



**EBTJV Steering Committee Teleconference  
March 15, 2016**

Link to agenda documents: <http://bit.ly/2265HLV>

Attendees: Doug Besler, Merry Gallagher, Callie McMunigal, Dianne Timmins, Glenn Erickson, Keith Curley, Rich Kirn, Steve Faulkner, Matt Kulp, Doug Stang, John Magee, Shawn Rummel, Jake Rash, Mark Hudy, and Steve Perry.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Doug Besler at 1:00 p.m. on March 15<sup>th</sup>. The first order of business was for the Chair to establish a quorum, which was achieved as 11 Steering Committee members participated in the conference call.

The following notes summarize the business conducted during the teleconference on **March 15, 2016:**

- A motion was made to approve the December 15, 2015 EBTJV Steering Committee meeting summary (<http://bit.ly/1pzyMBr>). This motion carried by voice vote.
- The February 19, 2016 joint meeting of the Conservation Strategy and Science & Data Committees was summarized as follows (<http://bit.ly/1UinexC>):
  - There were 22 meeting attendees.
  - Attendees indicated there seemed to be limited value in using the subwatershed priority scores in their Brook Trout conservation work. However, there may still be some utility in using these priority scores as a surrogate for Brook Trout habitat quality at the subwatershed scale since the scores were estimated using 5 important landscape variables.
  - Interest was expressed in running the CART model at the catchment scale to see if priority scores at this finer scale would be more useful.
  - Identifying a common set of criteria for sorting patches/catchments into different priority bins (i.e. a tiered approach) received support as long as the process for determining priority focal areas also included more localized criteria that managers could add in if pertinent.
  - There was an expressed interest in not only looking at the Brook Trout catchments (codes 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4) when developing new habitat objectives but also wild trout catchments that don't currently contain Brook Trout (codes 0.2, 0.3, and 0.4).

- The concept of “zero net loss” for Brook Trout was suggested as a more realistic range-wide objective, while recognizing that “holding the line” may present issues when it comes to Brook Trout conservation calls for action.
- Accomplishments of the 2015 MSCGP and FY14 EBTJV Operations and Coordination Project were highlighted (<http://bit.ly/1TwLVYu> and <http://bit.ly/1R9Tgqu>).
- The EBTJV received notification from the Board of the National Fish Habitat Fund (Beyond the Pond) that it is recognized as a Chapter under the fund and therefore our partnership now has 501(c)3 status.

The EBTJV Steering Committee teleconference adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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