduct monitoring to determine the effectiveness of different types of Board-funded restoration and protection projects in achieving stated objectives.
- Support validation monitoring of selected intensively monitored watersheds to determine whether watershed health and salmon populations are responding to recovery efforts.
- Participate in supporting status and trend monitoring.

- Coordinate with the Monitoring Forum to ensure consistency with statewide monitoring goals while meeting SRFB monitoring goals and objectives.
- Ensure that projects identify objectives and use adaptive management principles to improve success.

This work plan directly supports the stated SRFB goals, with the exception of implementation monitoring which is being addressed outside of this assessment. The Stillwater team will use four interrelated criteria to assess and numerically rate the effectiveness of the current monitoring strategy (Effectiveness Monitoring, Intensively Monitored Watersheds, and Status and Trends Monitoring) in meeting SRFB Goal 2 (as cited above). For the sake of clarity in terminology, the monitoring components to be evaluated were defined by the Washington State Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy (Crawford, et al. 2002) and the Washington State Framework for Monitoring (Crawford 2007) as follows:

Effectiveness Monitoring - Project scale measurement of environmental parameters to ascertain whether the actions implemented were effective in creating a desired change in habitat conditions or fish populations

Intensively Monitored Watersheds - A basin-scale validation monitoring program to evaluate the effectiveness of salmon habitat restoration activities in increasing the production of salmon

Status and Trends Monitoring (fish in/fish out) - Adult and juvenile monitoring to track the abundance, productivity, diversity, and spatial structure of listed populations in major population groups

The four assessment criteria, and a brief discussion of each, are as follows:

1. WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED? This is the fundamental question for our evaluation, and encompasses broad dimensions and implications. It goes beyond the more proximal concern about “has a monitoring program been established?” to focus on the ultimate purpose of such efforts. We need to assess the following questions:
 - a. Has monitoring documented whether (1) “restored” habitat has improved in quality/quantity in ways that are ecological meaningful, durable and measurable; and (2) localized salmon populations have responded to these improvements in terms of growth, survival, distribution and abundance?
 - b. What monitoring results have been compiled and how are they being reported?
 - c. What (if any) articulated objectives or hypotheses are guiding the restoration projects and/or the monitoring of them?

A “successful” monitoring program, by which we mean a program with demonstrable value in justifying past expenditures on salmon restoration and guiding future outlays, can be key to the continuation of salmon-recovery funding in the State of Washington. As anticipated by Goal #2 (above) of the SRFB Strategic Plan, accountability is a critical component of SRFB actions; the monitoring program is the mechanism by which such accountability can be demonstrated to funding agencies and the public.

2. HAVE MONITORING RESULTS INFORMED FUTURE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS? Assessing monitoring results relative to this criterion will involve questions such as:
- a. Do past monitoring results shape funding priorities and improve future projects? To what extent have the years of accumulated monitoring data been used to inform the decisions made by the SRF Board during the twice-a-year project-funding decisions?
 - b. Have monitoring results caused shifts in funding from one type of project to another, or redesign of projects within a given category?
 - c. How are the sampling frames and the results of effectiveness monitoring integrated with the other monitoring efforts, such as the status and trends monitoring and the IMW network efforts?
 - d. Is there a formal mechanism, and specific examples, by which such results have actually informed management decisions?
3. WHAT IS THE TIME FRAME FOR GENERATING NEW INFORMATION USEFUL FOR MANAGEMENT? This question is fundamental for any investment in scientific inquiry, no less so for monitoring programs currently funded through the SRFB.
- a. Are there clear statements made for each monitoring program as to how long it will be before insights are gained from such efforts?
 - b. What is a credible expectation for the utility and/or advancement of knowledge by funding additional time increments of monitoring?

We anticipate that funding would favor projects and programs that need “a little more time” to generate scientifically and/or statistically justifiable results. This evaluation criterion would discriminate such monitoring efforts from those that have already demonstrated whatever they’re going to demonstrate, and those that haven’t yet shown meaningful trends and are unlikely to do so even after an additional period (whether years or decades) of further measurement.

4. WHAT ARE STATEWIDE TRENDS IN SALMONID POPULATIONS? Unlike the other three criteria, this one is specifically focused on status and trends monitoring for fish. Without some understanding of the broader context of annual/decadal variation in populations across watersheds, we cannot judge the meaning of population changes within a watershed, and parse out what relationship these changes may have to the financial investments in habitat restoration at multiple scales. The SRFB contributes a limited level of funds for status and trends monitoring in conjunction with ongoing WDFW efforts. Appropriate questions for this criterion include:
- a. To what extent are the SRFB fish status and trend sites selected to compliment other types of SRFB funded monitoring?
 - b. To what extent are the SRFB status and trend sites selected in collaboration with WDFW and complimentary Tribal efforts?
 - c. Does the status and trend monitoring fill critical data gaps that are directly tied to management decisions (Criterion 2 above)?
 - d. Does the status and trend monitoring program have an explicit consideration of appropriate time frames (Criterion 3 above)?

These four criteria are proposed as the primary basis for executing the eight tasks as original specified by the RCO for this project. They are particularly applicable to the primary effort (Task 1, below) but are also applicable, to varying degrees, to the other tasks as well. We provide a brief discussion of intended approach(es), by task, as follows:

Task 1. Review the three primary components of the current monitoring strategy used by the Board (*Effectiveness Monitoring*, *Intensively Monitored Watersheds*, and *Status and Trends Monitoring*) and assess their effectiveness in meeting the goals of the program.

Please refer to the preceding discussion of the four proposed criteria for executing this review: (1) documenting accomplishments of the SRFB-funded restoration program, (2) informing future management decisions, (3) providing useful information in a meaningful timeframe, and (4) evaluating statewide trends in salmon populations. A numerical rating of the monitoring programs based on the four criteria above will aid information transfer and decision making. The purpose of such a rating system is to provide a clear and consistent process of evaluating the monitoring programs and also to support the critical linkage between science information and policy application.

Evaluating the various programs will be achieved through a review of relevant reports provided by managers of SRFB-funded monitoring programs (e.g. WDFW, Tetra Tech and WDOE), input from the Steering Committee, and input from a series of informational interviews to be conducted by Stillwater Sciences.

Task 2. Evaluate the monitoring components of the seven regional recovery plans and determine which of these components are appropriate for Board funding.

The four criteria outlined for Task 1 should be equally applicable to this task as well, and they will be applied to the regional recovery plans to identify those monitoring efforts that align with the recommended strategy.

Task 3. Evaluate how information on the results of monitoring is presently exchanged; make recommendations on how information exchange should occur, and assess whether (and how) the data from monitoring are being used.

Guidance from the Steering Committee, supplemented by other informational interviews, is anticipated to provide the most useful information for this task. In particular, we would like to understand what formal mechanisms exist to exchange ideas on what restoration “treatments” work best and under what circumstances. A list of formal and otherwise widely accessible publications will be solicited from Steering Committee members and other managers of SRFB-funded monitoring programs; we will also look for indications that the data are (or are not) being used in other, less formal ways in the evaluation of upcoming projects. This will not be an exhaustive compilation, owing to schedule and budgetary constraints, but the availability of information should provide a good indication of whether information exchange is currently occurring at a level commensurate with the resources being provided.

Task 4. Evaluate how the current Board monitoring fits into the monitoring in Washington being conducted by federal agencies.

This is an open-ended question with the potential to overwhelm the other (and likely more critical) tasks. We will look to the Steering Committee and other individuals to provide key

documents from those federal agencies that indicate what is being done, and we will use the cooperative framework of the IMW's as an example to suggest whether enough coordination is being done already within the two other monitoring components funded by the SFRB.

Task 5. Evaluate the current monitoring funding and allocation methods used by the Board, and assess whether the funding for the three primary components is at the appropriate levels.

This task is seen as a subset of (the primary) Task 1, and it will be executed within the context of that work using the same four criteria. At a basic level, the relative magnitude of funding should follow the relative magnitude of demonstrated value, but we also recognize that certain activities are intrinsically more expensive to execute than others, and that some activities need to be sufficiently extensive in time and/or space to produce meaningful results. Thus, we expect to temper the evaluation under the four criteria with a deeper understanding of what resources are required to produce useful products. If the SFRB has allocation guidance or methods, we would want to know what those are, to inform our judgments.

Task 6. Evaluate whether (and how) a portion of the monitoring funding should be reserved for a competitive approach to funding some portion of regional monitoring, and to fund monitoring needs that may emerge between funding cycles.

This task comprises two relatively independent elements, jointly associated by the prospect of broadening the current approach to allocating funds. For the first element ("competitive approach") the consultant team will rely on interviews with sources external to the current funding framework, both those who have unsuccessfully sought funding within Washington state and other, non-Washington regional or statewide programs that have made use of a competitive process. For the second element ("off-cycle needs") we will solicit input from those within the state, both those who are satisfied with the present approach and those who feel that this is an important (and presently unmet) need. Input from the Steering Committee will be welcomed.

For both elements, the manner of *evaluation* will parallel that of Task 1: to what extent would such an expansion of funding vehicles further the three primary goals of the monitoring program as articulated in the SFRB Strategic Plan, namely to fund the best possible salmon recovery activities, to be accountable for board investments, and to build support for salmon recovery efforts.

Task 7. Evaluate the pros and cons of adding additional effectiveness monitoring project sites, based on regionally specific salmon recovery questions that could be answered through this type of monitoring.

As with Task 5, this task is seen as a subset of (the primary) Task 1, and it will be executed within the context of that work and using the same four criteria.

Task 8. Work with a Steering Committee (to be established by RCO).

This task will be executed primarily through three face-to-face meetings with the Steering Committee (March 18, May 6, and a third date to be determined), together with follow-up phone conversations and one-on-one meetings, as judged necessary and within budgetary limitations by the RCO Project Manager and consultant team. The primary goals of these interactions are to (1) identify issues critical to the Steering Committee members in this monitoring strategy review, (2) collect key documents and other information, and (3) verify the utility and appropriateness of

planned approach(es) by the consultant team before they have been implemented (i.e., this memo).

References

Crawford, B. A. 2007. Washington State framework for monitoring salmon populations listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act and associated freshwater habitats. Produced by The Governor's Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health.

Crawford, B., C. Drivdahl, S. Leider, C. Richmond, S. Butkus. 2002. The Washington comprehensive monitoring strategy for watershed health and salmon recovery, volume 2 of 3. Prepared by Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Olympia.

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. n.d. Salmon Recovery Funding Board strategic plan. Prepared by Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Olympia.

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 16th and 17th.

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 11th 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 29th, 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.

- 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 15th at the Pioneer Park Pavilion in Puyallup. RSVP to 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

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:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- 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 million¹. 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://tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvwplayer&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

¹ The agency presentations estimate the cost at about \$32 million.

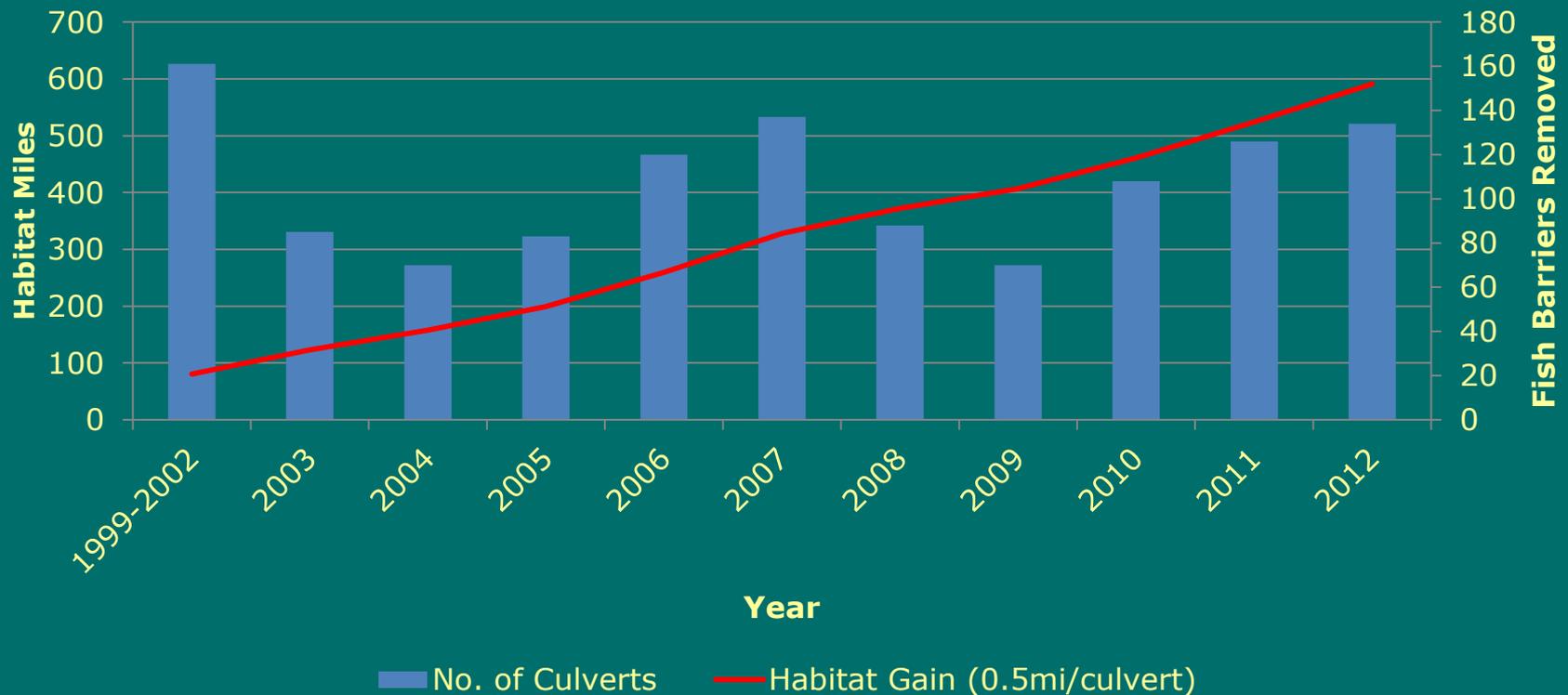


WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

RMAPS: Fish Passage Culverts

Number of projects completed per year
Potential linear habitat gain in miles
(cumulative)



Fish Barrier Culverts

	Statewide RMAP	Injunction
Completed	2036	504
Remaining	276	87



Fund Totals

	Statewide RMAP	Injunction
ARRF	\$5,700,000	\$5,700,000
Capital 2012 Jobs Bill	\$2,310,070	\$559,000
Timber Sales	\$2,315,150	\$367,500
FEMA	\$2,722,890	\$2,242,500
Cost Recovery	\$58,500	\$0
BPA	\$1,881,700	\$448,500
Unfunded	\$14,062,870	\$3,366,748
Grand Total	\$29,051,180	\$16,050,996





WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

U.S. v Washington

“Culvert Case”

House Capital Budget Committee
April 12, 2013

Washington
Department of
Fish and
Wildlife



BACKGROUND

- **Case Area**
 - WRIA 1 - 23
- **Corrective Actions Required**
 - Avoid crossing stream
 - Full spanning bridge
 - Stream simulation culvert
- **23 WDFW Sites identified...\$16.8M**
- **16 Sites complete/active...\$3.3M**



REMAINING WDFW SITES

Remaining Unfunded WDFW Culvert Case Capital Projects

Project	FY13-15	FY15-17	Comments
John's River Wildlife Area, Construct Beaver Creek Bridge	\$ 500,000		Included in WDFW FY 13-15 Capital Budget Request (Minor Works - Preservation). Tribal consultation required
McKernan Hatchery, Replace Barrier Culvert	\$ 250,000		Included in WDFW FY 13-15 Capital Budget Request (Minor Works - Preservation)
Skookumchuck Hatchery, Replace Barrier Culvert	\$ 100,000		Included in WDFW FY 13-15 Capital Budget Request (Minor Works - Preservation)
Lower Dungeness WLA, Barrier Culvert (1 site)		\$ 150,000	Pursuing USFW grant
Marblemount Hatchery, Replace Barrier Culverts (2 sites)		\$ 8,000,000	Significant renovation or relocation required. Tribal consultation required
Bogachiel Rearing Pond, Replace Barrier Culverts (4 sites)		\$ 4,000,000	Significant renovation or relocation required. Tribal consultation required
Corsen Culverts, King County (2 culverts)		\$ 500,000	Stakeholder consultation required
Totals	\$ 850,000	\$ 12,650,000	

REMAINING WDFW SITES (CONT'D)

- John's River Wildlife Area (Aberdeen)
 - \$500K...FY13-15 Capital Budget request
 - Difficult site condition for stream simulation...may require full span bridge (\$1.2M)
 - Tribal consultation for alternatives
- McKernan Hatchery, Replace Culvert (Shelton)
 - \$250K...FY13-15 Capital Budget request
 - Stream simulation culvert
- Skookumchuck Hatchery, Replace Culvert (Tenino)
 - \$100K...FY13-15 Capital Budget request
 - Stream simulation culvert



REMAINING WDFW SITES (CONT'D)

- Lower Dungeness Wildlife Area, Replace Barrier Culverts (Sequim)
 - \$150K...FY15-17 Capital Budget request
 - Pursuing a coastal wetlands grant from USFWS
- Marblemount Hatchery, Replace Culvert
 - \$8M...FY15-17 Capital Budget request
 - Tribal consultation to review alternatives
- Bogachiel Rearing Pond, Replace Barrier Culvert (Forks)
 - \$4M...FY15-17 Capital Budget request
 - Tribal consultation to review alternatives



REMAINING WDFW SITES (CONT'D)

- **Corsen Culverts (North King County)**
 - \$500K...FY15-17 Capital Budget request
 - Stakeholder consultation to review alternatives



WDFW POINTS OF CONTACT

- **Tim Burns, Asst. Director, Capital & Asset Mgt. Program**
 - Tel: 360-902-8382
 - Timothy.burns@dfw.wa.gov

- **David Price, Div. Manager, Restoration Div., Habitat Program**
 - Tel: 360-902-2565
 - David.price@dfw.wa.gov





