



Minutes of the March 18th, 2019 Council Meeting at the  
Sandy Watershed Learning Center

Present:

Steve Wise  
Melissa Cannell  
Luke Johnson  
Steve Rayne  
Alan L'Hommedieu  
Janet Davis  
Roy Iwai  
Larry Zabel

Erin Law  
Howard Schaller  
Julie DiLeone  
Matt Moreland  
Ben Walzack  
Gerald Murphy  
Janet Davis

Steve Rayne called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. After introductions, the minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and updated. Approval was moved by Alan L'Hommedieu, seconded by Janet Davis. Minutes were approved

**Council Development**

**Board Committees** –please sign up for committees, and consider volunteering to coordinate meetings.

**5 -Year Vision/goals**

- **OWEB self Assessment** – online version sent out, fill out what you can, will inform next discussion during retreat.
- **Camp Collins Strategy Review 4/19-20** –review five year strategy from 2015 and integrate equity into work

**Staff Transitions** –Sara on maternity leave returning in September, Melissa in Alaska from April-September, Anna covering Sara's leave, Rio is new Assistant for events and Smackdown this summer. Patagonia staff member coming for 6 week internship August-September.

**Employee Handbook** -Please review and send any comments to Steve

**Funding Update –**

*Salmon Safe/Kelly Dam*

- Resources Legacy Fund \$75k phase II

*Sandy-Salmon*

- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Restoration and Enhancement \$67,000 (resubmitted)
- Clackamas SWCD Implementation request -TBD

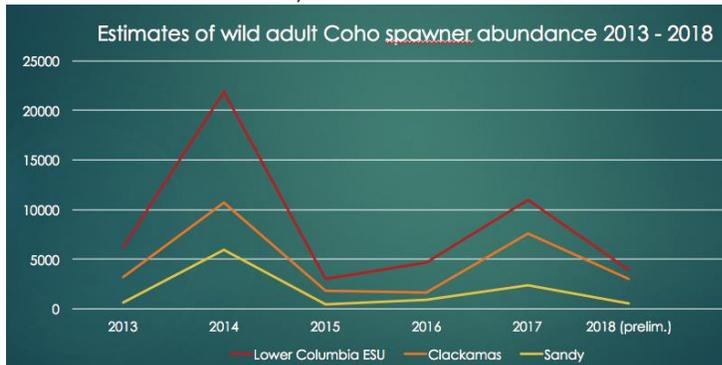
### Delta Restoration

- National Forest Foundation \$30k approved (out of \$46,222 requested)
- OWEB not funded
- Metro pre-application -not invited

### Learning Moment: 2018 Fish Return Numbers for Sandy River Ben Walczak, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

#### *Coho wild adult returns*

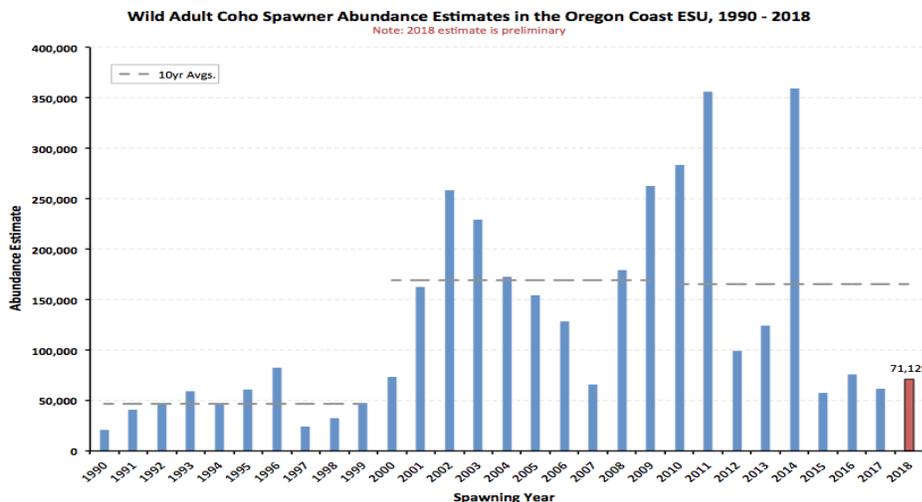
2018 numbers down, 520 total adults counted in the Sandy for 2018.



2014 high returns drove ten-year average (>2000),

A lot of the larger return years have been recent, which is promising, however the past few years represent another down cycle, but not as bad as the '90's.

Overall, returns in the Sandy are better than the coast or statewide returns.



#### *Winter Steelhead Broodstock program*

The Oregon Plan for Salmon in the late '90's changed harvest regulations, followed by habitat improvements in the early '00's, resulted in greater fish returns (see graph above). Between 2000-2002, the broodstock program converted from using out-of-basin stock to in-basin stock occurs. From 2003-2007, Winter steelhead were collected from Marmot Trap

and spawned. Since the removal of the Marmot Dam starting with the 2008 to the present, with a few years' exception due to litigation, Winter steelhead anglers have collected up to 50 broodstock (male or female) which ODFW staff then integrate with fish returning to Sandy Hatchery. Steelhead are live spawned, tagged, and released back into the river.

