Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program Board

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 5th, 2026

Location: ODFW Headquarters - Salem, OR

Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program

Board Member	Staff/Guests:	Ethan Brandt, ODFW
Steve Janego – Representing Recreational Fisheries	Marty Olson, ODFW	Debbie Colbert, ODFW
Tom VanderPlaat – Representing Recreational Fisheries	Sara Hart, ODFW	Shaun Clemens, ODFW
Fred Cholick – Representing Recreational Fisheries	Michele Weaver, ODFW	Ryan Couter, ODFW
Brett Montague – Representing Commercial Troll Fisheries	Bryce Hansen, ODFW	Seth Urbanski, ODFW
Winter Rhodes – Representing the Public	Brent Hinners, ODFW	Jennifer Taylor, ODFW
Tim VonSeggern – Representing Gillnet Fisheries	Levi Simmons, ODFW	Chris Kern, ODFW
Troy Laws – Representing Gillnet Fisheries	Geoffery Gerdes, ODFW	Tom Stahl, ODFW

Call to Order & Introductions

T. VanderPlaat, the Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00am.
All Board members and staff present introduced themselves.

Agenda Approval

Discussion: no discussion
Motion: F. Cholick made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. B. Montague seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

September 2025 Meeting Minutes Review and Approval

Discussion: Please correct September 2024 to March 2025 in minutes approval headline.
Motion: F. Cholick made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting with edits listed above. T. VonSeggern seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Updates

F. Cholick: Snowpack in central/eastern Oregon is 25% of normal. Drought conditions continue, so water for fish is going to be limited. Irrigation districts are already cutting off water in some areas. Just finished Eggs to Fry in the classroom, it was very rewarding and a great time with the kids. This last year through the STEP program they connected with thousands of kids. East Lake is getting Tiger trout to control chub populations. Trout Creek is 35% of the steelhead spawning population in Deschutes, PGE and land trust did a lot of restoration and have proven how amazingly resilient steelhead can be in these streams that may partially dry up. Metolius Pond, Spring Creek kid program working in stream – found a chinook in the creek, great to see how that restoration is working so well.

S. Janego: Feels welcome in his first meeting. He fishes a lot and is well connected with the fishing community. Had a wonderful trip to Newport to go herring fishing – people of all ages and types out there having a great time

- he caught rock fish and lingcod. There were a lot of lingcod being caught and lots of big ones – Should we be worried that the bag limit may be too high and that the fishing pressure may be too high? Alsea steelhead fishing was slow this year, the only place to really catch fish is right at the hatchery. He is going to a clean-up day there and may ask around to see if anyone knows what has changed. Suttle Lake, grass is growing a lot, and a lot of bass are present. Looking forward to relaying what the sport fisherman.

B. Montague: Oregon salmon industry group meeting last week. 2025: Commercial Chinook numbers are above average, coho also about average- commercial fisherman are trying to get better access to this species. Newport has 48% of landings for state. 790 permits for commercial troll, only about 150 of those permits had landings. Average $21,000 per vessel made, but top 10 make about $70,000. Stocks: Columbia tule – 2025 115,000 compared to 118,000 forecasted for 2026. Klamath – 2026 166,000 forecast which has doubled in the last 2 years. Sacramento – 2026 forecast is 300,000 and will have a season for the first time in 3 years. Coho: Columbia – 2026 100,000, coastal coho 218,000 forecast for 2026 which is up; hatchery production is dipping some. Hoping to start fishing in April, fishery seems to be coming back around. They are pushing for a full season instead of the 2 weeks on/2 weeks off schedule done in the past.
F. Cholick: Why are there so many permits issued but so few that land fish? *B. Montague:* They handed out a lot of permits to large vessels that do not use them. Some hang on to them just in case there is disaster relief.
W. Rhodes: Have you looked into mercury levels in Oregon's offshore fish? *B. Montague:* Large mercury content is from large spawners in SW Pacific. The content is very low in our offshore fish.

T. Laws: Season structure is similar from 2025 to 2026. Optimistic for a good year. Pricing is still not good. I would like to have more time on the mainstem if possible. Repair of net pens in Tongue Point is complete – R&E funded. Just started netting for spring Chinook but slow catching still. River full of smelt right now, Chinook will eat smelt. Necanicum fish spawn in his backyard and he caught one this year.

T. VonSeggern: This is his first meeting with the Board. He grew up on fish hatcheries his whole life and fishing. Works as a fireman but also as a commercial fisherman. Big supporter of the hatchery system and knows the value of Oregon's hatcheries.

