

MEETING OVERVIEW

For the January 23, 2019 YBFWRB Board of Directors Meeting

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

Due to the federal shutdown, we have cancelled the planned pre-meeting work session with NOAA Fisheries staff. We rescheduled the meeting to run from 1 to 3 so we can welcome a delegation from WDFW at 3 pm to discuss WDFW budget priorities with us.

BUSINESS MEETING from 1 to 4 pm

Numbers refer to agenda items. Item #s refer to Board Materials email attachment numbers.

1. We'll start the meeting with introductions, review and approval of the agenda, and review and approval of the minutes from our October Board of Directors meeting. The **agenda** and **draft minutes** are attached (items #1 & 3), as are December Executive Committee call notes (item #4).

2. Announcements:

- a. State of Salmon Report: The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office just released the 2018 State of Salmon Report. The Executive summary makes for a good read. See <https://stateofsalmon.wa.gov/>
- b. Herald Editorial on Floodplain Funding: Here's a [link to a nice editorial by the Yakima Herald](#) on the need to support floodplain restoration that was, in part, in response to our floodplain panel event in November.
- c. The Sea Lion Predation Bill which the Board sent in a support letter in October was passed and signed into law by the President. The states and tribes are now ramping up their lethal take programs.
- d. This week, the Governor appointed Chris Endresen Scott to the SRFB. She has experience on both sides of the mountains, including 10 years as a Kitsap County Commissioner. Those interested in serving on the SRFB are encourage to apply via the Governor's Boards & Commissions page. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.
- e. The new Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Highlights document is now available; we hope to have copies for you at the meeting.
- f. Both the new Eastslope Cascade Recreation Forum and a Little Naches Collaborative series of workshops are getting underway. If you'd like to participate in either of these, let Alex know.
- g. Here's a quick video by Reclamation highlighting the work of the Yakima Bull Trout Task Force. This is a great program that initially grew out of the Board's work on the Yakima

Bull Trout Action Plan back in 2012. It's great to see it still growing in 2019! Huge kudos to all the partners that have made that happen.

- h. Last week, Alex gave an overview of fish passage work in the Yakima Basin to the state's Fish Barrier Removal Board in Olympia.

Bring any **addition announcements** you want to make.

Outgoing Correspondence included in the attached packet (item #5A) includes:

1. Adam's email submitting our approved State Budget Priorities document to the Governor and the response from OFM.
2. A support letter signed by Alex for Kittitas County's application to Ecology's new Streamflow Restoration Grant Program. The proposed project would acquire water rights in the Ringer Road area where we are working with BLM on projects.
3. A support letter signed by Alex for the US Forest Service Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for acquisition of Forest Service inholdings in the Yakima Basin.
4. A letter from the Council of Regions to the Governor encouraging him to include proposed funding for a 20 year update of the Statewide Strategy to Recovery Salmon that Alex signed onto on behalf of the Board.
5. A letter in support of the Floodplain by Design budget request that Adam approved our signing on to based on the budget priorities document we approved at the October meeting.

Incoming Correspondence included in the attached packet (item #5B) includes:

1. An update from Mike Livingston of WDFW noting that the Bateman Island Causeway Project has been approved as a Corp of Engineers 1135 Project (at our October meeting we had approved a letter to the Corps requesting that they take this step).
2. A response from the Corps of Engineers to our October letter expressing support for ongoing funding of Yakima County's Gap to Gap Project.

3. LEAD ENTITY PROGRAM

- a. 2018 Grant Round: Tricia will give a brief summary of the final outcomes of the 2018 Grant Round and the recent post-season review meetings with the TAG and the Citizen's Committee.

- b. 2019 Grant Round Preparations: Tricia will review the proposed schedule for the 2019 grant round and lead a discussion of how we can fill remaining review committee vacancies prior to the grant round.
- c. RCO LEAN Process Update: Tricia will provide a brief update on the recently completed RCO review of the SRFB grant process and proposed grant round revisions for 2020.

4. BLM Contracts Update and Approval of MOA Amendment

Tricia will review work completed with the now-closed 2013-2018 BLM Contract, and provide an update on the work now being complete with the new 5 year contract signed in 2017.

Tricia will ask the Board to approve the amendment to the MOA with Mid-Columbia Fisheries for their work on the BLM Ringer Road project (see Item #6).

5. Review and Approval of FY2018 Fincial Statement and IRS 990 Tax Form

The draft FY2018 Financial Statement is attached as Item #7. The Statement and the IRS 990 form are currently being finalized; the final versions will be made available at or prior to the meeting for the Board to review and approve. If more review time is needed, the Board may motion to approve pending completion of an email review of the final documents.

6. July 10-11 SRFB Meeting and Tour

The State's Salmon Recovery Funding Board will hold its annual travel meeting in Yakima July 10 and 11. We have been invited to work with RCO staff to host a tour, and possible an evening event, in conjunction with the meeting. They expressed interest in a tour highlighting how SRFB, Yakima Basin Integrated Plan and Floodplain by Design funds are all coming together to support priority projects. I've tentatively proposed that the group visit a combination of Yakima County floodplain projects and Cowiche Creek habitat and instream flow projects. This is our chance to start defining and organizing the events we'd like to host.

7. Council of Regions Support

The Council of Regions is an informal organization that brings together the state's seven Recovery Organizations to coordinate activities and weigh in on matters of common interest. Alex is in line to serve as the next Chair of the Council of Regions, and has the support of the Exec provided that hiring of Board support staff is completed by then. The Council of Regions has also proposed that each member contribute \$2-3,000/yr to fund part time support staff, and Alex has proposed that this funding be used to pay for ~20% of the time of the Board's new Operations and Program Coordinator to be devoted to supporting Council of Regions activities. Alex will be asking for the Board's support for his taking on the Chair role, and will ask for direction on drafting an agreement with the other regions to fund other Board staff supporting COR activities.

8. Recovery Program Updates

I'll brief the Board on the Mid-C Strategic Investment Plan proposal to the SRFB (see Item #11) and discuss next steps. We'll also touch base on plans for the Steelhead Recovery Plan update, and on the status of the Yakima Bull Trout Working Group and statewide Bull Trout coordination. We have two agreements to approve:

- a. A contract with the Department of Ecology for \$22,000 of YBIP funds to support our work convening the Yakima Bull Trout Working Group (Item #8). This funding will cover both Board staff time and the costs of agreement B below.
- b. An MOA with Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group that provides them up to \$11,000 in exchange for their staff time to support our work convening the Yakima Bull Trout Working Group (Item #9).

9. Communications

Tricia will the Board's review recent and planned communications and outreach activities. Printed copies of the Board Introduction booklet approved at the October meeting will be available.

10. State Agency Policy and Budget Development

We will review the Budget Priorities identified by the Board in October (Item #10) in light of the recently released Governor's budget proposal now being considered by the legislature. We will discuss the possible contents of a Board letter to legislators, and review the plans for the proposed February 1 day of legislative visits by Board members and staff.

11. WDFW Budget Priorities

At 3 pm, Staff from WDFW's fisheries and habitat programs and a citizen representative from their budget advisory committee will give us a presentation on the WDFW Budget Proposal. Following the presentation and discussion, we will consider whether to identify funding items for WDFW in our Bboard Funding Priorities document and associated communications.

12. BOARD LOGISTICS

- a. We'll review and potentially approve the **proposed changes to the Board's travel reimbursement policies** (Item #11; these are meant to clarify gray areas identified by staff regarding when and how travel expenses can be reimbursed).
- b. We'll discuss the **location, schedule and topics for our upcoming meetings**.
- c. We'll discuss the proposal to outsource Board book keeping;
- d. We'll touch base on **proposed hiring** and approve associated job descriptions;
- e. We'll review the financial reports (item #12).