

**Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board – Meeting Notes**

**Date: February 21, 2017**

**Place: Association of Washington Cities, Olympia, Washington**

**Summary: Agenda items with formal action**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Formal Action</b>
January meeting notes	Approved
Brian Abbott resolution	Approved

**Summary: Follow-up actions**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Follow-up</b>
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**Board Members/Alternates Present:**

Tom Jameson, Chair, WDFW	Steve Martin, Council of Regions (phone)
Paul Wagner, DOT	Dave Caudill, RCO
Casey Baldwin, CCT (phone)	Gary Rowe, WSAC
Stacy Polkowske, WDFW	

**Others present at meeting:**

Gina Piazza, WDFW	Neil Aaland, Facilitator
Cade Roler, WDFW	Alison Hart, WDFW
Justin Zweifel, WDFW	Jan Rosholt, Parametrix
Kevin Jensen, McMillen Jacobs	Dr. Jenifer McIntyre, WSU

**Welcome/Introductions/Agenda Review**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Facilitator Neil Aaland reviewed the agenda.

**Public Comments**

Nobody present offered public comments to the Board.

**Follow-up Items**

1. Approval of January meeting notes: Paul Wagner moved to approve, Gary Rowe seconded. Meeting notes approved unanimously.
2. Resolution to recognize Brian Abbott’s work: Tom presented a draft resolution and moved to approve it; Gary seconded. Resolution approved unanimously.
3. View short film - Making Way for Salmon: This short film on barrier removals was made by WDFW, funded by the Fish Passage Program. It is available on YouTube. It can be shown by anyone needing to explain the background of fish passage barriers. Following the viewing, the Board had some comments:

Paul noted that it emphasizes adult spawning. One challenge is we struggle with design aspects for juvenile passage; this issue should be mentioned as part of the message.

Gary wonders what the outreach plan for the video is and what additional materials would be part of this. Neil noted he plans to bring this up with the communications subcommittee. Paul thought maps of the watershed and the presence of the barriers would be useful communication tools – either generic or for a specific entity.

Stacy Polkowske said WDFW has ordered the Kitsap County “Field Guide” that discusses salmonids.

Dave Caudill said we’ve struggled to try and show barriers and connections in different areas.

### **Legislative and budget updates**

Gary Rowe discussed his efforts to promote the need for funding. The brown bag lunch for legislative staff (discussed at a previous meeting) was held and Tom Jameson also attended. He thought that was useful. The challenge for funding is the capital budget has constraints. A larger number of education capital projects is taking more of the available funding. He noted that if local levies for education facilities are passed, the state must match those. He is sending a message that the passage barrier projects are also important for the transportation budget. This budget won't come out for another week. He believes he is being successful in getting the message out. Dave Caudill said he has been hearing the same issues as Gary has.

Tom Jameson has de-briefed the Results Washington team on two relevant metrics. He gets the information from DNR, DOT, and WDFW. Tom noted the difficulty in reporting on the metrics. One example is the state does not pay for corrections in the RMAP program. He proposed only reporting where the state is paying.

Tom also reported that, last week, the quarterly meeting with Treaty Tribes was held. This is the meeting to update tribes on the culverts lawsuit. One tribal representative expressed concern about the MOU between WDFW and DOT. He also heard that NWIFC tribal leaders were frustrated by the pace of correcting barriers.

Gary noted that the Chehalis Basin Plan also has a request to the legislature for funding. He thinks there may be an opportunity for barrier correction in their next project cycle. The carbon tax proposal may also have some funding for barrier correction.

### **Presentation by Dr. Jenifer McIntyre**

Tom Jameson opened this topic. He and David Price met with the Governor's budget staff to brief them on the FBRB proposal. Rob Duff suggested the FBRB ask Dr. McIntyre to present on the work she has been doing regarding the effect of stormwater on specific fish species. Dr. McIntyre then presented an update on her research. [See the PowerPoint presentation listed on the WDFW FBRB website under the "meeting handouts" link for the February 21, 2017 meeting.] She noted that upcoming research includes the sources of toxics and their relative contribution to the mixture of toxics.

Comments and questions from FBRB members included:

- How long do bio-retention facilities work? [That is being studied.]
- Gary asked about permeable pavement as bio-retention. [Some initial work has been done, this is an active area of research.]
- Are pharmaceuticals being filtered out? [That was not studied.]
- How does this compare to the city of Portland program to install bio filtration in stormwater facilities? [She is not aware of that program.]
- Is there a time of year where the fish kills are larger? [They have not looked directly into that.]

Tom noted that Rob Duff asked him if there is a project where a bio filtration portion could be funded; he wondered about the top 13 project list that was proposed for funding, whether there are any with a fair amount of stormwater influence. The Board was not sure.

Gary said bio retention is a different problem, not sure it's something for the FBRB to take on. He wonders if it makes any difference in selecting projects, but it probably should not.

Paul asked if there are any situations where we should lower the priority for projects where there are lots of stormwater impacts, until that part is fixed. The Board thought that was a good question, but a tough one to answer.

Additional questions and comments:

- Are Kokanee salmon affected? [Need more research on that.]
- Are tribal biologists aware of this issue? [Paul noted it gets into treaty rights.]
- Cade wondered whether rain gardens, bio-retention facilities being incorporated into passage removal projects would help [Dr. McIntyre said their research focuses on non-property fixes]
- Gary said projects can look upstream/downstream and look at habitat; at some point can look at other issues such as these. Also, he wonders if there is a connection or obligation under NPDES permits [Paul thinks that there is, stormwater is a big emphasis and NPDES triggers stormwater treatment. This treatment requires more space and more land.]
- In an urban system, where are the toxics coming from? [Dr. McIntyre thinks more research and tools are needed to be able to know what to do.]
- Why are coho more sensitive to the stormwater impacts? [They are doing research on target tissues and location within the fish.]

Gary asked Cade if there is data that we could use to help with stormwater impacts in urban areas. Cade thought we might be able to look at things such as roads and total impervious percentage.

Dr. McIntyre concluded and noted that tours are offered at the Center.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, March 21 @ Association of Washington Cities.**