

Grays Harbor Basin Salmon Management Policy Concepts

Draft November 8, 2013 – Advisor meeting comments during November 13, 2013.

Purpose

{Draft concepts drawn from initial discussions with advisors and public.} The objectives of this policy are to advance the conservation and restoration of wild salmon, maintain or enhance the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry in the state, provide the public with a fair distribution of recreational fishing opportunities throughout the Grays Harbor Basin, and improve the technical rigor and transparency of the management of Grays Harbor salmon fisheries.

Comment [KMH1]:

ADV – preference to include specific identification of Commercial and Recreational.
DFW – Going with fishing industry and covering commercial in species section.

Definition and Intent

{Draft scope for policy.} This policy is applicable to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) management of all Pacific salmon (spring Chinook, fall Chinook, chum, and coho) returning to in the Grays Harbor Basin. The Grays Harbor Basin is defined as Grays Harbor and its freshwater tributaries.

Comment [KMH2]:

ADV - Improve citizen participation.

Comment [KMH3]:

ADV – Why aren't we including sturgeon?
DFW – Columbia River sturgeon policy.

General Policy Statement

{Clarifies role of Policy and recognizes importance of adaptive management.} This policy provides the Department a cohesive set of principles to improve the Department's management of salmon in the Grays Harbor Basin. The Commission recognizes that management decisions must be informed by fishery monitoring (biological and economic), and that innovation and adaptive management will be necessary to achieve the stated purpose of this policy.

{Section from existing Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy.} State commercial and recreational fisheries will need to increasingly focus on the harvest of abundant hatchery fish. As a general policy, the Department shall implement mark-selective salmon fisheries, unless the wild populations substantially affected by the fishery are meeting spawner and broodstock management objectives.

Comment [KMH4]:

ADV – What do you mean by that. We need to see the protocols and have those clearly lined out and adhered to – cannot transfer from the Columbia. The only thing that matches here in what was lined out is the name. A no go!
DFW – Difficulty in a policy is not the detail that our Commission is going to get into the detail of.
DFW – Guiding principal. MSF implemented and monitored in a manner the ensures the realization of anticipated benefits. Has those elements.

In addition, the Department may consider other management approaches provided they are as or more effective than a mark-selective fishery in achieving spawner and broodstock management objectives.

Fishery and hatchery management measures should be implemented as part of an “all-H” strategy that integrates hatchery, harvest, and habitat systems. Although it focuses on hatchery and harvest reform, this policy in no way diminishes the significance of habitat protection and restoration.

In implementing the policy guidelines, the Department will work with the tribes in a manner that is consistent with *U.S. v. Washington* and other applicable state and federal laws and agreements.

Guiding Principles

The Department will apply the following principles in the management of salmon ~~to fisheries~~ in the Grays Harbor Basin:

- 1) ~~{Reflects advisor discussion of the importance of conservation and existing FWC Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy; modified to reflect public comment.}~~ Promote the conservation and restoration of salmon and steelhead by working with our partners to protect and restore habitat productivity-improving habitat conditions, implementing hatchery reform, and managing fisheries consistent with conservation objectives.
- 2) ~~{Recognizes existing court decisions.}~~ Meet the terms of *U.S. v. Washington* and other federal court orders and promote a strong relationship with the Quinault Indian Nation. Spawning escapement goals, fisheries, and artificial production objectives will be developed and jointly agreed with the Quinault Indian Nation.
- 3) ~~{Reflects advisor discussion of importance of ensuring that Grays Harbor stocks are considered in international and federal processes.}~~ The Department will work through the Pacific Salmon Commission to promote the conservation of Grays Harbor salmon and, if appropriate, seek the implementation of additional management actions necessary to achieve agreed biologically-based escapement goals.
- 4) ~~{Reflects advisor discussion of importance of ensuring that Grays Harbor stocks are considered in international and federal processes.}~~ The Department will ensure that consideration is provided to Grays Harbor coho and Chinook salmon during the Pacific Fishery Management Council process.
- 5) ~~{Recognizes economic value of fisheries; modification reflects public comments.}~~ In a manner consistent with conservation objectives ~~that does not impair the resource~~, seek to enhance the overall economic well-being and stability of Grays Harbor Basin fisheries.
- 6) ~~{Section from existing NOF policy regarding opportunities for recreational and commercial fisheries; replace with species specific sharing sections later in draft policy.} Grays Harbor harvest management objectives shall include opportunities for both the recreational and commercial fisheries.~~
- 7) ~~{Section from existing NOF policy and reflects advisor discussion of providing fishing opportunities throughout the basin.}~~ In a manner consistent with conservation objectives, Meaningful recreational fishing opportunities will be fairly distributed across fishing areas and reflect the diverse interests of fishers, including retention and catch and release fisheries.

