

Columbia River Policy 3630: Annual Update 2021

December 3, 2021

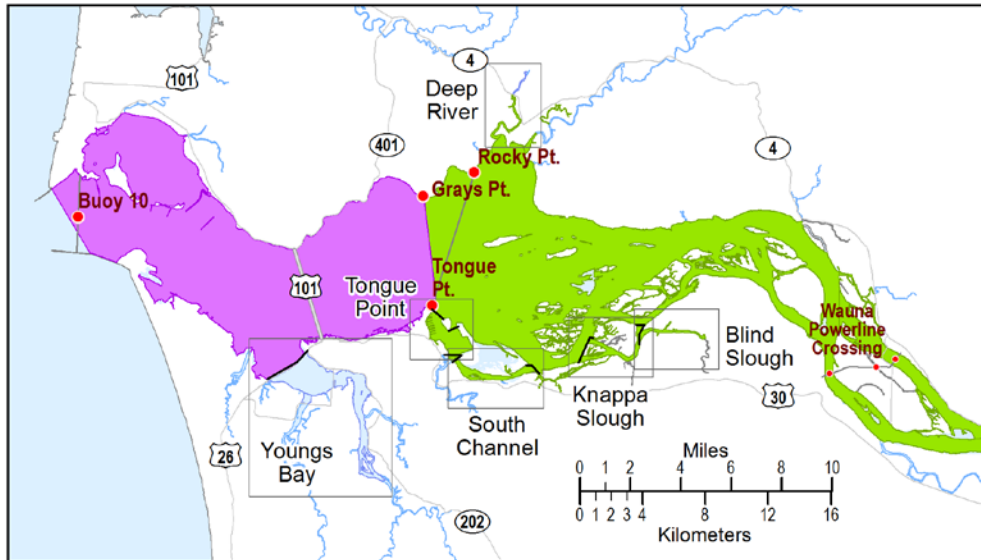
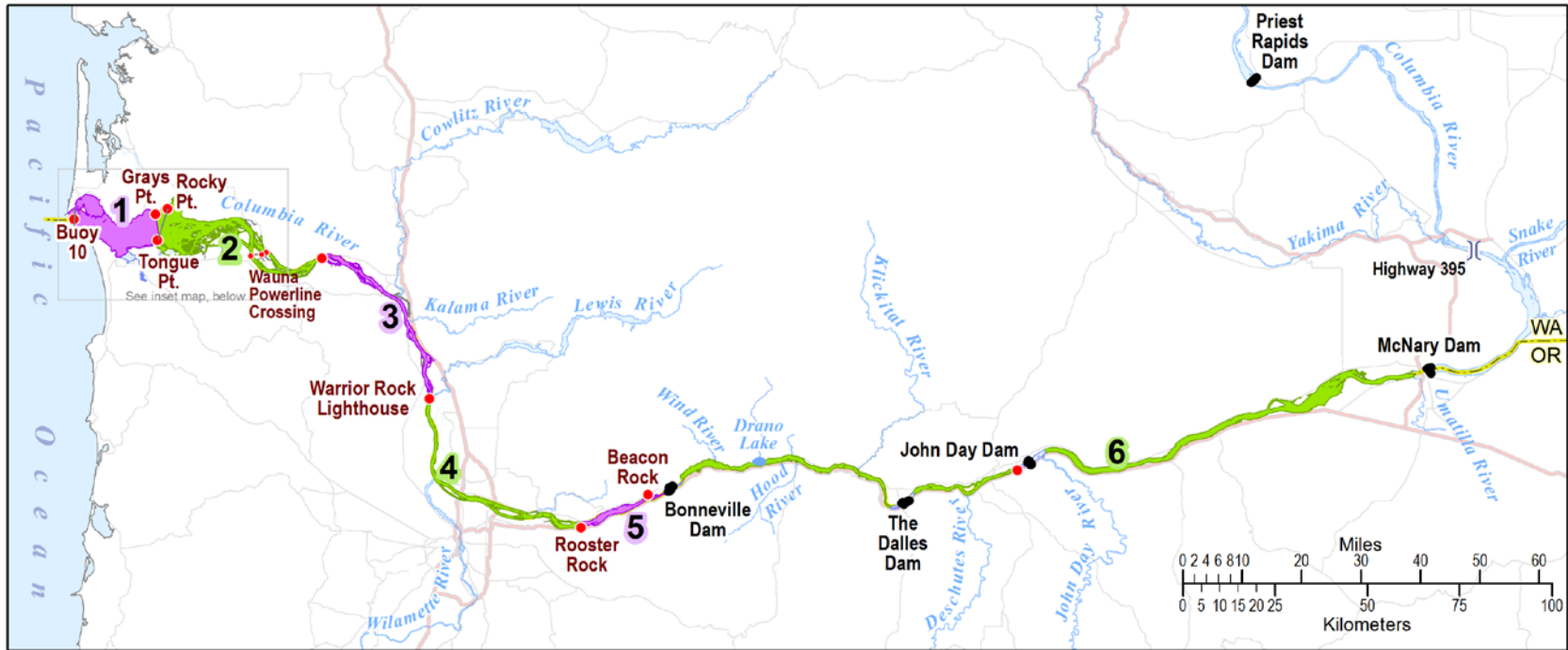
Dr. Charlene Hurst, CRMU



