

ORAFS ExCom Minutes for 10/17/2007

Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society  
ExCom Conference Call, 17 October 2007

Present were: Past President Mike Reed, President Doug Young, President-Elect Neil Ward, Vice President Ian Reid, Secretary-Treasurer Julie Firman, External Director Brad Houslet, Executive Liaison Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey from 2:00 to 2:30.

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

**President’s Vision for 2008 – Doug Young**

Doug outlined several goals and standards that he would like to achieve.

Meetings and Minutes: His goal is to keep EXCOM conference calls and minutes brief, and do more of the pre-work in committees. There was general consensus with this. Members have one week to review the ExCom meeting minutes. Absence of comment during this period will be considered concurrence. Minutes should include key discussion pieces and final decisions.

2008 Priorities and Associated Work Plan – In the past the ExCom annual work plan has covered the period from May to April, however officers don’t take positions until September 1<sup>st</sup>, half way through. This was designed to allow overlap between old and new officers for more smooth transition, but in practice is very disjointed and new ExCom do not have full ownership in their workplan. Doug proposes that the work plan start Sept. 1 and end August 31<sup>st</sup>. We also need to match work plan up with the budget. We have a draft of the 08 budget, but needs to be matched to our new 2008 workplan and finalized. Doug thought old work plans were too detailed, and provided a draft 2008 workplan that compressed similar tasks it into single bullets, and deleted activities that probably will not get accomplished.

By the next conference call, All ExCom members should go over the updated draft 2008 Work Plan, put in your priorities and suggest things that should be deleted or added.

Once Work Plan is confirmed we’ll need to match it up with the budget. The 2008 Workplan and Budget are due by November.

**Old Business**

**Minutes - All**

Barry provided some comments to the July minutes. Those changes have been made and the minutes are posted on the website. All available minutes are up to date and are on the web site.

**Treasurer’s Report – Ian and Julie**

Current Balances (as of 07 November 2007)

Checking:	\$34,166.99
Coastal Cutthroat:	\$12,631.11
Savings:	\$50.31
Northwest Fish Culture Conference (NWFCC as of 8/11/2007):	\$4,504.33
Money Marked (as of 3/30/2007):	\$68,562.55

Dave Chvatal has agreed to do our taxes again this year. Our taxes were actually due on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Ian thought that we’d get an automatic three-month extension, but Dave says that is not the case.

Ian and Julie will work together to get the taxes done as soon as possible.

Ian deposited \$500 into AFS account from article that he wrote. He suggests that the money be used as a grant for media outreach and scientific writing.

Ian will draft a proposal on how the money he contributed should be used.

### **External Committee Report – Brad**

Brad indicated External Committees (except Legislative) have not been active. ExCom discussed possibility of new Committee chairs, members that were more committed and active.

Doug suggested that when we are approached by a Committee or Liaison for AFS involvement on an issue we require submittal of a short briefing paper (half a sheet that outlines the issue, argues why it is relevant to the AFS mission, and provides relative priority and timeframe for relevance/influence) that we could pass around the ExCom. It should be available for ExCom review within 1 or 2 weeks of the issue coming up. Doug committed to sending out the simple briefing paper outline to ExCom (it is attached to include in these final minutes).

We are starting to make some changes in the look of the web site. Kara has a template built for the Western Division Meeting page that is in the same format as San Francisco meeting.

To enhance ORAFS' ability to respond rapidly to emerging issues, Mike will lead a subcommittee to explore how to get more involvement on the ORAFS blog. Brad and Ian will also participate.

Brad indicated he was working on additional website updates.

Doug and Brad will discuss potential modifications to current "website modification protocol".

### **Student Subunit report – Jason**

Ian commented that if we're going to give the OSU Fish and Wildlife Club money they should be involved in all ExCom conference calls. Doug to contact Jason and encourage ExCom participation.

Scott Heppell will take over administration of the student scholarship awards.

