

Oregon Ocean Science Trust Conference Call Minutes
June 21, 2022 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Zoom Video Conference
Department of State Lands
Salem, Oregon

Meeting documents are posted on the Oregon Ocean Science Trust (OOST) webpage:

<https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/OOST/Pages/OOST.aspx>

Recorded meeting can be viewed at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhZ1Xuog0OE&list=PLZ-e_V4Lk-NWkRiVj7R7ealQEoxXfVYBB&index=3&ab_channel=OregonDepartmentofStateLands

OOST Members on conference call (Voting and non-voting)

Chair Laura Anderson, Representative David Gomberg, Senator Dick Anderson, Christine Moffitt, Krystyna Wolniakowski, Steve Marx

Interested parties on the call

Nadia Gardner, Oregon Ocean Conservation Fund; Dave Fox, ODFW; Charlie Plybon, Surfrider Foundation; Bob Bailey; Lisa DeBruyckere, Creative Resource Strategies; Andy Lanier, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development; Aaron Galloway; Leif Rasmussen; Karina Nielson, Oregon Sea Grant; Greg McMurray; Dave Fox; Tom Calvanese, Oregon State University

Department of State Lands (DSL) Administrative Support

Arin Smith, Linda Safina-Massey

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Board members were recognized, and an overview of the agenda and the purpose of the workshop was provided.

Overview of Workshop

Lisa DeBruyckere explained that the purpose of the workshop was to discuss recommendations from the OOST Nearshore Subcommittee, which provided the Board with a suite of priority nearshore research project ideas to consider for \$1,000,000 in competitive grant funding in 2023.

Lisa presented a crosswalk document for the Board to review that illustrated key nearshore concepts in HB5202, the 2016 Oregon Ocean Summit, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Nearshore Strategy, Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan, and the Oregon Global Warming Commission Natural and Working Lands Proposal.

(Please see the You Tube video for the detailed comments and discussion beginning at the 6:18 minute mark.)

Strawman – Legislative Grant

Chair Anderson introduced a strawman of a framework for the \$1,000,000 2023 nearshore research RFP for board consideration and discussion.

- OOST Administration: Retain 10% for administrative overhead associated with RFP process and administration.
- Data Collection: \$600,000 to collect data and information re: habitats and species – e.g., minimum of 4 projects @ \$100,000 each, but no more than 6 projects (provides both flexibility and targets), then allow RFP subcommittee to balance project costs.
- Data Modeling: \$200,000 for projects that do not include data collection but incorporate blue carbon and trophic modeling.
- Data Management: \$100,000 for portals and hub infrastructure to make datasets publicly available. A phased approach was suggested. A total of 10% of the budget would be used to define the project (scope and leverage existing work as well as document how existing software can support archiving and dissemination of information when projects are funded, and how the systems can be integrated and coordinated), and 90% would be used to write the RFP to conduct a pilot project. The last phase would include a rollout of the portal. Board members emphasized the portal should be in a permanent place, use existing platforms versus re-creating the wheel, and is dependable, consistent, and accessible.
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife ROV: An estimated \$50K to \$100K would contribute to acquisition of an ROV for 2023 field season. Board members discussed whether or not the ROV would be acquired regardless of whether or not the OOST provided some funding, whether there may be a different legislative source of funding that could support it, or whether the OOST should consider providing a smaller amount of funding to leverage funding with other organizations. In addition, board members had questions about the deployment schedule, what data the ROV is collecting, and the research plan for the ROV to ensure it aligns with OOST priorities.

Other discussion topics:

- Board members discussed whether nearshore research projects should be considered “one-off” projects versus considering projects for longer term funding. One board member suggested the OOST takes an approach similar to the National Science Foundation, incorporating a weighting factor and asking applicants to describe if shorter term answers can be supported with longer term research. Board members also commented that projects should be of sufficient duration and replicable to account for interannual variability that occurs in ocean systems.
- Board members discussed whether the OOST should consider direct allocations of funding versus disbursing the majority of funding through competitive grants. It was noted that more information needed to be acquired to understand the mechanisms of direct allocation, that that conflict of interest needed to be avoided. Action item: Laura will explore this issue further for July Board meeting discussion.
- Board members described criteria that should be considered for nearshore research projects:
 - Leverage partnerships and integrate local expertise
 - Fill data gaps to complete coastwide mapping and inventory
 - Fill temporal gaps to maintain whole existing data sets
 - Mandated communications strategy – consider including a project focused on communicating the results of the research
 - Management nexus - Recipient would articulate the research questions they are trying to answer or that their data could inform
 - Question to frame future outcomes (e.g., long-term versus short-term monitoring) – 2 versus 4 years of data
 - Topics described in legislation – kelp, eelgrass, sea otters, nearshore ecosystem
 - Projects that can leverage funding – extra points in evaluation
 - Data is accessible and usable in a format that the public can access and can be used for decision making. Access to code and open science approaches.
 - Public engagement – citizen science – science that engages the public (collection).

(Please see the You Tube video for the detailed comments and discussion beginning at the 1:25:20 minute mark.)

Public Comment

Charlie Plybon, Surfrider Foundation; Tom Calvanese, Oregon State University, and Bob Bailey, Elakha Alliance; Greg McMurray, and Andy Lanier, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

(Please see You Tube video for detailed conversation beginning at the 1:42:35 time mark)

Adjourn

Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:27AM