Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team
Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds

Executive Session
March 15, 2007

REVISED -- Public Meeting Agenda
March 15 & 16, 2007

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Thursday March 15, 2007
8:30 – 10:00 AM – **Executive Session**. This is a closed session to allow the members of the IMST and technical support staff to discussion personnel issues.

PUBLIC MEETING:
Thursday March 15, 2007

10:30 Convene Meeting –Carl Schreck
Adopt agenda
Adopt February minutes
Set tentative meeting dates: July & August 2007

10:45 Updates and developments –very brief:
- 2007-2009 pending IMST budget
- meetings with key legislators
- March Core Team meeting
- Other items

11:30 Independent IMST Projects
- *Indicators and status/trends in restoration effectiveness monitoring* – Nancy Molina
  Review progress made on the draft report, review and adopt an outline for posting on the Team's website.
- *Urban and Rural Residential areas* – Bob Hughes
  Review and adopt an outline, including science questions, for posting on the Team's website.

12:00 Public Comment

12:15 Lunch – on your own

1:00 Independent IMST projects continued

- *Central and Eastern Oregon Resources* – Carl Yee
  Review and adopt new and revised science questions proposed by the subcommittee. The Team may or may not approve new/revised questions for posting its website at this meeting.

1:30 Review and re-adopt IMST preface used for technical reports – Schreck
The IMST has included a preface in previous technical report covering scientific principles and describing a landscape perspective in natural resource management. This will be an opportunity for the Team to review and update the information contained within it.

2:30 IMST draft Performance Framework – Michael Harte
Review and possibly adopt a draft performance framework for the IMST to use internally

3:00 ODFW's draft Rogue River Spring Chinook Conservation Plan – Kevin Goodson and Bruce McIntosh (ODFW). ODFW will formally request the IMST to review the draft conservation plan. The IMST may decide to accept or decline the review at this meeting or defer the decision until April.

3:15 Future ODFW conservation plans – Kevin Goodson and Bruce McIntosh (ODFW). Informational item to notify the IMST of possible review requests in the upcoming biennium.

3:30 Work Plans – Schreck
The Team will discuss work plans for the current and the next biennium. Discussion will include but is not limited to, current and projected workload and project timelines, prioritization of independent projects, FTE allocation for the next biennium, and scientific and technical needs of the Oregon Plan and future independent IMST projects. Discussion will resume Thursday morning.

4:15 Public comment

4:30 Adjourn

Friday, March 16, 2007

8:30 Reconvene meeting – Carl Schreck

Current and future work plans and priorities– Schreck

11:45 Public Comment

12:00 Adjourn

MINUTES
Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team
March 15 and 16, 2007

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

Members in Attendance:
Neil Christensen
Carlton Yee
Nancy Molina (Co-Chair)
Carl Schreck (Co-Chair)
Vic Kaczynski
Bob Hughes
Michael Harte

Members Absent: none

Others Attending:
Kathy Maas-Hebner, OSU
Marganne Allen, ODF
Irene Schoppy, OSU
Jay Charland, DLCD
Kevin Goodson, ODFW
Bruce McIntosh, ODFW

AUDIO TAPES OF THIS MEETING ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OREGON WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT BOARD (contact Bev Goodreau (503) 986-0187) OR THE IMST (contact Irene Schoppy (541) 737-7612).

March 15, 2007 Public meeting

Carl Schreck convened the meeting at 10:40 AM and asked anyone with an actual or a potential conflict of interest to bring it to the Team's attention for discussion. Hughes indicated that he may have a potential conflict in the near future because he may be contracted by ODFW to prepare a manuscript. After discussion the Team agreed unanimously that Hughes did not have a conflict of interest.

AGENDA – The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES – February 2007 minutes were adopted as presented.

