

Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy - Options

Draft November 12, 2014

Aspirational Objectives

The aspirational objectives describe the suite of outcomes that we will strive to achieve through the development of the policy. They are intended to inspire the development of innovative strategies and promote the assessment of trade-offs between options. They are not entitlements, and it may not be feasible to simultaneously achieve all of the aspirational objectives.

Conservation

Chinook – Alternative 1

Spawners: Meet Naselle and North spawner goals in 10 years
Broodstock Management: Meet watershed-specific HSRG standards in 10 years

Chinook – Alternative 2

Spawners: Meet Willapa and North spawner goals in 10 years
Broodstock Management: Meet watershed-specific HSRG standards in 10 years

Coho

Spawners: Meet Willapa Bay aggregate goal
Broodstock Management: Meet watershed-specific HSRG standards

Chum

Spawners: Meet Willapa Bay aggregate goal in 2017
Broodstock Management: Meet watershed-specific HSRG standards

Recreational Fisheries

25% increase in catch within 5 years relative to 2009-2013 average

Commercial Fisheries

\$900,000 average ex-vessel value

Strategies

The strategies describe alternative fishery and hatchery management options. They will be compared to current management (referred to as the Base) with respect to achieving the aspirational objectives.

In the following options, the “A” and “B” sub-options are identical except that the “A” series always has the Naselle and North as Primary Chinook populations and the “B” series always has the Willapa and North as Primary Chinook populations.

Option 1A

Synopsis:

- Current hatchery production
- Time and area priorities per guidance
- Commercial fisheries begin 9/15
- Commercial limited to only 2 days per week in 2T and 2U beginning 9/15
- No directed commercial chum fisheries until spawner goal achieved

Policy Component	Proposal			
Species Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinook: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Sept. 14. • Coho, Chum: Commercial priority. 			
Area Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas 2T, 2U: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Sept. 14; maximum of 2 commercial fishing days/week in remainder of season. • Areas 2M, 2N, 2R & 2P: Commercial fisheries after Sept. 14 scheduled to meet conservation objectives. 			
Chinook Primary Populations	Naselle River & North River(current)			
Hatchery Production	Hatchery	Chinook	Coho	Chum
	Forks	3.2M	0.3M	0.3M
	Nemah	3.3M	-	0.3M
	Naselle	0.5M	1.4M	0.3M
Chum Streamside Incubation Boxes	200,000 (current)			
Chum Fishery Management	No commercial fisheries Oct. 15-31 until spawner goal achieved			

Option 1B

Synopsis: Differences from Option 1A are highlighted in red.

- Shift primary Chinook designation from Naselle River to Willapa River
- Shift Chinook production from Forks Creek Hatchery to Naselle Hatchery
- Time and area priorities per guidance
- Commercial fisheries begin 9/15
- Commercial limited to only 2 days per week in 2T and 2U beginning 9/15
- No directed commercial chum fisheries until spawner goal achieved

Policy Component	Proposal			
Species Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinook: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Sept. 14. • Coho, Chum: Commercial priority. 			
Area Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas 2T, 2U: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Sept. 14; maximum of 2 commercial fishing days/week in remainder of season. • Areas 2M, 2N, 2R & 2P: Commercial fisheries after Sept. 14 scheduled to meet conservation objectives. 			
Chinook Primary Populations	Willapa River & North River			
Hatchery Production	Hatchery	Chinook	Coho	Chum
	Forks	0.4M ↓	0.3M	0.3M
	Nemah	3.3M	-	0.3M
	Naselle	3.3M ↑	1.4M	0.3M
Chum Streamside Incubation Boxes	200,000 (current)			
Chum Fishery Management	No commercial fisheries Oct. 15-31 until spawner goal achieved			

Option 2A

Synopsis: Differences from Option 1A are highlighted in red.

- Decreased Chinook production at Nemah, increase Chum and coho
- Increased streamside incubation boxes for chum
- Time and area priorities per guidance
- Commercial fisheries begin after Labor Day in 2M and 2N only, limited to 3 days per week between Labor Day and 9/14
- Commercial fisheries begin 9/15 in remaining areas
- Commercial limited to only 3 days per week in 2T and 2U beginning 9/15
- No directed commercial chum fisheries until goal achieved, except 2M and 2N beginning 2018

Policy Component	Proposal			
Species Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinook: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Labor Day weekend. • Coho, Chum: Commercial priority 			
Area Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 2T, 2U: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Sept. 14. Maximum of 3 commercial fishing days/week in remainder of season. • Areas 2M & 2N commercial priority with maximum of 3 commercial fishing days/week after Labor Day weekend through Sept. 14. After Sept. 14 scheduled to meet conservation objectives. • Areas 2P & 2R: Commercial fisheries after Sept. 14 scheduled to meet conservation objectives. 			
Chinook Primary Populations	Naselle River & North River			
Hatchery Production	Hatchery	Chinook	Coho	Chum
	Forks	3.2M	0.3M	0.3M
	Nemah	0.5M ↓	0.4M ↑	3.0M ↑
	Naselle	0.5M	1.4M	0.3M
Chum Streamside Incubation Boxes	400,000 (twice current level) ↑			
Chum Fishery Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas 2T, 2U, 2R, 2P – no commercial fisheries Oct. 15-31 until spawner goal achieved • Areas 2M, 2N – commercial fisheries directed at returning Nemah Hatchery adult return no earlier than 2018. 			

Option 2B

Synopsis: Differences from Option 1A are highlighted in red.

- Shift primary Chinook designation from Naselle River to Willapa River
- Shift Chinook production from Forks Creek Hatchery to Naselle Hatchery
- Decreased Chinook production at Nemah, increase Chum and coho
- Increased streamside incubation boxes for chum
- Time and area priorities per guidance
- Commercial fisheries begin after Labor Day in 2M and 2N only, limited to 3 days per week between Labor Day and 9/14
- Commercial fisheries begin 9/15 in remaining areas
- Commercial limited to only 3 days per week in 2T and 2U beginning 9/15
- No directed commercial chum fisheries until goal achieved, except 2M and 2N beginning 2018

Policy Component	Proposal			
Species Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinook: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Labor Day weekend. • Coho, Chum: Commercial priority 			
Area Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 2T, 2U: Recreational priority with no commercial fishery through Sept. 14. Maximum of 3 commercial fishing days/week in remainder of season. • Areas 2M & 2N commercial priority with maximum of 3 commercial fishing days /week after Labor Day weekend through Sept. 14. After Sept. 14 scheduled to meet conservation objectives. • Areas 2P & 2R: Commercial fisheries after Sept. 14 scheduled to meet conservation objectives. 			
Chinook Primary Populations	Willapa River & North River			
Hatchery Production	Hatchery	Chinook	Coho	Chum
	Forks	0.4M ↓	0.3M	0.3M
	Nemah	0.5M ↓	0.4M ↑	3.0M ↑
	Naselle	3.3M ↑	1.4M	0.3M
Chum Streamside Incubation Boxes	400,000 (twice current level) ↑			
Chum Fishery Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas 2T, 2U, 2R, 2P – no commercial fisheries Oct. 15-31 until spawner goal achieved • Areas 2M, 2N – commercial fisheries directed at returning Nemah Hatchery adult return no earlier than 2018 			