W. Rhodes: Is currently working with local organizations that are looking at how data centers are affecting water temp and quality. Hoping to have more information soon.

T. VanderPlaat: Does a lot with STEP and Eggs to Fry program. Worked with a local volunteer to build egg displays and they made 72 – they look amazing. North Coast Waterhouse trap cleanout, 57 steelhead in trap, mostly wild but a few hatchery fish. Took some for broodstock, loves to volunteer doing that. Nutrient enrichment tossing carcasses, 80 totes dumped throughout the watersheds. Working with schools to give more Eggs to Fry tanks. NW Steelheaders taught steelhead 101 class, and someone caught a steelhead at the class.
S. Janego: Is the Eggs to Fry program expanding? *T. VanderPlaat:* It is expanding in Washington county; in the metro area there were 200 tanks. Limitation comes in supporting the classroom and the teacher. It is extra effort for the teachers if they don't have the support.

<u>Visit from the Director's Office – Debbie Colbert & Shaun Clemens</u>

D. Colbert: *New Commissioners* – Hugh Morrison worked for USFWS for many years and is retired, brings a lot of experience. Dave Moldal has been an active member of TU and makes great contributions to the Commission. We currently have a full commission of 7 members. Would like to set up an event for the Commission and public boards to get together for a mixer and meet each other.
Legislature – We are having conversations about fees. Worked on fee package that was approved last session, that started Jan 1st. So far, the sales are on par with prior year's sales. Even with the low water year, the good weather may have brought people outside and fishing. Fairly major investment in the hatchery system with a $30 million bond. We have a 1-pager of info that we can share. We are going to keep asking for that money for the foreseeable future. To bring everything in the hatchery system up to standard could take about $200 million. The hatchery resiliency study really helped to prioritize where that money should be going. We are in a good place on

where to direct those investments. For the 2026 legislative session, yesterday HB 4134 passed and will add 1.25% transient lodging tax. That money will all go to fish and wildlife. We have struggled to broaden who is helping to fund fish and wildlife programs, and this will help with that instead of the anglers and hunters fronting that burden. Will $30 million annually to invest in science and actions on the ground, and voluntary conservation. We have done it on the wildlife side, time to do that for the other species as well. People come to Oregon for wildlife viewing and now their money will contribute to conserving that. Also, it helps dedicate funds for livestock lost to wolves. Includes money to OSP for poaching, and urban ecology work, dedicated funds OCRF program to fund grants to support conservation and connecting people with the outdoors.

F. Cholick: In R&E program, 50% of the funds goes to "R" projects which are almost entirely hatchery restoration, in future funding cycles how are those going to work together to prioritize where the bond money goes vs where R&E funds go?
D. Colbert: We have great data on what needs to be done. When we come to R&E we should have a great reason as to why we are prioritizing these projects above others. Surcharge that was going to OHRC now going to hatchery restoration. R&E should be able to see the big picture in the applications that are coming in.
F. Cholick: What is the greatest challenge for department that is not funding related?
D. Colbert: Populations of fish, wildlife and their habitats. Landscape scale challenges, this year with drought and fire season and how those are going to affect populations and their habitats. Trying to hold the dept accountable for long-term solutions. What are these populations going to need from us in the future? On a more people-oriented level, we have got to keep people caring for fish and wildlife. This is legacy that is so important. Connecting with the next generation, and all Oregonians. We are working with I'm Hooked currently and getting a high school fishing competition up and running. Starting with some Portland based school and moving outward, looking at partners to work with. STEP program is a goldmine of wonderful people and wonderful things that are happening. We want to do so much more on the youth side.

S. Janego: Thinking of funding, he is a big fan of dedicated funds, other states use a lot more state funds. What about marketing a message to the public that Oregon is actually doing a lot more than people realize?
D. Colbert: She personally spends a lot of time on social media and people just do not get it. We need to get better at communicating. ODFW is getting a new website that will be more customer friendly. Also, starting internally with a strategy on how we communicate to the public- the work the agency does and why it is important. Explain how lucky we are to live in this state and the opportunities we do have here- that doesn't mean we don't have challenges but take pride in what is going well. Working with partners like Jamba Juice to fund wildlife conservation. Next, they are coming out with something for near shore species. Great at getting the word about fish and wildlife out there. There is a beer company that is giving money for habitat and access programs. We could do something similar for R&E.