FUTURE MEETINGS

April 25 & 26
May 17 (in Salem)
June 27 & 28
July 30 & 31

UPDATES AND DEVELOPMENTS

- *2007-2009 Pending IMST budget*:

  Molina indicated that the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee for Natural Resources will be considering OWEB's budget beginning March 20. IMST will make its budget presentation to the Subcommittee on March 21 or 26. On March 19, Molina will be meeting with the Subcommittee Chair, Senator Devlin, to briefly discuss the IMST and its proposed budget for the next biennium.

- *2007 Legislative session*:

  Molina testified before the House Committee on Energy and the Environment on March 14. During the testimony, Molina gave the Committee background information on the IMST, how it operates, and the type of products it produces. She indicated that the response from the Committee including that from the Chair, Rep. Jackie Dingfelder and one member, Rep. Bob Jenson, was very favorable and supportive of the work the IMST does for the State of Oregon. Next week, Molina along with Sue Knapp (GNRO) will meet with Rep. Dingfelder about the possibility of the Committee taking the role as the House Committee the IMST will report to over the next two years.

- *March Oregon Plan Core Team meeting:*

  Molina attended the March 13 Core Team meeting. State agencies are discussing identifying and adopting cross-agency high-level indicators, with a target date of May 2008 to put an indicator plan together. Molina feels that the IMST's draft indicator report is really aimed at informing the Core Team and agency managers rather than agency technical staff already versed in the used of indicators.

- *OSU Clerical Support:*

  Maas-Hebner indicated that Ryan Hink resigned his position with the Department of Forest Science and will no longer be providing clerical support to the IMST. Because the College of Forestry is considering reorganizing its departments, the position will not be

immediately filled, however, Irene Schoppy with the Cooperative Forest Ecosystem Research program will provide support to the Team for an indefinite amount of time.

- *IMST Executive Session:*

  The IMST held an Executive Session this morning and discussions indicated that formal changes needed to be made to one administrative procedure regarding Team member attendance at workshops, meetings, and conferences. The Team reiterated the discussion during the public meeting and concluded that individual members should request Team approval for billing hours to attend any non-IMST meeting, conference, or workshop they may want to attend in partial fulfillment of their IMST duties. The member must be able to articulate how the event will best serve the needs of the IMST. Hughes moved to accept the procedure as proposed. The motion was seconded by Kaczynski and passed unanimously (all members present).

- *Other items:*

  Schreck spoke with ODFW Director, Virgil Moore, at the Oregon American Fisheries Society meeting about the IMST and Moore would like to meet with the Co-Chairs to discuss the work of the IMST in more depth.

ACTION ITEM: Schreck and Molina will schedule a time with Moore to discuss IMST.

ONGOING INDEPENDENT PROJECTS AND REVIEWS

- *Indicators and Status & Trends in Restoration Effectiveness Evaluations – Molina*

  Molina indicated that not much additional work has been done on the draft except going through additional literature Team members sent the subcommittee after last month's Team meeting. Harte and Hughes will work together to complete the section on technical and analytical aspects of using indicators and status and trends data. Christensen is determining whether or not additional case studies can be incorporated into the report. The Team discussed the report's targeted audience and what type of references would be most useful. The Team discussed and edited a proposed outline that will be posted on the IMST's web site. Yee moved to approve the outline in concept and the edits agreed to during the discussion. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously (all members present).

ACTION ITEM: Molina will edit the outline as directed by the Team and craft an introductory paragraph.

ACTION ITEM: Maas-Hebner will post the amended outline on the Team's website.

- *Urban & Rural Residential– Hughes*

  The Team discussed a draft report outline that will be posted on the IMST's website. Discussion included overall content and scope of the report and the need for added detail to the outline version to be posted. Science Question 2 was amended to include "or mitigated" after the word rehabilitated. It was moved and seconded to accept the web outline including the discussed edits. The motion carried unanimously (all members present).

ACTION ITEM: Hughes and Dunham will modify the outline as approved by the Team and will post it on the Team's website.