Comment [KMH5]:

ADV – Why is steelhead included.
DFW – Management actions and activities for the purpose of conservation should benefit steelhead too.

Comment [KMH6]:

ADV – Chehalis?
DFW – Not included in the same manner under U.v.WA

Comment [KMH7]:

ADV – Plain English?
DFW – Biologically based escapement goal.
ADV – higher or lower?
DFW – could go either way
ADV – Coho and chum?
ADV - no

Comment [KMH8]: Will be stricken and replaced in sharing section.

Comment [KMH9]:

ADV – Does this need to be restated from the purpose.
ADV – if in twice what about a statement that extends to commercial.
ADV – just strike recreational.
ADV – agree with AH, remove recreational
ADV – tweak it different, see this being directed at recreational only.
DFW – We will consider these perspectives

Thought – insert commercial and their respective fisheries.

8) {Section from NOF policy and reflects advisor discussion of interaction between recreational and commercial fisheries.} Recreational and commercial fisheries shall be structured to minimize gear and other fishery conflicts.

Comment [KMH10]:
ADV – Separating gear conflicts is somewhat in conflict with conservation.

9) {Section from NOF policy incorporating importance of monitoring and enforcement programs; modified to reflect public comment.} Monitoring, sampling, and enforcement programs will adequately account for species and population impacts (landed and incidental) of all recreational and commercial fisheries and ensure compliance with state regulations.

Comment [KMH11]:
ADV – Translate.
DFW – What are you hung on?
ADV – right up your alley Dave
ADV – fishery personnel on commercial boats, enforcement – that covers it.
ADV – captured
ADV – transparency and accountability. What the true impact of the fishery needs to be represented. No cherry picking. Total impact.
DFW – Parenthetic (landed and incidental)

10) {Concept from NOF policy reflecting inseason management; modified to reflect advisor input.} The Department shall ~~may consider and~~ implement inseason management actions if it is apparent that ~~a fishery~~ the preseason fishing plan will ~~may~~ place at risk the achievement of conservation ~~or fishery management~~ objectives. The Department shall seek to ensure that inseason management actions affect fisheries in a fair and transparent manner.

Comment [KMH12]:
ADV – What if you got more than what you need?
RW – ensuring we achieve conservation objectives.
ADV – What about including seek full achieving full sure?
ADV – Department is lacking resources for in season management.
ADV – we want –eregs for conservation.
ADV – Wait!
ADV – all fisheries
DFW – it’s in there.

11) {Section from NOF policy incorporating advisor discussions of importance of communication and transparency.} Salmon management will be well documented, transparent, well-communicated, and accountable. The Department shall strive to make ongoing improvements for effective public involvement. These shall include: a) enhanced opportunities for public comment during the preseason fishery planning processes; b) communication of inseason information and management actions to advisors and the public; c) seeking Quinault Indian Nation support for the inclusion of observers in co-management meetings; and d) improved communication regarding co-management issues that are under discussion.

Comment [KMH13]:
ADV – does that mean communication with QIN.
DFW – Yes.

12) {Draft concept regarding improved management tools drawn from discussion with advisors.} The Department shall seek to improve fishery management and technical tools through improved fishery monitoring, the development of new tools, and rigorous assessment of fishery models and parameters.

Comment [KMH14]:
ADV – Management tools, gear types, fisheries, WHAT? Or strictly ???
DFW – Analytical

13) {Draft concept drawn from advisor discussion of Wynoochee mitigation.} The Department shall work with the affected parties to finalize the Wynoochee Dam mitigation plan and initiate spending of the mitigation funds.

Comment [KMH15]:
ADV – Translate
DFW – record card

Comment [KMH16]:
ADV – What does that mean? Build a hatchery?
DFW – Working with QIN, plan is expected by end of year.

