

2021 Grays Harbor North of Falcon Public Meeting
March 24, 2021 6-8 p.m.
Via ZOOM Video/Phone conference platform

WDFW Staff: Marlene Wagner, Mike Scharpf, Leah Snyder, Mark Baltzell, Kyle Adicks, Kim Figlar-Barnes, James Losee, Chad Herring, Ron Warren, Kelly Cunningham
Public: 15 individuals participated in ZOOM video/phone conference

Presentation

Marlene Wagner:

- Welcome, opening statements and staff introductions
- Review NOF & APA process and remaining NOF & PFMC meetings
- Review 2021 Ocean Options from March PFMC
- Ocean Quotas Review

Mike Scharpf

- Recent Grays Harbor salmon stock trend graphs showing natural escapement, run size, escapement goal and predicted run size
- 2021 Forecasts Grays Harbor and Quinalt/Queets coho
- GH management objectives review

Public Comments

Dave H – spreadsheets do not match what is presented so far

Presentation Continues

Mike Scharpf

- 2021 model presented with last year's fisheries and this year's forecasts
 - Chehalis River
 - Concerns natural chinook will not be achieved & coho (need to be less than or equal to 5% harvest rate)
 - Humptulips River
 - Coho will not meet expected escapement (need to be less than or equal to 5% harvest rate)
 - Grays Harbor Total
 - Coho will not meet harvest impact rate of less than or equal to 5%
 - Chum marine impact rate is above 2% for sharing between marine & freshwater
- Overall need to reduce impacts to coho
- Review of fishery suggestions to date

Public Comments

Dave H. – (Rec. fishery)

- Lose days (such as Mon. & Tues.) instead of two week shut down
- Catch and release all wild coho and Chinook to help make escapement
- Use impacts for release of wild coho
- Chinook have harvestable numbers, need to release (be conservative), if allow hatchery retention could attract too many people and impacts will be too high
- What fishery structure do you think you can craft Mike?

Mike Scharpf

- Would like to know suggestions important to constituents
 - MSF on table
 - Season reduction
 - Last year's bag limit may stay
- Handout in question is from last year's model and shows expected numbers were not reached

Bill O. – (Rec. fishery)

- Coho jack fishery extend to middle of October
- Current limit of 6 – cannot find when limit was established
- Would like coho jack limit increased to 12
- Days off for fishery (Dave H. recommendation)- please do not shut off one of the weekend days; allows anglers working Mon. to Fri. opportunity to fish

Meeting concluded at 7:15 p.m.