

“GREEN SHEET”

Meeting dates:	January 10-12, 2008 Meeting (Briefing)	#14
Agenda item:	All “H” Integration – Briefing	
Staff Contact:	Sara LaBorde, Special Assistant to the Director (Director’s Office)	
Presenter(s):	Sara LaBorde, Special Assistant to the Director (Director’s Office) and Andy Appleby, Hatchery Assessment Manager (Fish Program)	

Background:

All-H Integration

H-integration is defined as a coordinated combination of actions among all H-sectors – harvest, hatchery, and habitat (inclusive of hydro) – that together work to achieve the goal of recovering self-sustaining, harvestable salmon runs. Elements of successful H-integration include:

- Locating recovery actions in specific places (i.e. consider how habitat, hatchery or harvest actions interact in particular locations—for example coordinate hatchery releases that allow natural-origin juveniles to effectively utilize necessary habitat)
- Timing when actions occur (e.g. linked to salmon life cycle)
- Sequencing recovery actions over time (e.g. phasing hatchery supplementation to match with expected future increases in habitat carrying capacity)
- Judiciously choosing the magnitude of recovery actions

Both the Hatchery Scientific Review Group (HSRG) and the Puget Sound Technical Recovery Team identified H-Integration as an essential component of effective salmon recovery. Each of the H-sectors – hatchery, harvest, and habitat – independently affects the status of salmon populations, but they also have cumulative and synergistic effects throughout the salmonid life cycle. Viability of populations depends on the concerted effort of all three sectors working together. When managing in an all-H context, hatchery and harvest management are driven by the habitat, productivity and needs of wild fish in the watershed, rather than just by the number of hatchery fish produced and harvested.

The goals and objectives listed here are specifically for the role of H-integration process in Puget Sound salmon recovery.

Goals

- Develop integrated strategies and suites of actions among the H-sectors that are consistent with predictions of moving salmon populations towards short, moderate, and long-term recovery goals
- Help decision-makers clearly see the interaction and cumulative effects of actions among the H-sectors

Objectives

- Integrate strategies and actions to result in an observable increase of VSP parameters
- Quantitatively assess and summarize the cumulative effectiveness of integrated actions on VSP parameters

WDFW Progress

- The Department, with the assistance of Tribes, HRSG, and local watershed representatives designed a 6-step process to involve harvest, hatchery and habitat managers – at the watershed level – in coordinating and “integrating the harvest, hatchery and habitat actions with the local salmon recovery plans to ensure recovery of salmon populations.
 - A workshop was conducted in summer of 2006 to review and discuss the proposed h-integration process. Attendees represented watershed recovery planning groups.
 - All-H Integration groups have been established in six watersheds in Puget Sound. The six areas include: Snohomish, Stilliguamish, Lake Washington, Green, Puyallup and Nisqually watersheds.
 - The Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery Board is working with WDFW staff to align recovery plan goals, HSRG recommendations for Lower Columbia River hatcheries and fishery objectives to achieve recovery goals as specified in the region recovery plan.
-

Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:

None. Briefing only.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

Workshop was held summer of 2006 with representatives of all Puget Sound watershed recovery plans to review and discuss the H-integration process. They wanted sample summary reports to see what the end product looked like.

Action requested:

None. Briefing only.

Draft motion language:

N/A

Justification for Commission action:

N/A