

# Grays Harbor Salmon Management Policy

## Policy Development Public Workshop

November 26, 2013

### **6:00 to 6:05      Welcome**

Review of handouts

- (provided by WDFW; agenda, draft policy concepts, sharing sideboards)
- (provided by Tim Hamilton; draft policy concepts recommendations for revisions to 11/15/2013 draft)

### **6:05 to 6:20      Review Process Since November 1, 2013 Public Workshop**

Overview of process to date.

Anticipated process from here –

- **December 7, 2013. 9AM.** Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting – briefing on draft policy. Includes public comment session.
- Draft policy out during week of Dec. 10 for public comment period
- Comment period will close in early January – prior to the January FWC meeting
- **January 10-11, 2013.** To be determined. Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting – briefing on comments received. Includes public comment session.
- February 7-8, 2013 Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting – final decision on draft policy.

General comment from public –

- Like to increase numbers of hatchery smolts out to feed fisheries; get back to where we have been in the past.

### **6:20 to 7:55      Review Draft Concepts**

- Directives for policy. Specificity and definitions regarding terminology need to be included. Conservation is supposed to be the #1 goal and it is not even

defined in the draft; numerically. Cap allocation at 60:40 - net:sport. The big flaw is the lack of clarity which leads to open interpretation.

- Week by week that the commercial fisheries, combined, not exceed 4 days/week
- Given the number of days the nets are in the river the Humptulips is an absolute ghost town. Have to have half the week for escapement – rather than netting into extinction. Need to rebuild the late coho run.
- Agree with that sort of plan.
- How does 2013 escapement look? – little early.
- How frequently re escapement goals met?
- Not frequently in Grays Harbor. That is why we are starting this process.
- The State of Washington is failing to achieve goals – getting fish to the gravel. We need the tools to fix it, and move on!
- Why a new policy won't work. The Planning Model was not used. We need to have truthfulness by the Department. The planning model needs to work and be accurate.
- Trust. Like to have commission materials posted in advance for review. Allocation survey; the Department makes interpretative decisions about what the public is saying.
- You develop fisheries on how many fish can be killed, that does not work.
- Used to be that the hatcheries were boiling with fish. That is not the case now. The rivers are full of nets. The next generations will not have these resources if this continues.
- Trust has not been earned. Lack of transparency for the state – tribal relationship. Lack of monitoring of the WDFW managed commercial fishery.
- Asking to have 2A closed for years.

## **WORKED THROUGH THE CONCEPTS DOCUMENT**

Comments on the sideboards (landscape handout):

Commission asked WDFW to work towards a more common outcome relative the wide sideboards developed with input from advisors and public.

- Dog and pony show. 58.25% in Indian fisheries. All the gill netters take away from the sport fishermen.
- I like the gap. If you want to narrow it add them and divide by 2.

- We provided our input. You're now asking us to negotiate. We want the Commission to decide it.
- Many in unison – We cannot narrow that gap.
- At 4% there is never enough. Need 15 or more %.
- Not identified by sector, this is a piece of junk.
- Failed government policy to have a commercial fishery in Grays Harbor. We will not negotiate!
- Have not and will not participate in the surveys. The department has an opportunity through adaptive management by harvesting the surplus at the hatchery. This eliminates conflict on the river between sport and commercial, between hatchery and natural. The gear in the gillnet fishery has not changed in 50 years.
- Meaningful recreational fishery is achieved at 61:39.
- Bottom line is over harvest, that is why we are not making escapement. How does this allocation of impacts change how we are managing fisheries. We need accountability across all fisheries. We need to stand up for the resource and state share. We need selective harvest with improved efficiency for live release of wild fish. What people want to see is an honest to goodness change in how we are managing fisheries. Want my government to stand up for our 50%.
- Each view has been presented. It is up to the commission for them to make the decision.
- Reference the 2009-2012 average. The commercial is not asking for a directed Chinook fishery only enough to have access to harvestable coho and chum.
- We are not going to come to agreement. Not going to happen. Tell the commission to get off their butt and make a decision.

**7:55**

**Closing**

