

4. Reimbursement of TAMWG Members

a. The following questions have been raised relative to reimbursement of TAMWG members and their alternates:

i. **Can TAMWG members/alternates be reimbursed for travel costs/per diem when attending meetings other than official meetings of the TAMWG?**

1. It is the conclusion of the DFO that TAMWG members may be reimbursed for such meetings provided that attendance at such meetings is considered to be performing the official business of the TAMWG. The decision as to whether attendance at certain non-TAMWG meetings qualifies as performing official business of the TAMWG is the DFO's. The DFO will make the decision as to what should be considered official TAMWG business, and how many members need to attend, will be made on a case-by-case basis after receiving recommendations from the TAMWG.

ii. **Can multiple TAMWG members/alternates be reimbursed for attending the same meeting?**

1. Yes. The final decision regarding how many members of the TAMWG need to attend a meeting will be made by the DFO after receiving the recommendation of the TAMWG.

iii. **Can a TAMWG member and her official alternate both be reimbursed for attendance at the same meeting?**

1. No. Either the TAMWG member or his officially-appointed alternate may be reimbursed for attendance at the same meeting, but not both. This applies to meetings of the TAMWG as well as other meetings deemed by the DFO to be official business of the TAMWG.

iv. **Can a TAMWG member request reimbursement for expenses incurred by a representative (other than his officially-designated alternate) for attending a meeting that is considered official business of the TAMWG?**

1. No. Only TAMWG members or their official alternates may be reimbursed for participating in official TAMWG business.

b. Suggestions of the DFO

i. Identify in advance meetings where attendance should be considered official TAMWG business. Meetings should be clearly and directly related to the mission of the TAMWG. Attendance at meetings where members/alternates would merely increase general knowledge of fisheries biology, fluvial geomorphology, etc., generally would not be considered by the DFO to be official TAMWG business.

- ii. Based on the budget available for TAMWG operations, make recommendations to the DFO regarding attendance of members/alternates at such meetings.
- iii. The DFO will make final determinations whether a attendance at a particular meeting constitutes performance of official TAMWG business, and whether the requested members or alternates will be reimbursed for travel costs for attendance.

5. TAMWG Budget for FY 2005

- a. The FY 2005 budget for TAMWG operations is \$59,591.
- b. The proposed budget of \$80,000 was reduced by approximately 7% (to \$74,591) as part of across the board reductions approved by the TMC as a result of funding for the Program in FY 2005 being less than anticipated.
- c. The budget was reduced an additional \$15,000 when another Program need was identified (i.e., hourly temperature model). Since the TAMWG would not be meeting during the first 6 months of FY 2005, this reduction was deemed acceptable by the TMC and the DFO.