

## Appendix A

### Select Area Site Selection Criteria

#### Rearing Site Criteria:

1. Selected sites should have sufficient area and depth characteristics to accommodate a minimum number of rearing units to support an economically viable fishery.
2. Selected sites should have adequate flow and velocity characteristics to prevent degradation of water quality while providing natural food organisms.
3. Selected sites should provide protection from extreme weather and river conditions that would disrupt rearing operations.
4. Selected sites should have land-based access to the rearing site and equipment with potential for development.
5. Selected sites should be located in areas with high probability for attracting returning adults.

#### Harvest Site Selection Criteria:

1. Selected sites should have sufficient area, depth, and proximity to attract local and nonlocal fishers.
2. Selected sites would be accessible and accommodating to fishing vessels and fish buyers.
3. Selected sites should minimize the interaction between commercial fishers and other river user groups.
4. Selected sites should have definable boundaries for enforcement and biological monitoring activities.
5. Selected sites should maximize the harvest of target fish stocks in the terminal area while minimizing the impacts on nontarget species and sensitive fish stocks.

Under the site selection criteria, each site was ranked from 0 to 5 in each category, with cumulative scores assigned to each on a scale of 0 to 50. Any site ranking 0 in one of more selection criteria was eliminated from further consideration. Established rearing sites at Youngs Bay and Wahkeena Pond were not ranked. For reasons not stated in project documents, Elochoman River also was not ranked. Of the remaining 22 sites, nine were considered to have high priority, and six to have medium priority, with the remaining sites to have low priority.

Of the medium priority sites, four failed to meet at least one selection criterion, thus were eliminated from further consideration. Due to the constraints imposed by funding considerations and questions concerning availability of adequate hatchery smolts, all sites ranking below 2 in any site selection category were set aside for possible future consideration, but were not considered for further evaluation during the 12-year SAFE Program study.