

**Chehalis Basin Lead Entity  
Habitat Work Group Meeting Minutes  
April 12, 2013**

The April 12, 2013 meeting of the Chehalis Basin Lead Entity was held at the Lewis Conservation District Office, Chehalis, Washington. Chair Bob Amrine called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. In attendance were:

Bob Amrine, Lewis County Conservation District	Chad Wiseman, HDR
Ann Weckback, Lewis County	Caitlin Guthrie, Capitol Land Trust
Bob Burkle, WDFW	Janet Strong, Chehalis River Basin Land Trust
Dave Geroux, Center for Natural Lands Mgt	Pete Murphy, Onalaska Alliance
Janel Bistrika, Grays Harbor College / LE Coordinator	Miranda Plumb, USFWS
Jeanne Kinney, Thurston Co. Public Works	Omroa Bhagwandin, Onalaska Alliance
Lonnie Crumley, Streamworks LLC	Kat Moore, RCO
Mark Swartout, Thurston County	Lonnie Crumley, StreamWorks, LLC
Miles Batchelder, WCSSP	Gavin Glore, Mason Conservation District
Todd Sandell, Wild Fish Conservancy	John Kliem, Creative Community Solutions

**Agenda Items**

1. Discuss 2013 SRFB Grant Round-Discuss Site Visit Schedule and Local Review Team Members
2. Review 2013 SRFB List of Projects
3. Time for Project Sponsors to Discuss Projects
4. Lead Entity Organization Update
  - a) Expanding the Conceptual Project Process-Humptulips Sub-Basin
  - b) WCSSP Updates
  - c) RCO Salmon Conference May 14-15 in Vancouver and Registration Fees

**2013 SRFB Grant Round-Discuss Site Visit Schedule and Local Review Team Members**

Janel Bistrika updated the group on the list of names of who will be serving on the Review Panel for evaluating this year's Salmon Recovery **Funding Board** Grant Projects. There are

**Comment [JMK1]:** Actually the grant is the Salmon Recovery Grant. The SRFB is a body that oversees the grant program. I'm OK eitherway

some new members to the team this year including Chad Wiseman and Grays Harbor County Commissioner Frank Gordon.

The April 18 deadline for entering projects into PRISM is coming up. RCO will make a PDF version of the applications and Kat Moore will send a link for Review Panel members to download copies to review prior to the site visits. The link is typically available two weeks before the site visits. Kat provided advice to project sponsors about providing a project map and summary for the site visits.

Conversation with Kat next focused on potential funding scenarios for the Salmon Recovery Grant Program in the Legislature. **Since there is not** an approved budget yet, the SRFB has not been able to make the allocations to the various Salmon recovery regions (WCSSP being our region). We have been told to expect a similar amount of funding in years past, but until a budget gets approved by the Legislature, we won't have an official amount for SRFB funds for our Lead Entity.

**Comment [JMK2]:** I think you did not finish your thought here.

In response to some questions about PRISM, Kat stated applicants should avoid putting “\$o’s” in those areas that ask for line items.

### **Review 2013 SRFB List of Projects**

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At the latest count, there will now be 12 projects for the Review Panel to examine. Lewis County withdrew the Van Ornum and Prairie Creeks barrier removal projects.

The site visit schedule will be the Upper Basin on May 9, with folks meeting at the parking lot at Ground Mound at 8:30 AM. Site visits in the Lower Basin will follow on May 10; Review Panel members will meet at the Forestry Building at 8:30 AM. The 2013 Grays Harbor Juvenile Fish Use Assessment “site visit” may happen in the County Forestry Building in Montesano.

Site visits usually take about 30 minutes. Representatives from each project will be available on site to give a presentation. Interested Project Sponsors are welcome to tag along on the site visit tour if they organize their own carpool. Janel volunteered to create a larger map of the entire basin showing the location of the proposed projects. Janel will provide snacks and light refreshments for the review team and there will be stops for lunch each day.

### **Time for Project Sponsors to Discuss Projects**

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Caitlin Gutherie asked the group about estimating acquisition costs for the Mox Chehalis property. One suggestion was about \$3,000 per acre. Looking at the County Assessor's websites was another good resource.

Jan Strong gave an update on the Elliott Slough acquisition project. Audubon is bringing in a much larger match for the project this year – approximately 40%. They will be applying for a Coastal Wetland Grant from USFWS; the amount of the award, however, will not be known until December 2013.

### **Lead Entity Organization Update**

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Janel gave the group an update on hiring a replacement for her position. The aim is to bring someone on board around mid-June. There is still discussion as to whether the position will be based out of Grays Harbor College, the Chehalis Tribe, or Centralia College. An interview team will be interviewing potential candidates.

Discussion next focused on a capital projects budget through the Chehalis Basin Flood Authority.

Kat gave an update on what will be happening at the RCO Salmon Recovery Conference in Vancouver WA on May 14 and 15. Those individuals interested in attending can ask WCSSP and the Lead Entity to pay conference fees.

There will be no May 2013 meeting due to Salmon Recovery ~~Funding Board Grant~~ site visits.

**Comment [JMK3]:** See comment above

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday, June 14, 2013, 9:30 AM at the Lewis County Conservation District headquarters, in Chehalis.