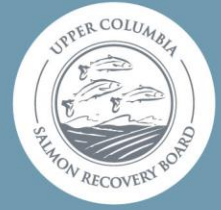


Working to restore viable and sustainable populations of salmon, steelhead and other at-risk species through collaborative, economically sensitive efforts, combined resources, and wise resource management of the Upper Columbia Region.



UPPER COLUMBIA LEAD ENTITY JOINT CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Chelan County Fire Station, Chelan WA
Thursday, June 20, 2024 ~ 5:55 to 6:30 PM

- CAC Participants: Matt Collins, Leah Hemberry, Jim Johnson, Keith Truscott, Mike Deason, Alan Schmidt, Bruce Merighi (virtual), Louis Sukovaty, Larry Hill, Will Keller
- UCSRB Staff: Ariel Edwards, Meghan Camp, Gabby Vermeire, Ryan Niemeyer, Amanda Ward

Review Joint Citizen Ranking Process and Discussion

Ariel Edwards reviewed the joint ranking, or “zippering” process. Noted that we will begin the ranked list with an Okanogan project this year since we started with Chelan last year.

Prior to deliberations, the group reviewed the decision-making ground rules used to finalize the project list:

1. *A Citizen Advisory Committee member may, at any time, make a motion to move a particular project up or down on the list.*
2. *The Citizen Advisory Committee member making such a request must include rationale based on the citizens' review criteria.*
3. *The Joint Citizen Advisory Committee will then engage in discussion regarding the motion to move a project on the list.*
4. *After discussion, the Joint Citizen Advisory Committee will vote – approve, oppose, abstain – on the motion to move the project on the list.*

The motion will carry upon unanimous approval by all Joint Citizen Advisory Committee Members (excluding “abstain” votes).

Review Funding Line

- UCSRB staff reviewed the funding line: \$2,897,110 for regular SRFB and \$2,460,997 for riparian funds.
- UCSRB staff also noted that the UC region owes the Pend Orielle region \$7,738 that we borrowed last year to cover our ranked list. With this amount subtracted, the UC total allocation is: **\$2,889,372.**

- Ariel noted that the lowest ranking project can be funded minus \$74 (total request – total funding allocation = \$74)
- There is \$279,762 left over from Riparian funds (after fully funding list). This excess will be rolled over to next year.

Present County Lists and Decide on Regional Provisional List

- UCSRB staff shared the zippered ranked lists for both funding pools, starting with Okanogan County projects.

Discussion

- Pole Creek Passage project –CAC members requested to review funding request breakdown spreadsheet again.
 - Ariel can send this
- Ariel noted to both CACs that Peshastin RM 8.8 is currently a “project of concern” – review panel wanted more information from sponsor
 - Sponsor will answer questions for panel (due June 24).
 - If the panel still deems it a project of concern in July, it will come back to CAC/UCSRB to decide whether to move forward to recommend it for funding.
- SR 207 is the only project requesting Targeted Investment funding– that will not be available if CCA is repealed
 - This year’s riparian funding will not be affected by the CCA vote this year.
- CAC members asked if this is the “new normal” for funding, and why it was so much greater this year?
 - UCSRB staff shared that overall funding will likely be less next year, riparian funding for next year is dependent on the CCA vote in November.
 - There were multiple factors that went into a higher-than-normal regular SRFB funding allocation this year (including rollover funds that needed to be used). RCO has noted that this will not be the “new normal” for future years – it is more likely that the allocation will go back to the \$2-2.5 million range next year.
- Multiple CAC members asked if it is appropriate to ask sponsors about progress on last year’s projects?
 - Both Chelan and Okanogan CAC members noted that hearing updates on previously funded projects would help with work moving forward, e.g. what contractors were used, did they work out, etc.
 - It was noted that sponsors already have a lot on their plates, but even a brief report/update would be very helpful.

Jim Johnson made a motion on behalf of Chelan CAC – sponsors report progress on projects previously funded in the previous year to CAC. Mike Deason seconded the motion; motion passed.

- Action Item: UCSRB staff will brainstorm some options for this. It was noted that updates will likely be a bit delayed (i.e. projects that are funded in 2024 may not be ready for updates until 2026). UCSRB staff will be reaching out to project sponsors and CAC members to find a good option for this moving forward.

Finalize Ranked Project List

Leah Hemberry made a motion to approve the Ranked Project List as it stands (with the final project in the regular SRFB pool receiving its request minus \$74.)

Larry Hill seconded the motion. Chair Truscott asked for any discussion on the motion, none. Chair Truscott called for a vote, all approved. Motion passed.

The final approved list combined from both counties was as follows (blue or green shading indicating projects located in Okanogan County, those without shading are in Chelan County):

(Regular SRFB)

Final Rank	Category	UC Regional Project	CAC Rank	RTT Score	SRFB Request	Running (SRFB) Total
1	Restoration	Methow at Goat Creek Floodplain Reconnection	1	80	\$747,978	\$747,978
2	Protection	Entiat River 18.5 Acquisition	1	75	\$205,400	\$953,378
3	Restoration	Habitat Connectivity Improvement at Twisp Ponds	2	71	\$108,749	\$1,062,127
4	Restoration	Nason Creek and SR 207 Phase 1 & 2 Project	2	75	\$600,000	\$1,662,127
5	Design	Lower Chiwawa Complexity and Floodplain Reconnect	3	71	\$273,038	\$1,935,165
6	Design	Wilson Side Channel Adaptive Management	4	66	\$145,252	\$2,080,417
7	Design	Peshastin Creek RM 8.8 Preliminary Design	5	68	\$206,928	\$2,287,345
8	Design	Nason-Kahler Confluence Habitat and Coldwater Refuge	6	65	\$96,971	\$2,384,316
9	Design	Pole Creek Fish Passage Restoration	7	61	\$150,000	\$2,534,316
10	Assessment	Colockum Creek Reach Assessment	8	61	\$125,000	\$2,659,316
11	Monitoring	Food Web Monitoring, Bioenergetics and Restoration	9*	19*	\$80,130	\$2,739,446
12	Design	White River Floodplain Conceptual Design	10	52	\$150,000	\$2,889,446
Funding Line						
**2024 Available Regular SRFB Funding:						\$2,889,372
*Monitoring projects are scored on a different point scale by RTT (1-30)						
**UC owes Pend Orielle \$7,738, which was subtracted from the full 2024 allocation to get the total available.						
Final ranked project (12) will be offered total request – \$74.						

(Riparian Grant)

Final Rank	Category	UC Regional Project	CAC Rank	RTT Score	Riparian Request	Running (Riparian) Total
1	Restoration	Goat and Eight Mile Creek Riparian Protection (Cub Allotment)	1	71	\$175,000	\$175,000
2	Protection	White River Oxbow Acquisition	1	82	\$360,100	\$535,100
3	Restoration	Riparian Restoration at Twisp Ponds	2	73	\$238,505	\$773,605
4	Restoration	Peshastin RM 2.5	2	72	\$754,500	\$1,528,105
5	Restoration	Riparian Restoration at M23R	3	55	\$250,894	\$1,778,999
6	Restoration	Entiat River Floodplain Riparian Enhancement	3	65	\$272,236	\$2,051,235
7	Restoration	Lower Sleepy Hollow Riparian Restoration	4	55	\$130,000	\$2,181,235
Funding Line						
*2024 Available Riparian SRFB Funding:						\$2,460,997
<i>*Unallocated funds = \$279,762</i>						

The meeting was adjourned at ~ 6:25 pm.