### **Administrative Assistant Duties - Neil**

The mail is now going to the right locations and Neil has all of the mail that was up in the Washington PO Box. There has been little mail and few if any calls or emails. The next Newsletter will go out Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. After that we'll be back on schedule. The newsletter takes some time, but other Administrative duties aren't very time consuming. Electronic abstract submission is working and we will have online registration for the 2008 meeting. There is a potential need for an assistant leading up to the meeting and during the meeting, especially for oversight for the registration table. Neil suggests a limited duration position for a few weeks. Neil says that he could handle these newsletter duties for the next couple of years (the duration of his tenure with ExCom). We don't really need an administrative assistant now that so much is being done electronically.

ExCom members should plan on sitting at registration table for significant portions of the 2008 meeting.

### **Western Division ExCom call update - Doug**

They are excited and supportive of our 2008 plans. Given that we split the 2008 meeting proceeds with Western 50/50 but we do 90% of the work, Doug suggested that Western earmark a portion of Western's proceeds for a future Western Annual Meeting student travel and lodging support grant program. WD Excom agreed that once they make \$10,000 profit they will commit next \$10,000 to this fund for outyears.

### **Western/ORAFS Annual Meeting Plans and EXCOM Assignments– Neil**

The second call for papers went out this month. Abstracts for sessions are due in early December. We haven't been hearing from many folks within Oregon. Do some brainstorming and drop Neil an email with possible session conveners and topics. Also, please take a look at list of subcommittee chairs to identify where you might have duties. We'll have a full blown website for this meeting hosted on the ORAFS website; Western's website will link to ORAFS so we can control website content. Committee chairs meet on a monthly basis with Neil. The top 5 workshops have been identified and one (Stream Restoration) has been confirmed/scheduled. We should have an idea of the plenary speakers by the next meeting.

### **Legislative Committee Liaison Report and Priorities – Jeremiah**

The original position description was to identify bills that might be of interest to Oregon chapter. This has morphed to become an external committee liaison to reinvigorate committee chairs, compile a list of relevant topics, and identify areas where the process of moving those issues forward could be streamlined. Doug would also like to see this position provide recommendations on how to better represent membership on emerging issues. Jeremiah identified several bills of interest with Hiram Li and sent recommendations around this morning. 1. Copper-Salmon Wilderness bill. Oregon AFS provided a letter of support for this bill in April. Jeremiah suggests that we draft a white paper and possibly another letter of support within the next month or so. 2. BLM Western Oregon Plan revisions. December 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for public comment. We need to identify people who would be interested in being involved. Ian is interested in being involved in commenting on the BLM WOPR. 3. We should update our position paper and/or come up with a white paper on both wave energy and marine reserves. Doug has recent information from a workshop on wave energy. There are eight wave energy or tidal energy projects proposed in Oregon and we need to respond.

Doug suggested that we prepare a foundational science-based document on the Copper-Salmon wilderness proposal. Ian commented that the BLM WOPR is potentially a higher fisheries priority than Copper-Salmon wilderness. We will ask Jack Williams and Kelly Burnett to take the lead in drafting support for the Copper-Salmon white paper. ExCom would still review it, suggest revisions and approve it. Jeremiah will prepare half-page white papers on the two new issues (marine reserves and wave energy) and identify how they align with ORAFS mission, and we'll make a decision later as to whether we will pursue these issues.

**Comment:** Who specifically will ask them—Jeremiah or Brad?

### **New Business**

#### **Fall Newsletter – Neil**

Please take a look at the Fall newsletter from previous years to see what is you need to provide to Neil for the newsletter. The fall newsletter will be out in November. Ian – we should include something on upcoming issues like the WOPR that Oregon Chapter members can get involved with.

What time was the meeting adjourned—or does it matter?

**November and December conference call dates**

Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am - 10:30 am

Thursday December 20<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am - 10:30 am