

Oct. 27, 2014 – Willapa Bay Ad Hoc Policy Development Meeting

Committee (in person) – Tim Hamilton, Steve Gray, Ross Barkhurst, Paul Philpot, Norm Reinhardt, Marlisa Dugan, LeeRoy Wisner, Lance Gray, Francis Estilla, Dean Antich, David Hollingsworth, Bob Lake, Brian Kraemer, Andy Mitby

WDFW – Ron Warren, Steve Thiesfeld, Mike Scharpf, Barb McClellan, Chad Herring

Agenda

- 6:00 Introductions – Roles and responsibilities
- 6:15 Policy development process
- 6:20 Policies – Technical information
- 7:00 Sideboards – How used, public input, discussion
- 7:45 Fill out forms
- 8:00 Public input
- 8:55 Closing

Opening discussion:

- Public input means from the general public,
- Why were 4 more people added to the advisory group, for this process – Steve wanted a broader representation for this process.
- Discussion why we are developing a policy to manage fisheries in WB. This is a Commission directed project, discussion about meetings and schedules.
- Discussed reason for and outcome of the Saturday, Oct 25, 2014 public meeting.
- Roles and responsibilities of ad hoc
 - Provide guidance and advise to WDFW
 - Represent public that are not present
 - Keep all involved
- Discussion of RCWs and WACs, what and why WDFW have to follow them.
- WDFW can only regulate time, place, and manner.

Policies (all time spent on Policy C-3619 Hatchery and Fishery Reform)

- Several WDFW Policies already in place that direct WDFW fishery management. List of policies are in the binder. When will the HSRG policy be reviewed and or modified?
- Discussion about what and how policies are directing.
- HSRG - What is the management direction if there isn't a genetically distinct stock in Willapa Bay? Manage towards a locally adaptive natural origin recruit.

- Policy calls for a management towards a natural-origin Chinook stock.
- Is a “wild” different than “natural origin” in HSRG? Further review needed.
- Should natural origin escapement goal for Chinook be different now with mass marking in place? More review.
- Request from Commission, if no native stock, would WDFW need to manage for one under HSRG policy?
- A lot of discussion about HSRG.

Sideboards (**objectives** provided by committee members, only one per member)

- Manage for the future generations of the State.
- Raise and harvest as many hatchery fish as possible and minimize surplus.
- Viable (self-sustaining) runs of NOR of all species in all tributaries, provide harvest opportunities.
- Sustainability.
- Research and develop alternative commercial harvest methodologies.
- Increase recreational opportunities in all areas, marine and freshwater, by limiting the commercial opener until sept 7th.
- Evaluate and protect stocks (Willapa Bay) harvest from outside fisheries, Canada – Alaska, ocean....
- Reevaluate component populations under HSRG, primary, contributing, or stabilizing. Naselle shouldn't be the primary pop. Willapa River should be the primary pop.
- Manage for maximum sustainable harvest over the long term.
- Maximize hatchery production,
- Maximize production, particularly chum.
- Maximum sustainable economic value within conservation objectives.
- Re-evaluation of the natural origin escapement goals. (Chinook particularly)

General comments ideas for policy:

- Update the graph showing all WB Chinook recoveries, all fisheries, Canada, Alaska, sport, Figure 2 in the management plan (page 12).
- In-season management changes may benefit, weather days lost in commercial may be made up later if fish available, freshwater sport increase bag if available.
- Develop a range of ideas for commission consideration.
- Conservation needs to be considered along with hatchery production.
- Alternative commercial gear is difficult to use in Willapa Bay.
- Is there a State Hatchery Reform Act that initiated HSRG, that directs Commission who adopted HSRG recommendations, which directed WDFW to implement these recommendations?

- Conducted a size and age evaluation, are fish smaller or is the age structure younger?
- Evaluate Williams Creek chum data.
- Public workshop is to present to the general public results of this meeting and to continue sideboard and option development.

Public comment period, all is recorded.

- Provide hatchery management designation of all programs (segregated or integrated), provided pHOS and pNOS and pNI if can be calculated. NOB. For Dave Hamilton.

