

Grays Harbor Salmon Management Policy development Advisor Meeting notes (Nov 13, 2013)

Advisors: Francis Estalilla, Dave Hamilton, Allan Hollingsworth, Jack Hollingsworth, Duane Inglin, Andy Mitby, LeeRoy Wisner

Public (list incomplete – refer to sign in sheet): John Campbell, Bill Osborn, Art Holman, Ron Schweitzer

WDFW staff: Jim Scott, Ron Warren, Kirt Hughes, Mike Scharpf

Three topics to cover tonight: review commission meeting, policy concepts, sharing sideboards.

DFW RW - Review of Commission meeting – presentation (5 minute version)

DFW RW - Policy Concepts, top 6.

DFW RW – Sharing sideboards

ADV – is this range of options going to be the sideboards for us going forward?

DFW JS – FWC said to go back and refine the sideboards

ADV – the side boards should be established biologically not by public opinion

PUBLIC COMMENT –

PUBLIC – anyone opposed to the 4/3? I think the commission could buy that.

PUBLIC – Commercial is only a half day. Those fish move through in about 3 hours on the Chehalis-side. You got 12 hours when the fish is going through.

PUBLIC – Just like in the Willapa the commercials have taken it over. They take 85%.

PUBLIC – Creating policy and blending decision tree operational decision making?

DFW JS – Commission policies often speak at a high level to allocation. PS Shrimp, Crab, L Col, those have all had allocation in them.

PUBLIC – the All-H stuff I like, I was involved in NOF, we kill down to the last fish. We debate 15 chinook. Gill netting 7d/week – if off to the side I am on board. (SAFE concept). Like the term Natural Origin. Also we need the marine derived nutrients. Those words need to be in there. Chum, they are all the way up to the trap at Onalaska, shad too. The wild spring Chinook, spit in mid-1980s when 10,000's of Cowlitz smolt and fry were dumped in the Newaukum. Commercials could fish the sloughs if you out-planted to these areas. Small forest land owner, habitat contributions....

PUBLIC – Quotas?

DFW JS – not necessarily.

DFW RW – We do not fish to quotas in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor. MA 2.2 example. We don't have an ISU but we knew the MA2.2 fishery was far over our expectation.

PUBLIC – In-season actions are taken throughout the state. You are calculating a bunch of percentages and they don't mean anything. You calculate to the last fish.

DFW RW – Hatchery Chinook are what is being harvested in Willapa.

DFW JS – I have you speaking to in-season management. The policy should direct the Department to develop those decision rules.

PUBLIC - my observations on sharing: 3 commercial fisheries 58% off the top into tribal fisheries, recs are constrained in ability to harvest be commercial fisheries. The Economic analysis to me clearly demonstrated that the recreational fisheries are worth a whole lot more and based on the economic value of the fishery is probably far outweighed by the amount of money WDFW spends on M&E. Transfer those benefits to the sport fishery and the benefits would be huge to the local area.

PUBLIC – Creel. Was the bay fishery shut down to pass fish to the commercial?

DFW RW – no.

PUBLIC – 7 days then 14 days and not once heard from Kirt or Ron that the recreational will have an opportunity and that meaningful opportunity is shit.

Public – UM with tags in their head.

DFW RW – Double Index Tag groups

PUBLIC – Heard Dave make a comment about sanitize the comments. What is being missed is the emotion. Commercial fisher folks impact, net is a net, fish for sale is a fish for sale; think there is enough commercial. Sound biology would prove that this isn't working. Wouldn't it be great to have all the netting occur at the upper end. I would be willing to compromise. What gets taken by the nets is not fair and equitable. Policy, things like “managing consistent with conservation objectives” add, first curtail commercial fisheries.

PUBLIC – never seen a viable accurate study on what sport fishing provides to the state. I don't think it is something you way the public to see. When is the state going to wake up and do the study? Pay attention man.

PUBLIC – RCW's and WAC's protecting Commercial?

DFW JS – Statues – right form the purpose.

PUBLIC – Why not include \$ value for sport?

DFW JS – Intend to.

PUBLIC – Gillnetter welfare. Gas tax.

PUBLIC – Intent? Is the intent for the rec value for this year? When?

DFW JS – We ran into some technical issues with providing specific Chehalis and Humptulips.

Advisors

ADV – Economic statement, w/o opportunity we cannot catch fish. Arrogant statement that my job is a hobby. I don't measure my success by the size of my wallet.

ADV – slides 7 and 8. Surplus converted to harvest could go to economic value.

ADV – agree with Johns comment. Create the document to monitor the fishery in GH.

ADV - You have this stuff already!

DFW JS – Notes are for WDFW to track thoughts and progress. You have the opportunity to speak to the commission during meetings, via email, etc.