COMPLIANCE WITH US v. WASHINGTON (FISH PASSAGE) UPDATE

APRIL 12, 2013

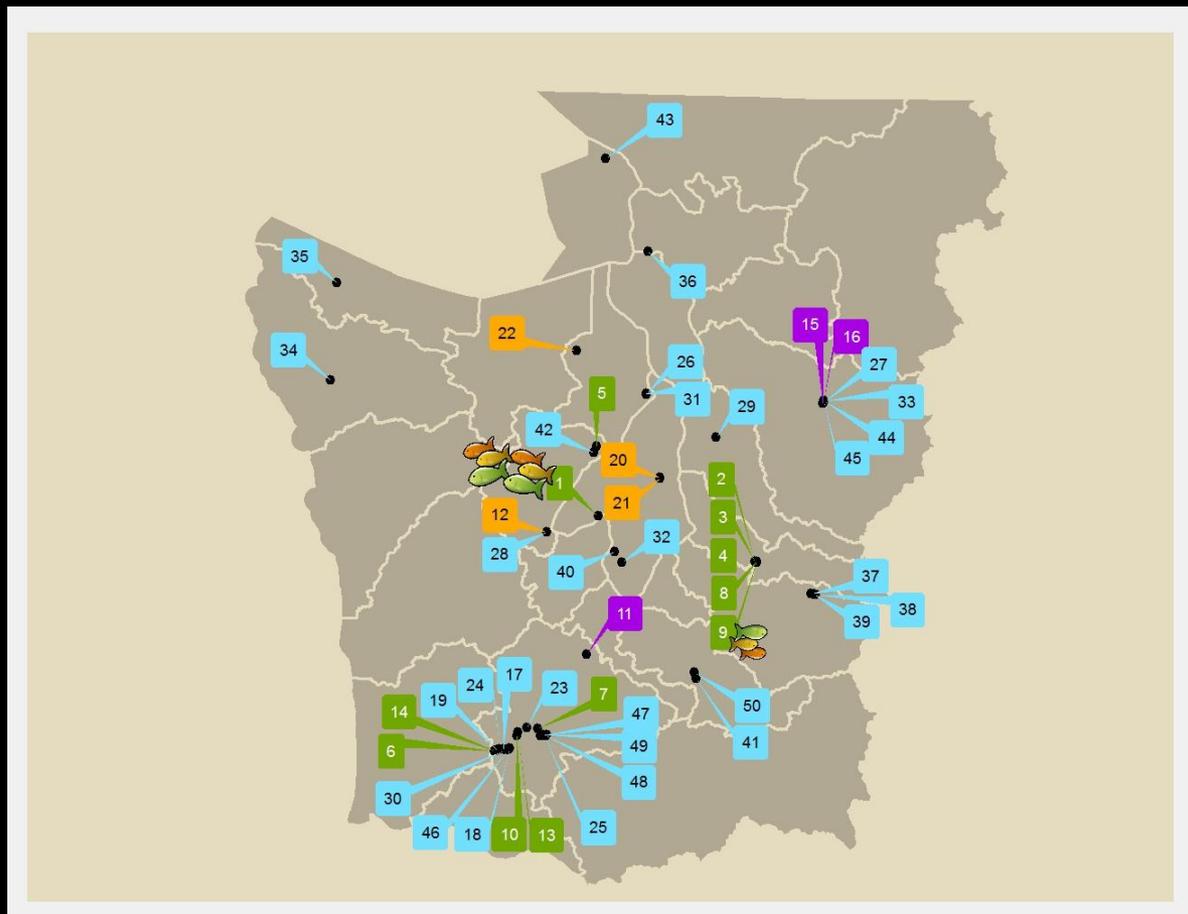
Larry Fairleigh / Richard Brown





Culvert Locations

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS





Average Cost Per Culvert

\$302,000*

*Average Per Culvert Design and Permitting: \$ 30,000

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Costs

Estimated Capital Budget funding required to mitigate barriers with potential habitat gain of 200 lineal meters or more (25 Barriers) by October 2016.

2011-13:	\$1,025,000 (Received)
2012 Supplemental:	\$1,000,000 (Received)
2013-15:	\$1,164,000
2015-17:	<u>\$4,368,000</u>
	\$7,557,000





Costs

Estimated Capital Budget funding required to mitigate all culverts for anadromous salmonids (50 Barriers) by October 2016.

2011-13:	\$1,025,000 (Received)
2012 Supplemental:	\$1,000,000 (Received)
2013-15:	\$10,746,000
2015-17:	<u>\$4,368,000</u>
	\$15,114,000



Restoring Fish Passage at WSDOT Stream Crossings



April 11, 2013

Lynn Peterson
Secretary of Transportation



US v. WA Culvert Injunction

Who? State of Washington

WSDOT, WDNR, WDFW, Parks

Where? Case area

Western Washington WRIA's 1-23



How many WSDOT barrier culverts?

About 982 total including

About 817 with Significant Habitat (>200 m upstream)

March 2013 Culvert Injunction Key Points

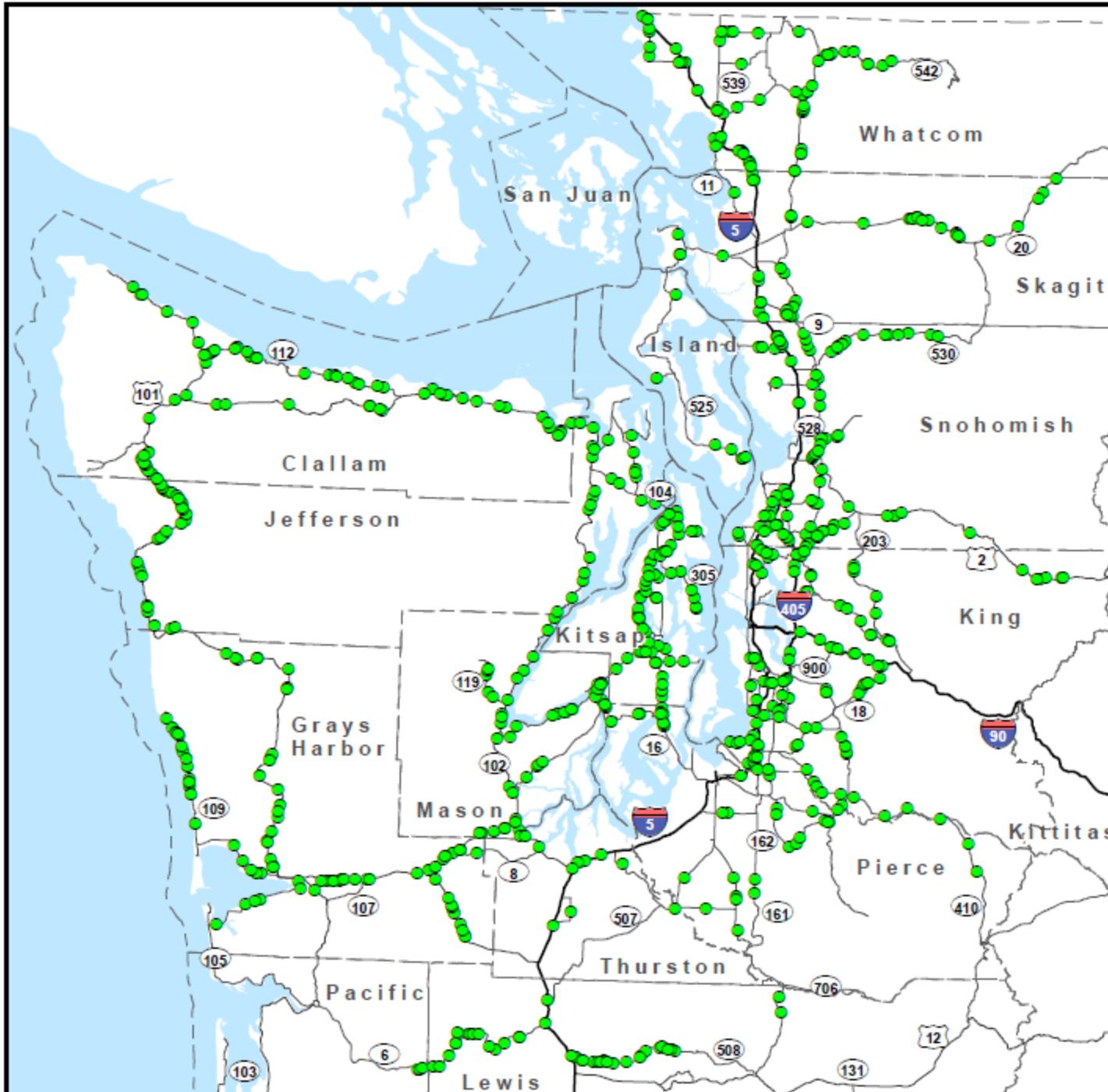


SR 21 Curlew Creek near Curlew
Creek State Park

- Sept 2013: prepare a list of case area barriers in consultation with Tribes
- Oct 2016: WDFW, DNR, & State Parks to fix all their barrier culverts.
- Use bridge or stream simulation for new culverts and corrections
- March 2030: (17 yrs) WSDOT to fix barriers with ≥ 200 meters or more of upstream habitat
- WSDOT may correct culverts with less than 200 meters upstream habitat at end of useful life or sooner as part of larger transportation projects
- WSDOT can defer corrections up to 10% of the total upstream habitat to end of useful life
- Ongoing effort to identify & assess barriers, monitor effectiveness & maintain culverts
- Notify Tribes of our activities

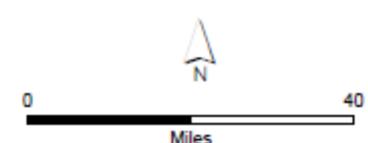
WSDOT Culvert Barriers

April 3, 2013



Culvert Barriers
● 817 Barriers

Data Source: Culvert Case Barriers,
State Routes, and County Boundaries
by WSDOT.



Current Barrier Correction Effort

- WSDOT has completed 269 projects (180 case area) opening up over 900 miles of potential upstream habitat.
- WSDOT completed 12 fish passage barrier culverts in 2012 and there are 20+ projects going to construction in 2013.
- I-4 Fish Passage Program funding in 11-13 = \$29 Million.



What is next for fish passage?



- Planning for accelerated correction target rate:
 - Program cost estimated at about \$2.4B to fix all barriers within case area
 - 60 to 80 projects per biennium 2015-2030
 - Up to \$310 M per biennium thru 2030
- Planning a \$20 M effort in 13-15 to accelerate scoping & design for fish passage projects
- Continue barrier correction effort outside case area
- Plan for fish passage corrections in Safety/Mobility projects
- All planning subject to legislative approval

SR 530 Fortson Creek west of Darrington

Fish Passage Program Support

- Develop Specialized Design Teams (HQ & Region staff)
- Use Lean to gain efficiencies in process
- Support expanded Tribal coordination for culverts
- Complete stream habitat assessments with WDFW
- Assess workload & streamlining options for permitting, Geo Tech, & other specialty groups

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A framework is in place to collaboratively restore
North Central Washington's forests.

With federal support, local partners can restore the health of forest lands and contribute to the region's economic vitality.

Future Challenges and Benefits



Local communities, fish and wildlife, and Washington State's \$46 billion food and agriculture industry all depend on reliable water supplies. In NCW most precipitation falls as snow in the winter months. Healthy upland forests play an important role in

capturing and sheltering snowpack, which melts throughout the summer growing season, supplying rivers and streams with cold, clean water during the hottest, driest months. Changing weather patterns may make the role of snowpack even more important.

Dense stands of small diameter trees, as are found across much of our forests, minimize the amount of snow that can reach the ground and be captured as snowpack. Large-scale restoration projects targeted at reducing stand density in areas where snowpack retention will have the most benefit are predicted to increase flow to supply late-season instream and out-of-stream uses. Given future changes in weather



Area of focus: Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, non-wilderness lands in Chelan and Okanogan counties

patterns, water demand, and timing of flow, it will be critical to ensure that instream flows meet future human and wildlife needs. Restoration of our upland forests is one part of that goal. A collaborative approach to addressing these challenges will pay dividends well into the future.



A Collaborative Effort to Restore North Central Washington's Working Forests

Together, we can put people to work to improve the forest health and economic vitality of our communities.

Communities & Forests in Need

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest lands make up over 70% of the land base in Okanogan and Chelan counties. Historically the forests of these counties provided thousands of forest industry jobs.

Underutilization of these forests over the last several decades has resulted in major challenges. Like other forests across the western United States, these forests are experiencing uncharacteristically severe wildfires, disease, and insect infestations. Timber production has decreased dramatically over the past 50 years, and along with it has come a loss of jobs and revenue to local communities. Overstocked, unharvested forests lead to increasingly severe fires that cost taxpayers millions of dollars to suppress. In the past decade, the U.S. Forest Service spent over \$325 million dollars on fire suppression in North Central Washington (NCW) alone, an increase of 54% over the previous decade. Local economic opportunities are lost due to severe wildfires that affect recreation and tourism during peak summer seasons.

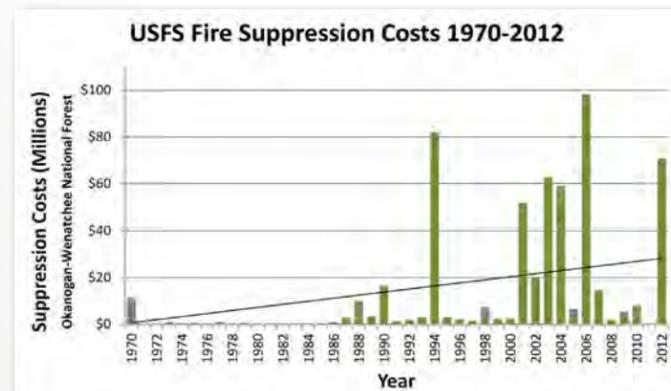


Unmanaged Forests = Increased Risk of Catastrophic Fires

What is at Stake

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Lands are in poor health. Without restoration, the forest will:

- continue to have uncharacteristically large wildfires with the potential of a twofold increase in areas burned by 2050;
- spend more taxpayer money to suppress fires burning near our homes and communities, rather than investing in a sustainable relationship between communities and forests; and
- face insect infestation routinely, due to densely packed forests that create unsustainable stands of trees that are less resistant to outbreaks.



Restoring Our Forests

Recently forest scientists and managers developed one of the most innovative management plans in the U.S. – the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (OWNF) Restoration Strategy, designed to restore landscapes and watersheds, making them healthier and less susceptible to diseases, insect infestations, flood events, and large wildfires. The plan is designed to dramatically increase the pace and extent of restoration through a variety of management tools, yet the OOWNF is only able to treat about 1-2% of the forest per year; not enough to keep pace with the number of dead and dying trees.

The deteriorating condition of forest lands across the OOWNF poses a significant challenge that cannot be addressed by one organization. In response to this critical need, local stakeholders asked the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB) to coordinate the development of a new collaborative effort focused on forest restoration. Since 1999, the UCSRB has demonstrated regional success in facilitating a collaborative approach to natural resource issues, specifically addressing recovery of listed salmon and steelhead.

The Nature Conservancy, Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, OOWNF, The Wilderness Society, Chelan and Okanogan Counties, and the Yakama Nation and Colville Confederated Tribes, under the facilitation of the UCSRB, are convening a collaborative effort to address forest issues and bring back the region's working forests. Participation from the timber industry, regional communities and elected officials, environmental and recreational interests, and other agencies is critical to this effort.



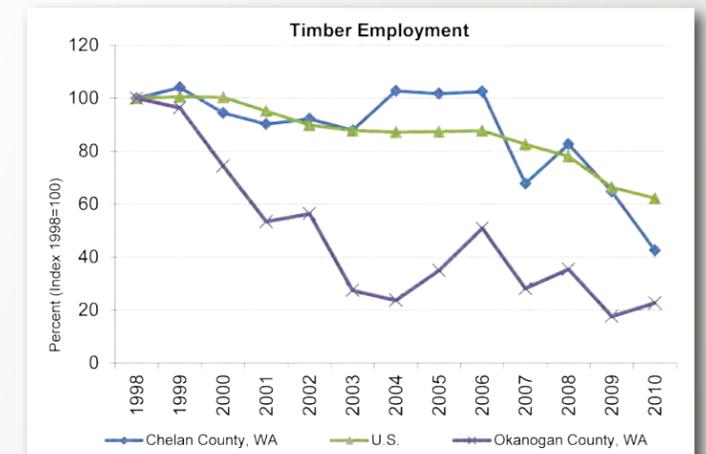
Forest Restoration = Jobs Creation

This regional effort mirrors many across the country using a collaborative approach to address challenging forest health issues, and to increase the amount of timber harvest on federal lands. The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) was established in 2009 to support such regional collaboratives, but requires annual Congressional appropriation to work. This program is a successful model for federal investment in local stewardship projects on federal lands. The CFLRP encourages collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration in priority forest landscapes, and helps create sustainable jobs in the communities that need them.

In its first few years, the CFLRP leveraged millions of dollars nationally and:

- created and maintained 4,574 jobs;
- produced 94.1 million cubic feet of timber;
- generated nearly \$320 million in labor income;
- reduced fire risks on 612,000 acres;
- improved 537,000 acres of wildlife habitat and 394 miles of fish habitat; and
- enhanced clean water supplies by remediating 6,000 miles of roads.

The majority of funding is spent on local projects that benefit local communities. Continued appropriation to the CFLRP will increase the footprint of restoration on forest lands, significantly leverage industry resources, and provide long-lasting forest health and resiliency to the benefit of local watersheds and communities across the U.S.



Data Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2012. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, Washington, D.C.

A Forest Health Collaborative in North Central Washington would allow the region to:

- more than double the footprint of restoration activities on OOWNF lands over a 10-year period;
- bolster local economies by creating jobs in the woods and in manufacturing, energy production and other wood-based products; **
- substantially reduce the risk of wildfires to communities that live near the forest and reduce the cost of fire suppression by approximately 50%; ***
- reduce risk to forest infrastructure, such as roads, from flood events that result in loss of public access and related revenue; and
- create a healthy forest that maintains its unique plants and animals, while meeting the needs of people for products and services like clean water and recreation.

** Neighboring Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative estimates that for every \$1 million of federal funds spent on forest restoration, up to \$2.6 million in economic output and 15 jobs are expected. Based on this rate, forest restoration could result in over 750 jobs over 10 years.