- *Eastern Oregon Resources – Yee*

  Yee introduced the proposed science question revisions. The Team discussed the questions and general outline presented by the subcommittee. Edits and organizational suggestions were made. The Team also discussed the content that should be included on a web version and whether it should follow the format used for the urban report. It was moved and seconded to adopt the new and revised science questions. The motion carried unanimously (all members present). It was also moved and seconded to adopt a conceptual version for the Team's website based on today's discussion and final Team approval over e-mail. The motion was passed unanimously (all members present).

ACTION ITEM: Maas-Hebner will modify the draft version according to Team discussions and prepare a version for the web similar to that for the urban report. Team members will have a chance to okay it prior to posting.

IMST's DRAFT PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK - Harte

The Team discussed the draft performance framework for adoption as an internal evaluation tool. The Team agreed that the framework should be posted on the IMST's website, with the indication that it is an internal and voluntary document only. The framework will be instituted in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007. A motion made and seconded to adopt the framework was passed unanimously (all members present). Molina said that that the Core Team expressed interest in the framework and would like the IMST present it at the May 1 meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Harte and Maas-Hebner will edit the framework as indicated by the Team, crafting an introduction and posting the framework on the Team's web site

ACTION ITEM: Harte will attend the May 1 Core Team meeting to present and discuss the performance framework.

IMST REPORT PREFACE

The Team reviewed the IMST preface used in its technical reports. Discussion included the purpose of a preface, and the desire and need to include historical background and state statute information in each report (moving it to an appendix was suggested). The Team agreed in general that the current preface was too long and needed to be rewritten and discussed at the next Team meeting. Molina suggested writing a unique preface for each report, with verbiage from the new general brochure and the current preface placed in an appendix.

ACTION ITEM: Kaczynski and Molina will work on editing and condensing the preface and include suggestions on what belongs in the preface and what could be put in an appendix. Schreck and Hughes will rewrite the three concluding bullets.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM: Team will review and discuss the revised preface prepared by Kaczynski and Molina at the April meeting.

ODFW's ROGUE SPRING CHINOOK CONSERVATION PLAN – Kevin Goodson, ODFW

Goodson presented a formal review request to the IMST. ODFW asked that the IMST review the scientific underpinnings of the agency's draft document titled *Native Fish Conservation Plan for the Spring Chinook Salmon: Rogue Species Management Unit*. ODFW would like to have IMST's comments by the end of May. Goodson indicated that the timeline is fairly firm in order to incorporate Team comments and suggested changes prior to submitting the document to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for adoption in July 2007. ODFW staff could also be present at the IMST's April meeting to discuss the plan and to answer questions. The Team deferred making a decision on whether or not to accept the review until the next morning.

OREGON SALMON AND STEELHEAD RECOVERY PLANS – Bruce McIntosh, ODFW

McIntosh brought the Team up to date on current efforts to prepare federal recovery plans for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations in Oregon. The efforts are cooperative between the State of Oregon and NOAA Fisheries. The federal recovery plans, once adopted, will also serve as the State's conservation plans for those species under the Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP). Under the NFCP, ODFW is required to solicit technical reviews from the IMST on each conservation plan. McIntosh presented the IMST with a formal request from ODFW to review five upcoming recovery plans (Mid Columbia steelhead, Lower Columbia River Recovery Domain, Upper Willamette Recovery Domain, Southern Oregon-Northern California Coho, and Snake Recovery Domain) and estimated timeframes for the draft documents.

The Team discussed the importance of the recovery plans to the Oregon Plan and the value of an independent review by the IMST during the planning process. The Team members expressed concern about the amount of time each review would require and the lack of future available funds to secure additional technical support staff to assist on reviewing the plans which are expected to be lengthy. McIntosh indicated that ODFW may be able to help with funding needs and the Team should provide the agency with a ballpark amount to secure additional staffing. The Team deferred making a decision on whether or not to accept the reviews until the next morning.

Public Comment.

