

**A&H Board Meeting
Teleconference
October 15, 2012**

Attendees

Board: Robert Jaeger, Jim Morrell, Barry DelCurto, Tom Alkire, Ron Borisch, Alan Christensen

ODFW Staff: Matt Keenan, A&H Program Coordinator; Tom Thornton, Game Program Manager; Christina Schmidt, Administrative Assistant

Regional Coordinators: Jon Paustian, Vince Oredson, Tom Segal, Dave Nuzum, David Stropfel, Larry Pecenka

Other: Craig Foster, ODFW District Biologist; Truman Stone, North Willamette Regional council member

Robert called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Review of the July 23rd & 24th Meeting Minutes

Alan moved to approve the July meeting minutes as written; Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Board Member Reports

Alan Christensen: Nothing to report.
Jim Morrell: Nothing to report.
Barry DelCurto: Nothing to report.
Ron Borisch: Abiqua Basin Access Area had a late start for deer bow and rifle seasons due to high fire danger, but is now open.
Tom Alkire: Will not be applying for a second term as hunter representative when his first term expires in December. He has enjoyed working with everyone but it is time for him to move on.
Robert Jaeger: Nothing to report.

Coordinator Report

- Procured hunter use equipment & supplies that the board approved at the last meeting including vehicle counters, Iron Rangers, permit boxes, permits, and signs. The plan is have much of that equipment on the ground this year, with the remainder being phased in through the spring and summer, and ready before most projects get renewed.
- Delivered signs, permit boxes, and Iron Rangers to Tom; toured the Juhl Access Area project which is an expansion of the Lawen Access Area project.
- Toured the Dixie Meadows project in Meg's district.
- Updated the Oregon Hunting Map with new access opportunities and changes to existing projects. ODFW's Information and Education Division is working on a shooting range map which will be linked to the Oregon Hunting Map.

Discussion:

- Robert asked if the shooting range map would show fees, if any, charged by each shooting range
 - Matt said he would ask
- Alan asked if the map will show whether each shooting range was open to public, private, county, etc.

- Matt replied that he believes the map will provide information about range ownership and eligible users – and that the online user could filter by those categories. He believes the map will show all shooting ranges but is not certain and will find out for sure
- Added a notice on the disclaimer page of the Oregon Hunting Map letting public know that many of the private timberlands were closed due to extreme fire danger
- Jim Yuskavitch is no longer the A&H Publicist; his contract expired at the end of August and Matt was unable to renew it due to the Governor requiring that state agencies reduce public relations costs that are not revenue producing. The A&H Newsletter will no longer be published in print, the last newsletter went out a month ago and indicated that there will only be an electronic version in the future. Matt will let the board know how many subscribers are on the electronic mail list at the next board meeting.
- Working on filling board vacancies, there will be two hunter representative vacancies in December: Tom will not be seeking re-appointment but Jim will. The Fish and Wildlife Commission will select from 12 applicants and the positions should be filled by the next Board meeting.
- Worked on Open Fields contracts - most were extended another four years but two landowners in the Columbia Basin decided to only sign on for one year. If those landowners are interested in continuing beyond one year, they will need to submit a standard A&H proposal. There was one new Willamette Valley Open Fields project.
- Met with the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program Coordinator, Samantha Bartling, from the Tangent office; she is interested in increasing goose hunting access in and around WRP's. Turkey hunting opportunities may also be possible.

Budget

Matt provided an update of the current A&H Program budget (refer to A&H Board packet).

Discussion

- Ron asked about the renewal of the Sled Springs MDA project
 - Jon said he'll be meeting with them later this week and will know more after that meeting
- Matt said at the next board meeting he should have a good tally on how much projects have come in under budget as many contracts are scheduled to expire at the end of the year.

Public Comment

No comment at 9:58 a.m.

2013 Board Meetings

Matt went over proposed meeting dates and locations for 2013 (refer to A&H Board packet).

Discussion

- Jim pointed out that the proposed January dates (22 & 23) may interfere with Board Members and Staff travelling to the SCI auction.
- Matt suggested having the meeting the last week of January. The week prior is a furlough week, which makes travel difficult for staff.
- Barry suggested having the meeting January 31 & February 1st. No issues with other dates

2013 Board Meeting Schedule:

- January 31 & February 1- Salem

- April 22 & 23 - Enterprise
- July 22 & 23 - Salem
- October 14 & 15 - Burns or Prineville

Motion:

Alan moved to approve the 2013 board meeting dates; Barry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Discussion

- Barry commented that he would like to tour Prineville area projects in October.
 - Jim agreed.