*** Risk and Cost Analysis Tools Package (R-CAT)

Healthy Forests • Healthy Watersheds • Healthy Communities

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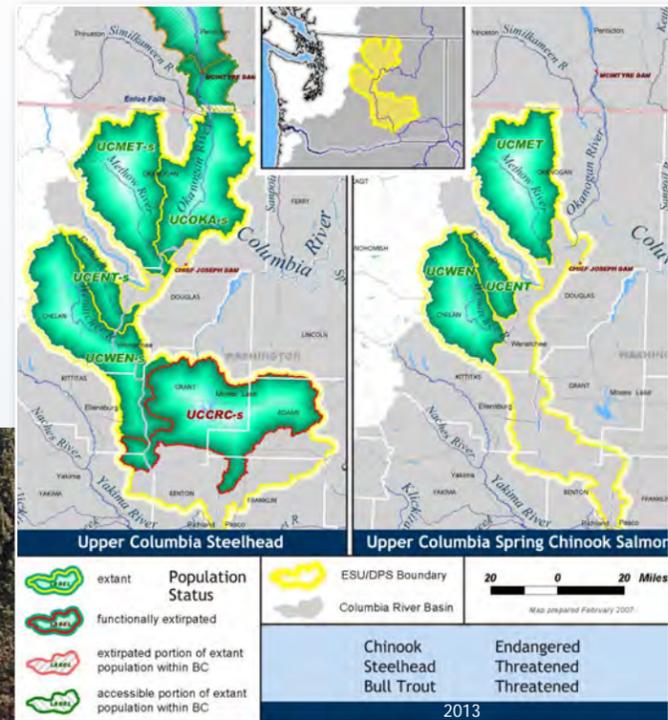
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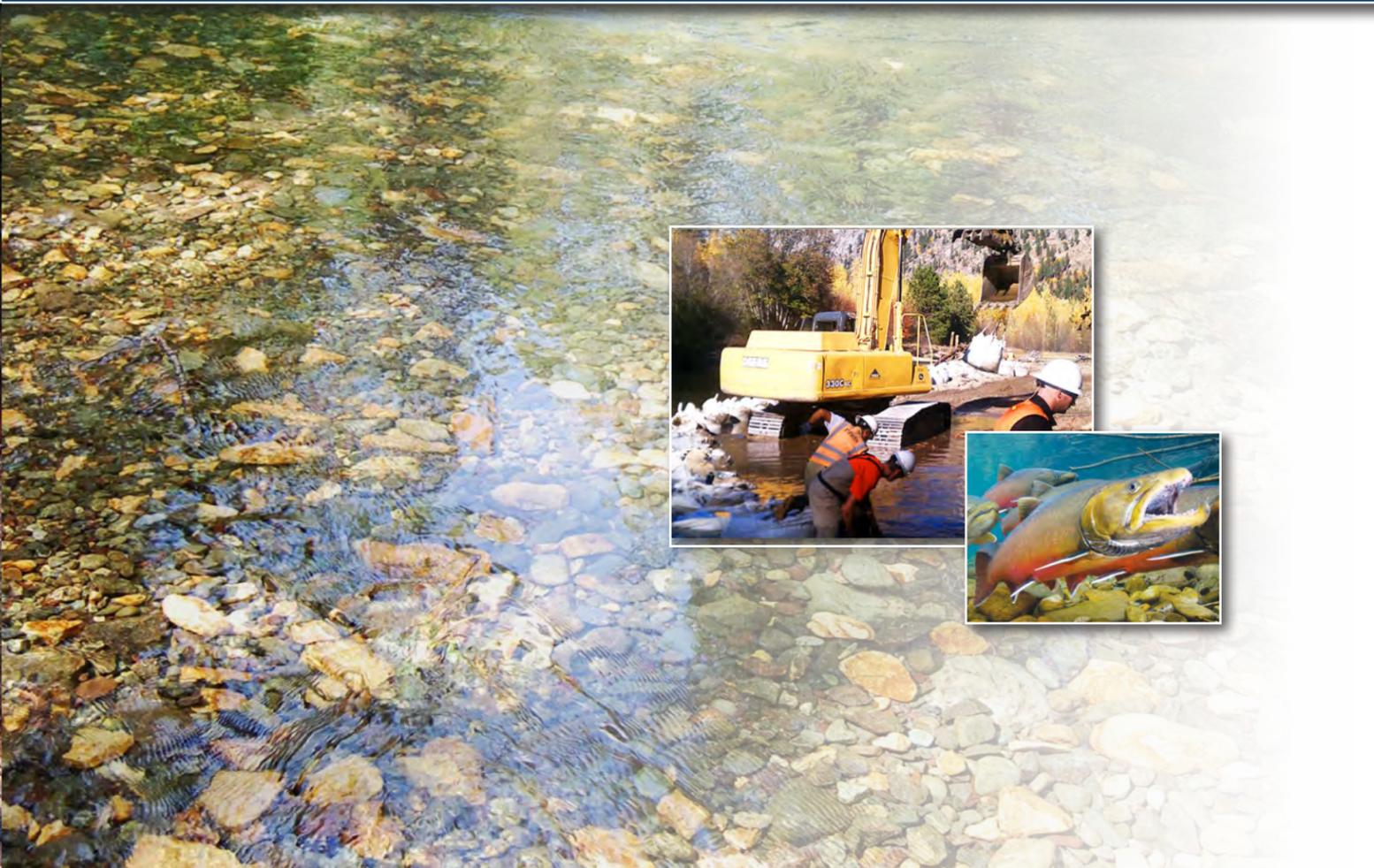
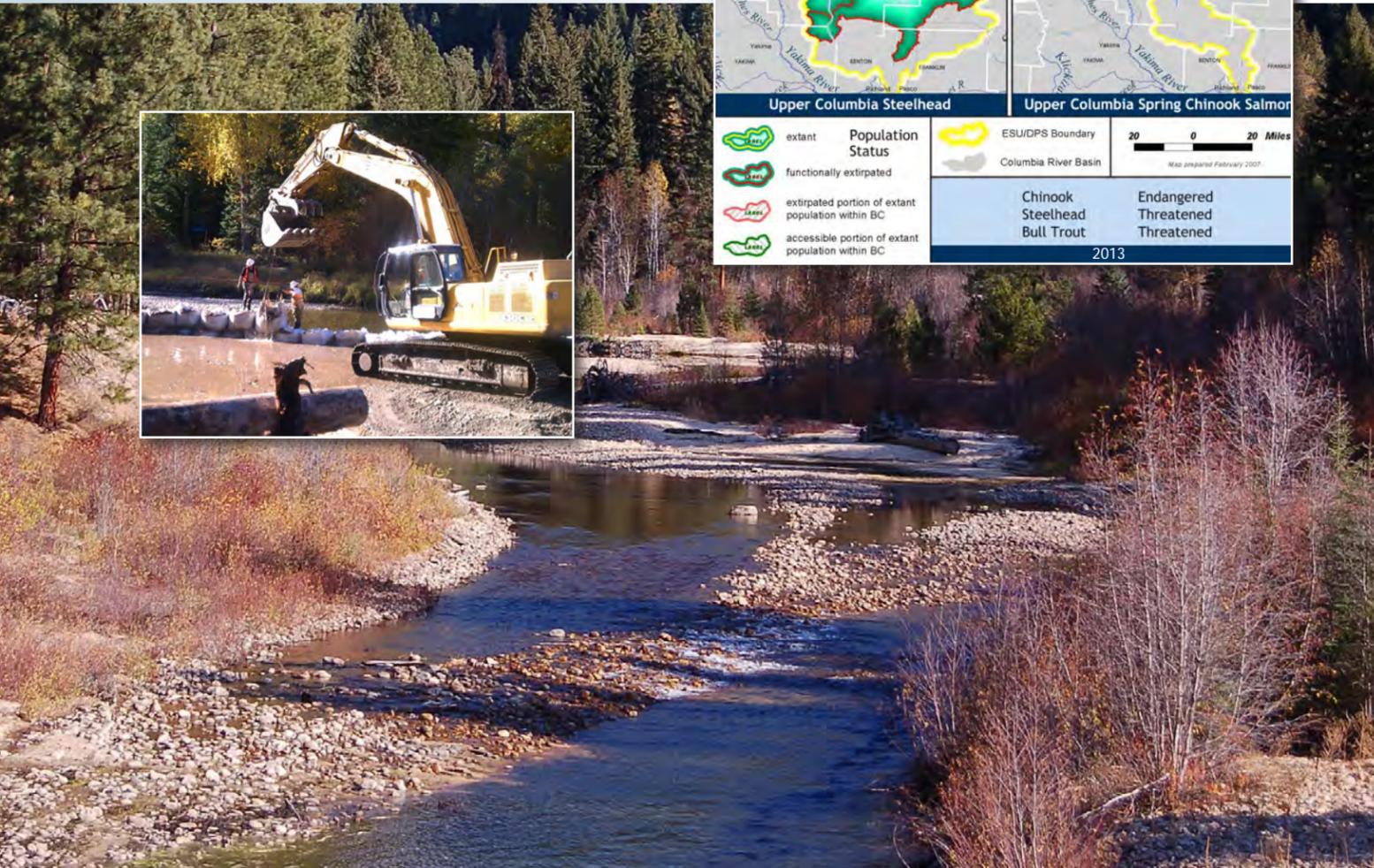
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Investments in Restoration are Helping Salmon Populations and Benefiting Local Economies.

For over a decade, the Federal Government has steadily invested in Pacific Northwest salmon through the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF). In the Upper Columbia, the PCSRF has directly contributed to salmon recovery and the creation of jobs.



UPPER COLUMBIA SALMON RECOVERY BOARD

The consistent support of our legislators over the last decade has paid dividends for salmon and people in the Upper Columbia Basin.

Benefits – Habitat Restoration Means Business

Project partners are in the early stages of monitoring recovery projects, and the data indicate we are on the road to accomplishing our mandate to guide spring Chinook and steelhead away from the brink of extinction. Recovery is a long-term endeavor encompassing many generations of fish, and PCSRF funding supports our efforts and injects needed capital into our rural communities; a significant contribution during challenging economic times. **Most habitat restoration project dollars go to local contractors in the private sector.**

Many of these contractors came to salmon recovery with prior experience in construction. With the downturn in the economy, they found that they could adapt their equipment and knowledge and expand their businesses into the recovery arena. One adaptation, for example, includes converting heavy machinery to operate on vegetable-based lubricants to allow them to work in streams.

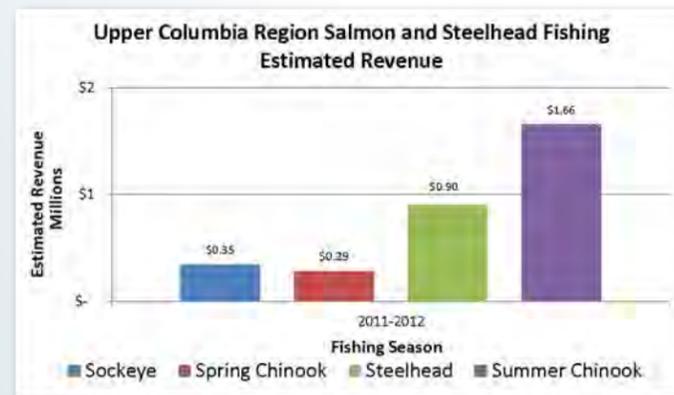


Restoration Project, Methow River 2012

The economic benefits of habitat restoration extend far beyond the jobs for the men and women working in the streams. Those jobs create a ripple effect through the community, multiplying the benefits. In addition to the businesses that provide project labor, other businesses provide landscaping, excavation equipment, and building materials. The employees of all these businesses spend their wages locally on household goods, food, fuel, and entertainment—supporting other businesses in their community. **Over the last decade an investment of \$28M of PCSRF dollars has been used to leverage over \$74M in additional funding for salmon habitat recovery projects in the Upper Columbia. Not only has the \$28M invested in the Upper Columbia leveraged funds but also generated additional economic activity as the funds cycle through the local economy:**

- PCSRF investments have led to 420-924 jobs and \$61-70M of economic activity.
- Funds leveraged by PCSRF have led to an additional 1,110-2,442 jobs and \$162-185M in economic activity.
- Over the last 12 years, investments made in salmon habitat projects have resulted in a total of 1,530-3,366 jobs and \$224-255M in economic activity in the Upper Columbia.

Another significant benefit from restoration efforts in the Upper Columbia is increased opportunities for recreational fishing. Growing participation in recreational fishing is becoming a crucial source of income for many regional businesses. Examples include Pateros, where a new hotel on the banks of the Columbia River was built to meet the demands of fishermen. The number of professional fishing guides has grown significantly in our region, from a few individuals to dozens of licensed professionals. Estimates from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife suggest that recreational fishing for salmon and steelhead resulted in over \$2.2M of revenue during the most recent season, March 2011 to March 2012.



Data Source: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2012.

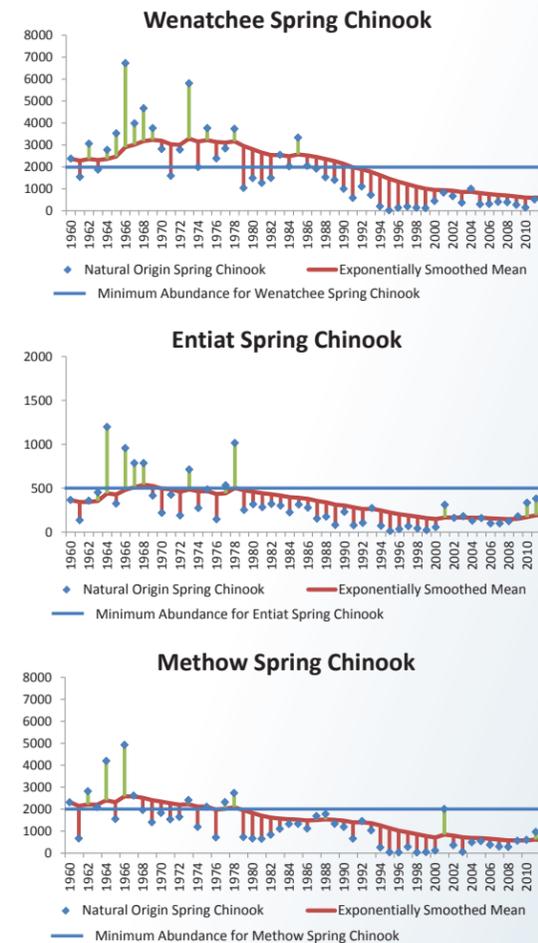
Moving Forward

The number of salmon and steelhead returning to the Upper Columbia is higher today than it was five years ago, with populations generally trending up or staying the same. **This is very encouraging, although the numbers are still below minimum recovery targets. There is still a lot of work to be done.**

In 2013 and 2014 the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB) will be producing a series of reports summarizing information about each of the major management sectors affecting salmon recovery in the Upper Columbia (Habitat, Hatcheries, Harvest, and Hydropower). The reports will summarize the stated outcomes of each set of programs related to Upper Columbia listed species management and recovery.

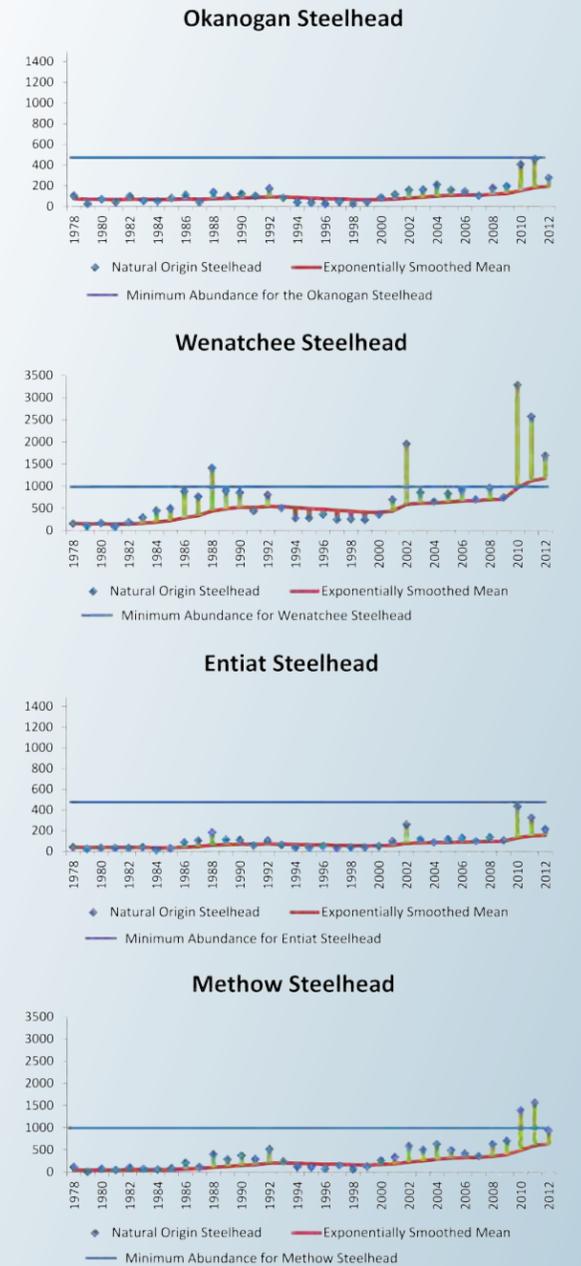
These reports are intended to be used to a) improve integrated decision making; b) communicate information; c) identify key uncertainties and gaps in knowledge and understanding; and d) establish a comprehensive regional strategy for tracking progress toward recovery.

Annual Spring Chinook Adult Abundance for Upper Columbia Populations



Data Source: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Annual Steelhead Adult Abundance for Upper Columbia Populations



Data Source: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Upper Columbia Lead Entity Transition

Report and Supporting Materials

Prepared for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

February 2013

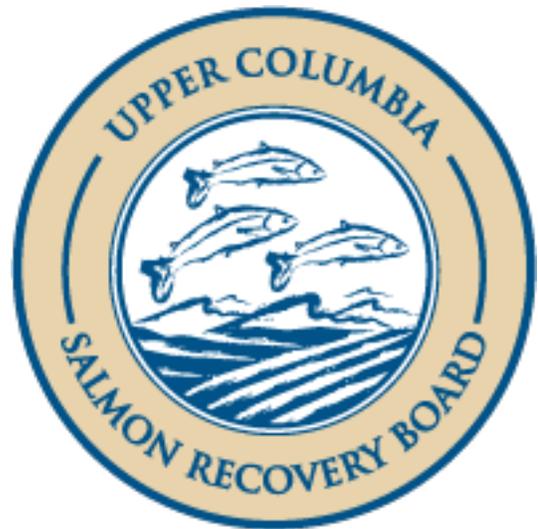


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Appendix

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Appendix B	Historic and Consolidated Maps of the Upper Columbia Lead Entities
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Background and Decision Points

Purpose of the Report and Background

This report documents the process of implementing the transition from multiple Lead Entities in the Upper Columbia region (Region) to a single Lead Entity housed under the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB). On February 8, 2012, the UCSRB received a letter from Kaleen Cottingham, Director of the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), requesting the UCSRB work to consolidate the Okanogan and Chelan Lead Entities into the UCSRB Regional Organization (see February 8th Letter and UCSRB response - Appendix A, Document 1 & 2). The letter stated the primary reason for the request was the result of “lower salmon recovery funding levels due to increased economic and political pressure.” It also referred to the UCSRB’s current structure that supports a regional approach, which includes administering the Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT) and complimentary processes already in place for the distribution of other funds. These opportunities and issues resulted in the request to the UCSRB from RCO to consolidate the Upper Columbia Lead Entities into a single Lead Entity for this Region.