Spring Chinook Salmon

Subject to the adaptive management provisions of this policy, the Department will manage spring Chinook salmon fisheries consistent with the Guiding Principles and the following objectives:

Option 2

1) Fisheries will be managed with the intent of achieving escapement goals for wild ~~and hatchery~~ spring Chinook. In no case, shall the impact of state-managed fisheries result in an impact of

more than 510% of the return when the adult return exceeds the spawner objective by less than 10%.

- 2) Prioritize freshwater recreational fisheries, with an objective of opening freshwater areas no later than May 1.

Fall Chinook Salmon

Subject to the adaptive management provisions of this policy, the Department will manage fall Chinook salmon fisheries consistent with the Guiding Principles and the following objectives:

Option 2

- 1) Fisheries will be managed with the intent of achieving escapement goals for wild and hatchery Chinook. In no case, shall the impact of state-managed fisheries result in an impact of more than 510% of the return when the adult return exceeds the spawner objective by less than 10%.

Prioritize recreational fisheries, with an objective of opening a marine area 2-2 no later than September 16 and freshwater areas no later than October 1.

- 2) The following guidelines describe the anticipated sharing of fishery impacts in the Grays Harbor Basin between state-managed commercial, marine recreational, and freshwater recreational fisheries. Variation from these guidelines may occur if it will result in fisheries that more closely achieve the stated purpose of this policy.

Comment [KMH17]:

ADV - Commercial harvest impact set asides for day sized blocks to get coho time. Coho and Chinook need to be built upon one another. What about rolling impacts forward.

ADV - Fish to inland communities. Cannot have commercial nets in more than 4 days/week. Where else are commercial fisheries in-river 7 days per week.

ADV - cannot run so many nets days straight. I think there are 7 days in a week and more than 3-3.5 days/week is suicide.

ADV - echo. Small bits so as to not adversely impair the stocks diversity. Needs to be left intact as possible in timing, age, diversity. Harvesting on a rate. The tier plan was intended to get away from HR management. The only rate we should harvest to is the 5% at low runs - conceptually.

ADV - don't forget up-river Chehalis has another commercial fishery.

Comment [KMH18]:

ADV - All paper fish must die is the problem of the way you do business. A 100,000 people the mom and pops, bank fisheries...impact transfer. Need to state a goal that provides for inland first, the bay next and leftovers to the commercial.

DFW - page 25 - looking for the suggestions.

ADV - 73% is what - from wish list?

ADV - Not to sell the bay fishery down the drain. How we allocate at smaller RS, the spoils should go to the lesser efficient fleet. An the Bay guys want to fish to, even if it is C&R - time and area.

ADV - Recs need a lot to fish on because of the efficiency.

ADV - no, no, all Chinook bite

ADV - What you have done is compressed everyone into the same time window. Conflict with nothing good coming from that. If you expand out the time and area you get rid of part of the conflict.

*** the alternative we heard going through NOF was we all want Chinook retention.

ADV - Language speaking to maximizing time and area.

DFW - Commercial side - #'s of Chinook needed to mount a coho fishery.

ADV - Small run - large run; need more tiers.

ADV - Need separate areas for Humptulips and Chehalis.

ADV - Tiers, exercise with Director Anderson, spreadsheet projecting fishing power. Tier 4 was "balls-out"

ADV - Original concept was conservation first. Concern that with more tiers we lose our focus on conservation.

Comment [KMH19]:

DFW - Close on the policy language section, next time we meet, limit discussion to 10 minutes. Need to focus effort on the sharing - the commission has asked us to close the gap between sport and commercial. What are the sideboards the commission should put out in December? Give Ron and myself your thoughts.

