

**Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team
Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds**

**Public Meeting Agenda
January 18, 2007**

**USFS Forestry Sciences Lab Room #200
3200 Jefferson Way, SW
Oregon State University campus
Corvallis, OR**

Please Note: Times listed on agenda are approximate; topics may be added or removed the day of the meeting. Please check <http://www.fsl.orst.edu/imst/> for most recent agenda.

Thursday, January 18, 2006

8:30 Convene Meeting – Carl Schreck

Adopt agenda

Adopt November 2006 minutes

Set meeting dates: April and May 2007

8:45 Updates and developments –very brief:

- draft IMST performance measures
- 2007-2009 pending IMST budget
- 2007 Legislature and committee assignments
- Other items

9:00 Independent IMST Projects

Updates on the Urban/Rural Residential (Bob H.) and Eastern Oregon Resources (Carl Y.) project reports

9:15 Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring: ecological indicators – Nancy Molina

General discussion of subcommittee's proposed approach to draft report

10:00 IMST Operations (*any thing not addressed in the morning will be held over for the afternoon after the bull trout discussion if time permits*)

1. 2007 Co-Chairs – nominations and elections for 2007 Co-Chairs
2. IMST Charter and Operating Procedures – review
3. Suggestions for increasing IMST work efficiency – review and discussion of suggestions proposed by technical support staff
4. Work plan for 2007 including the end of the current biennium

11:45 Public comment

12:00 Break to retrieve lunches

- 12:15 LUNCH - brown bag discussion with Dr. Fred Swanson, USDA Forest Service PNW Research Station, on Historical Range of Variability (HRV) and biodiversity management
- 1:15 Team Review of the Clackamas River Bull Trout Reintroduction Feasibility Assessment – Bob Hughes
- 4:45 Public comment
- 5:00 Adjourn

A brief public comment period will be available at designated times. Written comments may also be submitted at the meeting or sent to Kathy Maas-Hebner, Dept of Forest Science, OSU, Corvallis, OR 97331 or to imst@fsl.orst.edu

Reasonable accommodations will be provided as needed for individuals requesting assistive hearing devices, sign language interpreters or large-print materials. Individuals needing these types of accommodations may call Ryan Hink at 541-737-6551 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

MINUTES
Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team
January 18, 2007

Forest Science Lab, West Conference Room
Oregon State University
Corvallis OR 97331

Members in Attendance:

Neil Christensen
Carlton Yee
Nancy Molina (by phone; Co-Chair)
Carl Schreck (Co-Chair)
Vic Kaczynski (by phone)
Bob Hughes
Michael Harte

Members Absent: none

Others Attending:

Kathy Maas-Hebner, OSU
Susie Dunham, OSU
Fred Swanson, USFS
Gordon Reeves, USFS (briefly)
Dan Shively, USFS (by phone)
Brad Goehring, USFWS (by phone)

AUDIO TAPES OF THIS MEETING ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OREGON WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT BOARD (contact Bev Goodreau (503) 986-0187) OR THE IMST (contact Ryan Hink (541) 737-6551).

January 18, 2007

Public meeting

Carl Schreck convened the meeting at 8:38 AM and asked anyone with a potential conflict of interest to bring it to the Team's attention for discussion. No one declared a potential conflict.

AGENDA – The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES – November 2006 minutes were adopted as presented.

FUTURE MEETINGS

February 23

March 21 & 22

April 25 & 26

May 16 & 17

The Team discussed holding either the April or May meeting in Salem while the legislature is meeting.

UPDATES AND DEVELOPMENTS

- *Draft IMST Performance Measures:*

Schreck, Harte, and Maas-Hebner met with Tom Byler (OWEB) to discuss development of draft performance measures for the IMST. Byler indicated that performance measures would provide a useful tool for communicating IMST operations to the state legislature. Byler also indicated that IMST performance measures would likely be integrated with OWEB's performance measures and the Team would be expected to report to OWEB on annual IMST performance. Byler plans to share IMST performance measures with his staff and several members of the legislature serving on committees linked to IMST work and suggested that the IMST discuss performance measures with the GNRO.

The Team engaged in a general discussion on how to evaluate each individual's work and the performance of the IMST as a whole. Schreck suggested that the Team conduct internal performance reviews to assess Team member work levels, efficiency, and needs. The Team agreed to do such an internal review and to discuss individual team member work and other personnel issues during an executive session at the March 2007 meeting. Afterward in the public meeting the Team will discuss work plans for the end of the biennium and for the next biennium. Prior to the March meeting each member should evaluate the quantity of time spent on IMST work, the quantity of time spent on administrative work, the quality of their efforts, and how to improve Team efficiency.

ACTION ITEM: Schreck will contact Byler and John Cassady to discuss an MOU between OSU and OWEB that allows the IMST to function through the university.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM (March): Executive session to review Team member and staff performance and work efficiency.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM (March): Development of work plan for upcoming year.

- *2007-2009 Pending IMST Budget:* Within the Governor's proposed 2007-2009 budget, the IMST's budget is \$614,600 for the biennium. There may be an opportunity to request additional funds later in the legislative session and OWEB will work with the IMST to examine the likelihood of that possibility.
- *2007 Legislature and Committee Assignments:* The Team had a general discussion on the House and Senate committees and some of the legislators to contact. Molina will also visit with Byler for additional information on whom to contact.