Mainstem Fisheries Review

- Includes fisheries described in the 'Fishery Specific Provisions' of C-3630.
- Statistics provided are considered preliminary, and subject to change, as run reconstruction is on-going through the winter months.
- Run sizes and impact rates are based on Columbia River mouth run size unless otherwise indicated.





WDFW Fish Science, 11/23/2021



Upriver Spring Chinook



Run size

- Preseason: 75,200
- Updated run size: 91,800

Allocation

- C-3630: 70% recreational, 30% commercial
 - Recreational sub: 70% LCR, 10% Zone 6, 20% Snake/Wanapum
- Director Delegation: 80% recreational, 20% commercial (post-update tangle net)
 - Recreational sub: 70% LCR, 12.5% Zone 6, 17.5% Snake/Wanapum

ESA Impacts

- Recreational: 0.88% out of 1.28% allocated
- Commercial: 0.38% out of 0.32% allocated
- **Total non-treaty: 1.26% out of 1.6% allowed**



Upper Columbia Summer Chinook



Run size

- Preseason: 75,200
- Updated run size: 59,600

Allocation

- C-3630: 70% recreational, 30% commercial below Priest Rapids Dam
- Director Delegation: 80% recreational, 20% commercial (gillnet not allowed) below Priest Rapids Dam

Catch Sharing

- Below Priest Rapids Dam
 - Recreational: 2,351 of 2,477 allocated
 - Commercial: 50 of 619 allocated
- **Total non-treaty harvest rate (includes non-treaty ocean): 21.9% out of 24.8% allowed**



Sockeye



Run size

- Preseason: 155,600
- Updated run size: 149,600

Allocation

- C-3630: 70% recreational, 30% commercial
- Oregon: 80% recreational, 20% commercial
- Not addressed in Director Delegation: 70% recreational, 20% commercial allocated.

ESA Impacts

- Recreational: 0.37% out of 0.7% allocated
- Commercial: 0.001% out of 0.2% allocated
- **Total non-treaty (Snake River): 0.37% out of 1.0% allowed**



Fall Chinook



Run size

- Lower River Hatchery (surrogate for Lower River Natural)
 - Preseason: 73,100
- Upriver Bright (surrogate for Snake River Wild)
 - Preseason: 354,200
 - Updated run size: 293,900

Allocation

- Concurrent: $\leq 70\%$ recreational, $\geq 30\%$ commercial of most constraining fall stock
- Director Delegation: Gillnet in Zone 4/5 only

ESA Impacts

- Lower River Hatchery (Lower River Natural)
 - Recreational: 10.5% out of $\leq 9.7\%$ allocated
 - Commercial: 1.7% out of $\geq 4.1\%$ allocated
 - **Total (includes in-river, treaty/non-treaty ocean, and northern): 37.0% out of 38.0% allowed**
- Snake River Wild
 - Recreational: 8.5% out of $\leq 10.5\%$ allocated
 - Commercial: 5.1% out of $\geq 4.5\%$ allocated
 - **Total non-treaty: 13.6% out of 15.0% allowed**



Coho

Run size

- Preseason
 - Early stock: 872,700
 - Late stock: 470,500

Allocation

- Concurrent: ESA impacts are prioritized by fishing sector with no specific numerical allocation.
- Director Delegation: No gillnets

ESA Impacts

- **Total (includes in-river, treaty/non-treaty ocean, and northern): 10.15% out of 30.0% allowed**



Chum

Run size

- Preseason: 14,100

Allocation

- Commercial fisheries assign sufficient share to prosecute fisheries.
- No retention in commercial or recreational fisheries.