B. Montague: Oregon tourism, transient tax is great but how do the people know where that money goes to?
D. Colbert: It will be labelled as going to local wildlife.

T. Laws: When it comes to budgets there needs to be a transformation of where funding actually goes. It is discouraging to see the amount of dollars that seem to be wasted in not actually producing fish and wildlife.
D. Colbert: We are going to be launching the next biennium budgets for 27-29 and Ken Lofink is working on how to communicate where the money is actually going. We are hoping to answer all the questions about tracing the money. We are highly audited and complex agency to administrate.

T. VonSeggern: Can you speak about sea lions? They are costing thousands of dollars for commercial fisherman.
D. Colbert: We have been working with tribes and Washington state to remove them. We have to have federal permits to cull sea lions, and they are not easy to get. We have been doing what we can to mitigate.
S. Clemens: The hot spots of predation that are having impacts on populations, they sometimes take up to 50% of the fish run. The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) was adjusted to take sea lions, but it is very hard to do. Willamette has done good, but Bonneville is a different story. Trying to remove Stellar's now, as well as California sea lions. The estuary has up to 300,000 animals at a time. The MMPA only allows specific animals that have shown to have a significant impact. Hard to prove in the estuary area. Another effort in Washington state is to

look at MMPA due to Harbor seals in Puget sound. Hoping to look at a spatial designation instead of individuals, could help in the Columbia as well.

W. Rhodes: He has been around as an instructor for a long time and has seen Debbie around a lot and that is so great to see. Bonds out, it may not cover all funding, but is there conversation about how to gather funds specifically for R&E in a different way? Costs of everything is going up but R&E is not getting any more money.
D. Colbert: Would like to talk about doing a partnership with an outside entity, there will be vendors out there that will value the mission and connect it to their business. Do not have a perfect answer, but this is something to investigate.

T. VanderPlaat: There has been talk of indexing portion of the license fee instead of a straight up dollar amount -- These Boards would be good to be the focus groups for decisions being made. – Wants to mention what amazing staff members he has worked with. ODFW employees have always been so great at building partnerships. Encourage them to reach out to their local folks to volunteers. – Was on the hatchery resiliency focus group and it was a hard thing to communicate, need to keep working on that. Need to let people communicate that ODFW is not always in control. – He would like the youth license to be bumped up to 17 years old. Pioneer license could be more to cover the entry level budget downfall. – Please don't forget to support the volunteers, and support STEP.
D. Colbert: Thank you. It is amazing what we can accomplish with our volunteers.

S. Clemens: Salmon River hatchery is shutting down; we thought we would be maintaining operating revenue but that did not happen so then production unfortunately had to be reduced. That is a hard thing to communicate.
F. Cholick: Suggest recruiting volunteers to tell the story of the department.
S. Clemens: That is a great idea. The communication team is currently changing. Recognized that we have been bad at telling the story of the department. We would like to work more closely with our outside partners. Volunteers are something he hadn't thought of but will add to the list. There is a lot of change coming and soon we should be seeing more positive messages out there.

Program Update, Emergency Grants, 25/27 Budget Projection Update – M. Olson

2023-25 Program Revenue:

Projected revenue = $4.453 million; Actual = $3.936 million
Commercial earnings total = $289,719

23/25 Roll over projects:

Usually do not roll over, but sometimes due to unforeseen things happen and we must.
- Yellowjacket Lake: Originally delayed for COVID and then for a forest fire. ADA access, parking lot, picnic tables, kiosk, dock with ADA kayak launch. It is now open to fishing.
- Empire Lake: North Bend – concrete poured for dock abutment, and the dock is being built. It should be done this summer.
- Hatchery Bundle- Elk River ponds, bid came back too high and there is still no successful bidder. Brent is working on it. Brent- looking at more favorable construction window, but there are still no bids.

Cycle 3:

Emergency Grants:
- Cloverdale Boat Ramp gate- $5,000, security upgrade was needed ASAP.
- Hughey Creek Acclimation Pond Pump Repair- $2,800, fish are getting ready to get put in and one pump was totally out.

25/27 Projection:
- Original projection was $3.5 million, held back $250,000 in reserve funds, Allocated $3.1 million already in Cycles 1 & 2. That leaves the remaining $98,000 for Cycles 3 & 4.
- Metolius Pond Pavilion project was withdrawn. $22,000 returned to R&E that will be available for Cycle 4.
- License sales are looking good but won't know until after spring sales go through.

