

Members in Attendance:

Sen. Arnie Roblan, Louise Solliday, Laura Anderson, Krystyna Wolniakowski, Jim Sumich

Interested Parties in Attendance:

Gabriela Goldfarb, GNRO; Chris Castelli, DSL; Sabrina Owings, DSL; Ed Bowles & Dave Fox, ODFW; Bob Bailey, formerly of DLCD; Jena Carter, Nature Conservancy; Paul Klarin, DLCD; Kessina Lee, Oregon Sea Grant, Lisa DeBruyckere, Oregon Marine Reserves Partnership

STATUTORY CHARGE TO PRIORITIZE RESEARCH:

Senator Roblan emphasized the need for a trustworthy entity to channel funding, highlighted by the oyster hatchery crash and the need for funding of ocean acidification research in addition to other coastal priorities. (Envisions a kind of National Academy of Sciences for Oregon.)

Louise Solliday recommends setting a limited number of principles to inform decision making/research priorities.

Laura Anderson suggests STAC-plus participate in setting research priorities. The role of OOST is to facilitate connection between funding and needs.

Ed Bowles pointed out that there are disparate plans for the coast but these haven't been pulled together. The State Nearshore Strategy may be a good starting place, but is not comprehensive. The process for identifying priorities should be publicly vetted in order to assuage concerns about strings attached to funding sources.

COMPASS has offered to facilitate presentations by scientists to highlight areas they believe warrant further research. Gabriela will draft a letter to COMPASS regarding presentations at the next OOST meeting, asking that they consult STAC, WCGA, Oregon Sea Grant, agencies and academia, the Territorial Sea Plan, and the Oregon Nearshore Strategy in order to pull together presentations within an Oregon framework.

Gabriela Goldfarb suggested that climate change, especially ocean acidification, and stock assessments of nearshore fisheries are established priorities with knowledge gaps that could be addressed.

Ed Bowles specified that fishery-independent stock assessment data is needed, and that addressing this gap would engender goodwill among stakeholders and establish the relevancy of OOST.

Dave Fox will present research needs identified by ODFW.

Paul Klarin pointed out that the federal government will already have set priorities for funding; where OOST priorities can overlap, potential for federal funding is increased.

Senator Roblan suggested doing outreach via legislative hearings during session.

Chris Castelli will provide periodic updates to the Land Board.

Gabriela Goldfarb will add OOST to the agenda for the December 3rd OPAC meeting.

FUNDING FOR RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

Senator Roblan: Tribes are going to be interested in this work. They may be willing to invest in this. OPAC STAC was given ability to advise more than just OPAC. The Legislature is looking into having research staff year-round. If that happens, they may contract with STAC. This will help to better inform legislation.

Senator Roblan is willing to explore the possibility of securing an initial state funding contribution to OOST in the '16 session. Funds could be used for a Sea Grant fellow or outside hire to staff OOST, consulting for tasks, travel, DOJ if necessary, bylaws/rulemaking, possible hire of an executive director.

Krystyna Wolniakowski inquired about the availability of mitigation funds for OOST. At NFWF they worked with the U.S. Attorney to get part of mitigation funds. Louise believes those state fines go to a designated source, related to area where the crime occurred.

Louise Solliday: Looking at private and foundation source options may be a good idea.

Question for future meeting: Does funding go only to state agencies? Who is eligible to apply?

Jena Carter: The Nature Conservancy has \$15k that needs to be expended by May. Could be used to hire a consultant, draft bylaws, generate a report on similar foundations and their priorities, identifying funding sources, or on grant making. The funds could also potentially go to COMPASS for a report. TNC would hire the consultant, and can possibly unlock additional funds in May.

PROCEDURES & PROCESS:

Louise Solliday: Report recommended establishment of OOST as a 501(c)3; not being a 501(c)3 could limit the ability to receive foundation funds.

Gabriela Goldfarb noted the lack of funds for rulemaking and legal services.

Senator Roblan will ask Legislative if the state can make OOST a 501(c)3 through legislation?

Can OOST adopt bylaws without rulemaking?

Suggestion from Bob Bailey to contract with Oregon Sea Grant to run the grant making process. Will come with a hefty administrative cost, but brings credibility in process and expertise. Also may want to contract out Executive Director and staffing.

Louise Solliday selected to serve as OOST Executive Director. Louise will draft bylaws for review at next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

*Draft bylaws—Louise

- *Look into OOST email domain, US Attorney fine monies—Krystyna
- *Consult LC re: 501(c)3 status—Sen. Roblan
- *Send link to STAC—Gabriela
- *Check with DOJ about by-laws through rulemaking- Chris
- *Letter to COMPASS re: presentations at next meeting—Gabriela
- *Add members to OPAC listserv, add OOST to OPAC agenda for Dec. 3—Gabriela

NEXT MEETING—January 19 or after, in Salem

- *Discuss bylaws
- *Discuss email domain
- *Discuss legal issues
- *Presentation by COMPASS