ESA Impacts

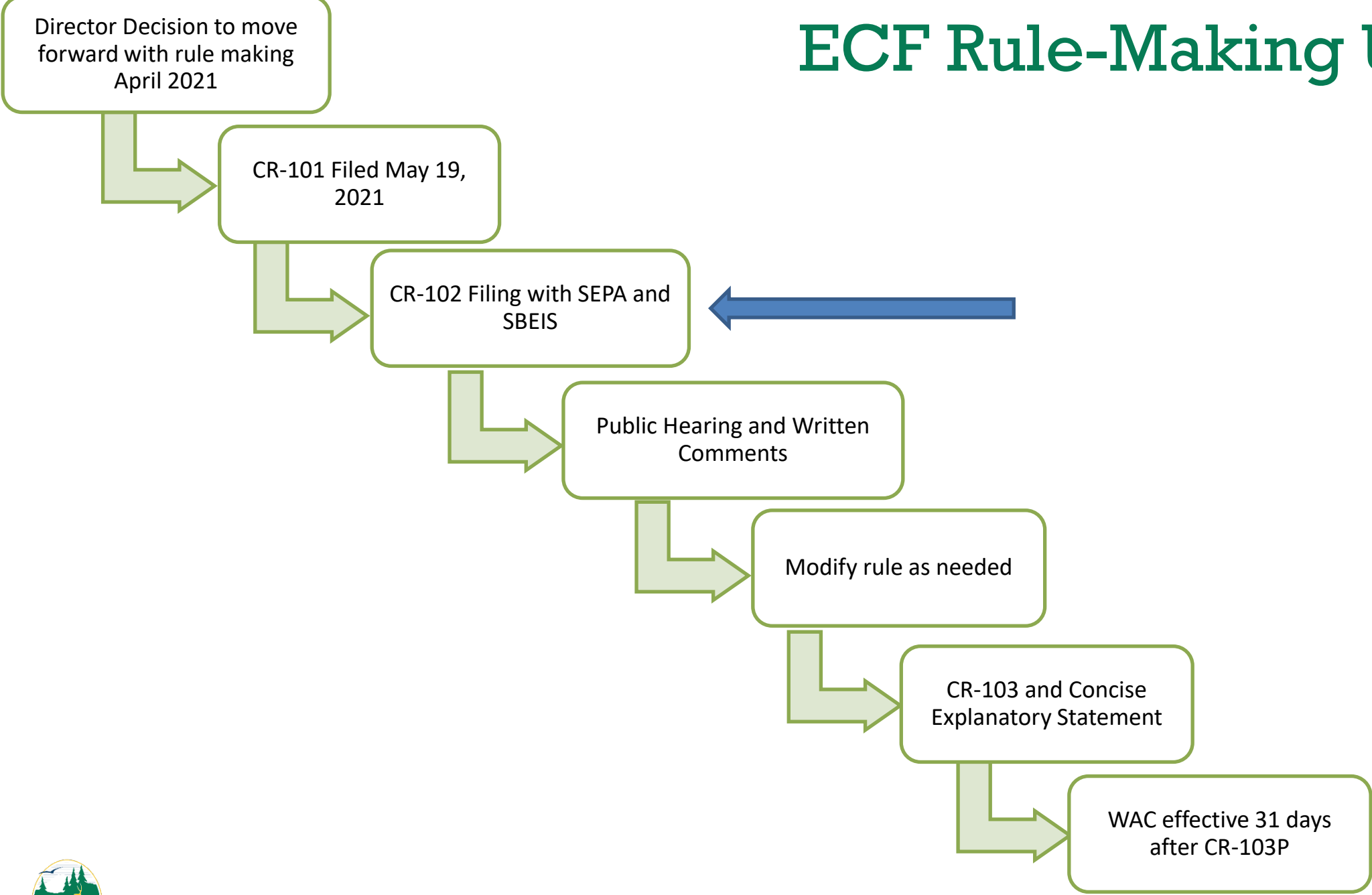
- **Total non-treaty: 1.57% out of 5.0% allowed**



Commercial Alternative Gear



ECF Rule-Making Update



Alternative Gear Advisory Board

- Re-instated in 2019 with 5 commercial industry members
- Informed Director's decision to move forward with rule-making
 - no unanimous recommendation
- Converted to a workgroup in June 2021
 - Focus on technical discussions
 - An advisory board required if going down the experimental fishing permit pathway under the ECF