S. Janego: Is the reserve fund money invested anywhere? *M. Olson:* Do not know, has not heard anything but can find out.

Cycle 1 & 2 Allocations:
50/50 R vs E split is looking really good. Sport and Commercial split is looking good as well.
The remaining $98,049 should all be going to E projects and to Sport projects.

Things to consider:
Funding for later cycles, even if all projects are approved today, we will still have money for Cycle 4. License sales fee increases in the 25/27 biennium – it is still a little unknown how the fee increase will affect license sales.
S. Janego: Would be curious about resident vs non-resident license sales.

- Action Item: Investigate if the reserve funds are invested anywhere.
- Action Item: Breakdown of resident vs non-resident license sales.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Cycle 3 Project Review

25-024 Whetstone Creek Large Wood – Asking for $25,000
Applicant Geoffery Gerdes is online, ODFW Central Point office.
IRT Score = 3.7/5
Discussion: *F. Cholick:* This is on private land, what kind of a commitment from landowners do you have? *Gerdes:* Conservation area of local land slated to be handed over to ODFW in 12-20 years as soon as Knife Rivers mining is done. It is in a trust currently and will not be touched by the mining operations.
S. Janego: Is there a map that shows how much a particular area is receiving in funds vs how many fish are already in the area. Are we tracking where we put the money and how the fish runs are doing? It would be nice to put the money into an area where we can see real improvement and not areas that are already doing really well.
Olson: This is probably tracked at the district level. A lot of areas with poor runs may not have landowner support. Statewide priority maps are a good idea; we are not sure if that exists.
T. Laws: Is Knife River under any obligation to reclaim this site. *Gerdes:* They do have an obligation and are done with work in the area just above this site.
T. Laws: How big is the reach? And how big is the acreage of the lot. *Gerdes:* 1/3-mile stretch of stream, lot is over 100 acres and in a very urbanized area.
T. Laws: There are 3 salmonid species listed. Is it spawning/rearing or passage issues here? *Gerdes:* SONCC coho and Rogue steelhead rearing happen at this site. A little bit of spawning. Also provides floodplain relief from Rogue River when it gets high water, provides a velocity and habitat refuge for fish.
W. Rhodes: Would like to know more about the data, how many fish are coming into creek? Data going back to 2006 was the last time. Has frequency of use been monitored. *Gerdes:* We have not had a trapping event since 2006, there haven't been a lot of habitat changes since then. Would like to do monitoring pre-post restoration monitoring here.
T. Laws: What is the source of the wood being used? *Gerdes:* We have the logs in hand already. Salvaged from a forest fire in southern Oregon. *T. Laws*: Longevity of wood? *Gerdes*: 20–30-year trees, Pondarosa pine is a soft wood, the best longer lasting trees for restoration.
T. VanderPlaat: Any changes to the status of the other permits needed? *Gerdes:* Currently we have floodplain review, we should be hearing back soon with the county. Then we can get the state permit. All other permits are in hand. Fish passage is also cleared and do not need approval due to no channel spanning logs.
S. Janego: Longevity of viability of this stream for salmon, with increasing temperature and decreased flow? *Gerdes:* We have looked into this in this basin, projects like this are hoping to help with the longevity of these salmon bearing streams. Lots of data and cooperation with other agencies for habitat review.

25-025 Phillips Reservoir Tiger Muskellunge Fyke Nets – Asking for $13,291
Applicant Ethan Brandt is online, ODFW LaGrande office.
IRT Score: 4.4/5

S. Janego: Was recently up there fishing and the public was excited about this project.
No other discussion.

25-026 GRWB STEP egg counter – Asking for $4,000
Applicant Levi Simmons is online, ODFW Roseburg office.
IRT: 3.8/5
F. Cholick: Is in favor of anything that supports the STEP program.
T. VanderPlaat: Last cycle we approved the Siuslaw High School project. Is this helping cover that?
Simmons: No, Siuslaw High School is in a different district. This would just provide the facility with better access to counting eggs. *Olson:* It was Munsell Creek STEP facility that was going away in the mid-coast district.
T. Laws: Are there any surplus materials from a different facility that could be used instead? *Simmons:* We have not heard of one of these being available.
S. Janego: This will be used by volunteers and will help them greatly.

Board Discussion, Scoring, and Voting

25-026 GRWB STEP egg counter
Motion: F. Cholick motioned to approve 25-026 for full amount of $4000. S. Janego seconded the motion.
No further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

25-025 Phillips Reservoir Tiger Muskellunge Fyke Nets
Motion: S. Janego motioned to approve 25-025 for full amount of $13,291. B. Montague seconded the motion.
No further discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

25-024 Whetstone Creek Large Wood
Motion: T. VanderPlaat motioned to approve 25-024 for full amount $25,000. F. Cholick seconded the motion.
No further discussion.
Vote: YES – 6, Janego, Laws, VanderPlaat, Montague, Cholick, VonSeggern; NO – 1, Rhodes. Motion passed.

- Leaves $55,758 for Cycle 4 allocations (does not include the $22k returned from withdrawn Metolius Project).

LUNCH BREAK

R&E Sub-committee Report: Allocations per Cycle
T. VanderPlaat: We need to be careful to not spend all the money in Cycle 1, but most projects do come in during Cycle 1.
M. Olson: Figured out that if we spend about 80% in Cycle 1, 5% in Cycle 2, 5% in Cycle 3, 3% in Cycle 4, with a $250k reserve fund, that balances things out nicely.
F. Cholick: At our last sub-committee meeting we codified that this is what we think is the best choice for the group. These are just guideline numbers; it does not have to be a hard and fast rule.
S. Janego: Is there a way to create a focus group of people and see if this is what we should really be doing?
M. Olson: The GMS is publicly accessible so anyone can see what projects are out there.
T. Laws: We denied a lot of projects in Cycle 2, but if those had been Cycle 1 projects would they have been approved? *M. Olson*: In the future we can maybe look at our projection and not hold back as much money, just a lot of uncertainty right now.
T. VonSeggern: Can denied projects reapply? *M. Olson*: Yes, not many do.
T. VanderPlaat: We need to be advocating for more R&E funds. Also, we need to get the word out there that it is not just for ODFW, push for more outside applicants.
T. Laws: Cycle 1 applications need to have a good solid foundation and reason for funding.
F. Cholick: Cycle 1 we also have to weigh the length of a project. If it is going to take 2 years, and is a good project, it should be funded right then.

T. VanderPlaat: Does not want to take any kind of codifying decisions just a guideline we can come back to. The group agrees.

R&E Fund Revenue Projections – Seth Urbanski & Jennifer Taylor

Seth gave an informative presentation on how the R&E Fund projection is generated from both recreational license surcharge revenue and commercial fishing surcharge revenue.

T. VanderPlaat: With the Electronic License System, can you monitor these in real time? Is someone keeping track of that to see how that is going? *Urbanski:* Yes, running monthly recreational license sales is done.
F. Cholick: Projections for this year are holding steady? *Urbanski:* Based on what we have seen in 2026 there are some types of sales that are going up and some going down.
T. Laws: Do fines from un-licensed anglers get put into this anywhere? *Urbanski:* Violation fees do not go to R&E but do go to ODFW.
S. Janego: What about resident vs non-resident license? *Urbanski:* Those are projected separately but non-residents do not get combo licenses, so it is a little different split.
M. Olson: At what point in the near future can we get an updated projection for the biennium? *Taylor:* They will be published internally mid-year but will be public for sure at the end of the year.

Hatchery Update – Brent Hinners, Chris Kern & Ryan Couture
T. VanderPlaat: Can we get an update on the Hatchery Bundle?
Hinners: The Big Creek hatchery pipeline was part of the 23-25 biennium bundle. It is done and went very well. Elk Creek Hatchery, we are still waiting for bids. There was no Cycle 1 bundle this biennium. Submitted in Cycle 2 to modify the brood holding pond at Big Creek, which they are in the design process right now. Getting a new fish pump for Nehalem hatchery which went out to bid, should be ordering soon. Liberation trucks are ordered.
Couture: The Bandon Hatchery bathroom is coming along and will be completed this summer.

Kern: The recent bond funds that were received - would like to spend that money this biennium so we can ask for more in the next budget. Two main projects - adding on to funding already received for Elk River Pond construction, expanding the flexibility for other hatcheries and temperature control (shading, well water). Cedar Creek is expanding some raceways, giving more capacity to send fish into a more temperature resilient hatchery. Plus adding to the water supply and some bank stabilization around weir. *Tom Stahl:* Also, Bandon hatchery improvements on two water intakes that need repair.

T. VanderPlaat: Regarding rising water temps, the Trask Hatchery installed a UV system for water quality. *Kern:* We will be doing more of that overtime, yes. There are a lot of places that are not getting any better. There are no better locations for more hatcheries, we need to do the best with the ones that are there. This will mean lots of water quality improvements - chilling, filtration, etc. New technology is always being looked at, but these are costly to build and run. Possibly solar panel shade on raceways to produce energy.

T. VanderPlaat: These facilities are public areas, thinks that you should focus on public access and public communication at these locations. Encourages ODFW to focus on the public facing front of these hatcheries. Make them more of a visitor center. *Kern:* The hatchery resiliency study looked at the public visitation of these facilities. *Hinners:* We highly encourage hatchery managers to share and be there for the public. There are so many field trips. It is really fun to look at Google reviews of hatcheries and see people commenting that are not necessarily anglers but have a great experience. *Kern:* We are also looking at self-guided tours with QR codes, etc.

F. Cholick: Is there set criteria on how to prioritize the bond money? *Kern:* Yes, from the hatchery resiliency study. How bad is the need? How much would the money do? We work with Director's office to see what they were pushing for to get this funding vs what the hatchery program has in mind.
F. Cholick: What about toward more fish? *Kern:* Those are operational dollars being used for production numbers. These dollars are for infrastructure. We will get worried if we have to drop production because the facilities are failing. *Couture:* Some of these projects will increase production with more ponds being built.

T. VanderPlaat: Is there an update on what is going on with Rock Creek hatchery? *Stahl:* We lost the operational budget out of the permanent budget, but did get some bridge money. We are working with Cow Creek tribe and plan to rebuild part of Rock Creek, plus a new facility on tribal land and split production between the sites. With some other production moving to Elk Creek, the STEP hatchery, and Cole Rivers. Funding is still a big question; construction is a very big cost. There are some insurance money and FEMA will pay 90% of what was lost. FEMA is okay with splitting the facility to new location due to water issues at Rock Creek. Long term operation funding is still not secured. Will be working with partners to fill the gaps.

Montague: Regarding the hatchbox study, is access to eyes eggs not available? Are there ever extra eggs for those to go out to people? *Stahl:* A lot of those were re-introduction studies. You still need broodstock, etc. There are a lot of logistics that go into it. Extra eggs you need space availability, more broodstock, trays, and maybe more volunteers. If there are natural fish already in the area, those fish may compete with the natural fish. *Couture:* We are working with the Coquille tribe and providing eggs, they are working with hatch boxes. *Stahl:* Also, unfed fry may not survive as good as smolts.

S. Janego: Is there a list of hatcheries that are the most productive? *Stahl:* The hatchery resiliency study did that. *Kern:* We track a lot of data that comes out of our hatcheries. We can look at density, production and much more. He would like to see them use some of these new computer tools to help organize and analyze those data. *Stahl:* Also, through catch data we can look at runs and stocks that are lagging and adjust if needed.

Administration Discussion

R&E Board Priorities

These priorities are listed in the annual legislative report.
The Board would like to look at other ways that R&E can make more money.
S. Janego: Would love to see us tie the decisions we make to the people and talk with the sport and commercial fisherman. Focus groups to tell us where the money should be spent. *M. Olson*: How do we want to accomplish that? How do we get those people together? Is that something the admin should do, or the Board? *S. Janego:* Should be the volunteer power to push this out there. It can be the Board members marshalling it. Give each board member a couple of slides of info and send them out to the public to get more information from the people.
M. Weaver: What about getting out to a wider base, like at the Sportsman's Show?
F. Cholick: This list is good, but it would be nice to have actions on how to accomplish these. Also, have a list of the projects we have funded and how they fit into the strategies.
B. Montague: It is tough because no one knows what the R&E Bard is. Getting our story out there is important, and that's how people learn about it learn why it is important.
T. Laws: What about something at the point of sale (like ELS) that gives info on where that money is going?
T. VanderPlaat: Need to think about action items that we can do to accomplish this.

R&E Application Process

M. Olson: It was previously brought up by Dave Grosejacques to have different applications for internal vs external projects. What does the Board think about that?
F. Cholick: Okay with the current process for administration projects. In comparison to many programs it feels like the overhead cost is pretty minimal.

Calendar

Monday, September 28th – Wednesday, September 30th.
We have not been to the east side in a long time. LaGrande, Enterprise, Baker City, John Day– lots of projects we could go see. John Day is not as far and has 4 projects to potentially see.
Michele can help find a meeting location.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.