Motion:

Jim moved to approve 2013 meeting locations with the October Board Meeting in Prineville; Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Auction Sign up

2013 AUCTION EVENT SCHEDULE

2013 Auction Tag	Organization	Date & Location	A&H/ODFW Representative(s) to attend	
Elk	Safari Club International, National Convention	Reno, NV January 25, 2013	1. Jim	2. ODFW
Elk	Ducks Unlimited, Sunset Chapter	Forest Grove, OR February 2, 2013	1. Alan	2. Barry
Elk	Safari Club International, Santiam River Chapter	Albany OR February 9, 2013	1. Jim	2. Ron
Deer	Unlimited Pheasants	Klamath Falls, OR February 16, 2013	1. Alan	2. Robert
Deer	Mule Deer Foundation, National Convention	Salt Lake City, UT February 22, 2013	1. Barry	2. ODFW
Elk	Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation, Hillsboro Chapter	Forest Grove, OR February 23, 2013	1. Alan	2. Ron
Combo	Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation, National Convention	Las Vegas, NV March 1, 2013	1. Robert	2. ODFW
Deer	Foundation for N. American Wild Sheep, Oregon Chapter	Hillsboro OR April 20, 2013	1. Barry	2. Jim
Deer	Oregon Hunters Association, State Convention	Lincoln City, OR May 18, 2013	1. Ron	2. TBA

Motion:

Jim moved to approve auction the 2013 Auction Event Schedule; Alan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Projects Overview

Matt gave an overview of fire seeding projects being proposed (refer to A&H Board packet).

Discussion

- Alan commented that when he was on the OWEB Board they made funds available for seeding following wildfires and asked if any of the projects being proposed had sought out such partner funding.
- Craig replied that he had not sought out any additional funding as he was unaware that OWEB did that historically.
- Robert asked Alan how long it takes to get funding from OWEB after applying.
- Alan answered that when he was on the OWEB Board and there were some wildfires in southwest Oregon (2003 or 2004) that they acted pretty quickly on.
- Tom Segal commented that the Burns SWCD has been working with a few folks on small OWEB grants under \$10,000, but he has not tried to seek any funding from them for his proposed projects.
- Matt asked Alan who he should contact at OWEB.
- Alan suggested Matt call Ken Bierly or the Salem office.
- Matt will look into OWEB funding and if it's a potential option he'll consider revising the guidelines that go with the fire seeding projects to add a recommendation for the regional coordinators as they go through their check off list.
- Robert suggested holding off on approving the projects for a couple of weeks if the seeding could wait that long and looking into OWEB and other partner funding.
- Tom Segal replied that they could not wait any longer as the price of seed was increasing quickly.
- Craig agreed.

2012-15 Barry Point Fire Seeding

Lakeview District Biologist Craig Foster and Regional Coordinator Larry Pecenka presented this project (refer to A&H Board packet for the Regional Council Review and application for detailed information on the project).

This seeding project would help protect soil and outcompete noxious weeds on 1,167 acres of mule deer winter range burned in a 2012 wildfire.

Discussion

- Jim asked if the project were funded at a lower rate (such as 50% of what is being asked), would he seed the entire acreage or just concentrate on a portion.
- Craig replied that he would seed the worst portion which is about 800 acres.

Motion

Jim moved to approve \$55,000 of funding. Tom seconded the motion. Jim withdrew the motion.

Discussion

Ron commented that they should go through all projects before voting

Motion

Jim moved to approve \$55,000 of funding; Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

2012-12 Wilcox Fire Seeding Project

Regional Coordinator Tom Segal presented this project (refer to A&H Board packet for the Regional Council Review and application for detailed information on the project).

This project will aerially seed 628 acres burned in a 2012 wildfire. The project was not recommended by the regional council due to the reduced success of aerial seed applications in these drier big sagebrush communities. The ground is very steep and cannot be drilled.

Motion

Jim moved to not fund project, as recommended by the regional council; Barry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

2012-13 Hawkins Fire Seeding Project

Regional Coordinator Tom Segal presented this project (refer to A&H Board packet for the Regional Council Review and application for detailed information on the project).

This project will seed 400 acres of land burned in a 2012 wildfire using a rangeland drill.

Motion

Barry moved to approve the project as proposed; Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

2012-14 Davis Fire Rehab Project

Regional Coordinator Tom Segal presented this project (refer to A&H Board packet for the Regional Council Review and application for detailed information on the project).

This project will seed 800 acres of land burned in a 2012 wildfire: 300 acres by rangeland drill and 500 by aerial application. The regional council recommended funding the 300 acres to be seeded using the rangeland drill, and recommend against funding the 500 acres to be seeded by aerial application.

Motion

Barry moved to approve \$9,000 for funding the 300 acres to be rangeland drilled, as recommended by the regional council; Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Regional Coordinator Reports

Larry Pecenka:

Larry is attending TWS in Portland this week, did a session on grouse.

David Stroppel:

David had a regional council meeting to bring the council up to speed with projects and budget, and he is in the process of planning for next council vacancy in December.

Dave Nuzum:

Traffic counters are out on TMA's. Hunter use numbers during archery and early rifle seasons are pretty low because dry forest conditions have caused many private timber companies to close their lands to public access. The state-owned land on the TMA experienced increased

activity due to the closures on private lands. OSP kept busy checking fire equipment and education hunters about fire-related rules and regulations.

Jon Paustian:

Jon let the board know about a complaint Matt received regarding the Rice Access Area, a By-Permission property outside of La Grande. The hunter was upset about the way access was regulated.

Vince Oredson:

A total of 92 applications have been received to hunt deer on C2 Ranch during the late archery hunt – only 6 will be selected. The ranch also offers 28 youth deer hunts starting December 15, for which only 20 applications have been received. The Jackson TMA officer came back last week.

Tom Segal:

The Pine Creek Habitat Enhancement project is finished – the landowner will send pictures soon. A technician has been hired to help deploy vehicle counters and permit boxes. Tom has also helping BLM on fire rehab

Robert adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m.