- Jay Charland, DLCD, introduced himself to the Team and briefly described the agency's interest in the role land use planning may have in salmon recovery. He indicated that DLCD would also like to have time at a future meeting to address the IMST and discuss issues DLCD is facing and to open a dialogue with the IMST.
- Irene Schoppy, OSU, introduced herself to the IMST as the Team's new clerical support.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM

March 16, 2007 Public meeting

Schreck convened the meeting at 8:45 AM and opened discussion on developing work plans for the current independent projects.

IMST WORK PLAN

Urban and Rural Residential

Hughes updated the Team on progress made on the draft report and estimated that the entire report should be in draft form for the Team's review at the end of the summer. Schreck asked that the subcommittee prepare a detailed work plan including milestones for the Team to see at the next public meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Hughes and Dunham will prepare a work plan with milestones for the April meeting.

Eastern Oregon Resources

Team discussion about the draft report included the loss of technical expertise over the years as appointments ended for members with eastside experience and knowledge, particularly those that began the project. Maas-Hebner will reorganize the draft according to the newly adopted science questions. At that point she will be able to help the subcommittee determine what sections still need to be worked on and who would be the best Team member to do so. Christensen agreed to serve on the subcommittee and help address the section on dryland crop systems. Schreck asked that the subcommittee prepared a detailed work plan similar to that of the urban report.

ACTION ITEM: Yee and Maas-Hebner will prepare a work plan with milestones for the April meeting.

Indicators & Status/Trends use in Effectiveness Evaluation

(and Scale issues related to effectiveness monitoring)

Molina updated the Team on the progress made on the draft indicators report since the last meeting. She expects a complete draft for the Team to review around May. The other report the Team agreed to prepare will cover spatial and temporal scale issue in aggregating data to determine restoration effectiveness. The subcommittee still needs to flesh this report out, but Molina expects that it will be a shorter document with a narrower focus than the indicators report.

ACTION ITEM: Molina will prepare a work plan for the indicators report (and possible the scales issues report) with milestones for the April meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Work plans and milestones of the reports mentioned above will be discussed at the April meeting.

ODFW's Rogue Spring Chinook Conservation Plan

The Team continued discussion of ODFW's request for the IMST to review the Chinook Conservation Plan. Team members stressed that the review is important but the larger reports already in progress have to have priority this year in order to finish them. A smaller subcommittee was proposed for the review to allow Hughes and Dunham to continue work on the urban report.

The motion was made and seconded to accept the review request. Team passed the motion unanimously (Molina absent from vote). Kaczynski and Schreck will be on the subcommittee with Kaczynski serving as chair. The Team agreed that the review could be completed within the timeline outlined by ODFW but it will not be a lengthy, in-depth review, but instead focus on major omissions and errors.

ACTION ITEM: Kaczynski will draft an acceptance letter noting the level of detail the Team expects the review to cover.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: ODFW will present more details at the April meeting. A rough draft of comments will be ready for discussion at the April meeting. The final draft will be reviewed and adopted at the May meeting.

Oregon Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plans

The Team revisited ODFW's request for the IMST to review a series of salmon and steelhead recovery plans that will be completed over the next two years. Team members stressed that the reviews are important to the Oregon Plan but the Team lacks sufficient staff to accomplish the review. The Team discussed how much and what form of support would be needed in order to conduct the reviews. They decided that a full time Faculty Research Assistant (FRA) was the appropriate level of additional support for the two-year period. Accepting and completing each individual review would be contingent upon securing additional funds to hire one additional FRA and possibly more funds to increase Team member compensation level.

The motion was made and seconded to accept the review request in concept, contingent upon securing additional funds to provide support for the reviews. Each individual review would be considered separately and accepted on its own merits when the document is ready for review. The Team passed the motion unanimously (Molina absent from vote).

ACTION ITEM: Maas-Hebner, Schreck, and Molina will craft a response letter to ODFW outlining the Team's concerns about the potential additional workload and the need for additional funds to provide support for the reviews. The letter will also address the contingencies placed on the reviews. Molina will address additional funding possibilities with ODFW, OWEB, and the GNRO.

There were no public comments made.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM