

Notes & Action Items from CFPF Governance Committee Call

November 12, 2019 11:00am-1:00pm

Attendees: Bob, Anna, Holly, Stan, and Damon

Yellow = Individual or Group Action Items
Green = Decision Items

Report out on NFHP Fall Board Meeting

Stan attended the NFHP Fall Board Meeting in Travers City, MI from October 23-24, 2019. Updates include:

- The National Fish Habitat Action Plan is currently being reviewed and the Board spent much of the meeting discussion potential revisions. The result was the creation of a subgroup to continue working on this. A draft will be made available to the FHPs (via the coordinators) for an opportunity to review/comment.
- The NFHP Legislation is not expected to pass this congressional session.
- USFWS is currently operating under level funding through a continuing resolution (CR) that is due to expire November 21. Assuming another CR is passed, it is expected that NFHP will be funded at levels equal to/similar FY19.
- USFWS is pushing to get the process for the Annual Work Plan & Accomplishments Reports (and thus FHP scoring and funding allocations) back on track. However, if USFWS is on a CR, USFWS will delay on moving the funding forward until they have an official budget.
 - Damon – USFWS will be revising the process (again) for cooperative agreements, and will be rolling out that new process soon.
- The Board also discussed this year's failed group application by NFHP for MSCG funding.

Planning for the FY20 USFWS Work Plan & Accomplishments Report

Eric MacMillan (USFWS NFHP and National Fish Passage Program Coordinator) sent out the guidance and template for the FY20 USFWS Work Plan & Accomplishments Report which will be due to each FHP's Regional USFWS Coordinators (Stephanie Byers and Lisa Heki for Region 8) by **January 10, 2020**. USFWS did not make any changes to the criteria, but did provide some clarifications.

Alicia presented a proposed process timeline to the Governance Committee for completing this report by January 10, 2020. (*note that the final completion will require a final decision from the Forum on which projects the Forum plans to fund from the FY20 funding announcement).

The currently agreed upon timeline is as follows (but is subject to change as needed):

FY20 USFWS Work Plan & Accomplishments Report Development Timeline
Nov 26: Alicia sends final draft of report to GovComm for review
Dec TBD: <i>Yet to be scheduled Dec GovComm call to discuss comments/questions</i>
Dec 6: GovComm comments due to Alicia
Dec 11: Alicia incorporates comments received and sends report back to GovComm for final review
Dec 18: Final comments due from GovComm to Alicia
Jan 10: Alicia sends final report to Region 8

FY19 NFHP Project Funding Update

USFWS released the funding to the Regions in September and Damon has been working with his contracting office to get the new 5-year agreement set up with PSMFC. There were additional delays due to some internal revisions to USFWS' internal contracting process, but the package has been sent to the Regional office for their signature which is expected to go through in the next week or so.

Of the projects being funded with FY19 NFHP Funds two will go directly through USFWS (Lamprey Passage at Rowdy Creek and the Lamprey Passage Design for Priority Obstacles in the Sacramento Basin) and the rest will go through PSMFC (Iron Horse, M-1 Road, Seiad Creek, and Upper Noyo River – Skunk Train). (Damon was able to get the Tolowa Tribe funding for the Lamprey Passage Rowdy Creek project with funds that were available from FY19 so that project is moving forward.)

Due to the delays in receiving these funds GRRCD had to update their original proposal for the Iron Horse Vineyards project (they had already moved forward with some of the activities proposed in the original proposal with other funds). The Governance Committee has received an updated proposal, but still has some questions about how the Forum funding will be spent and on what.

Alicia will contact Noelle (GRRCD) and ask for clarification on the following:

- Is there preconstruction data to compare the post-construction fish monitoring snorkeling to?
- Will the existing pit tag antennas and monitoring program be able to answer questions regarding fish passage past this site?
- Please revise the budget to better reflect how Forum funding would be spent on the three tasks now being proposed.

There is a possibility that the Governance Committee will decide to only fund a portion of the work now being proposed for this project. Damon will look into what the Forum would need to do to reallocate these funds towards other projects. Because this funding will be part of a new 5-year cooperative agreement with PSMFC, there should be some flexibility to move the funding to another project.

FY18 Project Updates

Davy Brown and Munch Creek, Neefus and Cooper Mill are all complete. Final invoices and reports have all been submitted.

Alicia will get all the respective final reports posted to the intranet.

FY20 Funding Opportunity

The Forum received 13 proposals in FY20 (up from seven in FY19). The Review Panel (Bob, Alex, Holly, Sandi, & Brett) met on November 6 to discuss their scores and rankings. The top six projects are listed below. The Review Panel is recommending the first five projects for funding.

The sixth project, Tiger Fork AOP Project Design, was submitted by the same group that is responsible for the Kelly Gulch project funded by the Forum in 2014. Kelly Gulch has still not been completed, and the Review Panel and Governance Committee agreed that this adversely impacts the Forum's confidence that the Tiger Fork project would be completed in a reasonable amount of time.

The Governance Committee agreed that the top five projects will be recommended to the Forum Steering Committee for funding, and a recommendation for the Tiger Fork AOP project will be contingent on implementation and completion of the Kelly Gulch project in 2020. Depending on how much funding the Forum receives from NFHP/USFWS for FY20 projects this project may not even fall within the funding range. A final decision would be made once that final funding amount is determined.

FY20 Proposals Recommended for Funding

1. Applying FISHPass in the Smith River (\$28,000)
2. Santa Margarita River Fish Passage & Bridge Replacement Project (\$47,410)
3. Strawberry Creek at Clam Beach Fish Passage Remediation Project (\$31,054.57)
4. Montague-Grenada Weir Retrofit & Barrier Removal (\$49,269)
5. West Tule Creek Diversion Fish Passage Project (\$15,301.13)
6. *Tiger Fork AOP Project Design (\$20,000)**
**funding and ranking contingent on implementation and completion of the Kelly Gulch project in FY20*

Total Funding Requested: \$191,035

FY20 Proposals NOT Recommended for Funding

- Rock Fence Creek AOP (\$65,000)
- Cabin Meadows Creek AOP Phase 1 (\$20,000)
- Fujinaka Crossing Fish Passage Improvement Project (\$150,000)
- Hogan Crossing Fish Passage Improvement Project (\$150,000)
- Hosie Crossing Fish Passage Improvement Project (\$150,000)
- Watkins Crossing Fish Passage Improvement Project (\$150,000)
- Anderson Cottonwood Irrigation District Fish Screen (\$49,120)

Alicia will send the recommended projects above to the Steering Committee for their approval with information on the contingencies associated with the Tiger Fork AOP project.

Damon offered to looking into referring projects that we don't fund to the National Fish Passage Program funding opportunity. He will work with Alex and Alicia (as needed) to coordinate with Ryan Fogerty (Region 8 co-coordinator of USFWS National Fish Passage Program).

The Governance Committee also agreed to invite Ryan Fogerty to future in-person Forum meetings.

Recap San Diego Forum Meeting

The Committee agreed that the Fall 2019 in-person Forum meeting in San Diego went well. Appreciated the inclusion of external guests and speakers (identified by Sandi Jacobsen). It was also nice to have the business meeting at the local CDFW office, which provided a good opportunity to interact with their staff. The field trip organized by Sandi was also great.

Revisiting the Strategic Framework

Four people responded to the doodle Alicia set up for the Strategic Framework discussion. There were not any times that worked for all interested. Given all of the other tasks currently underway, the Governance Committee agreed that it was probably best to bump this discussion back to the new year.

Holly pointed out that the Forum MOU expires at the end of 2020, so updating it should probably also be incorporated into this review as well.

Alicia will create a new doodle for January and resend this to the Forum Steering Committee.

Alicia/Bob will add updating the MOU to the Governance Committee Work Plan for 2020

Alicia will remind the various Forum committees to update their 2019, and start working on their 2020 work plans.

Potential Update to the Forum ByLaws

In the email update Alicia sent to the Forum Steering Committee on 10/30 was proposed revisions to the Forum Bylaws to allow for individuals (subject matter experts) from non-Forum member organizations to participate in Forum Committees.

Alex and Sandi were the only Forum members that responded directly to the question regarding, and they voiced their support. *Please note that Alicia only provided a deadline for feedback if Forum members were NOT in support of this change.*

The Governance Committee agreed to move forward with this amendment and will allow individuals from non-Forum member organizations to participate in the reconstituted Policy & Permitting Committee.

Alicia & Anna will discuss when to schedule the first call of the P&P Committee.

Through this review, Alex pointed out that the ByLaws do say that no more than one representative from a given organization should be on a Committee. There was consensus that the Governance Committee does not want to limit engagement in the various Forum committees.

The Governance Committee agreed to interpret this as if/when a Committee has a vote, each organization will have one vote even if multiple representatives from any given organization are present.

Alicia will clarify the language in the Bylaws accordingly.

Winter 2020 Forum Meeting Planning

Alicia sent an email out to the Forum Steering Committee asking for feedback on dates/locations for the next Forum Meeting planned for Jan/Feb 2020. The following includes a summary of those results.

Meeting Dates

Eight Forum members (Sandi, Alex, Bob, Damon, Brett, Holly, Anna & Stan) responded to the doodle.

- **Feb 13 (Thursday):** ALL AVAILABLE
- **Feb 4-6 (Tuesday-Thursday):** All available but Stan
- **Feb 27 (Thursday):** All available but Sandi

The Governance Committee agreed to have the next in-person Forum meeting on February 13, and look into scheduling a field trip for February 12.

Meeting Location

Ten Forum members responded to the google form (all above + Tom Schroyer and Sam Jenniches). The locations receiving the most votes include:

- Santa Cruz & Santa Rosa – 6 votes
- Arcata – 4 votes
- Redding – 4 votes

Governance Committee members will look into options in Santa Cruz and Redding for February 13.

Other Updates?

- Jim Long is replacing Marc Commandatore as the Forum Representative for CDWR. Krissy Atkinson will be the alternate, and Megan Sheely will still continue to participate in the Education & Outreach and Science & Data Committees.
 - **Alicia** will be setting up a time to have a call with Jim to get him up to speed on the Forum.
- Tom Shroyer has expressed a desire to increase involvement from Regional CDFW staff. **Alicia** will follow up with him to clarify his thoughts on this and how it can increase CDFW's overall involvement with the Forum.
- Holly would like to join the Governance Committee. She is especially interested in the updates to the MOU, Strategic Framework, ByLaws etc.
 - **The Governance Committee welcomed Holly to the Committee.**
 - **Holly** will start looking into getting a USFS alternate
- Bob is the new acting California Supervisor for the Restoration Center for CA & Hawaii
- **Alicia** will send out a doodle for Dec Jan Feb Governance Committee calls.