ONGOING PROJECTS AND REVIEWS

Urban & Rural Residential– Hughes

Dunham is working on text and figure revisions for science question 1 and will attend the Urban Ecology and Conservation Symposium in Portland on January 22nd. Harte has agreed to review the current text of science question 3. Dunham expects to have a review draft of question 1 by 1 March for the subcommittee.

Eastern Oregon Resources – Carl Yee

Maas-Hebner is reviewing and condensing portions of the draft and plans to propose a new set of science questions to the subcommittee in order to help focus and streamline the report.

RESTORATION EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING: ECOLOGICAL INDICATORS

Molina asked the Team for feedback on the spectrum of topics covered in the outline of a draft document. Team discussion of the outline included but was not limited to term usage/definitions (e.g., high-level indicators), what indicators measure, structural vs. functional indicators, monitoring outcomes, choice of indicators, issues of scale, uncertainty in ecological knowledge, and the use of reference conditions. Molina invited Team members to send her their thoughts on various issues related to indicators.

Harte called the Team's attention to a thesis completed by an OSU employee for the Oregon Plan in 2000 and suggested that much of the introductory text appropriate for the current IMST report was contained within it and substantial overlap may be present between IMST's discussion and the thesis. Christensen indicated he was unclear regarding the audience and goal of the document from the IMST perspective and called for Team discussion on how the IMST should approach this and similar requests from OWEB. The Team discussed the target audience for the materials, how that audience might use materials provided by the IMST, how this IMST report might differ from past documents generated by other individuals and groups, and the intent of the original request from OWEB. The Team discussed ideas and a general plan for framing a draft document but acknowledged there was still significant ambiguity regarding objectives of the document. Hughes and Schreck suggested the subcommittee draft a 'checklist' of objectives for the IMST report and ask for feedback from Greg Sieglitz (OWEB) to determine if answers to those questions would address OWEB's needs. The subcommittee agreed to send Sieglitz a document outline and key questions.

ACTION ITEM: Molina will contact Sieglitz for further clarification on the focus of the ecological indicators report.

IMST OPERATIONS

- *2007 Co-Chairs – nominations and elections for 2007 Co-Chairs*
Hughes nominated Schreck and Molina as co-chairs, seconded by Yee. The Team voted unanimously to keep Schreck and Molina in their current co-chair positions (i.e., Internal – Schreck; External –Molina).
- *IMST Charter and Operating Procedures – review*
Schreck suggested a minor edit to specify the number of Team members (two) that constitutes a work group. The Team unanimously agreed to approve the Charter with this minor modification.
- *Suggestions for increasing IMST work efficiency – review and discussion of suggestions proposed by technical support staff*
The Team discussed the intent of an informal document generated by Maas-Hebner and Dunham to streamline the process associated with subcommittee production of IMST reports and reviews. Christensen suggested that the document prepared by the support staff be kept on the IMST secure website so that Team members can revisit as needed. Harte and Molina expressed concerns about limiting e-mail conversations regarding draft documents. Schreck suggested that initial discussions or disagreements be resolved within smaller groups and only bring the whole issue to the Team if resolution cannot be reached.

ACTION ITEM: Schreck and Maas-Hebner will make revisions suggested by the Team.

- *Work plan for 2007 including the end of the current biennium*
The Team discussed general plans for moving towards completion of the Urban and Eastside Monitoring Indicators reports and postponed further discussion to the March 2007 meeting.

HISTORICAL RANGE OF VARIABILITY and BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT.

Dr. Fred Swanson, US Forest Service, gave a briefing on the use of historical range of variability (HRV) to manage forest biodiversity. Swanson covered alternative conceptual frameworks to forest land management including agricultural (plantations), conservation biology (species protection), and ecosystem dynamics, and their application by various private and public interests and plans.

Swanson presented three examples (Coos Bay, Blue River Landscape Study, British Columbia) of HRV application in forestry settings at local, landscape, and regional spatial scales. Swanson also summarized current social sciences research on public perceptions and knowledge about HRV and his thoughts on the future of HRV in public land management.

The Team entered into a discussion with Swanson about HRV that covered but was not limited to the following topics: definition of what is considered ‘historical’ in Oregon, application of HRV once historical conditions have been defined, repetition (or not) in disturbance regimes, the

role of public awareness in land management, and use of the writers in residence program at the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest as an outreach tool.

TEAM REVIEW OF THE CLACKAMAS RIVER BULL TROUT REINTRODUCTION FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The Team began a page by page review of the draft document prepared by the subcommittee. Dan Shively (USFS) and Brad Goerhing (USFWS) joined the discussion by phone and answered questions from Team members regarding but not limited to the feasibility study, past fish reintroductions and adaptive management, bull trout populations, and the Clackamas River basin. The Team accepted the draft pending the revisions discussed in the meeting. The Team members present (Molina absent from vote) approved the draft as discussed. The Team will review the revised document prior to the review being issued to ODFW.

ACTION ITEM: Hughes will incorporate and address comments and send to the Team for final approval (by the end of next week). Kaczynski will draft additional material for one section as discussed at the meeting. Maas-Hebner will draft a transmittal letter.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM