

Steelhead RMP Work Session Results
Stakeholder Group 1-5 Suggested Changes to RMP Goal and Subgoals
12/7/06

Suggested Changes to Primary Goal:

- Add abundance to first sentence
- Change diversity to life history diversity
- Substitute “wild” for naturally produced”
- Drop “seek to”
- Clarify what “naturally produced stocks”
- “The primary goal is to restore abundance, distribution, diversity and productivity of Washington’s naturally produced steelhead stocks/runs and their habitats to assure long-term persistence. Optimal management will return steelhead to near historic abundance. In a manner consistent with the primary goal, the Department will seek to protect and restore steelhead to achieve recreational, cultural, and economic benefits for current and future residents of Washington State.

3 examples of suggested sub-goals in order of importance for the Department:

1. Habitat Protection and Restoration
2. Wild steelhead spawning escapement to the carrying capacity of the habitat.
3. Establish an array of wild salmonid refugia consistent with VSP criteria.
4. Research, Monitoring and Evaluation
5. Fisheries Management
6. Artificial Production
7. Enforcement

1. Natural Production
2. Habitat Protection and restoration
3. Fisheries Mgmt
4. Artificial production
5. Enforcement
6. Monitoring and Eval
7. Research

1. Habitat Protection and Restoration
2. Wild steelhead spawning escapement to the carrying capacity of the habitat.
3. Establish an array of wild salmonid refugia consistent with VSP criteria.
4. Research, Monitoring and Evaluation
5. Fisheries Management
6. Artificial Production
7. Enforcement

Suggested Changes to Subgoals:

Natural Production Section Added

1. abundance/Productivity
2. genetic diversity
3. spatial structure
4. WSMZ (Salmonid)

Fisheries Mgmt

- Change to Escapement management
- Primary goal to meet objectives of natural production.
- Substitute “recovery” for conservation
- Drop “consumptive and non-consumptive”
- First sentence: insert “selective” after design; after conservation insert “and enhancement” objectives...
- F.M’s primary focus is to design fisheries that are subordinate to the achievement of the conservation objectives of the primary and sub-goals. Consistent with achieving the conservation objectives provide maximum opportunity for diverse recreational...

Habitat Protection and Restoration

- Add productivity to sentence (after quantity)
- Habitat needs to include nutrients/forage
- Include estuary processes and offshore protection
- Maintain “and” increase...

Artificial Production

- Change last sentence to: “tool used to present/delay extinction”
- Drop “in an econ responsible manner”
- Add “genetic preservation”
- Insert “should be accomplished in a manner” consistent with watershed level goals and sound ecological practices to protect naturally produced fish. It can also be a tool to rebuild depressed or weak populations.
- Artificial production’s primary focus is to provide harvest opportunity in a biologically responsible manner.... Delete 2nd sentence. The employment of artificial production to conserve or restore wild populations is not without risk, and requires rigorous monitoring and evaluation.

Enforcement

- Add habitat... “habitat conservation”
- Add habitat after word enforce

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Implement M&E: Assess the effectiveness of management actions (including hatchery production) to protect the diversity and productivity of...

Research

- Change to adaptive management
- Change inform to “guide”
- Add at end of sentence” based on best science available”

Add Education/Outreach

- Encourage public “buy in”, more active cooperation, seat belt campaign, anti-littering campaigns