

SB 839 SVF Task Force Meeting

Monday December 1, 2014, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
3rd Floor Rogue Conference Room
Oregon Water Resources Department
725 Summer St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

TASK FORCE ON SEASONALLY VARYING FLOWS (SVF) MEMBERS PRESENT

Leslie Bach, JR Cook (by phone), Katie Fast, Tim Hardin, Bill Jaeger (by phone), Valerie Kelly, Richard Kosesan, Mark Landauer, Jerome Rosa (for Curtis Martin), Paul Matthews, Kimberley Priestley, Eric Quaempts (by phone), Gil Riddell, Tracy Rutten, April Snell, Jeff Stone, Joe Furia (representing Joe Whitworth).

TASK FORCE ON GOVERNANCE MEMBERS ALSO ATTENDING

Janet Neuman, Amanda Rich, Brad Taylor, Chris Taylor.

FACILITATION TEAM

Richard Whitman, Office of Governor John Kitzhaber, Convener; Brenda Bateman, Oregon Water Resources; Racquel Rancier, Oregon Water Resources Department; Nancy Salber, Governor's Office, Rachel LovellFord, Water Resources Department.

OBSERVERS

Tom Byler, Scott Jorgenson, Rob Kirschner, Peggy Lynch, Margaret Matter, Amber McKinney, Mateuz Perkowski, Lauren Smith, Adam Sussman.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

- ~ Review next generation of the SVF Matrix and Narrative
- ~ Test for consensus

The audio, agenda, and power points from this meeting are posted on-line:
http://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/pages/SB_839_SVF_Task_Force.aspx,
under the "December 1, 2014" meeting materials.

INTRODUCTION AND AGENDA CHECK

Richard Whitman

PRESENTATION

Brenda Bateman described changes in the matrix and narrative from the previous version. The primary change was to add project impact questions regarding species, project size / hydrology, and sensitive habitat.

DISCUSSION

- Whitman: Jettison 50 percent questions on grounds that this issue would have already been addressed in the water right process. This Task Force is not changing the water availability standard.

- Matthews: Need to think up new hydrology questions as replacements (other option suggested is to remove entirely). Staff will work on new questions to determine whether a project is a "big project on a small stream."
- Snell: Is "sufficient" defined well enough? And, who provides the information to fill in the matrix? Valerie Kelly noted the matrix should be filled out in a collaborative manner between agency and applicant. Whitman added that part of the process would be a pre-application process; this concept is described in the bill and will be fleshed out in rule-making process.
- Priestley: What is the SVF Task Force being asked to vote on? Whitman responded that the purpose of the SVF TF is to establish a concept for a draft that will go to the Rules Advisory Committee (members of this same task force) and will need more work to hammer out the details.
- Quaempts: Explicitly identify who is answering questions, and in what measurement units. Whitman: Determining roles will happen during pre-application process.
- Quaempts: Use a flow chart instead of a matrix. Need more explicit details. Whitman to staff: Put the matrix inside a flowchart that describes broader process.
- Matthews: The idea of a matrix is to determine what level of analysis is needed to write a flow prescription.
- Kosesan: Look at the balance between environmental value of stream and storage of water. Kelly response: You can't strike balance until you go through the matrix. Until you know what the ecological needs are you cannot find balance.
- Snell: OWRC members will need to determine what pieces of information they need to establish SVF prescription. They are coming to the fund to get projects built. The SVF concept is something that sheds light on how ODFW does flow analysis.
- Rutten: Clarification question...does the state evaluate water quality and temperature aspects of these projects, and who participates in Division 33 review? Whitman responded that yes, it is the public interest part of process. DEQ looks at these as part of the wintertime functions of stream. ODFW comments on flow needs for fish.
- Kosesan: How does the matrix fit with the Department's current permitting process? Whitman: We will bring a side-by-side comparison to the group, but are NOT proposing to change the permitting process. We are only looking a SVF prescription.

Make these changes and bring to **next meeting, December 15, 2014.**