

Notes & Action Items from CFPF Governance Committee Call

January 13, 2020 1:00-3:00pm

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

Yellow = Individual or Group Action Items

Update on FY20 USFWS Work Plan & Annual Accomplishments Report

Following the review by the Governance Committee and Region 8 USFWS staff, Alicia submitted the Forum's FY20 USFWS Annual Accomplishments Report & Work Plan to USFWS Region 8 and Eric MacMillan on January 9, 2020.

Regional & HQ USFWS coordinators are reviewing the proposals right now. Four NFHP board members will be looking at the proposals on two review panels (each reviewing 10 proposals) (Stan did not volunteer this year). USFWS does have a budget yet, and FHP funding levels will also depend on how many FHPs score at each level.

Scoring decisions are expected by the end of February/early March. Funding would be moved to the Regions and then distributed Spring/Summer 2020.

NFHP Legislation Update

The NFHP legislation supported by some member organizations of the NFHP board passed the House in early December as part of a larger sportsmans/habitat conservation bill. It was then sent to the Senate, where it was repackaged into a similar omnibus bill that also passed the full Senate on January 9. While the NFHP language in the Senate bill (S. 3051) has not changed, the other legislative initiatives it was repackaged with did, and some are considered quite controversial (e.g. language that would strip EPA of its regulatory oversight of lead in tackle giving that power to the states).

Now that the bill is back in the hands of the House of Representatives for a new vote, the NFHP legislative committee is working to push it through, though there are worries that some democratic house members will not support this new version. Due to the other events currently occurring in Congress, if it is to pass it likely needs to do so very soon before it is lost in the political haze.

Alicia will attach (and include in the supporting materials from this call on the intranet) a document describing the what the NFHP Board's anticipated approach for implementation would be if/when this bill is passed (assuming that the NFHP language remains untouched) that was shared by Bryan Moore (TU) during the January 15 NFHP Board call.

Santa Cruz Meeting Update

Alicia updated the Governance Committee on current planning for the business meeting (Feb 13), field trip (Feb 12) and potential FISHPass training/demo for local practitioners (likely the morning of Feb 12) being organized by the FPWG.

Alicia also presented a draft agenda for the Feb 12 business meeting and the following suggested edits were made:

- Add an update on the NFHP legislation to the agenda.

- Stephanie Byers (USFWS Region 8) will be attending the meeting and would like to give a 15-20 min presentation
- Move the discussion/update about the amended NMFS guidelines impacted by the findings of the Forum-supported Juvenile Jump Pass study (2016) further up the agenda towards the beginning of the day.
- Add 10-15 min discussion to the agenda to vote on the vice chairmanship that would go into effect in April.

To-date none of the local speakers have confirmed. The following was proposed to cement local participation.

- Alicia will continue to work with Tommy Williams who may not be able to give the Carmel River presentation himself to identify a NOAA speaker.
- Damon will help to follow-up with John Klochak (USFWS) about field trip planning and a possible location for the FISHPass demonstration.
- Bob and Stan will try to help identify San Mateo RCD and City of Santa Cruz contacts.
- Alicia will reach back out to Anna's colleague at TU.

Alicia will clean up the draft agenda, filling in any gaps and send out to the Forum by the end of this week (Jan 17).

Alicia will ask the Forum if they would interested in an update the Klamath Dam Removal Project from Bob, and/or other suggested speakers/agenda items.

Governance Committee 2020 Work Plan Discussion

The Committee reviewed and the 2020 Governance Committee Work Plan drafted by Bob, Anna and Alicia on the Dec 4 Governance Committee call. (The final 2019 Governance Committee Work Plan, finalized on that same call is also available on the intranet).

Governance Committee members were asked to add themselves as POCs to at least one additional task, and members asked to continue to consider what other efforts they may be able to contribute to.

Bob once again asked for a volunteer to take over as chair of the Governance Committee. He has served in this role for 6+ years. If members are interested please contact Bob and Alicia.

Holly pointed out that we need to update the MOU this year and the appropriate tasks were amended in the 2020 Work Plan. Alicia will send out the current version of the MOU asking Forum Steering Committee members to review their agency's respective section, and ask them to let Holly, Bob and Alicia know if they expect any issues moving forward or if their agency will want to make any changes. They will also be informed that they will be asked to provide an update on their agency's commitments at the February 13 meeting in Santa Cruz.

Forum Applicant Outreach from 2020 Solicitation

The Forum has been contacted by an applicant that submitted a proposal to the FY20 RFP seeking information on the status of their proposal. Last year Alicia and Javier contacted applicants to schedule calls to explain the substantial delays in this process due to the Government shutdown. In other years Bob and Javier also scheduled calls with all of the applicants to explain the process, their ranking and expected timeline.

This year Bob recommended sending emails to each of the applicants, explaining the process and giving them a general idea of their status (as in they are either likely or not likely to receive funding).

Bob asked Damon to help with this. **Damon** will check with Eric MacMillan about the expected timeline and draft a template email that can be used to give them an idea of when they may find out officially whether or not their project has been funded. Bob and Damon will send this to applicants.

FY19 Forum-Funded Projects Update

Stan updated the Governance Committee that all the subcontracts are out. They will all have a 6/30/2020 end-date, but once they have approval from USFWS that funding is extendable. All of the projects Stan reached out to that are going through PSMFC said they could be finalized by the end of October 2020.

Forum Vice Chair Nomination

Damon's current term as Vice Chair of the Forum will end April 2020.

Alicia will send an email to the Forum Steering Committee seeking nominations for the next Vice Chair (two-year term). A vote will be taken at the Winter Forum Meeting in Santa Cruz and the new vice chair term will be enacted in April.

Sacramento River Lamprey Barrier Design & Survey Project

In the scramble to use the unexpected funding the Forum received in FY19 by scoring a level 3, the Forum elected to fund the Sacramento River Lamprey Barrier Design & Survey Project (proposed by Damon and Stewart). The original funding request was ~\$56k, but after the overhead and other costs were factored in the final total available funds was ~\$35K which is about 40% less.

Damon will put forward the agreement at the original funding request and leave room for additional funding as it becomes available.

Stan recommended Damon talk to Javier about any leftover year-end funding (that had been used in past years for situations like these. **Damon and Stan** will look at what is left from the old 5-year agreement and see if there is any additional funding left that needs to be spent.

If the Forum scores a level 3 again in FY20, there is the possibility that there may be additional funding available beyond what was requested by the five proposals recommended for funding by the Forum. If funding is made available, and this project is still lacking sufficient funding, it will also be considered for the use of these FY20 funds.

Other Updates?

Strategic Framework Review

The small group interested in continuing this discussion have not been able to find a time that works for all since the September Forum Meeting. The goal is not to do a comprehensive update, simply to check in on the Forum's progress meeting the currently stated goals. The next comprehensive update is planned for 2023 when the current document expires.

- **Alicia** will send out another doodle to schedule another discussion in late Feb/early March.