

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity
Habitat Work Group Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2013

The September 13, 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:

Laurence Reeves, Capital Land Trust
Mike Nordin, Grays Harbor Conservation District
David Rounry, Department of Ecology
David Geroux, Center for Natural Lands Management

Miles Batchelder, WCSSP
Ann Weckback, Lewis County Public Works
Kat Moore, SRFB
Jane Atha, Centralia College / LE Coordinator

Agenda Items

1. Review Coastal Legislative Initiative projects for WRIAs 22-23.
 - a. Time for discussion of projects put forth
 - b. Complete list of proposed projects
2. Western Native Trout Initiative
 - a. Call for project proposals
 - b. Discussion of guidelines
3. Lead Entity Organization Update
 - a. Regional Project Funding Update from SRFB
 - b. Call for LE representatives on WCSSF Board
 - c. WCSSP Updates

Western Native Trout Initiative

Miranda sent the RFP to the group. Western Native Trout Initiative RFP is a Partnership funded through state representatives and USFWS. It covers projects benefitting western native cutthroat from Alaska down to California. Habitat assessments have been funded and there have been a number of project types, however, they need to benefit one of the native trout species. The deadline for proposals is for October 25th. The RFP is available online at westernnativetrout.org and is fairly detailed. They need to have 1/1 match and support from a state representative. This region has not had any successful projects to date with the assumption that there is ample funding available, however, with the right project and proposal it could be successful. If you would like group help or help from Miranda we're available.

Review Coastal Legislative Initiative projects for WRIAs 22-23.

Jane distributed projects submitted for consideration of the coastal legislation initiation package. The group discussed the projects with the sideboards of jobs and restoration. The group discussed working around knotweed control as a riparian enhancement project. The group discussed knotweed more generally, coordinating projects in the region, and an invasives group. Mike Nordin spoke of an additional project on the Wynoochee for consideration for the coastal package. Miles recounted last year's effort for a legislative package and concluded that essentially there wasn't enough legislative support. There was a dike removal project that drew some red flags and the whole package was dropped. The groups went over the individual projects and some others outside of the list in the Chehalis. Laurence spoke about the Black River project and the variety of restoration needs for the property. The group discussed expanding the project to include other properties with the Capital Land Trust. David Geroux spoke about a riparian restoration project on the Satsop. David plans to include this project as a candidate. Jane asks about the number of jobs each project will generate. There is a formula for that, but it would be good to get that from the project sponsors. It will be good to go back and look at SRFB list to see what other eligible projects may be available. Mike brought up the water quality problems near Ocean Shores and wondered if they may qualify. Jane comments that improved infrastructure would fit into the package.

Lead Entity Organization Updates

Project funding update from SRFB: waiting to get back responses from technical review panel. Miles speaks of having each LE to seat one person on the Washington Sustainable Salmon Foundation.

The agenda for next meeting will revisit the package and the short list. Also a good time to lay out the schedule for next year's SRFB round.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, October 11, 2013, 9:30 AM at the Centralia College New Science Building, in Centralia.