History of the Lead Entity in the Upper Columbia

Subsequent to the 1998 enactment of HB 2496 by the Washington State Legislature, three Lead Entity organizations were established in the Region. These included Chelan County, Okanogan County/Colville Tribes, and Foster Creek Conservation District. The Region embraced this grassroots approach that empowered citizens at the community level to engage in salmon recovery through a locally driven habitat protection and restoration program. The Lead Entity organizations in the Region performed a necessary role in salmon habitat recovery activities in Washington State as provided in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 77.85 Salmon Recovery (HB 2496). Additionally in 2006, the Lead Entities, UCSRB, public stakeholders, agencies, and tribes reached across cultural and institutional boundaries and partnered to develop the *Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan* (2007) for NOAA Fisheries Service.

Since the 1998 enactment of the original structure, the Region’s Lead Entity organizations have changed. Originally, Okanogan County and the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) shared the Lead Entity role in the Okanogan and Methow subbasins (WRIAs 48 and 49); however, the CCT transferred its Lead Entity role to Okanogan County (historic Lead Entity map Appendix B, Figure 1). Foster Creek Conservation District was also established as a Lead Entity in the Region (WRIA 50). Overtime, their Lead Entity role was constrained by the limited opportunities Douglas County has for restoration; consequently, this Lead Entity has been inactive the last few years. Chelan County has consistently administered the Lead Entity for the Entiat and Wenatchee Subbasins (WRIA 40, 45, 46, 47) since enactment of the bill. The current request by the RCO would effectively result in the consolidation of all three Lead Entity organizations into a single Lead Entity in the Region (new Lead Entity map Appendix B, Figure 2).

The remainder of this report documents the history of the Lead Entity transition, the approach the UCSRB Board of Directors voted to pursue in order to meet the intent of the RCO’s request, and

subsequent actions including outreach to stakeholders as part of the UCSRB's open and transparent operating mandate. The UCSRB will complete the consolidation by the end of 2012.

Discussions and Decision Points

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Meetings

Following the February 8, 2012 letter, the UCSRB initiated actions to meet the intentions of the RCO request by taking the necessary steps to consolidate and manage the Lead Entity process (see Table 1 below for key milestone dates). The five-member Board of Directors consists of commissioners from Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan Counties, and representatives of the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) and the Yakama Nation (YN). The Board is a nonprofit corporation formed to serve as a regional salmon recovery organization in Washington State (RCW 77.85) and to coordinate and implement the federal *Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan (2007)*. Under the guidance of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between all five jurisdictions, the UCSRB works together to establish the terms and conditions under which the parties will jointly and/or cooperatively implement their efforts towards fish recovery in the Region (see Interlocal Cooperation Agreement - Appendix A, Document 2). The following section summarizes the three UCSRB meetings in which the Lead Entity consolidation was discussed and the key decision points that followed:

Board Meeting – February 23, 2012

The UCSRB met on February 23, 2012 and made the decision to:

“...consolidate the lead entities for Okanogan and Chelan lead entities into one individual lead entity to be housed in the UCSRB Offices under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. The Executive Director will work with the RCO in order to meet all regulatory and legal obligations, to outline a plan for lead entity consolidation, and ensure funding for outreach for the counties.”

Board Meeting – April 26, 2012

At the April 26th meeting, with Megan Duffy in attendance, the Board again affirmed its commitment to consolidate the Region's Lead Entity function within the regional organization. All five Board Members further clarified their intent in an Executive Session on the topic, deciding that:

- 1) the target date for consolidation will be the end of the 2012 calendar year; and
- 2) County Commissioners on the UCSRB will work with the cities within their respective counties to develop support for the consolidation.

Board Meeting - October 25, 2012

At the October, 25:2012 meeting, the board made the decision to approve the proposed 2013 Lead Entity budget with a portion of funding going to the Okanogan and Chelan counties for outreach efforts. The budget reflects a 10% cut from the 2012 budget totals for the Okanogan and Chelan Lead Entity organizations.

Table 1. Key Milestone Dates - Upper Columbia Region Lead Entity Transition

Key Milestones Date	Upper Columbia Lead Entity Transition
	<i>A=Actions</i> <i>D=Decisions</i>
February 8, 2012	A = Letter from RCO to UCSRB requesting the consolidation of the Region’s Lead Entities
February 23, 2012	D = UCSRB decision to consolidate Lead Entities
April 26, 2012	D = UCSRB decision to complete transition by the end of 2012 calendar year and to present to cities to gain support for the consolidation.
May – December 2012	A = Presentations to cities by UCSRB staff and Board members
July – November 2012	A = UCSRB staff meetings with project sponsors and CACs to gain input about the transition.
June 7, 2012	D = SRFB decision to consolidate Upper Columbia Lead Entity organizations into one Lead Entity housed under the UCSRB.
April 3, 2012 October 2, 2012 November 6, 2012	A = UCSRB staff work group meetings to develop recommendations for the consolidation and management of the Lead Entity process.
October 25, 2012	D = UCSRB decision to approve Scope and Budget with a 10% cut
December 2012	A = Final LE Transition Report submitted to RCO UCSRB LE Scope and Budget submitted to RCO
December 6, 2012	A = UCSRB staff presentation to the SRFB
November – December 2012	A = Lead Entity Coordinator hiring process
January 1, 2013	Transition Complete

Letters of Support to the Board

In response to the February 8, 2012 letter from RCO, the UCSRB received six formal letters of support for the Lead Entity consolidation from project sponsors, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT). In summary, the letters specified the consolidation would remove the perception of a conflict of interest when a project sponsor is also the process facilitator, eliminate current duplication of effort between the UCSRB and Lead Entities, and improve regional outreach efforts through UCSRB coordination (see list of letters sent to the Board in Table 2 and the complete letters of support in Appendix C).

Table 2. Letters of Support to UCSRB

Date Received	Organizations that Provided Letters of Support to the UCSRB for the Lead Entity Consolidation
2/21/12	Cascadia Conservation District (CCD)
2/22/2012	Chelan Douglas Land Trust (CDLT)
2/21/12	Columbia Cascade Fisheries Enhancement Group (CCFEG)
2/21/12	Trout Unlimited (TU)
5/29/2012	United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
5/28/2012	Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT)

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Resolution

On June 7, 2012, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) approved Resolution 2012-01 to consolidate the Lead Entities of the Upper Columbia region into a single UCSRB Lead Entity. Prior to the decision, UCSRB staff, Julie Morgan and Derek Van Marter, presented information to the SRFB on the request to consolidate Lead Entities. There was discussion on how the details were being worked out and how the UCSRB would achieve savings. The SRFB Chair noted that it is important to maintain a balance between project funding and the cost of human capacity behind it. UCSRB staff attended the December 6, 2012 SRFB meeting to present on these topics and other Lead Entity consolidation updates.

Lead Entity Tasks and Roles

Based on direction from the Board of Directors, UCSRB staff coordinated with RCO, the Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO), UCSRB staff workgroup, and other stakeholders on an approach to identify and resolve major decisions and actions for the Lead Entity transition. The UCSRB staff work group is the Board’s decentralized staff that includes representatives from the Region’s counties, tribes, UCRTT, and others. UCSRB held three staff work group meetings to develop recommendations on the structure of the new Lead Entity consolidation, how outreach Task 7.02 would be maintained with the counties, and the scope and budget for final approval by the Board.

Lead Entity Tasks 1-7

The RCO requires a total of seven tasks to be completed by Washington State Lead Entities to maintain sufficient administration, facilitation, and coordination capacity to support the on-going goals and objectives of a Lead Entity organization. Historically, these tasks were completed by both UCSRB and the county Lead Entities with overlap on certain tasks. The counties maintained the Lead Entity organization, Citizens Advisory Committees (CACs), Habitat Work Schedule (HWS), developed the Project List, and provided training and community outreach; whereas, UCSRB was tasked with the maintenance of the *Upper Columbia Lead Entity Process Guide*, facilitation of the Joint CAC, and compilation of the final Project List (see Table 3 and 4 for the historic and consolidated distribution of the tasks 1-7). Following the transition, tasks 1-6 were transferred to UCSRB while Okanogan and Chelan counties have retained the majority of subtask 7.02.

Table 3. The historic structure and distribution of Lead Entity tasks 1-7 as defined by RCO

Lead Entities/Region Historic Structure			
Task 1	Maintain LE Organization	Chelan County Lead Entity	Okanogan County Lead Entity
Task 2	Maintain LE Committees		
Task 3	Develop Annual Work Plan		
Task 4	Maintain Process Guide		
Task 5	Develop Project List		
Task 6	Maintain Habitat Work Schedule		
Task 7	Provide Training and Community Outreach		
Other	RTT, Joint CAC, Final Project List	UCSRB	

Table 4. The consolidated structure and distribution of Lead Entity Tasks 1-7 as defined by RCO

Upper Columbia Lead Entity Consolidated Structure		
Task 1	Maintain LE Organization	UCSRB Lead Entity
Task 2	Maintain LE Committees	
Task 3	Develop Annual Work Plan	
Task 4	Maintain Process Guide	
Task 5	Develop Project List	
Task 6	Maintain Habitat Work Schedule (Implementation Schedule)	
Task 7	Provide Training and Community Outreach	
	Subcontract with counties for a majority of subtask 7.02	Counties

Lead Entity Outreach Task 7.02

Outreach is one of the seven Lead Entity tasks; RCO defines this task as “conducting community outreach to educate the local community on salmon recovery for the purpose of developing a broad base of support for projects.” Following the transition, Okanogan and Chelan counties have retained the majority of the outreach task 7.02. The new UCSRB Lead Entity will also administer some duties under task 7.02 and also oversee the counties’ outreach efforts.

UCSRB Lead Entity Outreach

Lead Entities are tasked with recruiting and supporting organizations that implement habitat protection and restoration projects. Outreach associated with recruiting new sponsors and other responsibilities to support sponsor organizations will be completed by the UCSRB Lead Entity. UCSRB will also coordinate with Watershed Action Teams (WATs) and the outreach committees/work groups on communication and outreach plans to assist in cross watershed communication such as developing and distributing consistent messaging to all four subbasins in the Region.

County Outreach in Support of the Lead Entity

Project sponsors will also be supported by Chelan and Okanogan county staff under task 7.02. Salmon recovery outreach needs vary across the Region. For instance, Okanogan county staff has a higher level of success through outreach by working one on one with the public by means of its staff positions. In contrast, outreach groups in Chelan County have successfully used a more conventional outreach approach by utilizing the media and public meetings to communicate salmon recovery efforts. Due to the diversity in outreach needs across subbasins, broad outreach activities were outlined for the different counties by the UCSRB staff work group at a recent November 6, 2012 meeting. Project sponsors continue to be interested in how outreach is conducted by the counties with SRFB funds. The outreach activities will include some of the following:

- Working with the Lead Entity Coordinator to identify and implement priority outreach needs of project sponsors.
- Assisting all project sponsors in their outreach efforts for projects and in landowner coordination including connecting members of the public with project sponsors.
- Working with project sponsors to coordinate and develop outreach strategy and implement specific outputs (e.g. create events, website, develop fact sheets, etc.).
- In close collaboration with the local watershed and salmon recovery planning groups, continue to communicate and garner support for the implementation of the regional recovery plan within the region and help to coordinate and participate in outreach events.
- Participation in regular open meetings of the WATs to better understand projects and project sponsor outreach needs.

Specific outreach activities will be decided upon in close collaboration with the local WATs. The Region has four major “subbasins” with each represented by a WAT including: Okanogan, Methow, Entiat, and Wenatchee. The WATs provide the knowledge and infrastructure to coordinate and implement localized salmon recovery actions. Most of the WATs have developed, or are in the process of

developing, outreach plans to inform and involve a targeted public in salmon recovery and watershed health.

Okanogan County staff will fulfill the outreach administration role in Okanogan county in coordination with the Okanogan and Methow WATs. Chelan County Natural Resource Department (CCNRD) staff will fulfill the outreach administration role in the Wenatchee subbasin; this is complemented by the fact that CCNRD also coordinates the Wenatchee WAT and has convened an outreach subcommittee to develop a communication plan to outline a strategic outreach approach for the Wenatchee subbasin. The Methow and Entiat WATs recently developed outreach and communication plans that will be used as a template for the Chelan County Watershed Outreach Plan. Table 5 shows the regional subbasins, the status of respective outreach plans, and the names of the outreach administrator.

Table 5. Upper Columbia Outreach Plans

Upper Columbia Subbasin	Outreach Plan Status	Outreach Plan Name	Outreach Administrators
Okanogan Subbasin	No	Specific to the needs discussed at the Okanogan WAT	Okanogan County/Admin for the Okanogan WAT is the Colville Tribes
Methow Subbasin	Yes	<i>2012-2015 Communication and Outreach Plan for the Methow Watershed</i>	Methow Recovery Council (MRC)/Admin for Methow WAT
Entiat Subbasin	Yes	<i>2012-2015 Communication and Outreach Plan for the Entiat Watershed</i>	CCD/Admin for Entiat WAT
Wenatchee Subbasin	In Development	<i>Chelan County Watershed Outreach Plan (draft)</i>	CCNRD/Admin for Wenatchee WAT

Scope of Work and Budget

UCSRB staff developed a detailed and comprehensive scope and budget that was reviewed by the UCSRB staff work group. Following the inclusion of work group revisions, this scope and budget were presented to the UCSRB at the October 25, 2012 meeting where the Board made the decision to approve the proposed Lead Entity scope and budget (Appendix D).

The following is a summary of the scope and budget:

- 1) The budget splits the RCO tasks 1-7 into task descriptions. These tasks are further divided into subtasks that relate to specific Lead Entity services. At that point, the services hours are estimated then multiplied by the hourly rate of \$40; there is one exception for the UCRTT chair/contractor with an hourly rate of \$85.
- 2) The total amount estimated to run a Lead Entity in the Region is \$168,980 annually. It is anticipated the majority of this amount will be funded by the RCO (\$135k) and the remainder

funded from the regional budget (\$33,980). The regional budget includes funding from RCO, Bonneville Power Administration, and Yakama Nation.

- 3) The funding level for one FTE to assume Lead Entity Coordinator responsibilities is projected to be \$80,000 annually. Coordinator responsibilities include supporting project sponsors, facilitating the CACs, developing the project list, and other tasks as defined in RCW 77.85.050 and identified in Tasks 1-7.
- 4) The UCRTT will continue to be funded with regional funds; additionally, the majority of the Habitat Work Schedule (HWS) work will now be funded with regional funds.
- 5) Okanogan County and Chelan County will receive approximately \$55k on an annual basis to conduct outreach activities. Each county has prepared a list of outreach tasks/services that will be provided.
- 6) The savings to the SRFB produced by the consolidation includes a 10% savings from the total existing lead entity allocation of \$300,000 equaling \$30K for administration and capacity costs as well as \$30k for the three extra HWS licenses for a total of \$60k in cost savings for RCO.

UCSRB Lead Entity Transition Approach

Given the high interest in the Lead Entity consolidation, significant outreach was conducted to ensure support for the transition. UCSRB staff and county commissioners presented to each of the cities in the Region on the transition and many letters of support/endorsement were sent to RCO for the consolidation. Staff also met with the project sponsors to listen and collect feedback, while the tribes and counties were also consulted to ensure the transition met their needs. The following sections document the stakeholder meetings and describe recommendations, interests, and comments collected at the meetings.

Stakeholder Meetings

Meetings with Counties

UCSRB staff presented to the Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan County Commissioners on the historic Lead Entity, the new approach, and provided updates on the composition and mission of the Board. See Table 6 below for the presentation information and complete letters of support to the RCO can be found in Appendix C.

Table 6. Meetings with Upper Columbia Counties

Counties	Presentation Date	UCSRB Staff	Letter of Support
Chelan County Commissioners	Presentation on 9/10/12, 10/1/12, and 12/10/12 to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doug England • Keith Goehner • Ron Walter 	Julie Morgan James White Joy Juelson Barb Carrillo	Yes
Douglas County Commissioners	Presentation on 6/5/2012 to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Stanton • Steven Jenkins • Dale Snyder 	Don McIvor Ken Bevis	Yes
Grant County Commissioners	Presentation on 6/25/2012 to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Stevens • Cindy Carter 	Don McIvor Steve Jenkins Joy Juelson	Yes
Okanogan County Commissioners	Presentation on 11/16/2012 to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Lampe • Bud Hover • Jim Detro 	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter	Yes

Recommendations, Interests, and Comments

Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan County Board of Commissioners expressed support for the consolidation and the efficiencies that may be realized to address reductions in the salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources. Chelan County Board of Commissioners expressed considerable interest in the transition, especially the outreach to the cities in Chelan County. UCSRB staff met with the Chelan County Commissioners to jointly prepare for the presentations to the cities. For each city, a commissioner volunteered to attend and co-present when appropriate. Chelan County Commissioners provided valuable insight into the topics that would be of interest to each of the cities and why they might be interested in the change in administration of the Lead Entity. Later in the report, table 8 summarizes the dates of the presentations and the Commissioners who attended with UCSRB staff.

Meetings with Tribes

Although the tribes in the Region have participated in the SRFB funding process to fund habitat projects, they currently fund the majority of their recovery actions through the Columbia Basin Fish Accords Memorandum of Agreement between the treaty tribes and the Federal Columbia River Power System action agencies. However, the tribes occasionally participate in the funding process and are interested in select services and roles the Lead Entity provides in the Region. In particular, the outreach functions, because it can be essential for tribes to have an intermediary or advocate when communicating to the public about its own recovery actions.

