

# Statewide Steelhead Management Plan (SSMP)



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Information subject to change

# The Director's Challenge

**Provide a scientific foundation for a steelhead management (2004)**

- **Compile research**
- **Collate data**
- **Develop tools to evaluate alternative fishery and hatchery management actions**

**Development of WDFW steelhead science paper (e.g., White Paper):  
*Oncorhynchus mykiss: Assessment of Washington State's  
Anadromous Populations and Programs* (Scott & Gill 2008)**

**The steelhead science paper contained findings and recommendations that became the foundation of the Statewide Steelhead Management Plan (SSMP)**

# From Challenge to Plan

## O. mykiss Science Paper

## EIS/SSMP

## SSMP

**2004**

- HSRG (May)
- W WA Tribes (Jun)
- SCPAG (Sep)
- Steelhead Summit V (Nov)
- Hatchery Reform Coalition (Dec)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Draft – Internal Review (Dec)

**2005**

- 2nd Draft – W WA Tribes & SCPAG Review (Sep)

**2006**

- 3rd Draft – All Tribes & SCPAG Review (Jan)
- Comments Due (Jun)

**2007**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Draft (Dec 22)
- Ad-hoc stakeholders meet (Jun '06 – Apr '07)
- DEIS (Aug 1)
- 2nd Draft (Aug 1)
- Public Meetings (Aug 13-22)
- Public Comment (Aug 1-Sep 11)

**2008**

- Final paper (Jan)

- Commission Briefing (Dec)
- Commission Hearing (Feb)
- Commission Action (Mar)

- Develop RMPs

# STATEWIDE STEELHEAD MANAGEMENT PLAN

Clear Goals – Identified Objectives – Strategies to Achieve Goals

Puget  
Sound

Olympic  
Peninsula

SW  
Washington

Lower  
Columbia

Middle  
Columbia

Upper  
Columbia

Snake  
River

Natural Production →

← Habitat Protection & Restoration

Fisheries Management →

← Artificial Production

Regulatory Compliance →

← Monitoring, Evaluation & Adaptive  
Management

Research →

← Outreach & Education

# SSMP Goal

*Restore and maintain the abundance, distribution, diversity, and long-term productivity of Washington's wild steelhead and their habitats to assure healthy stocks. In a manner consistent with this goal, the Department will seek to protect and restore steelhead to achieve cultural, economic, and ecosystem benefits for current and future residents of Washington State.*

# Components within the SSMP

## Steelhead Program Operations

- Natural Production
- Habitat Protection & Restoration
- Fisheries Management
- Artificial Production

## Steelhead Program Administration

- Regulatory Compliance
- Monitoring, Evaluation & Adaptive Management
- Research
- Outreach and Education

# Natural Production

- ❖ **Highest priority on protection of wild steelhead stocks**
  - **Healthy wild stocks meet viable salmonid population parameters**
    - **Protect and restore the diversity**
    - **Provide sufficient wild spawners**
    - **Manage from ecosystem perspective**
    - **Requires description of path with measureable benchmarks and long-term goals**
    - **Establish network of wild steelhead gene banks**

# Natural Production cont'd

- ❖ **Establish network of wild steelhead gene banks**
  - **Each stock selected for inclusion in the gene bank must be sufficiently abundant and productive to be self-sustaining in the future.**
  - **No releases of hatchery-origin steelhead will occur in streams where spawning of the stock occurs, or in streams used exclusively by that stock for rearing.**
  - **Fisheries can be conducted if wild steelhead management objectives are met as well as any necessary federal ESA determinations.**

# Artificial Production

## ❖ Twin goals; conservation and sustainable fisheries

### ➤ *Conservation Programs.*

- Provide a net benefit to the diversity, spatial structure, productivity, and abundance of the target wild stock.

### ➤ *Harvest Programs.*

- Enhance harvest opportunities in a manner consistent with watershed specific goals for wild stock management.

# Fisheries Management

## ❖ Promote achievement of conservation and recovery goals and support sustainable fisheries

- Fisheries consistent with natural production policy

- Promote selective harvest

- Manage in All-H strategy

- Habitat, Harvest, Hatcheries, Hydroelectric

- Account for all sources of fishery related mortalities

**Thank You for  
Your Time**