All the hatchery fish in the Sandy are produced in Sandy, except summer steelhead.

#### *Spring Chinook Broodstock program*

After the removal of the Marmot Dam, 70% of hatchery produced fish were straying upstream of the former dam site. ODFW established acclimation ponds near Bull Run and set up weirs at the mouth of the Salmon and Zigzag weirs to sort hatchery from wild fish. This process has been successful to the point of reducing the stray rate to 3.2-7.8% in 2018, below the 10% legal limit. 2018 was the first year without the weirs and stray rates remained low. Prior to the removal of the Marmot Dam the hatchery released 400,000 Chinook smolts annually. After dam removal, to achieve the mandated stray rates, the hatcher reduced the release to 132,000 smolts, but will increase this year to 200,000 to improve angling opportunities. ODFW will monitor outcomes with snorkel surveys and anticipates stray rates will remain below the 10% threshold.

Average Chinook returns are 2500, however the forecast for the coming year is lower. Research has shown that releasing leaner smolts encourages more robust 4 year returns, than fatter smolts which tend to return in three years. ODFW staff observed lots of early spawning this year, although 2015 was the earliest year on record for winter steelhead.

### **Project updates**

#### **Clean Water Retrofit**

Katie Holzer collected water volume data from both treated and control parking lots indicating strong reduction in outflow in treated (rain garden) parking lots.

It's currently unclear whether MHCC will accept current funding to finish parking lots G and H. If they don't, the funding goes away.

Chris Gorsek is taking a proposal to the state to get state funding to repave parking lots as well as legislative recognition of college's unique achievement in being the first community college to attain Salmon Safe certification.

#### **Alma Memorial Garden**

Melissa secured \$1,000 through National Garden Club via the Powell Valley Garden Club. The University of Utah alternative spring break program spent a morning weeding the ivy slope and mulching it in preparation for fall planting.

#### **Sandy Salmon Floodplain Reconnection**

Still needs hundreds of logs preferably with rootwads for construction. Mr. Tree in Happy Valley, from an ad on Craigslist may have a supply of rootwads, but at a cost. Some logs from Clackamas County have been secured. The 60% design was recently completed, and most permit applications submitted. Seven construction firms came to pre-RFP tour in the snow. SACE has approved leaving levee material on the floodplain at a huge cost savings.

## **Outreach**

Recent events include the bilingual planting at the Delta, several other Delta events, MHCC class tour, club fair, and Beaver Creek plantings. Overall numbers are lower than last year, due in part to lower response on campus to offered presentations, etc. and due to a shift in outreach emphasis to social media.

## **Equity Assessment Elements**

Staff are in the process of identifying an appropriate assessment for the Council. We have gaps in tracking data, that we need for funders. Race is a key indicator b/c disparities are the greatest.

## **Grande Ronde Cultural Summit**

Roy described this event as an eye opening cultural experience, tribes trying to rebuild their culture after generations of suppression and large gaps in continuity. Council members discussed how to respectfully engage more with the tribes.

## **City of Sandy WWTP Update**

Mayor of Sandy was receptive to policy committee recommendations to consider green alternatives (which current engineering team had not considered) as part of Waste Water Treatment Plant construction plan. Recommendations included developing a stormwater management plan, emphasizing green infrastructure where feasible, and potential re-use/wetland treatment for effluent. There were no updates on the temperature study, which is a major driving factor in whether preferred alternative will meet DEQ requirements.

## **MHCC Retrofit**

Funding has been secured to complete construction in lots G and H this summer, however the college is experiencing a significant deficit and is concerned how it might look to the public to proceed with construction when they are making cuts. Partners are currently awaiting a decision from the college. If they decide not to proceed this summer, project funding will be lost.

## **Upcoming Council Meeting and Events**

### **Council Meetings:**

- Board Retreat – April 19-20 tentatively
- **Note of change** – May 20<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Monday is Memorial Day)

## **MHCC Earth Day Creek Cleanup**

Friday April 19th 10:00AM–1:00PM meet at fisheries on campus

## **Beaver Creek Brunch\* - Register on [Eventbrite](#) or Facebook @Sandywatershed**

*Saturday May 4th, 10:30AM-12:30PM Skyland Pub*

## **Sandy River Delta Eco-Blitz - Register on [Eventbrite](#) or Facebook @Sandywatershed**

**Contact Bill if you are interested in leading a group! [bill@sandyriver.org](mailto:bill@sandyriver.org)**

Saturday May 18th, Sandy River Delta Park Troutdale exit 18 off Hwy 84

First session from 9:00-11:30AM, second session from 12:00-2:30PM, birders meet at 7:00AM