UCSRB Staff met with representatives of both the CCT and YN over the summer to discuss the transition and any concerns they may have (Table 7). Tribal representatives also took part in UCSRB Staff work

group meetings and have been engaged in many of the decisions to consolidate and manage the Lead Entity process. Please see the letters of support to RCO from the Tribes in Appendix C.

Table 7. Meetings with Tribes

Tribes	Tribal Representatives	UCSRB Staff	Topics
Colville Confederated Tribes	Chris Fisher Keith Kistler <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 7/26/12 in Okanogan Bill Towey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 09/04/12 in Spokane 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson Derek Van Marter	LE Transition LE Outreach \$ Utilization, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, WAT Updates
Yakama Nation	Brandon Rogers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 9/13/12 in Wenatchee John Jorgensen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call on 7/14/12 Lee Carlson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call on 10/1/12 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates

Recommendations, Interests, and Comments

Tribal representatives in Okanogan County expressed the county’s outreach role as critical in the implementation of the Tribe’s habitat projects off of Colville Tribal lands. They are supportive of the county’s continued role and will work directly with the county or through the Okanogan WAT on specific outreach needs. Yakama Nation representatives stated their interest in the new UCSRB Lead Entity requiring clear outreach deliverables from the counties. Another YN representative would also like to receive a high level of service from a Coordinator with a clear and thorough understanding of the process.

Meetings with Cities

UCSRB staff and a County Commissioner (when available) gave presentations to the towns and cities that included: information on the historic Lead Entities, the new approach, salmon recovery trends, and updates on the Board member composition. The following Table 8 provides information on the presentations and subsequent support letters sent to RCO can be found in Appendix C.

Table 8. UCSRB meetings with Towns and Cities

Town or City	Presentation Date	County Commissioners & Staff Presenters	Letter of Support
City of Brewster	05/09/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Bridgeport	02/25/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Cashmere	10/12/12	Chelan Commissioner Keith Goehner Julie Morgan (UCSRB) Barb Carrillo (UCSRB)	Yes
City of Chelan	11/08/12	Chelan Commissioner Doug England Julie Morgan (UCSRB) James White (UCSRB)	Yes
City of East Wenatchee	04/24/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB)	Yes
City of Entiat	10/11/12	Chelan Commissioner Ron Walter Derek Van Marter (UCSRB)	Yes
City of Leavenworth	11/13/12	Chelan Commissioner Keith Goehner Barb Carrillo (UCSRB)	Yes
City of Omak	05/01/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Oroville	05/15/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Rock Island	04/26/12	Douglas Commissioner Steve Jenkins Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Tonasket	05/08/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Twisp	05/22/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes
City of Wenatchee	11/15/12	Chelan Commissioner Ron Walter Julie Morgan (UCSRB) Derek Van Marter (UCSRB)	Yes
Malaga Community Council	10/02/12	Chelan Commissioner Ron Walter Julie Morgan (UCSRB) Derek Van Marter (UCSRB)	Yes
Town of Winthrop	05/02/12	Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW) Derek Van Marter (UCSRB)	Yes
Town of Waterville	05/07/12	Douglas Commissioner Steve Jenkins Don Mclvor (UCSRB) Ken Bevis (WDFW)	Yes

Recommendations, Interests, and Comments

In general, the presentations were well received. While the topic was not directly related to the daily operations of most of the cities, some cities requested the UCSRB return annually to provide updates on the work of the UCSRB.

Meetings with Citizens Advisory Committees

UCSRB staff attended the Okanogan and Chelan regularly scheduled Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) ranking meeting to update members on the transition and hear any concerns they may have. Staff gave a presentation to the Okanogan County CAC and answered questions. Similarly, UCSRB staff presented to the Chelan County CAC on the transition process and answered questions (Table 9).

Table 9. Citizens Advisory Meetings

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)	CAC Members & Date	UCSRB Staff Attending	Topics
Chelan County Citizens Committee	Committee Members <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussed at CAC Ranking Meeting on 8/1/12	Derek Van Marter Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition Fish Abundance Updates
Okanogan County Citizens Committee	Committee Members <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussed at CAC Ranking Meeting on 8/8/12	Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson	Power Point LE Transition Fish Abundance Updates

Recommendations, Interests, and Comments

There was an opportunity to engage in discussions with both CACs concerning the transition. The primary concern of the CAC members was their interest in retaining two separate citizens committees following the consolidation. They were concerned that consolidating the CACs would be problematic due to the high number of projects to assess without the benefit of the local knowledge the individual committees bring to the process. A CAC member in Chelan County may not have the local knowledge about the Okanogan County watersheds as they would for the watersheds in Chelan County. The committees were not apprehensive about which organization administered the Lead Entity, but that it was administered and well managed. There were specific comments from individuals; for example, some Chelan County CAC members wanted to continue to receive their detailed project notebooks and local and regional updates on past projects and recovery updates. One CAC member requested to be included on the Lead Entity Coordinator interview panel. Okanogan County members wanted assurances they would receive a high level of service even though the new Coordinator’s office would be housed in Wenatchee, which is outside Okanogan County.

Meetings with Project Sponsors

The Lead Entity transition has been viewed by UCSRB and stakeholders as an opportunity to evaluate the program across the Region. Though the primary goal through consolidation has been to realize cost efficiencies and elevate the integrity of the process, it is important that valuable services that have been provided to project sponsors are maintained and new opportunities for improving the Lead Entity are considered. With this in mind, UCSRB Staff has interviewed 30 individual project sponsors from 14 organizations, starting in the northern part of the region and moving south, with the intention of opening the lines of communication, providing updates on the transition, listening to ideas on how the process worked well, and also for recommendations for improvement (Table 10).

Table 10. Project Sponsor Table

Project Sponsors	Sponsor Representatives	UCSRB Staff	Topics
Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Jason Lundgren <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 8/22/12 at CCREG Office 	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson	LE Transition LO Liability Legislation Maintenance and Stewardship Updates
Cascadia Conservation District	Susan Dretke Michael Rickel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 9/13/12 at UCSRB Office 	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson	LE Transition LO Liability Legislation Maintenance and Stewardship Updates
Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	Peter Hill Mickey Fleming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 9/11/12 at CDLT Office 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition Maintenance and Stewardship Updates
Chelan County NRD	Jennifer Goodridge Mike Kane MaryJo Sanborn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 10/24/12 in Leavenworth 	Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates
Colville Confederated Tribes	Chris Fisher Keith Kistler <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 7/26/12 in Okanogan Bill Towey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 09/04/12 in Spokane 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson Derek Van Marter	LE Transition LE Outreach \$ Utilization, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, WAT Updates
Foster Creek Conservation District	Kay Fisher Lee Hemmer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will meet on 12/17/12 in Waterville 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates

Project Sponsors	Sponsor Representatives	UCSRB Staff	Topics
Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation	Chris Johnson Greg Knott (TU) Jessica Goldberg Jennifer Molesworth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 7/26/12 in Twisp, River Bank Office 	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson	LE Transition LO Liability Legislation Maintenance and Stewardship Updates
Okanogan Conservation District	Craig Nelson Bob Clark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 7/26/12 at OCD Office 	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson	LE Transition LO Liability Legislation Maintenance and Stewardship
Trout Unlimited/Washington Water Project	Lisa Pelly Aaron Penvose Jason Hatch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 9/17/12 at TU Office 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition LO Liability Legislation Maintenance and Stewardship Updates
Methow Conservancy	Julie Grialou Jason Paulson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 7/27/12 in Winthrop 	Derek Van Marter Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition LO Liability Legislation Maintenance and Stewardship Updates
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Ken Bevis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 7/26/12 in Twisp WDFW staff letter received August 29th 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates Other Items
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Robes Parrish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 12/12/12 in Leavenworth 	Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates
Wild Fish Conservancy	James Fletcher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met 11/1/12 in Leavenworth 	Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates
Yakama Nation	Brandon Rogers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met on 9/13/12 in Wenatchee John Jorgensen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference Call on 7/14/12 Lee Carlson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference Call on 10/1/12 	Julie Morgan Joy Juelson	LE Transition Updates

Recommendations, Interests, and Comments

UCSRB staff developed the *Lead Entity Project Sponsor Services* handout that identifies the primary project sponsor services commonly provided by the Lead Entity. This handout was used as a check list at all the project sponsor interviews to prompt and generate feedback (see Appendix E). Project sponsor comments were collected during the interviews by UCSRB staff and summarized below.

Funding Coordination

With multiple funders in the Region, a few comments centered on the opportunity for increased clarification involving the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) process and other funding processes, including the Public Utility District's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Committees (Tributary and Priest Rapids Committees) and Open/Targeted Solicitation processes. A couple of sponsors requested assistance from the Lead Entity to increase dialog with the HCP funding Committees.

Lead Entity Coordinator

Many sponsors emphasized the importance of the new Lead Entity Coordinator playing a neutral role devoid of conflicts of interest. Many sponsors commented that the current Lead Entity Coordinators have done a good job and provided timely reminders prior to deadlines. There were comments that the new Coordinator needs to have a clear understanding of Prism, Manual 18, and the SRFB process. There was a suggestion the Coordinator could help identify individual sponsor strengths as to better match up projects with the appropriate sponsor. Some sponsors located in the northern part of the region highlighted their interest in the new Coordinator providing services consistently and equitably across the region.

Application Process Streamlining

A number of sponsors commented on the increasing number of hours expended to participate in the Lead Entity funding process that is compounded by the duplication of work built into the current process. Sponsor suggestions included: having the new UCSRB Lead Entity help streamline multiple data bases, combine application processes, and consolidate meetings when appropriate. Quite a few comments addressed the inconsistency between the pre-application and final application. Currently, there is a regional pre-proposal form and a separate final SRFB application. Many sponsors requested this process be simplified because the task of populating two separate applications, in addition to the HWS and online Prism application, is time consuming. One sponsor's suggestion for streamlining the application process included the following two options:

- Option one: Use SRFB pre-application with a Tributary Committee addition if needed
- Option two: Use SRFB pre-application and if the sponsor is interested they can fill out a separate Tributary pre-application

A sponsor noted the application proposals have become lengthy and it is difficult for the Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT) and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to read all the applications thoroughly the sponsor suggested implementing a word count and/or a page limit. Another sponsor recommended requiring a 2-3 page Executive Summary with maps, key photos, and bulleted statements matching evaluation criteria to help sponsors communicate key messages about their project to reviewers. There was also a suggestion to increase opportunities for on-going active review of

project proposals by the Coordinator to provide opportunities for sponsor assistance on text editing, map preparation, and salmon recovery plan support.

Number of Project Proposals

Several sponsors commented on the increasing number of project proposal submissions that have resulted in an increased amount of projects for the UCRTT and CACs to review, decreased time for sponsors to present their projects to reviewers, and less opportunity to visit all projects during site visits. A couple sponsors suggested the UCRTT or Lead Entity hold back low priority projects from moving forward in the process, while other sponsors thought all projects should be allowed to go through the process and the Coordinator's role should be to educate sponsors and manage expectations. There was a suggestion to require a project sponsor to also recruit a UCRTT sponsor so all projects would have at least one UCRTT member familiar with each project.

UCRTT Review

Some sponsors requested more clarity on the UCRTT biological priorities and also clarity on the scoring of protection projects; there were suggestions that the criteria for protection projects could be re-examined to confirm the Biological Benefits scores for the highest priority actions are consistently applied. Another suggestion about the review criteria was "to consider tightening the review criteria with more specific questions, similar to the RCO Washington Wildlife and Recreation Proposal (WWRP) Riparian Protection category, where their questions are explicit and in a specific order that informs the application and the presentation." Some sponsors located in the northern part of the region highlighted their interest in having UCRTT members spend increased time up north at WAT meetings, project tours, and other opportunities for engagement with project sponsors.

Project Sponsor Access to Science

A number of individuals asked for better access to scientific data and expertise. There were concerns of a disconnect between the science and project sponsors resulting in a sponsor's lack of scientific resources necessary for project selection, project development, and the required data for inclusion in the proposal application.

Sponsor suggestions included:

- Regular monitoring and fish study data presented at Watershed Action Team (WAT) meetings
- Mechanism for distributing current data to project sponsors that is understandable and useable.
- Annual workshop in the late winter that focuses on all four sub-basins with a review and synthesis of current fish data, examples include: smolt trap data, spawning and rearing locations, new studies and findings on listed species and also include species of interest like sockeye and coho.
- Continued workshops similar to the Large Woody Debris Workshop that may include: Beaver reintroductions and roads/sedimentation workshops. Invite CAC to help educate them.

- UCRTT sessions where sponsors have time early in the process to have a dialog with UCRTT about the biological priorities that include question and answer sessions that are not necessarily focused on specific projects but on broader topics such as what does the UCRTT mean by process-based restoration.

Citizens Advisory Committees

There were varied comments and suggestions relative to the CAC part of the process. The most common comment concerned the Lead Entity Coordinator not updating the CAC members on all sponsor projects and instead weighing updates towards one sponsor's projects. Suggestions included requests to provide additional information about the CAC members and their ranking criteria early in the process. There were also suggestions to consider term limits for CAC, work with them to confirm they have no conflicts of interest, provide more detailed comments with the CAC rankings notes, encourage more CAC members to attend project site visits, and to synchronize the CAC ranking criteria more closely with the UCRTT scoring criteria.

Project Site Visits

The majority of the comments concerning the site visits focused on the perceived inequity between which sponsor's projects were scheduled on the project tours. There were concerns the selection for project inclusion on the tour was subjective.

Habitat Work Schedule Database

While there were very few comments on the (Habitat Work Schedule) HWS, some sponsors commented on the lack of time to input projects into the database, a need to increase coordination and clear expectations with tasks associated with HWS, and a desire for assistance to utilize HWS more in outreach.

Lead Entity Outreach

There are some perceptions that past outreach efforts were not equitable for all project sponsors; consequently, there is an interest that the new county outreach role is inclusive of all sponsor needs. There was a comment on the Region's salmon recovery effort lacking a consistent message, followed by a suggestion the Coordinator might act in a leadership role in assisting to develop and refine regional messaging for use by various partners and watershed groups. This sponsor commented that "this may be accomplished by working with WATs on regional messaging, providing materials, and Lead Entity participation in overall outreach planning that involves coordination between watersheds."

Meetings with Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team

Although the UCRTT rarely takes official positions related to the administrative aspects of salmon recovery in the Upper Columbia, they did take an official position supporting the consolidation of the Upper Columbia Lead Entities and transition to the UCSRB (see Letter of Support in Appendix C). Given that one of the Lead Entities primary responsibilities is to coordinate the project technical review, the UCRTT views themselves as a "client" to the Lead Entities and sees where great improvement in communication could be gained by having a single Lead Entity coordinate the process consistently

across the region. Last August, UCSRB staff met with representatives from the UCRTT to convey the initial comments from the project sponsor meetings (Table 11).

Table 11. Meeting with UCRTT

UCRTT	UCRTT Representatives	UCSRB Staff	Topics
UCRTT Representatives	Chuck Peven (Chair) Kate Terrell (Vice Chair) Casey Baldwin (Former Chair) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met on 8/1/12 • Continued discussions 	Derek Van Marter Julie Morgan	LE Transition Reporting Sponsor Meetings Updates

Recommendations, Interests, and Comments

Following the meeting with UCSRB staff, UCRTT began making a sincere effort to increase communication and implement several changes; for example, the UCRTT chair is currently presenting to all the CAC’s, WATs, and other stakeholders and requesting widespread input on the UCRTT’s revised scoring criteria. The UCRTT is planning to consider and take action on stakeholder input. UCRTT Chair is also planning to spend more time working directly with sponsors and attending more WAT meetings in the northern portion of the Region.

2013 Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity Launch

New Lead Entity Coordinator Hire

In 2013, the UCSRB became the Lead Entity organization that performs the essential role in voluntary salmon habitat restoration and protection activities in the Region, as provided in Chapter 77.85 RCW Salmon Recovery. At present, the UCSRB is seeking to hire a full-time, permanent Lead Entity Coordinator who will fill this important role. Due to the high interest in the hiring of this position, a rigorous hiring process will ensure a qualified individual is appointed to manage the Lead Entity process in the Region, provide coordination and support to project sponsors for the process of soliciting and reviewing grant applications for salmon recovery projects, and serve as a liaison with the RCO’s salmon recovery program staff. Appropriately, members from a variety of stakeholder groups including project sponsors, CACs, federal funders, and other stakeholders have been included as participants in the development of the job description, application scoring, and interview process.

Lead Entity Coordinator Transition

After the new UCSRB Lead Entity Coordinator is hired, it is the intention of the UCSRB staff to work closely with current Lead Entities through the final transition between the current and new Lead Entity coordinators. Information sharing meetings will be scheduled to transfer valuable knowledge and materials when appropriate (Table 12).

Table 12. Lead Entity coordination transition meetings

County Lead Entities	County Staff	UCSRB Staff	Topics
Chelan County Lead Entity	Jennifer Goodridge Mike Kaputa	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson New LE Coordinator	LE Coordinator Transition LE Outreach
Okanogan County Lead Entity	Char Schumacher Perry Huston	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson New LE Coordinator	LE Coordinator Transition LE Outreach
Douglas County Lead Entity	Kay Fisher	Julie Morgan Derek Van Marter Joy Juelson New LE Coordinator	LE Coordinator Transition

UCSRB Recommendations

Based on all the stakeholder meetings, the UCSRB intends to collaborate with project sponsors and the UCSRB staff work group to further identify and develop proposed recommendation for the new Lead Entity work plan. Preliminary recommendations are summarized below:

Funding Coordination

- Facilitate greater funding coordination by assisting sponsors in matching projects with applicable funding sources.
- Actively educate and inform sponsors on the multiple funding processes.

Sponsor Support

- Provide services consistently and equitably across the region; for example, the UCSRB Lead Entity Coordinator, in coordination with the Upper Columbia Data Steward will:
 - visit the WATs at least twice each year and;
 - work closely with individual project sponsors to assist with project selection process, funding strategies, and technical information needs.
- Actively educate project sponsors on regional biological priorities, UCRTT scoring criteria, and CACs ranking criteria early in the process.
- Facilitate greater dialog between the UCRTT, CACs, and project sponsors even beyond project-specific discussions.
- Increase sponsor access to scientific data and expertise by exploring cost effective mechanisms for accessing or distributing current fish and habitat data.
- Facilitate forums that assist in connecting sponsors with experts and latest scientific information.

- Facilitate greater access to information and documents through websites and other mechanisms.

Application Process

- *Upper Columbia Lead Entity Process Guide* will be updated and converted into a grant manual consistent and complimentary with Manual 18.
- Develop an amendment request process to address items such as cost increase requests in consultation with the technical and CAC representatives, consistent with Appendix B of Manual 18.
- Implement feasible efficiency recommendations from projects sponsors such as streamlining the application process and implementation of a word count and/or a page limit.
- Facilitate discussions on possible solutions to reduce the number of low priority project submittals.
- Discuss equitable solutions for scheduling of project tours.

Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team

- Ask the UCRTT for recommendations to address the project sponsor comments regarding the UCRTT.
- In 2013, the UCSRB will review the current approach to supporting the UCRTT and their role in the Salmon Recovery funding process.

Chelan and Okanogan Citizens Advisory Committees

- Review ranking criteria and by-laws with the CAC members to identify opportunities to update or improve upon.
- Provide comprehensive project and recovery updates to CAC members on an annual basis.
- Engage the CAC members in dialog beyond project specific discussions.

Outreach

- UCSRB will engage in regional outreach while the counties will support more targeted outreach efforts.

In Conclusion

The UCSRB will continue to build on opportunities to evaluate the Lead Entity program following the consolidation and is dedicated to providing continued support where the process is functioning well. There is also a high level of interest in exploring new opportunities to realize greater efficiencies, elevate the integrity of the process, increase the level of services provided, and to ultimately, to recover salmon and steelhead in the Region. The UCSRB appreciates the professionalism of the RCO staff through this transition. By leaving the decision and management of consolidation to the UCSRB, the RCO continues to support and strengthen the local salmon recovery approach in Washington State.

Appendix A

Official Correspondence and Documents

February 8, 2012 - Letter from RCO

May 18, 2012 - Response Letter from UCSRB

UCSRB Interlocal Cooperation Agreement

Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501



STATE OF WASHINGTON
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

(360) 902-3000
TTY: (360) 902-1996
Fax: (360) 902-3026

E-mail: Info@rco.wa.gov
Web site: www.rco.wa.gov

February 8, 2012

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
11 Spokane Street, Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Dear Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Members:

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board is considering approaches to address recent reductions in salmon recovery funding sources. As you know, funding levels for salmon recovery are under increased economic and political pressure. The 2012 Federal Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund has been reduced to \$65 million from the \$80 million Congress appropriated in 2011. Additionally, the state has reduced funding for the lead entity program over the past four years by a total of \$615,000. To continue the role of the lead entities, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board has replaced this lost state funding with federal funds, reducing the total funds available for on the ground projects. As part of its budget discussions, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board has asked us to look at options for more efficiently implementing our programs including looking for savings that might be possible should some lead entities be consolidated.

The purpose of this letter is to ask your Board to integrate the Okanogan and Chelan County lead entities into the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Regional Organization. We are asking the Upper Columbia to provide leadership and initiative as its existing structure has several attributes that lend itself to consolidation. For example, the existing regional structure includes a region-wide technical team and process for distribution of multiple funding sources (in addition to the SRFB funds). The smaller number of lead entity organizations in your area may also make consolidation more feasible. There may be some tasks that should remain at a local level, such as outreach, and others that could be more efficiently addressed at the regional level. If consolidation of the lead entities can be achieved we would consider possible incentives in light of efficiencies gained. I strongly encourage you, your staff and those involved in the salmon recovery process in the Upper Columbia to consider consolidation options and develop an approach that would work for all regional partners. Any approach recommended would be presented to the SRFB at its June 2012 meeting.

I appreciate your leadership on this matter and salmon recovery overall. If you need my assistance or my agency's assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kaleen Cottingham
Director



The mission of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board is to restore viable and sustainable populations of salmon, steelhead, and other at-risk species through collaborative, economically sensitive efforts, combined resources, and wise resource management of the Upper Columbia region.

11 Spokane Street, Suite 101, Wenatchee, WA 98801 phone: (509) 662-4707 fax: (509) 665-6475 www.ucsrb.com

May 18, 2012

Ms. Kaleen Cottingham
Director, Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

On behalf of the Directors of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB), I am submitting this letter to update you on our progress to consider consolidation of the Upper Columbia Lead Entities per your letter of February 8, 2012. The UCSRB met on February 23, and again on April 26, to discuss your letter and a process forward. At both meetings, the UCSRB affirmed its decision to move forward with consolidation of the Upper Columbia Lead Entities.

At the February 23 UCSRB meeting, the Directors had a thorough conversation of the topic, which also included Megan Duffy via teleconference. The Directors moved to:

"...consolidate the lead entities for Okanogan and Chelan lead entities into one individual lead entity to be housed in the UCSRB Offices under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. The Executive Director will work with the RCO in order to meet all regulatory and legal obligations, to outline a plan for lead entity consolidation, and ensure funding for outreach for the counties."

At the April 26 meeting, with Megan Duffy in attendance, the Directors again affirmed its commitment to consolidate the Upper Columbia lead entity function within the regional organization. All five Board Members further clarified their intent in Executive Session on the topic, agreeing that:

- the target date for consolidation will be the end of the 2012 calendar year; and
- the County Commissioners on the UCSRB will work with the cities within their respective counties to develop support for the consolidation.

May 18, 2012

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We appreciate the difficult position the state is in by asking the local salmon recovery partners to consolidate the existing Lead Entities into the UCSRB. By leaving the decision of how to consolidate to us, you are reinforcing the local salmon recovery approach in Washington State. We also appreciate our close partnership with you, Megan Duffy and your other staff at RCO.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-949-4129 or Julie Morgan at 509-662-4710 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Ward". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Paul Ward, Chair
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board
Resolution #2012-01

Accepting the Proposed Consolidated Lead Entity Effective January 1, 2013
and Affirming that Resources will be Budgeted Accordingly

WHEREAS, RCW 77.85.050 creates lead entities and provides that counties, cities, and tribal governments must jointly designate, by resolution or by letters of support, a lead entity that is to be responsible for submitting the habitat project list; and

WHEREAS, two lead entities currently operate in the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Region: the Chelan County lead entity and the Okanogan County/Colville Tribe lead entity; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB) was created as a regional recovery organization to develop a recovery plan and coordinate its implementation to restore viable and sustainable population of salmon, steelhead and other at-risk species; and

WHEREAS, the UCSRB consists of five representatives – one each from Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan counties, the Colville Confederated Tribes, and the Yakama Nation; and

WHEREAS, the UCSRB voted unanimously at its February 23, 2012 meeting and all five representatives reconfirmed on April 26, 2012 to support a proposal to consolidate the Okanogan and Chelan County lead entities into one lead entity that would serve the entire regional area, house the new lead entity in the UCSRB Regional Organization Office, and continue ensuring funds for salmon recovery-related outreach efforts in the counties; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 77.85.120, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) provides grants for salmon habitat projects and salmon recovery activities, including financial support for lead entities and regional organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), as the administrative office for the board, has received and will continue to receive letters of support for the consolidation from affected parties (i.e., counties, cities, and tribal governments in the Upper Columbia region) in accordance with RCW 77.85.050; and

WHEREAS, the board's Strategic Plan guides the board to, within the limits of its budget and priorities, fund projects, monitoring, and human capital in a way that best advances the salmon recovery effort; and, further guides the board to be accountable for board investments by promoting public oversight, effective projects, and actions that result in the economical and efficient use of resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board accepts the proposed consolidated lead entity, effective January 1, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board affirms that it will allocate funding for projects and activities according to this new structure effective January 1, 2013.

Resolution moved by: Phil Rockefeller

Resolution seconded by: Josh Brown

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: June 7, 2012

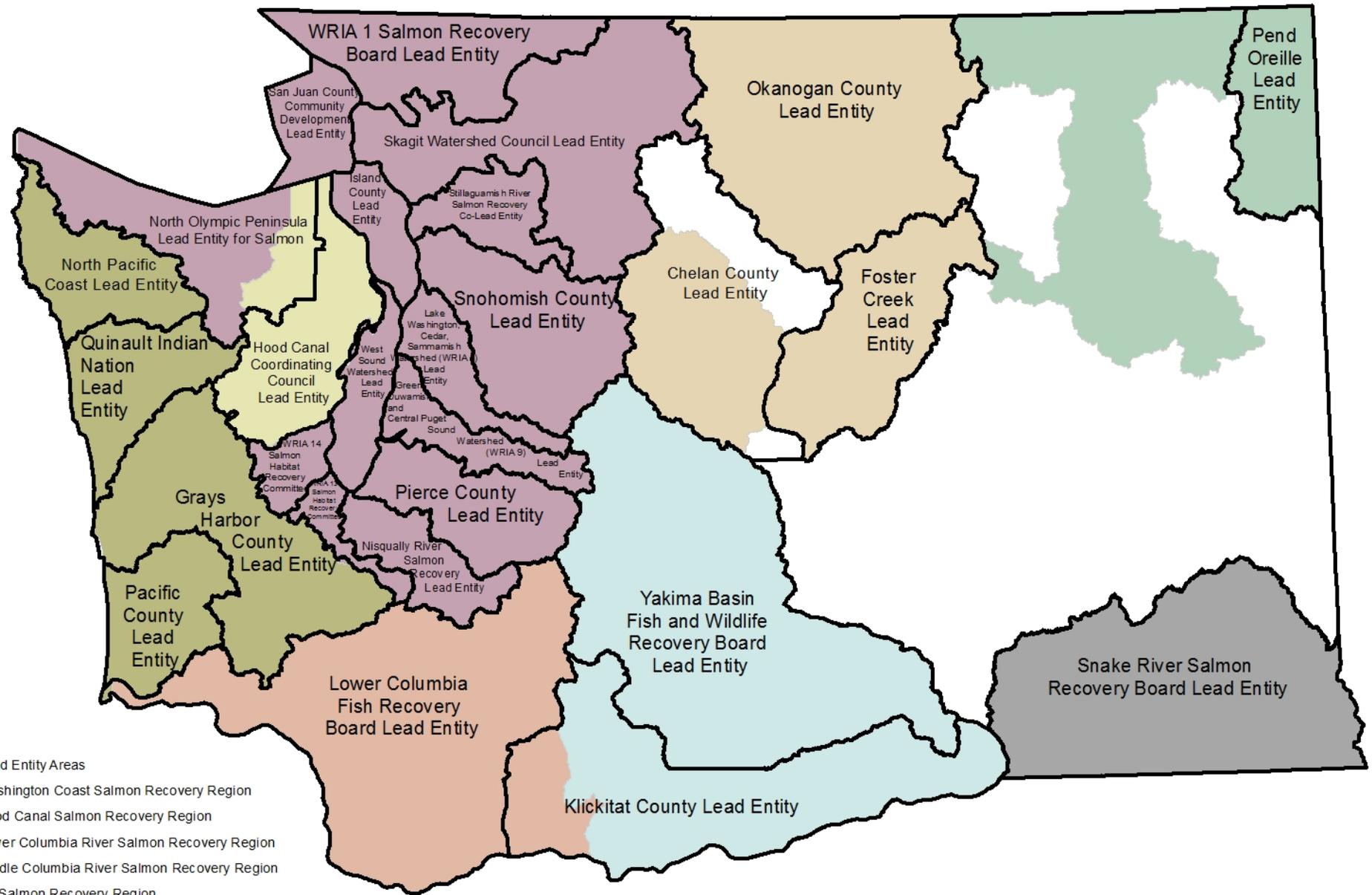
Appendix B

Upper Columbia Region Lead Entity Maps

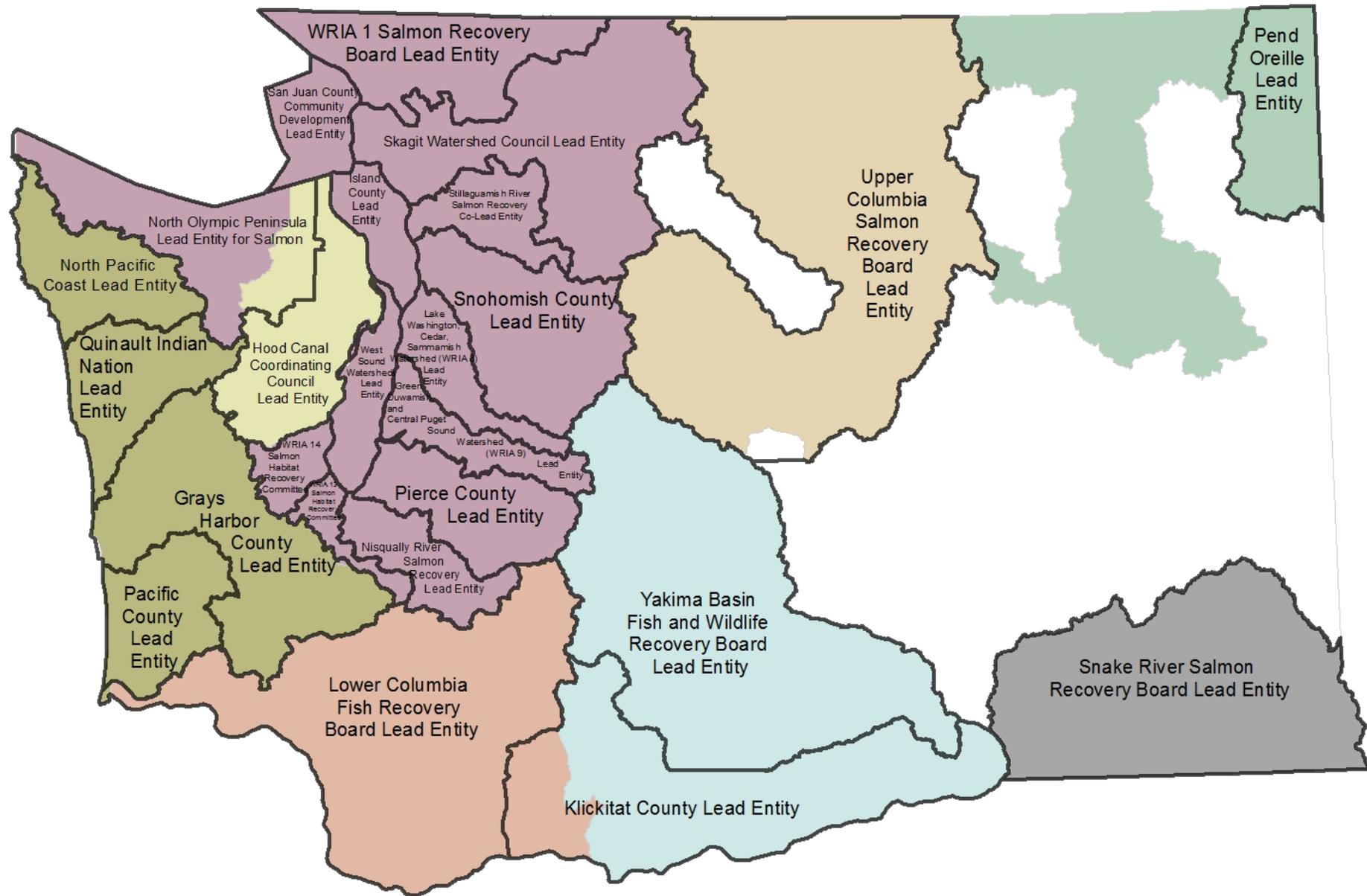
Historic Map of Lead Entity Organizations

Consolidated Map of the new UCSRB Lead Entity





-  Lead Entity Areas
-  Washington Coast Salmon Recovery Region
-  Hood Canal Salmon Recovery Region
-  Lower Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region
-  Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region
-  No Salmon Recovery Region
-  Northeast Washington Salmon Recovery Region
-  Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region
-  Snake River Salmon Recovery Region
-  Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region



Appendix C

Letters of Support

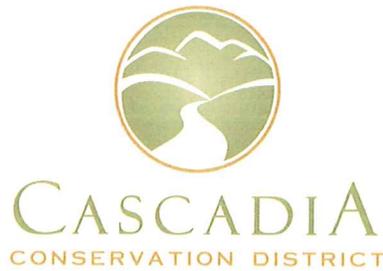
Letters to UCSRB from Local Organizations

Letters to RCO from County Commissioners

Letters to RCO from Tribes

Letters to RCO from Cities

Letters to UCSRB from Local Organizations



215 Melody Lane Wenatchee, WA 98801 Phone (509) 664-9370 Fax (509) 662-1628 www.cascadiacd.org

February 21, 2012

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
11 Spokane Street, Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Dear Chairman Ward, and members Hover, Walter, Jenkins, and Towey:

The Cascadia Conservation District strongly supports salmon recovery in the Upper Columbia region. We are writing in support of the February 8, 2012 letter from the RCO requesting that the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board consider providing lead entity services in the Upper Columbia in order to address decreased funding and increase efficiencies.

We support the request of RCO and recommend that the lead entity functions be consolidated within the existing regional structure of the Upper Columbia Board. This structure has worked well in other regions in Washington and builds on the leadership by your board of the Regional Technical Team in Chelan and Okanogan Counties. This consolidation would eliminate current duplication between the UCSRB and Chelan County Natural Resources as lead entity, avoid the perception of conflict of interest when a project sponsor is also the process facilitator, and enable the Board to coordinate equitable public outreach.

We look forward to working on this plan with the Board and all project partners in the Upper Columbia.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Rickel
Program Manager



February 22, 2012

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
11 Spokane Street Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Dear Chairman Paul Ward and members of the UCSRB:

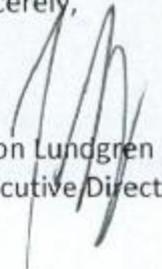
Over the past several months the Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group has been engaged in discussions with Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) and other salmon recovery sponsors evaluating services provided by the Lead Entity. During this evaluation it has become apparent that there are a few key issues with the current Lead Entity model that need resolution:

- 1) There is a perceived or real conflict of interest with CCNRD facilitating a process in which they also compete for funding.
- 2) There are inefficiencies in the process and overlap of Regional Board and Lead Entities services.
- 3) The Lead Entity organization currently performs multiple roles including project sponsor, Lead Entity, and local government. These roles can become confusing to other project proponents and the public.
- 4) Rather than having one entity lead the effort, public outreach can be done more effectively if there is greater collaboration among all salmon recovery organizations and the UCSRB.

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group supports integration of the Okanogan and Chelan County Lead Entity contracts under the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. We believe this integration will save valuable (and dwindling) resources, improve efficiency, transparency and integrity in the process, and provide the platform for more unified public outreach and collaboration. Given the recent effort invested in the Lead Entity evaluation, as well as the February 8, 2012 RCO letter requesting integration, we believe the timing is right to initiate these changes.

We look forward to working with your staff to make this transition as smooth as possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Jason Lundgren
Executive Director



February 21, 2012

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
11 Spokane Street Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Dear Chairman Ward, and Members Hover, Walter, Jenkins, and Towey:

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust has been a partner in and strong supporter of salmon recovery in the Upper Columbia from its inception. We are writing in support of the February 8, 2012 request from the RCO to address decreased funding by increasing efficiencies in the delivery of lead entity services in the Upper Columbia.

We have given considerable thought to the pros and cons of the current system, and how it could be improved to reduce costs while preserving local input. We recommend that the lead entity functions be consolidated within the existing regional structure of the Upper Columbia Board. This has worked well in other regions in Washington, and simply builds on the regional leadership of the Regional Technical Team in Chelan and Okanogan Counties. This consolidation would eliminate current duplication between the UCSRB and Chelan County Natural Resources as lead entity, avoid the perception of conflict of interest when a project sponsor is also the SRFB process facilitator, and enable the Board to coordinate public outreach for all types of recovery projects. The two citizens committees could be retained to ensure input and participation. We also believe that additional efficiencies can be achieved by improving coordination of funding sources, a function that the Board staff is uniquely positioned to accomplish.

We look forward to working on this plan with the Board and all project partners in the Upper Columbia.

Sincerely,

Bob Bugert, Executive Director



May 28, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham
Director, Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural resources Building
1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

The Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT) has been assisting the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board for over 10 years with technical issues regarding salmon recovery in the Upper Columbia Region (UCR). One of the UCRTT's primary functions has been to evaluate the technical aspects of potential habitat protection and restoration projects that are funded by the state Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

In a letter dated February 8, 2012, the Recreation and Conservation Office wrote to the UCSRB asking for assistance with consolidating the lead entities in the UCR. The UCSRB agreed, and subsequent action was initiated to consolidate and manage the lead entity process by the UCSRB.

One of the lead entities' primary responsibilities is to coordinate the technical review that the UCRTT provides for potential projects. Therefore, the UCRTT can be viewed as a client to the lead entities and this has functioned fairly well over the years. However, the RTT sees where great improvement in communication can be gained if there is only one lead entity coordinating the process, and it would also remove any perceived or real conflicts of interest that could occur if a lead entity is also a project sponsor.

As such, the RTT fully supports the consolidation of the lead entities under the auspices of the UCSRB, and believes that this should happen well before the next (2013) cycle so all potential project sponsors and other stakeholders, like the UCRTT, can be coordinated and "hit the ground running" for the next cycle.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Chuck Peven
UCRTT Chairperson

(509) 329-6169 or (509) 670-5100

pci@nwi.net

Cc: SRFB
UCSRB
UCRTT



Washington Water Project

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
11 Spokane Street Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

February 21, 2012

Dear Chairman Paul Ward and members of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board:

On February 8th, a letter from the RCO asks the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB) to integrate the lead entity functions for Chelan and Okanogan counties. The timing of this letter coincides with discussions among current Chelan County project sponsors including Trout Unlimited (TU) and the current lead entity, Chelan County Natural Resources, concerning how Lead Entity services and processes can be used most effectively to achieve salmon recovery. Our group's discussions over the last few months have focused on the services needed to help sponsors get projects effectively completed on the ground, navigating the Salmon Recovery Funding Board funding process, facilitating citizen committee input and leading public outreach for all partners in the region.

TU supports the integration of lead entity services with the UCSRB. We believe the important key services that would be addressed by integration include:

- Budget and process efficiencies and effective coordination of lead entity services throughout North Central Washington;
- Resolving real/perceived conflict of interest from a lead entity serving as a facilitator of the process as well as a competitor for funding;
- Improved regional outreach efforts through UCSRB coordination, eliminating the competitive advantage when prospective private salmon recovery cooperators may not distinguish between Chelan County the project sponsor and also the Lead Entity conducting general outreach;
- Increased coordination among sponsors to get salmon recovery projects completed.

TU provides community-based restoration of Washington's rivers and streams. Our work supports healthy ecosystems that can sustain both human and environmental needs well into the future, for the benefit of all of Washington's citizens. We work on collaborative projects and policies that improve streamflows, river habitats, and water management for people, fish and wildlife species while respecting the needs of agriculture and local communities.

We believe and are committed to a discussion in Chelan County and with our Okanogan County partners to improve our lead entity process, ensuring that public dollars are prudently expended, citizens are engaged, and restoration efforts contribute to species recovery. We support integration of lead entity services into the UCSRB and would be more than happy to discuss this further. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Pelly, Director
Trout Unlimited Washington Water Project



United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Mid-Columbia River Fishery Resource Office
7501 Icicle Road
Leavenworth, WA 98826
Phone: (509) 548-7573
Fax: (509) 548-5743
May 29, 2012

Ms. Kaleen Cottingham
Director, Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resource Building
1111 Washington Street, S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has been working with the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (Board) for the past 14 years. During that time, the Service worked with local stakeholders, state and federal agencies and the Board staff in the development of the Upper Columbia Biological Strategy, five subbasin plans and the Upper Columbia Spring Chinook and Steelhead Recovery and Implementation plans. Additionally, the Service has been and continues to be an active participant on the Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team, the Upper Columbia Implementation Team and three watershed action teams (Wenatchee, Entiat and Methow).

Over the years, the Service has been impressed with the coordination, organization and leadership that the Board Staff have brought to the habitat restoration/recovery arena in the Upper Columbia. It has been and continues to be a pleasure working with them and the Board.

On February 8, 2012, the Recreation and Conservation Office sent a letter to the Board requesting assistance for consolidation of the lead entities (LE) in the Upper Columbia. With the support of the Board, their staff initiated the consolidation process. The current LE structure consists of three separate LEs in Chelan, Okanogan and Douglas counties. Each LE has staff that supports the process. Some of the LEs in this region are also project sponsors. Consolidation under the Board will improve coordination and reduce the conflict of interest that the current structure implies.

The Service fully supports the consolidation of the LEs under the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. Such consolidation will improve coordination, communication and impartiality. Please feel free to contact Kate Terrell of my staff at (509)548-2985 or kate_terrell@fws.gov if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim L. Craig
Project Leader

Cc: WA SRFB Chair, Bud Hover
UCSRB (Ron Walter, Steven Jenkins, Paul Ward, Bill Towey)
UCSRB Executive Director, Julie Morgan
UCRTT Chair, Chuck Peven

Letters to RCO from County Commissioners



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CHELAN COUNTY
STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 DOUGLAS STREET, SUITE #201
WENATCHEE, WA 98801
PHONE (509) 667-6215 FAX (509) 667-6599

CATHY MULHALL
County Administrator
cathy.mulhall@co.chelan.wa.us

CARLYE DUNNING
Clerk of the Board
carlye.dunning@co.chelan.wa.us

December 10, 2012

Ms. Kaleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

We appreciate the effort that you and your staff have put forth to assist the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan and Okanogan Counties with the Lead Entity transition from the Counties to the regional board over the past year. We believe that your decision to reconsider your original July 1, 2012 transition deadline gave us sufficient time to ensure a smooth transition and identify appropriate roles and responsibilities moving forward. We recognize the significant budget cuts to the Lead Entity program driving the consolidation of Lead Entities across the State and hope that you will find our cost savings adequate to meet our share of these budget cuts.

A significant factor in our decision to support the Lead Entity consolidation is the financial support of the Counties for community outreach and local support of salmon recovery activities. Without this financial commitment, we could not support the consolidation in its current form. The success of our salmon recovery efforts rests with our ability to engage our local communities to implement meaningful salmon recovery actions. A lack of adequate funding to provide these outreach efforts would cause us to reconsider our support of the consolidation.

We support the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board as the Lead Entity with ongoing financial commitments to the Counties to provide local outreach services.

Sincerely,

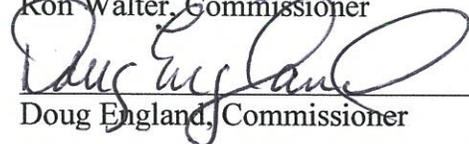
Board of Chelan County Commissioners



Keith W. Goehner, Chairman



Ron Walter, Commissioner



Doug England, Commissioner

cc: Bud Hover, Chair, WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board
Paul Ward, Chair, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
Julie Morgan, Executive Director, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

RON WALTER
1st District
ron.walter@co.chelan.wa.us

KEITH GOEHNER
2nd District
keith.goehner@co.chelan.wa.us

DOUG ENGLAND
3rd District
doug.england@co.chelan.wa.us

KEN STANTON
1ST DISTRICT

DALE SNYDER
2ND DISTRICT

STEVEN D. JENKINS
3RD DISTRICT

DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 5, 2012

Ms. Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

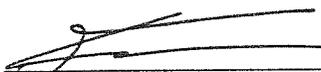
Dear Ms. Cottingham;

We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

Douglas County Board of Commissioners would like to express our support of the Upper Columbia Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,

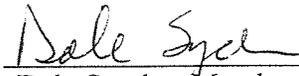
DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Ken Stanton, Chair



Steven D. Jenkins, Vice Chair



Dale Snyder, Member

cc: Paul Ward, UCSRB Chair



Grant County
Office of The
Board of County Commissioners
P O Box 37
Ephrata WA 98823
(509) 754-2011

RECEIVED

JUL - 9 2012

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

July 2, 2012

Ms. Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham;

The Grant County Board of Commissioners appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The Board would like to express our support of the Upper Columbia Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Richard Stevens, Chair

Cindy Carter

Carolann Swartz

:bjv

cc: Paul Ward, UCSRB Chair

Richard Stevens
District 1

Carolann Swartz
District 2

Cindy Carter
District 3

"To meet current and future needs, serving together with public and private entities, while fostering a respectful and successful work environment."



OKANOGAN COUNTY

Board of Commissioners

Andrew Lampe
Commissioner District 1
Don (Bud) Hover
Commissioner District 2
Jim Detro
Commissioner District 3
Laleña Johns
Clerk of the Board

November 26, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

We recently received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. We understand the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

We, the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners support the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We expect significant increased efficiencies on the process from this consolidation.

Respectfully,

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON**

Jim DeTro, Chairman

Andrew Lampe, Member

Don (Bud) Hover, Member

Letters to RCO from Tribes



Colville Confederated Tribes

Fish and Wildlife Department

P.O. Box 150

Nespelem, WA 99155

Phone: 509-634-2110



October 8, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

The Colville Confederated Tribes appreciates the proposal to consolidate the Chelan County lead Entity and Okanogan County lead Entity into a new regional lead Entity under the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board direction. We also understand this consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and optimize reduced salmon recovery funding levels from state and federal sources.

The Colville Confederated Tribes supports the creation of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board lead Entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496. We anticipate significant benefits and efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,

Joe Peone, Director
Fish and Wildlife Department
Colville Confederated Tribes

cc: Julie Morgan, Executive Director, UCSRB



Confederated Tribes and Bands
of the Yakama Nation

Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

July 11, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

The Yakama Nation appreciates the proposal to consolidate the Chelan County Lead Entity and Okanogan County Lead Entity into a new regional Lead Entity under the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board direction. We also understand that this consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and optimize reduced salmon recovery funding levels from state and federal sources.

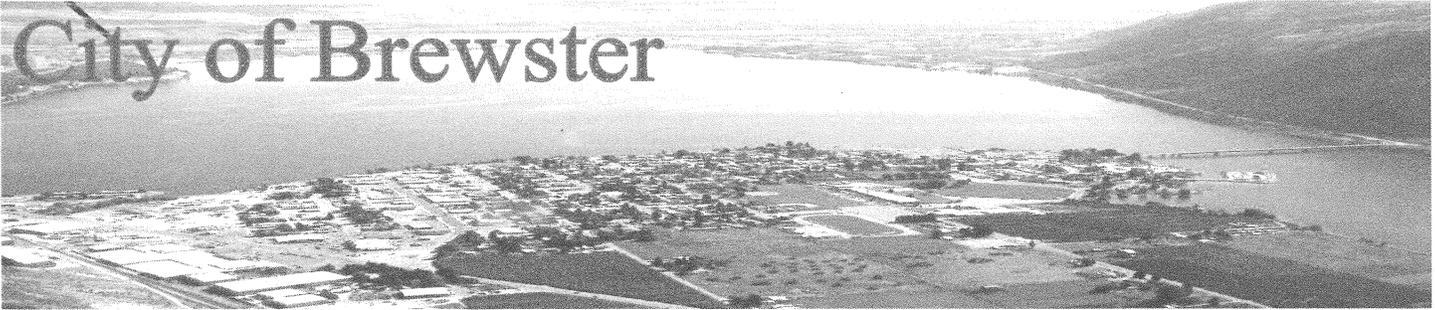
The Yakama Nation supports the creation of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496. We anticipate significant benefits and efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,

Phil Rigdon,
Deputy Director, Department of Natural Resources
Yakama Nation

cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB
Julie Morgan, Executive Director, UCSRB

Letters to RCO from Cities



January 23, 2013

To: Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

cc. Julie Morgan
Executive Director
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
11 Spokane Street, Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Joy Juelson
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
Natural Resources Program Manager
11 Spokane Street, Suite 101
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

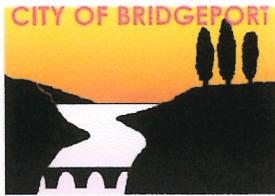
Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Okanogan County at one of our city council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Brewster fully supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a Lead Entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Webster', is written over a light gray background.

Lee Webster
Mayor



May 15, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

Our City Council appreciated the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Bridgeport would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marilynn Lynn".

Marilynn Lynn,
Mayor

cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB



City of Cashmere

101 Woodring Street
Cashmere, WA 98815
Ph (509) 782-3513 Fax (509) 782-2840
Website www.cityofcashmere.org

October 10, 2012

Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan County at one of our city council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Cashmere supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gomes
Mayor of Cashmere

cc: Julie Morgan, Executive Director, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board



City Hall: P.O. Box 1669
135 E. Johnson Ave.
Chelan, Washington 98816
(509) 682-4037
Fax (509) 682-8009

November 9, 2012

RECEIVED

NOV 16 2012

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan County at one of our city council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Chelan supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,

Robert Goedde
Mayor



CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

271 9TH STREET NE * EAST WENATCHEE, WA 98802
PHONE (509) 884-9515 * FAX (509) 884-6233

April 25, 2012

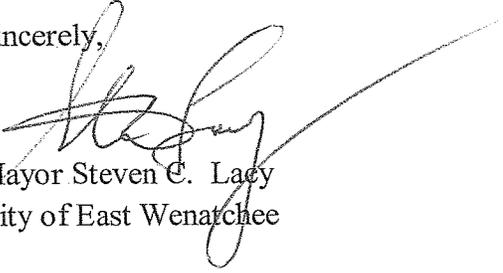
Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

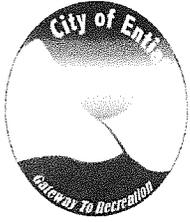
We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The East Wenatchee City Council would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,



Mayor Steven C. Lacy
City of East Wenatchee



October 30, 2012

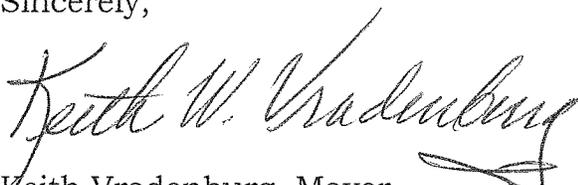
Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan County at one of our city council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Entiat supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,


Keith Vradenburg, Mayor

cc: Julie Morgan, Executive Director, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board



City of Leavenworth

700 Highway 2 / Post Office Box 287
Leavenworth, Washington 98826
(509) 548-5275 / Fax: (509) 548-6429

City Council

Cheryl K. Farivar - *Mayor*
Peter D. DeVries
Tibor Lak
Michael Molohon
Elmer Larsen
Robert Francis - *Mayor Pro-Tem*
Larry Meyer
Carolyn Wilson
Joel Walinski - *City Administrator*

November 14, 2012

Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan County at one of our council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City Council of Leavenworth supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,

Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar

cc: City Council
Julie Morgan, Executive Director, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board



State of Washington

In the Heart of the Okanogan

email: kathyl@omakcity.com

2 North Ash

(509) 826-1170

P.O. Box 72

Omak, WA 98841

Fax: (509) 826-6531

June 5, 2012

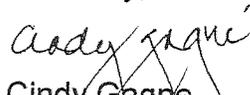
Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and Lead Entity transition as presented to us at an Omak City Council meeting on June 4, 2012, by Don McIvor of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, and Ken Bevis from the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington, while addressing the reductions in salmon recovery funding from State and Federal sources.

On behalf of the Omak City Council, the City of Omak expresses our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a Lead Entity, as outlined in Washington State HB 2496, and look forward to the benefits resulting from this consolidation of efforts.

Sincerely,


Cindy Gagne
Mayor
City of Omak

cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB

CITY OF OROVILLE

Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 2200, Oroville, Washington, 98844, 509-476-2926 FAX 509-476-9067

OFFICERS

C.F. "Chuck" Spieth, Mayor
Kathy M. Jones, Clerk-Treasurer
Rodney L. Noel, City Superintendent
Chris Branch, Planning & Community Dev. Dir.
Christian Johnston, Bldg. Insp.-Permit Admin.
Clay Warnstaff, Police Chief

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ed Naillon
Jon R. Neal
Tony Koepke
Walt Hart III
Neysa Roley

May 16, 2012

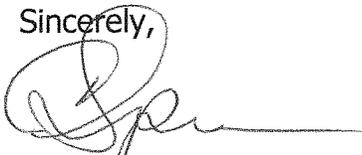
Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham;

We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Oroville would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496 and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,



Chuck Spieth
Mayor

cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB



CITY OF
ROCK ISLAND

5 North Garden
Rock Island, WA
98850

May 1, 2012

Ms. Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Lead Entity

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Rock Island would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping tail.

