

Ocean Resources Enhancement Advisory Panel Meeting

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

September 20, 2022

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Ocean Resources Enhancement Advisory Panel (OREAP) Members

John Ballotti (Sportfishing)

Ken Franke (Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel)

Wayne Kotow (Sportfishing)

Rachele Lopez (Public/non-government)

Rob Ross (Commercial fishing)

Tony Vaught (Aquaculture)

OREAP Member Alternates

Gary Burke (Commercial Fishing)

Wendy Marshall (Public/non-government)

Keith Moret (Sportfishing)

Jojo Pemberton (Sportfishing)

OREAP Non-voting Members

Kirsten Ramey (California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW])

CDFW

Adam Frimodig, Kathryn Johnson, Craig Shuman, Valerie Taylor (Ocean Resources Enhancement and Hatchery Program [OREHP] Coordinator)

Public

Mark Drawbridge (Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute [HSWRI]), Ruari MacNamara (HSWRI), Mike Shane (HSWRI), Ron Zweig (OREHP Scientific Advisory Committee [SAC] member)

1. Introductions and announcements

Valerie Taylor and John Ballotti

2. Discussion and vote to amend OREAP Bylaws to include language on collaboration and communication

Valerie Taylor and OREAP

- Continuation of discussion from previous meeting regarding change to the language of Section 6 of the bylaws on communication.

- Tony Vaught motioned to strike the first sentence and accept the second sentence of the proposed changes to Section 6 of the OREHP bylaws on communication.
 - John Ballotti seconds the motion
 - Call for vote: motion passes unanimously with 8 yays
- Valerie Taylor will amend bylaws to reflect the approved change.

3. Receive update on hatchery contract amendment from CDFW and an update on hatchery and field operations from HSWRI

Valerie Taylor, Mark Drawbridge, and Mike Shane

- All paperwork has been turned in to amend the contract for this and next fiscal year and is going through the approval process.
 - Anticipate the contract will be approved around January 2023
- On track to release 50,000 fish in 2022
 - Fish being released are larger in size and equates to about 80,000 8-inch fish
- Broodstock collection efforts with Jock Albright resulted in collection of 50 new fish.
 - Broodstock population is back up to 126 with the goal being 140-200 fish
- Over 1,200 fish were scanned between the recreational and commercial fisheries.
 - 485 fish were scanned from the recreational fishery and 15 were tagged (about 3.1%)
 - 168 fish from Mexico were scanned; no tags recovered
 - 569 fish from the commercial fishery were scanned with 1 tag recovery (0.2%)
 - 6 of the tagged fish were released from Channel Islands Harbor and 4 of those were released on the same day in 2016
- Genetic samples were taken from the scanned fish and new broodfish will be tested as well.
- The annual report is being drafted now and will be sent to the OREAP after review by CDFW.

4. Receive and discuss memo from OREHP Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair regarding motion passed by SAC requesting the Department to fill the two vacancies on the SAC.

Valerie Taylor

- Memo was drafted to CDFW to fill the two vacancies. SAC requested that the two members have expertise in fish genetics and stock enhancement, use of hatcheries for mitigation or stock enhancement of wild populations.

- Discussion about importance of having someone with stock enhancement expertise on the SAC and timeline
- Solicitation will go out at the end of September with a due date of October 31

5. Provide summary of SAC decision on Genetics Study Motion passed by the OREAP on May 23, 2022

Valerie Taylor and John Ballotti

- Dr. Tonya Darden presented a summary of the genetics work thesis to the SAC at their May meeting and answered several questions from the SAC members.
- A sub-committee was formed for the peer-review process of the genetics study and includes Ron Zweig and Dr. Kai Lorenzen.
 - Valerie has met with the sub-committee and the references and scope of work have been agreed on
 - Tonya has agreed to put the summary into a technical report
- A report from the peer-reviewers is expected at the end of November and the SAC will then determine the next steps.

6. Discussion and vote of the OREHP's goals and priorities as identified by the OREAP document

John Ballotti and OREAP

- OREAP members reviewed the Draft Goals and Priorities of the OREHP document item by item and voted on each.
- John Ballotti motioned that #1 of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the OREHP be accepted as a goal/priority of the OREHP.
 - Rob Ross seconds the motion
 - Motion passes unanimously with 7 yays
- John Ballotti motioned that #2 of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the OREHP be accepted as a goal/priority of the OREHP.
 - Jojo Pemberton seconds the motion
 - Discussion
 - Call for vote: motion passes unanimously with 7 yays
- John Ballotti motioned to strike #3 and accept #4 of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the OREHP be accepted as a goal/priority of the OREHP.
 - Wayne Kotow seconded the motion
 - Discussion
 - Call for vote: motion passes unanimously with 7 yays
- Kirsten Ramey motioned to amend the wording of #5 of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the OREHP.
 - Jojo Pemberton seconded the motion

- Discussion about wording (depleted versus adversely affected, aligning language with Marine Life Management Act Master Plan/evaluation recommendations/statute) and inclusion of other species
 - Call for vote: motion passes with 6 yays and 1 abstention
- John Ballotti motioned to accept amended #5 of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the OREHP as a goal/priority of the OREHP.
 - Tony Vaught seconded the motion
 - Call for vote: Motion passes with 6 yays and 1 nay
- Wayne Kotow motioned to accept #6 of the Draft Goals/Priorities of the OREHP as a goal/priority of the OREHP.
 - John Ballotti seconded the motion
 - Call for vote: Motion passes with 8 yays (additional voting alternate is now present)
- Discussion on wording of #7.
 - OREAP members agreed to table the vote to include #7 as a goal/priority
 - Kirsten Ramey and Rachele Lopez will work on wording of this goal/priority and bring back to the panel for discussion and voting at the next meeting

7. Discuss OREHP funding and updated OREHP Fiscal Year 2022/23 Budget

Valerie Taylor and OREAP

- Discussion about the updated 2022-2023 and proposed 2023-2024 budgets
 - Error found in proposed budget – Valerie will correct and send out to OREAP
 - The SFRA rate is doubling next year – there is some room to request additional spending authority
 - Discussion about possible uses of extra funds – genetics, post-release assessment/juvenile sampling program
- Discussion of contract timeline
- John Ballotti proposed appointing a subcommittee of the OREAP to look at funding needs and coordinate with the SAC.
 - Kirsten Ramey, Tony Vaught, and Wayne Kotow will form the subcommittee
 - Subcommittee will meet in October and November

8. Public comments and closing

Valerie Taylor

- No public comments
- Next meeting to be held in December

Questions about the meeting or agenda can be directed to the OREHP Coordinator, Valerie Taylor, at Valerie.Taylor@wildlife.ca.gov or 562-342-7170.

Meeting notices, agendas, and minutes can be found at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/ABMP/OREHP/Advisory-Panel>.