

**EBTJV Steering Committee Meeting Summary**

**March 17, 2020**

Participants: Nat Gillespie, Merry Gallagher, Lee Simard, Callie McMunigal, Dave Kazyak, Matt Kulp, Glenn Erikson, Jake Rash, and Steve Perry.

This teleconference was called to order by Chair Nat Gillespie at ~1:00 p.m. on March 17th. The first order of business was for the Chair to establish a quorum (≥10 SC members), which was not achieved as only eight Steering Committee members participated in the meeting.

The following notes summarize the business conducted during the conference call held on **March 17, 2020**:

* The eight Steering Committee members on the call, and one additional member via email, voted to approve the [**December 17, 2019 Steering Committee Meeting Summary**](http://bit.ly/2vWW9xK). This action item needs at least one more affirmative vote by a Steering Committee member to pass.
* [**Scope of Work for the EBTJV Catchment Web Updater Project**](http://bit.ly/2Q89Tg5)(Steve Faulkner/Jake Rash/Jason Detar/Callie McMunigal)

The objective of this project is to create a web application that would allow credentialed users to modify and update EBTJV catchment classifications for presence of salmonid species.” Cost: $30,000. This project is due to be funded using a portion of the EBTJV’s FY20 FWS-NFHAP on-the-ground project allocation. The FWS will enter into a service agreement with Jason Coombs to complete this project.

* [**Genetics Workshop Proposal**](http://bit.ly/2Q7pU5U)(Dave Kazyak)

The CBP’s Habitat Goal Implementation Team (HGIT) Brook Trout Work Group submitted a genetics workshop proposal for funding considerations, which was approved and received $10,000 in funding support. The two-day workshop (slated for fall 2020 or spring 2021) will bring experts in the field of fish and Brook Trout genetics together with fishery managers and practitioners to provide the latter with the both the general knowledge of fish genetics and recent scientific advances. The main objectives are to: (1) communicate the importance of genetic information for Brook Trout management and review key conservation genetics concepts and (2) explore available genetics datasets and explain how they can be used to support management. **Action Item**: Coordinate a call with any interested steering committee members (Jake, Matt, Merry) to help Steve Faulkner and Dave Kazyak with planning the workshop.

* The eight Steering Committee members on the call, and one additional member via email, voted to approve [**FY20 EBTJV Coordination and Operations Project**](http://bit.ly/2TWoM60). The budget for this project totals $82,500, which is slightly less than what the FWS-NFHAP funding allocates to FHPs for operational support ($85,000). In a practical sense, this funding will support an EBTJV Coordinator from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.
* Steve Perry summarized recent updates that were made to the EBTJV website. These changes include a DONATE button on the sites home page that takes you directly to the EBTJV-Beyond the Pond donation page, a REPYOURWATERS donation link, and, the EBTJV Facebook feed. In the About/Groups/Steering Committee you can access a series of folders holding important files that are easily accessible to the Steering Committee. The Projects page contains a listing of all the Brook Trout conservation projects that have received FWS-NFHAP funding. Under the Resources tab, the AOP folder is a new addition that contains inventory and assessment protocols for potential fish passage barriers; the EBTJV Operational Grants folder is a new addition that contains documents related to all of the EBTJV’s operational grants; the EBTJV Partnership Meetings folder has been updated; and, new folders were created for National Fish Habitat Board Meetings and the Chesapeake Bay Program.
* The eight Steering Committee members on the call, and one additional member via email, voted to approve the [**2020 EBTJV Website Maintenance Contract**](http://bit.ly/2TSI1xs) ($5,200). This action item needs at least one more affirmative vote by a Steering Committee member to pass.
* The Native Trout Work Group of the National Leadership Council of Trout Unlimited requested $2,000 in funding support from the EBTJV for the development of an Eastern Native Brook Trout Poster. The EBTJV is providing this funding support from the RepYourWater donations made to our FHP’s Beyond the Pond account. The eight Steering Committee members on the call, and one additional member via email, voted to approve the [**Eastern Native Brook Trout Poster Funding Request**](http://bit.ly/2v9xw0i). This action item needs at least one more affirmative vote by a Steering Committee member to pass.

The EBTJV Steering Committee meeting adjourned at ~2:00 p.m.