Russell Clark
Mayor

✓ Cc: Mr. Don McIvor, Natural Resources Coordinator, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board



City of Tonasket

P.O. Box 487 ♦ Tonasket, WA 98855

RECEIVED

MAY 18 2012

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

509 / 486-2132 ♦ Fax 486-1831
E-Mail: tonasket@nvinet.com

May 14, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

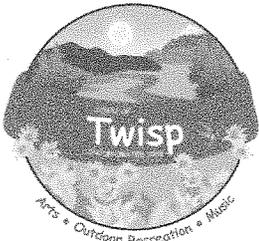
We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Tonasket would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,

Patrick Plumb
Mayor

Cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB



Town of Twisp

118 S. Glover Street • Box 278 • Twisp, WA 98856 • 509-997-4081 • 509-997-9204

June 7, 2012

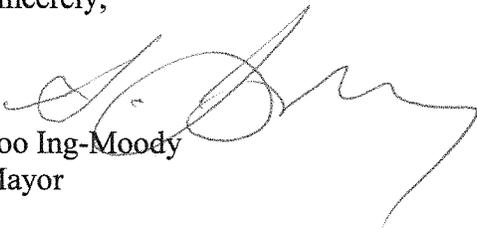
Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The Town of Twisp would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State House Bill 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,



Soo Ing-Moody
Mayor

cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB
Don McIvor, Natural Resources Coordinator



*City of
Wenatchee*

Office of the Mayor, Frank Kuntz
(509) 888-6204 Phone
(509) 888-3636 Fax
Wenatchee City Hall
129 South Chelan
P.O. Box 519
Wenatchee, WA 98807-0519
Website: www.wenatcheewa.gov

November 15, 2012

Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan County at one of our City Council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The City of Wenatchee supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Kuntz
Mayor

Apple Capital of the World



*MALAGA-COLOCKUM
COMMUNITY COUNCIL*

P.O. Box 292 • Malaga, WA 98828

October 18, 2012

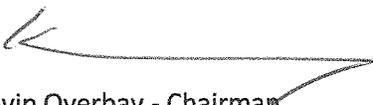
Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham,

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and Chelan County at our October Community Council meeting. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The Malaga-Colockum Community Council supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. We anticipate significant efficiencies from this consolidation.

Sincerely,



Kevin Overbay - Chairman
Malaga-Colockum Community Council

✓ cc: Julie Morgan, Executive Director, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board



Post Office Box 459
Winthrop, WA 98862

TOWN OF WINTHROP

Phone (509) 996-2320
Fax (509) 996-9221

May 16th, 2012

Kathleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

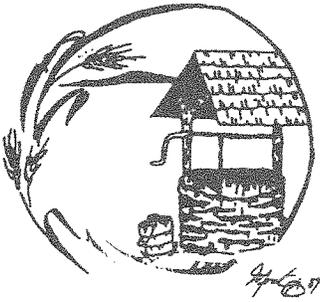
Dear Ms. Cottingham,

Recently, we received an update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition in our region from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at one of our town council meetings. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal should improve the efficiency of salmon recovery efforts in North Central Washington and help ease the impacts of reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The Town of Winthrop supports the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board becoming a lead entity as outlined in Washington State HB2496. Salmon recovery is an important economic and quality of life issue for Winthrop and its surrounding area and we welcome changes that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of those efforts.

Sincerely,

David T. Acheson
Mayor



Town of Waterville

P.O. Box 580 • 104 E. Locust • Waterville, WA 98858
(509) 745-8871 • (509) 745-8307 • Fax (509) 745-8782

May 9, 2012

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Natural Resources Building
P. O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Ms. Cottingham:

We appreciate the recent update on salmon recovery efforts and the proposed Lead Entity transition provided to us in a joint presentation by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and the Washington State Department of Wildlife. We understand that the Lead Entity consolidation proposal is designed to improve the efficiency of salmon recovery in North Central Washington and address reductions in salmon recovery funding from state and federal sources.

The Town of Waterville would like to express our support for the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery becoming a lead entity as outlined Washington State HB 2496, and we look forward to the benefits such a consolidation may produce.

Sincerely,



Royal J. DeVaney
Mayor

RJD/mlp

Cc: Paul Ward, Chair, UCSRB

Appendix D

Scope and Budget

Upper Columbia Lead Entity Budget Scenario 2013

Categories	Task	Task Description	Services	Hours	Rate	LE Budget	Regional	Notes
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.01	Maintain office and points of contact	Rent, supplies, equipment, Office Manager, etc.			\$6,500		Expected burden of expenses ~11%; Rent, supplies and equipment, Barb time.
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.01	Maintain office and points of contact	Travel and related expenses			\$4,800		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.02	Provide summary of the number of staff involved in performing the lead entity tasks and their individual roles		8	\$40	\$320		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.03	Represent the lead entity organization in appropriate salmon recovery settings	Representation at Meetings: LEAG, RTT, WAT, Salmon Recovery Conference, Other	230	\$40	\$9,200		LEAG (50hr), RTT (30hr), WAT (100hr), Conference (30 hrs), Other (20hr)
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.03	Represent the lead entity organization in appropriate salmon recovery settings	Process Coordination with Outside Groups and Coordination of Funding Schedule: Coordinate open solicitation funding schedule with RCO,	80	\$40	\$3,200		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	General Overall Services: Share Information, Communicate Timelines, Provide Support and Feedback, Coordinate with project sponsors, RCO, Communicate the UC salmon recovery implementation objectives, process and funding structure including: UCSRP, UCRTT Biological	120	\$40	\$4,800		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	Sponsor Project Meetings: Communicate the UC salmon recovery implementation objectives, process and funding structure including: UCSRP, UCRTT Biological Priorities, reach assessments,	120	\$40	\$4,800		17 sponsors @ 5 hrs each
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	Kick-off Meeting: Communicate objectives, processes, requirements, and timeline to project sponsors. Facilitate RCO presentation, UCRTT technical criteria presentation, CAC criteria presentation. Provide access to application	50	\$40	\$2,000		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	Application Process: Provide access to application materials (Including SRFB Policy Manual, UC Funding Process Guide), provide application assistance, Assist sponsors in the development of pre-applications, Provide examples and guidance, Prism/HWS/ftp site assistance, Distribute completed pre-proposals to UCRTT and PRCC/TRIB, Distribute UCRTT pre-proposal and PRCC/TRIB evaluation feedback, Distribute completed applications to UCRTT and Trib if	177	\$40	\$7,080		

Upper Columbia Lead Entity Budget Scenario 2013

Categories	Task	Task Description	Services	Hours	Rate	LE Budget	Regional	Notes
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	Project Tours: Coordinate tour schedule with sponsors, CAC, UCRTT, Trib, BPA and other interested parties (schedule, transportation, lunch) Provide schedule and materials (maps and project descriptions), Facilitate actual tours, Collect and distribute feedback from technical reviewers.	65	\$40	\$2,600		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	Project List: Provide and manage UC Project List	36	\$40	\$1,440		
Lead Entity Organization Update	1.04	Serve as the agent administering the lead entity grant with the RCO	State Review Panel Review and Feedback Loop: Distribute SRP review comments and coordinated the resolution of comments if needed	60	\$40	\$2,400		Annual presentation in Olympia.
Lead Entity Committees	2.01	Establish and maintain a citizen committee	Communicate schedule and expectations to sponsors and Citizen's Committee; Facilitate CAC Meetings for Okanogan and Chelan county (5 meetings =sponsor project presentations, project ranking, and Joint Citizens Committee finalize regional list); Develop CAC Project Packets; Distribute CAC Ranking and notes	90	\$40	\$3,600		Coordination, Meetings, Presentations, Packets, Preparation, Travel
Lead Entity Committees	2.02	Work with the regional organization to coordinate a technical advisory group to serve its technical and science-related needs in compiling a prioritized habitat project list.	Technical Team: An important function of the RTT is to review the technical merits of projects to be submitted by project sponsors in the Upper Columbia Region for funding by the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board and other funding sources. The RTT has established a scientific foundation, or strategy for this process (the Biological Strategy), with the premise that it will allow for the identification of projects that will best contribute to the recovery of salmonids listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).	280	\$85	\$3,800	\$20,000	RTT Chair, note taker, logistical support. BPA and YN fund the RTT for the Targeted process.
Lead Entity Committees	2.02	Work with the regional organization to coordinate a technical advisory group to serve its technical and science-related needs in compiling a prioritized habitat project list.	Presentation: Assist UCRTT in communicating presentation schedule, expectations and materials, Assist sponsors in developing projects presentations if needed, Provide guidance and feedback to project sponsors	24	\$40	\$960		LE Coordination

Upper Columbia Lead Entity Budget Scenario 2013

Categories	Task	Task Description	Services	Hours	Rate	LE Budget	Regional	Notes
Lead Entity Committees	2.02	Work with the regional organization to coordinate a technical advisory group to serve its technical and science-related needs in compiling a prioritized habitat project list.	RTT Technical Team Review: Distribute completed application to UCRTT and Trib (if needed). Distribute technical comments to sponsors.	70	\$40	\$2,800		LE Coordination and facilitation
Lead Entity Committees	2.03	Submit the name and organization affiliation of each member of each committee to the RCO in its spring progress report each year		12	\$40	\$480		
Lead Entity Committees	2.04	Maintain and update as needed a set of written bylaws that are to be approved by the citizen committee and maintain a complete set of records to be made available as needed to support the lead entity grant		24	\$40	\$960		
Lead Entity Annual Work Plan	3.01	Develop an annual work plan and provide to RCO and the regional organization		32	\$40	\$1,280		
Lead Entity Grant Program & Guidelines and Habitat Restoration and Protection Strategy	4.01	Work with the regional organization to develop a public grant program criteria and guidelines consistent with its local habitat strategy and/or regional recovery plan	Facilitate the funding round debrief; Collect feedback comments/solutions; update UC LE Guidelines.	80	\$40	\$3,200		
Lead Entity Grant Program & Guidelines and Habitat Restoration and Protection Strategy	4.02	Work with the regional organization to update and refine its habitat restoration and protection strategy	Track and communicate to partners progress on regional habitat strategies including the RTT's Biological Strategy.	40	\$40	\$1,600		
Creat a Habitat Project List for the SRFB	5.01	Summarize involvement in the current SRFB grant round process as part of the fall progress report		12	\$40	\$480		
Creat a Habitat Project List for the SRFB	5.02	Provide feedback to RCO to improve Manual 18 for the next grant round process and timelines	Collect comments from sponsors at final debrief and by email and distribute to RCO	20	\$40	\$800		

Upper Columbia Lead Entity Budget Scenario 2013

Categories	Task	Task Description	Services	Hours	Rate	LE Budget	Regional	Notes
Habitat Work Schedule	6.01	Populate the HWS database for all SRFB projects (proposed, active and completed) and all projects associated with the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan's Implementation Schedule	Collaborate with project sponsors, agencies, and funders to obtain the latest salmon recovery project information. Input, maintain and update mandatory data fields, project mapping information, and required attachments in the HWS database. Update and populate the habitat action's metrics on every project in HWS. Project information from HWS is used to create the annual Implementation Schedule.	480	\$40	\$5,220	\$13,980	
Habitat Work Schedule	6.02	Provide the RCO with a description of use of the HWS database, how often information for SRFB funded projects is updated, and how the HWS database is used to coordinate with other salmon habitat projects		16	\$40	\$640		
Habitat Work Schedule	6.03	Attend one HWS database training event per year		16	\$40	\$640		
Habitat Work Schedule	6.04	Coordinate a minimum of one HWS database training opportunity per year for project sponsors		40	\$40	\$1,600		
Lead Entity Training and Community Outreach	7.01	Participate in training and development opportunities for lead entities as they occur		70	\$40	\$2,800		
			UCSRB SUBTOTAL	2252		\$80,000	\$33,980	\$113,980
Lead Entity Training and Community Outreach	7.02	Conduct community outreach to educate the local community on salmon recovery to develop a broad base of community support for salmon recovery projects				\$55,000		Subcontract to Chelan and Okanogan Counties. Annually, \$27,500 each.
			TOTAL			\$135,000	\$33,980	<u>\$168,980</u>

Appendix E

Lead Entity Project Sponsor Services Table

Lead Entity Project Sponsor Services Handout

Lead Entity Process	Service	Sponsor Comments
General Overall Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Share Information ▪ Communicate Timelines ▪ Provide Support and Feedback ▪ Coordinate with project sponsors RCO, UCRTT, BPA, TRIB and CAC. 	
New Project Sponsor Initiation Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discuss the UC salmon recovery implementation objectives, process and funding structure including: UCSRP, UCRTT Biological Priorities, reach assessments, Implementation Schedule, working with WATs and your Lead Entity Coordinator 	
Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate open solicitation funding schedule with RCO, UCRTT, BPA TRIB, CAC, and others if needed. 	
Kick-Off Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicate objectives, process, requirements, and timeline to project sponsors ▪ Facilitate RCO presentation, UCRTT technical criteria presentation, CAC criteria presentation ▪ Provide access to application materials (Including SRFB Policy Manual, UC Funding Process Guide) 	
Pre-application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Application assistance ▪ Assist sponsors in the development of pre-applications, provide examples and guidance. ▪ Prism/HWS/ftp site assistance ▪ Distribute completed pre-proposals to UCRTT and PRCC/TRIB ▪ Distribute UCRTT pre-proposal and PRCC/TRIB evaluation feedback 	

Project Site Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate tour schedule with sponsors, CAC, UCRTT, Tributary Committee, BPA and other interested parties (schedule, transportation, lunch) ▪ Provide schedule and materials (maps and project descriptions) ▪ Facilitate actual tours ▪ Collect and distribute feedback from technical reviewers 	
Pre-application Workshop (Presentations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist UCRTT in communicating presentation schedule, expectations and materials ▪ Assist sponsors in developing projects presentations if needed 	
Proposal Refinement and Submittal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide guidance and feedback to project sponsors 	
UCRTT Technical Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribute completed applications to UCRTT and Trib if needed) ▪ Distribute technical comments to sponsors 	
Final Proposal Submittal/Prism Upload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Application/Prism Assistance ▪ Confirm applications are complete in Prism ▪ Assist in development of the UC RCO deliverables 	
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Presentations and Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicate schedule and expectations to sponsors ▪ Facilitate CAC Meetings for Okanogan and Chelan county (3 meetings =sponsor project presentations, project ranking, and Joint Citizens Committee finalize regional list) ▪ Distribute CAC Ranking and notes 	
State Review Panel (SRP) Review & Feedback loop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide and manage UC Project List ▪ Distribute SRP review comments and coordinate the resolution of comments if needed 	
General Prism/HWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training ▪ Assistance ▪ Coordination of data input in the HWS 	
Final Debrief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitate the funding round debrief ▪ Collect feedback comments/solutions 	

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%
TOTAL:		\$25,000,000 100%

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
Total	\$1,722,000

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 programs¹.

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.

¹ 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 18².

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.

² 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

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:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- 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 annually¹. As of the writing of this memo neither the

¹ 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:

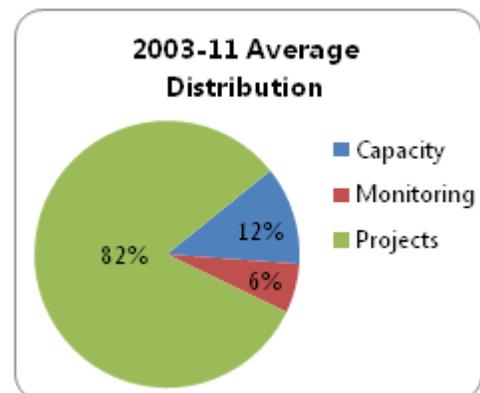
- Projects that produce measurable and sustainable benefits for salmon
- Monitoring to measure project implementation, effectiveness, and the long-term results of all recovery efforts
- Human capital that identifies, supports, and implements recovery actions.

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 board², 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.

² Item 4: 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

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

Regional Organization Funding

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

Region	Previous Biennium 2011-2013	State Fiscal Year 2014 July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014
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
Total	\$5,557,370	\$2,778,685

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 entity³. 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.

³ 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
Lower Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery	\$160,000	\$80,000
Hood Canal Regional Salmon Recovery	\$160,000	\$80,000
Northeast Region	\$100,000	\$50,000
Puget Sound	\$1,638,000	\$819,000
<i>Green/Duwamish & Central Sound Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$120,000</i>	<i>\$60,000</i>
<i>Island County Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>Lake Washington/Sammamish Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$120,000</i>	<i>\$60,000</i>
<i>Mason CD Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$84,000</i>	<i>\$42,000</i>
<i>Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$125,000</i>	<i>\$62,500</i>
<i>North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$160,000</i>	<i>\$80,000</i>
<i>Pierce County Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$110,000</i>	<i>\$55,000</i>
<i>San Juan County Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$160,000</i>	<i>\$80,000</i>
<i>Snohomish Basin Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$125,000</i>	<i>\$62,500</i>
<i>Stillaguamish Co-Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$124,000</i>	<i>\$62,000</i>
<i>Thurston CD Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$80,000</i>	<i>\$40,000</i>
<i>West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$130,000</i>	<i>\$65,000</i>
Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery	\$130,000	\$65,000
Upper Columbia Regional Salmon Recovery	\$308,000	\$135,000
Washington Coast	\$390,000	\$195,000
<i>Grays Harbor Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$110,000</i>	<i>\$55,000</i>
<i>Pacific Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>North Coast Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$90,000</i>	<i>\$45,000</i>
<i>Quinalt Indian Nation Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$90,000</i>	<i>\$45,000</i>
Yakima (Includes Klickitat)	\$240,000	\$120,000
<i>Klickitat County Lead Entity</i>	<i>\$110,000</i>	<i>\$55,000</i>
<i>Yakima Basin Regional Salmon Recovery</i>	<i>\$130,000</i>	<i>\$65,000</i>
<i>Subtotal, Lead Entities</i>	<i>\$3,126,000</i>	<i>\$1,544,000</i>
<i>Lead Entity Training</i>	<i>\$16,000</i>	<i>\$8,000</i>
<i>Lead Entity Chair</i>	<i>\$9,000</i>	<i>\$4,500</i>
<i>Subtotal, Lead Entity Support</i>	<i>\$25,000</i>	<i>\$12,500</i>
Total	\$3,151,000	\$1,556,500

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:

- Request for Decision
- Request for Direction
- 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