

PUGET SOUND RECREATIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 7, 2016

MEETING CALLED BY	Dave Knutzen
TYPE OF MEETING	Advisory Group
FACILITATOR	Ryan Lothrop
NOTE TAKER	Colleen Desselle
ATTENDEES	Don Freeman, Mike Gilchrist, Dave Knutzen, James Malcolm, Troy McKelvey, Norm Reinhardt, Michael Rian, Art Tachell, Gregg Williams, Colleen Desselle, Ryan Lothrop, Dayv Lowry, Laurie Peterson, Michael Schmidt, Rhami Aiken, Conrad Mahnken, Dorothy Reinhardt, Mike Racine

Agenda Topics		
DISCUSSION	Introductions	
	Nothing to discuss.	
CONCLUSIONS		
	Introductions were made.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A		

DISCUSSION	Minutes from Previous Meeting	
	Moved to approve as written and seconded. No opposition.	
CONCLUSIONS		
	Accepted as written.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A		

DISCUSSION	Puget Sound Marine Bottomfish – Dayv Lowry (Presentation)	
	If rocky reef is not a good buy, what is? There is lots of habitat, but no fish on them. Everything indicates it should be a good habitat for fish. The stocks have been taken down to such low numbers, they are not there. Most of the fish are habituating ledges - about 140 feet deep there is a ring of habitat. Also patches in other areas due to geological reasons.	
CONCLUSIONS		
	Does it not make sense to start building habitat now as it takes so long for it to get to a good habitat status? Why not create habitat in south Puget Sound? South Sound Whidbey – less rocky habitat on east. We see lots of fish at three places. We have capacity to build habitats so they have places to hide, etc. that would be good for fish. Can it last? Can we place where it would be beneficial? How do you write the goal so that when you are monitoring it, you show you are getting to that goal?	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

DISCUSSION	Budget Status	
	We are a little down for the pinks possibly due to the drought situation. Area 10 closing early and a delayed Area 9 opener. PSSFA – sublegal/legal fish. Improving. Should open soon. Forecast is not final. Close to what we have for December. Collected \$650,000 increase to what was expected. Current - all program funding or plan to fund. Coordinator fund – mostly a function of past spending.	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
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DISCUSSION	Goal Development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Washington – MOU on 350,000 or whatever number of fish it may become. • Seattle Boat Show – we have a booth. Splitting it with Licensing which saves us money. We have a rod & reel and a \$500 gift certificate for one lucky winner (WDFW staff not eligible). Will also have the giveaways you see on the back table here. Licensing will not be able to issue licenses at the show. Our booth is mainly just to promote us. • Survey – Much like two years ago. There will be many ways to do the survey – just don't trust that they will do it at home. • South Sound Coho Transport – We voted to fund. Squaxin Tribe supportive and enthusiastic. Hopefully won't do this on net pens next year – would save money and time. All seems great. • Glenwood Springs – Long Live the Kings (LLTK) agreed to transitioning out of PSRFE in two years. They recreated memo - not much changed except they want it to stay in PSRFE. A copy of the letter has been provided to you. Has kind of changed the process, although not yet. • Chinook Production – smaller fish at release have lower survival rate, but those that survive came back as 4- to 5-years old are larger. We could even do this, this year. Would love to release at 150-200 fish/pound with 150,000 adipose-clips and CWT at Soos Creek to see what kind of return we get. Rahmi stated the sooner to release fish the better. 		
CONCLUSIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Washington – Close to reducing number to about 200,000 – under review with lawyers and tribes. There will be different tiers. If agreed-to, we should have a Lake WA presentation at the next meeting to move forward and get new information. If we don't get a fishery, we are going to discuss discontinuing our funding. We could talk about a fishery (test) if the numbers are lower. Exploring possibilities (do a lottery?). For next year, raising Cedar River sockeye in net pens at Lake WA? Think about it. • Seattle Boat Show - Sign up sheet in back. Will contact with schedule as soon as we know when going. • Survey - News release going out next week. Web based survey. We are getting at least one tablet to have at the show. Licensing will add three questions. • South Sound Coho Transport - Fish will be tagged in February. Tag release group at Narrows 3rd group to go to Point No Point, hopefully past the throat. We could have a couple ride-alongs if you are interested. Kimbel is providing experienced taggers. Talking with Schmidt re acoustic readers. Release fish in April. NW tribes taking on. • Glenwood Springs - Awaiting a decision from head of DFW. Michael Schmidt and Jacques White are looking to garner support from the recreational community in support of their view on this. • Chinook Production - Tagging coordination may be problematic. If we do this, we need to commit to 4-5 years for study. There may be some data from Tumwater Falls to say how this works for them as a whole which may be helpful. Check with Larry Phillips or James Losee. Are you going to sacrifice quantity versus quality? Michael Schmidt stated that he was talking with Tulalips as he originally proposed doing a food abundance study of Puget Sound, but actually finding out when those blooms are happening and what kind of blooms they are actually feeding on – no one has really wrapped their head around the whole dynamics for Puget Sound. So one way of getting at that answer would be (in my conversations with the Tulalips) to have an early, mid, and late release group, CWT them, and do the analysis for 5-10 years and find which groups are performing better. Something we would like to do is just work that into the HGMPs that are being permitted right now. That might be difficult, but there are answers that we really need to get out to do a good job. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Create subgroup – Dave Knutzen, Mike Rian, James Losee, Gregg Williams –will contact and set up meeting.	Dave Knutzen	

DISCUSSION	Wrap UP	
What is the status of the Steelhead license plate? What is the status of the license fee increase? Details unknown. North of Falcon (NoF) coming up. Expect you to be there.		
CONCLUSIONS	Can have an informal meeting in April.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Doodle Poll to be sent in March for a meeting in May.	Ryan Lothrop	March 2016
OBSERVERS	Dorothy Reinhardt, Conrad Mahnken, Michael Racine, Michael Schmidt, Rahmi Aiken	
RESOURCE PERSONS	Colleen Desselle and Ryan Lothrop	
SPECIAL NOTES		