Chehalis Fall Chinook Proposed Sharing Sideboards

Average % Recreational (2009-2012): 22%

Option A. Recreational Input

QIN	CTCR	Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
		Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	8.25%	40%	30%	1.75%	11.75%

Option B. Commercial Input

QIN	CTCR	Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
		Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	8.25%	25%	19%	16.75%	22.75%

QIN (Quinault Indian Nation) – US v Washington
CTCR (Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation) – WDFW management computation

WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, information subject to change and amendments over time

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Humptulips Fall Chinook Proposed Sharing Sideboards

Average % Recreational (2009-2012): 36%

Option A. Recreational Input

QIN	Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
	Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	48%	38%	2%	12%

Option B. Commercial Input

QIN	Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
	Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	31%	23%	19%	27%

QIN (Quinault Indian Nation) – US v Washington

WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, information subject to change and amendments over time

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Recreational Fishery Freshwater and Marine Sharing Input

	% to Freshwater	
	Small Run	Large Run
Fall Chinook		
Chehalis	73%	52%
Humptulips	78%	63%
Coho		
Chehalis	73%	55%
Humptulips	82%	66%
Chum	87%	67%

WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, information subject to change and amendments over time

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Coho Salmon

Subject to the adaptive management provisions of this policy, the Department will manage coho salmon fisheries consistent with the Guiding Principles and the following objectives:

Option 2

- 1) Fisheries will be managed with the intent of achieving escapement goals for wild and hatchery coho salmon. In no case, shall the impact of state-managed fisheries result in an impact of more than ~~540%~~ of the return when the adult return exceeds the spawner objective by less than 10%.

~~Prioritize recreational fisheries, with an objective of opening marine area 2-2 and freshwater areas no later than October 1.~~

- 2) The following guidelines describe the anticipated sharing of fishery impacts in the Grays Harbor Basin between state-managed commercial, marine recreational, and freshwater recreational fisheries. Variation from these guidelines may occur if it will result in fisheries that more closely achieve the stated purpose of this policy.

Chehalis Coho Proposed Sharing Sideboards					
Average % Recreational (2009-2012): 34%					
Option A. Recreational Input					
QIN	CTCR	Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
		Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	4.32%	42%	35%	3.68%	10.68%
Option B. Commercial Input					
QIN	CTCR	Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
		Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	4.32%	28%	21%	17.68%	24.68%

QIN (Quinault Indian Nation) – US v Washington
 CTCR (Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation) – WDFW management computation

WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, information subject to change and amendments over time
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Humtulsips Coho Proposed Sharing Sideboards					
Average % Recreational (2009-2012): 42%					
Option A. Recreational Input					
QIN		Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
		Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%		46%	39%	4%	11%
Option B. Commercial Input					
QIN		Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
		Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%		31%	23%	19%	27%

QIN (Quinault Indian Nation) – US v Washington

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Chum Salmon

Subject to the adaptive management provisions of this policy, the Department will manage chum salmon fisheries consistent with the Guiding Principles and the following objectives:

Option 2

- 1) Fisheries will be managed with the intent of achieving escapement goals for wild and hatchery chum salmon. In no case, shall the impact of state-managed fisheries result in an impact of more than 510% of the return when the adult return exceeds the spawner objective by less than 10%.
- 2) No fisheries directed at chum salmon shall occur unless the adult coho salmon return exceeds spawner objectives, or if coho salmon impacts remain after coho and Chinook salmon fisheries.
- 3) The following guidelines describe the anticipated sharing of fishery impacts between state-managed commercial, marine recreational, and freshwater recreational fisheries. Variation from these guidelines may occur if it will result in fisheries that more closely achieve the stated purpose of this policy.

Grays Harbor Chum Proposed Sharing Sideboards
Average % Recreational (2009-2012): 4%

Option A. Recreational Input		Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
QIN	CTCR	Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	0%	43%	35%	7%	15%

Option B. Commercial Input		Recreational Share		Commercial Share	
QIN	CTCR	Small Run	Large Run	Small Run	Large Run
50%	0%	14%	6%	36%	44%

QIN (Quinalt Indian Nation) – US v Washington
CTCR (Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation) – WDFW management computation
WA Dept. of Fisheries, information subject to change and cancellations over time. Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, November 7, 2013 24

Adaptive Management

The Commission recognizes that adaptive management will be essential to achieve the purpose of this policy. Components of the adaptive management will include the following:

- 1) Annual Fishery Management Review. The Department shall annually evaluate fishery management tools and parameters, identify improvements as necessary [to accurately predict fishery performance and escapement](#), and distribute the results of the evaluation.
- 2) [Inseason Management. The Department shall develop, evaluate, and implement fishery management models and management measures that are projected to enhance the effectiveness of fishery management relative to management based on preseason predictions.](#)