

Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Policy Decision

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting

Tumwater, Washington

February 7, 2014

Fish Program

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Purpose

- ✓ Adopt a policy for sturgeon
- ✓ Current policy expired December 31, 2013
- ✓ Draft revised policy includes minor changes – mostly re-organized

Review

- ✓ December 2013
 - Annual status review and draft policy
 - Draft policy posted for public review Dec. 9
- ✓ January 2014
 - Policy briefing and public input
- ✓ February 2014
 - Commission decision

Purpose of Policy

- ✓ The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for management of the lower Columbia River white sturgeon population and fisheries

General Policy Statement

- ✓ Manage the Lower Columbia River white sturgeon population with conservation and fishery management objectives that are consistent with a healthy population

Policy Guidelines

- ✓ Conservation Objectives
- ✓ Fishery Management Objectives
- ✓ Annual Review
- ✓ Delegation of Authority

Public Input

- ✓ Public input has focused on fisheries
- ✓ About equal support for/against retention fishery



Thank You

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Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Commission Presentation
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