

MEETING OVERVIEW

For the May 22, 2019 YBFWRB Board of Directors Meeting

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

Sadly, Dale Babrick had to cancel, so we will hold our work session with NOAA Fisheries at a later date.

BUSINESS MEETING from 2 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/approval of the agenda, and review/approval of the minutes from our Marcg Board of Directors meeting. The **agenda** and **draft minutes** are attached (items #1 & 3), as are the May Executive Committee meeting notes (item #4).

2. Announcements:

- a. The **2019 Yakima Basin Science and Management Conference** will be June 12 & 13 at CWU.
- b. The state's **Salmon Recovery Funding Board will meet in Yakima on July 10th to 11th**. We are working with RCO to organize an evening event on the 10th and a project tour on the 11th. We'll also have time on the meeting agenda on the 10th to present priority needs for recovery of Mid-Columbia Steelhead in the Yakima, Klickitat and Walla Walla areas.
- c. I'll have hard copies of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office's **2018 State of the Salmon report** to pass out
- d. Bring any **addition announcements** you want to make.

Updates:

- a. The **Bureau of Reclamation recently issued a Record of Decision on the Kachess Drought Relief Pumping Plant Final Supplemental EIS**. It narrows down the options to the floating pumping plant and a shoreside pumping plant and calls for completion of an additional EIS to fully evaluate the impacts of the proposed action.
- b. At the **2019 Washington Salmon Recovery Conference** in Tacoma this April, Tricia led a conference session on Communications, and Alex led one on coordinating bull trout recovery across the state.
- c. **Alex has been active as the Chair of the Council of Regions (COR)**, and is convening the monthly COR calls and COR representation at meetingCOR brings the state's seven salmon recovery regions tos of the SRFB and others. COR recently travelled to Portland to meet with

NOAA leadership, and is working on a monitoring assessment proposal to put before the SRFB in July.

- d. **We are continuing to meet with the Yakima Valley Library and other potential partners to develop a Yakima Basin Natural Resource Collection** in a dedicated space.
- e. Alex worked with partners in the Little Naches Workign Group to develop a **proposal for US Forest Service Title II funding to rehabilitate a popular camping area** to improve the campsites and reduce road access to the riparian area. Work will be completed by trainees from the White Swan Job Corps. The formal project sponsor will be Mid-Columbia Fisheries.
- f. Alex has met with the North Yakima Conservation District and others to **support efforts to evaluate salmon recovery options for Wenas Creek**. This topic is attracting interest, and outcomes of the assessment work underway will inform the Steelhead Recovery Plan Update.

Correspondence:

- a. There is no incoming correspondence for Board review
- b. The Gold Creek letter that was approved at the last meeting was sent (see item #5). The letter was well received, and Tricia and Alex will update the Board on **two meetings held to followup up on the letter and engage partners in planning for bull trout restoration in Gold Creek**.
- c. The **letter to legislators** that was drafted based on direction given at the last Board meeting is attached as item #6.
- d. Drafts of the **annual letters to Board Members and to cities in the Basin that are not members of the Board (items #7 & 8)** are included in the materials. We will want to review, edit and approve these letters, which should go out with the draft work plan by May 31st (60 days prior to the Annual Meeting).

3. Lead Entity Program

- a. 2019 Grant Round: Tricia will review the status of the 2019 SRFB grant round, which is going full tilt right now.
- b. Washington Salmon Coalition Leadership: Tricia has been invited to serve as chair of the Washington Salmon Coalition, which brings together the state's 26 Lead Entity Coordinators. The executive committee reviewed how we could accommodate the impact on staff workloads using the to-be hired position, and supported this proposal. We'll be asking the Board for support for having Tricia take on this role.
- c. BLM Ringer Road Project: Tricia will update us on our work with the BLM, Kittitas County and the Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group in the Ringer Road area between Ellensburg and the Yakima Canyon. We recently received approval for a cost increase for some of the planned work, and will ask the Board to approve a corresponding amendment of our MOA with Kittitas County.

4. Recovery Program Updates

Alex will brief the Board on:

- a. Recent meetings and activities of the Yakima Bull Trout Working Group and proposals for future funding for convening the Bull Trout Work Group and updating the Bull Trout Action Plan.
- b. The Mid-Columbia Recovery Needs document I am working on with Snake River Salmon Recovery Board and Klickitat Lead Entity staff.
- c. The current monitoring discussions with the SRFB and their implications for the Board's monitoring coordination work.
- d. Preparations for updating the Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan Actions.

5. Communications and Outreach

Tricia will provide an update on recent and upcoming communications activities and ask for input as she updates the annual communications work plan for review and approval at the annual meeting.

She will also ask the Board to review and approve the contract for training services for the upcoming Riparian Plant ID training. This training will be paid for with registration fees; the contract with the trainer is provided as item #9.

6. Policy Updates

We'll review the outcomes of the recently concluded state legislative session. Overall it was a positive session for salmon recovery efforts, with moderate funding increases for the SRFB grant program, significant funding for the Floodplains by Design Program, nearly full funding for the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan, and significant new funding from the Fish Barrier Removal Board for fish passage projects in Kittitas County. Alex will provide additional detail at the meeting.

We'll review the proposal for the 20 year updated of the Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon that the legislature directed GSRO to complete.

We'll also discuss plans for out-of-session outreach to legislators, their staff, the governor's office and OFM, and consider the idea of giving Board of Directors members specific outreach assignments and a set of key talking points.

We'll also briefly touch base on the federal Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund and associated outreach and NOAA Fisheries Columbia Basin Partnership.

7. Review of the Draft 2019-21 Work Plan and Budget

We will review the draft work plan and budget (item #10), and identify any changes to be made prior to sending the draft to all Board members at the end of May. The final work plan and budget will be approved at the July 31 annual meeting, and will be used as the basis for negotiating the next two year scopes of work for our contracts with RCO and Ecology.

8. BOARD LOGISTICS

- a. We'll review **proposed hiring** and approve the proposed job description (to be provided at the meeting);
- b. We'll review and potentially approve the proposal to work with a single accountant to complete our FY2019 Financial Statement, Audit and IRS 990 Form.
- c. We'll the **agenda for the July 31 Annual Meeting (item #11)**.
- d. We'll review the **draft 2019-20 Meeting Schedule (item #12)** which will be approved at the annual meeting. Do come ready to propose alternate dates if you see any conflicts with the proposed meeting times.
- e. We'll review the **January to March Quarterly financial reports (item #13)**.