

LOWER COLUMBIA FISH RECOVERY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT is entered into under the Interlocal Cooperation Act (Chapter 39.34 RCW) by the counties of Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania, and Wahkiakum.

Section 1. Purpose. It is the purpose of this Interlocal Agreement to provide for the operation, funding, and support of that certain management board established by RCW 75.56.050 and supersedes any prior agreement entered into between these parties related to such purpose.

Section 2. Management Board. The Management Board created by RCW 75.56.050 shall be known as the “Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board,” which is hereby declared to be a local agency under state law. Appointments to the Board shall be made as provided for in RCW 75.56.050.

Section 3. Functions. The Management Board shall undertake those functions provided for in RCW 75.56.050. In particular, the Board shall undertake the following roles:

3.1 *Habitat Preservation and Restoration.*

- a. The Management Board will solicit, evaluate, rank, and pursue funding for fish habitat preservation and restoration projects. The Management Board will receive and disburse funds for such projects and will administer project contracts, monitor progress, and evaluate results.
- b. To facilitate habitat preservation and restoration work, the Management Board will conduct an assessment of the factors of decline on a stream-by-stream basis. The Management Board will maintain a technical advisory committee to assist in the assessment of habitat preservation and restoration needs and in the evaluation of projects and other fish recovery proposals.

3.2 *Recovery Planning.*

- a. The Management Board will work with the National Fisheries Service, the state Salmon Recovery Office, and other local, state, and federal agencies and affected Indian tribes to develop a lower Columbia regional recovery plan for such species listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Key functions will include coordinating local efforts in developing habitat portions of the plan, coordinating local participation in the development of federal and state plan elements, and working with state and federal agencies to ensure elements form an integrated and comprehensive regional plan.
- b. The Management Board may work with cities and counties to develop plans and ordinances and incentive programs for fish recovery. The Board will participate in hydro-project relicensing efforts to secure appropriate measures for fish recovery.

3.3 *Watershed Planning.*

The Management Board will serve as lead agency for watershed planning efforts for Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) 25, 26, 27, and 28. In this capacity, the Management Board will provide staff and administrative support to the watershed planning group. The Management Board shall also work to ensure that watershed management and fish recovery plans are consistent and compatible with each other. To this end, the Management Board shall also participate in watershed planning efforts for WRIA 29.

3.4 *Public Education and Involvement.*

The Management Board will work with state and local governments to develop and implement coordinated regional public education and involvement efforts. These efforts shall help inform the public of fish recovery issues, solicit public input on recovery plans and efforts, and promote volunteer participation in recovery and restoration activities.

Section 4. Bylaws. The Management Board shall adopt bylaws, policies, and procedures to govern its operations which are consistent with state law and this Interlocal Agreement.

Section 5. Staff. The Management Board may employ an executive director and other necessary employees.

Section 6. Administrative Support. The Management Board shall contract with one of the counties to this Interlocal Agreement to provide accounting, purchasing, contracting, and other administrative support services. The Management Board shall be authorized to contract for independent legal counsel.

Section 7. Budget/Assessments. The Management Board shall each year, in accordance with the county budget timetable, adopt a budget of revenues and expenditures for operations for the next calendar year. Such budget may include revenues from assessments to the participating counties only if such assessments have been unanimously agreed to by such counties.

Section 8. Insurance. Notwithstanding the immunity provided for in RCW 75.56.050(2), it is declared that acquisition of liability insurance is an appropriate expenditure for the Management Board.

Section 9. Reports. As provided for in RCW 75.56.050(4), the Management Board shall report on its progress on a quarterly basis to the five participating counties.

Section 10. Duration. Unless extended, this Interlocal Agreement shall terminate on July 1, 2002.

Section 11. Property. Upon termination, equipment or other property provided by a participating county shall be returned to such county. Assets acquired by the Management Board shall be equitably divided between the participating counties in accordance with the relative financial contributions made by each county.

Section 12. Authority. This Interlocal Agreement is entered into pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 39.34 RCW. Its duration is set forth in Section 10; its purpose is set forth in Section 1; the manner of financing and establishing a budget is set forth in Section 7; provision for termination and disposal of property is set forth in Sections 10 and 11; and a joint board is provided for in Section 2.

ENTERED into on the dates shown interim below.

Attest: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR CLARK COUNTY

Clerk to the Board

By: _____
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:
Prosecuting Attorney

Date: _____

By: _____

Attest: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COWLITZ COUNTY

Clerk to the Board

By: _____
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:

Prosecuting Attorney

Date: _____

By: _____

Attest:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR LEWIS COUNTY

Clerk to the Board

By: _____
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:
Prosecuting Attorney

Date: _____

By: _____

Attest:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SKAMANIA COUNTY

Clerk to the Board

By: _____
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:
Prosecuting Attorney

Date: _____

By: _____

Attest:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR WAHAKIYAKUM COUNTY

Clerk to the Board

By: _____
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:
Prosecuting Attorney

Date: _____

By: _____

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