Fall Tangle-Net Study

Purpose:

- Evaluate release mortality rate of existing alternative gear ($\leq 3.75''$ mesh) targeting hatchery coho with gear modification and additional timeframe
 - Columbia River Commercial Advisory Group concept
 - OR/WA joint effort
- Intended to occur fall of 2021 but postponed to 2022 due to supply chain issues with receiving nets on time



Pound Nets

- WFC Conducted their first year of research at the Clifton Channel Trap in OR
- Multiple tours to the site coordinated with WFC, commercial fishermen, and WDFW
- We continue to consider options for ESA impact coverage for proposed pound net research in 2022 and 2023



2022 Supplemental Budget Request (\$3.4M)

License reduction	Alternative gears	Outreach, and policy support	Fisheries assessment
\$2,170,000	\$226,000	\$388,000	\$620,000



Alternative gears Proposal

Diversify	Diversify the research efforts currently underway by experimenting with more gears
Literature Review	Conduct a review of the information available to date on alternative gears
Research	Design/ conduct a study to investigate mortality rates and handle estimates
Streamline	Develop a streamlined approach for fishers to apply for licenses, permits and leases



Commercial License Reduction



Supplemental Budget Request- LR Proposal

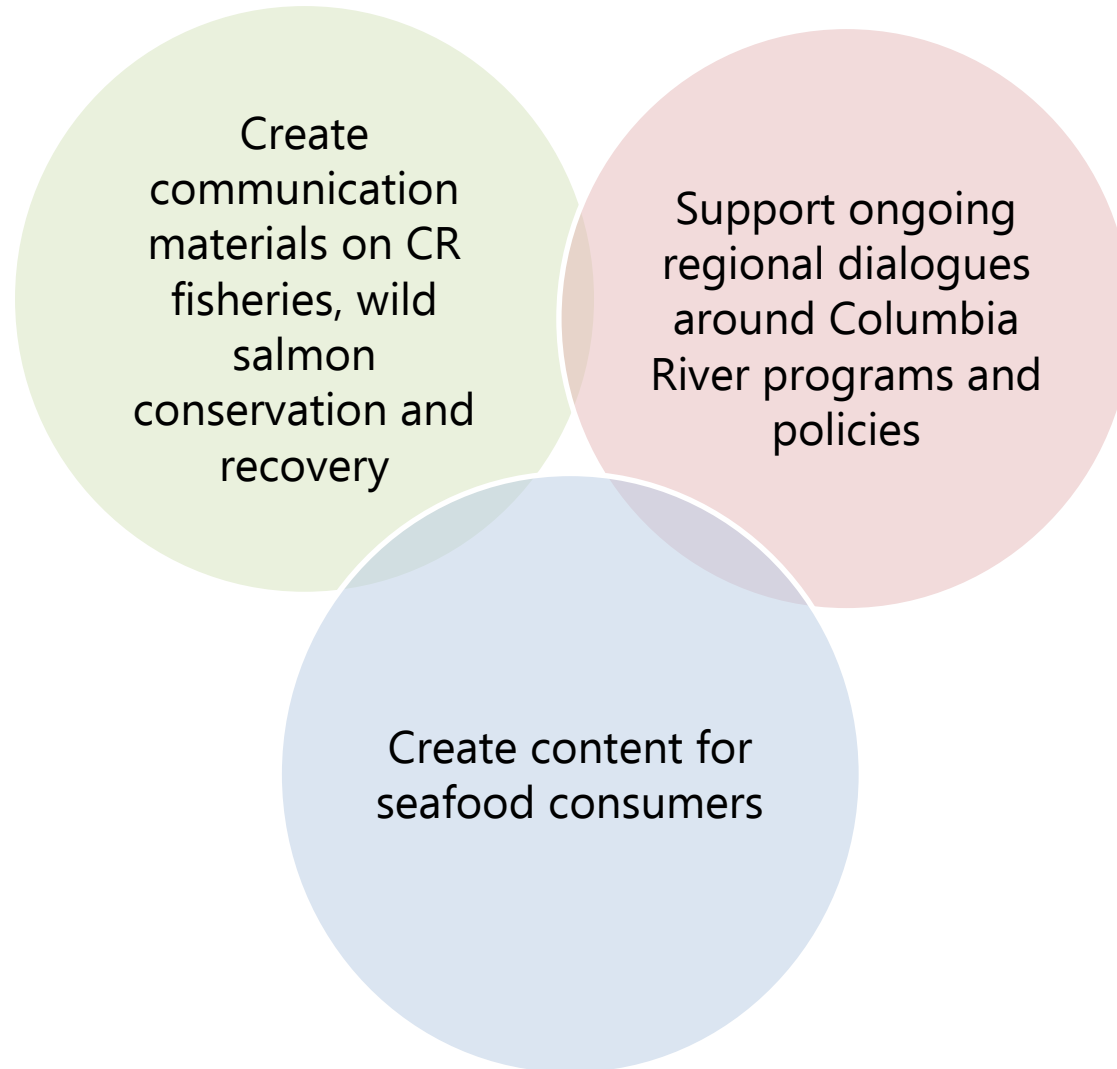
Two-choice program structure

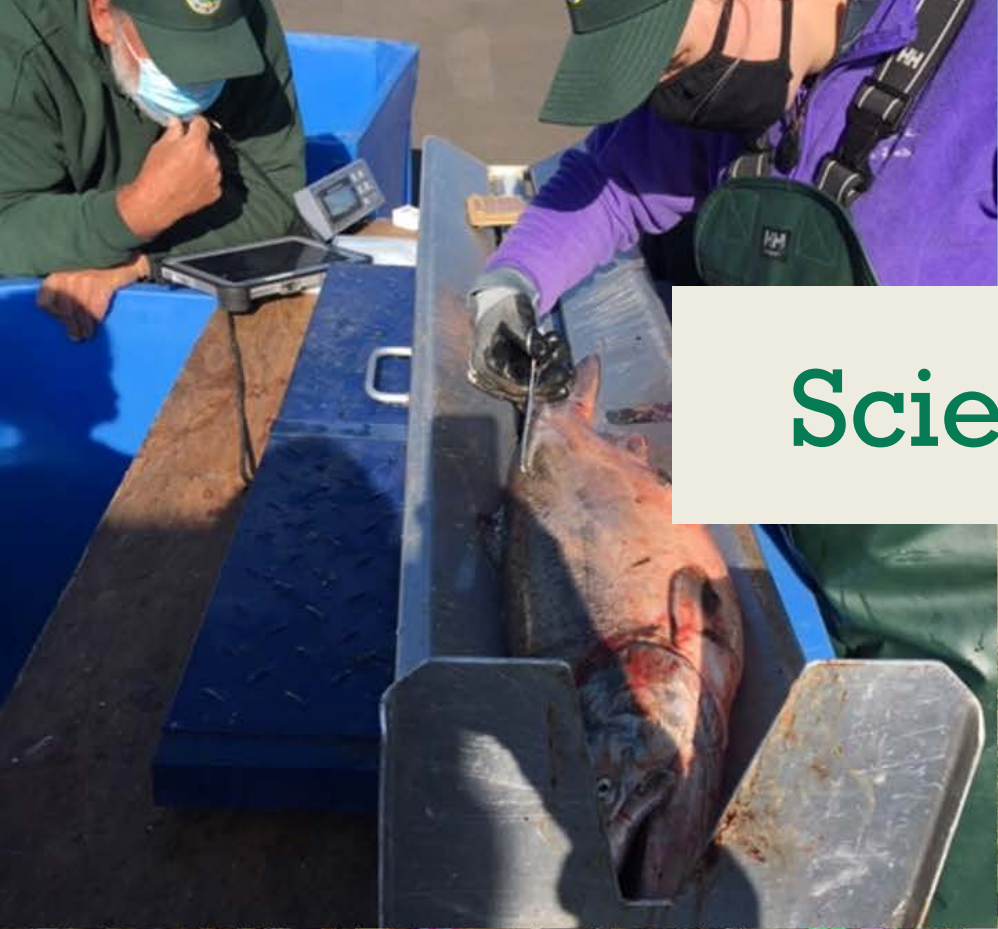
- Participate in fixed bid program for \$10,000, or submit reverse auction bid

Also, a small amount of funding for contractor support



Supplemental Budget Request-Communication proposal





Scientific Monitoring



Electronic Monitoring Feasibility Study

- WDFW awarded a NFWF grant in Fall of 2021 to test the feasibility of using EM on small boats (< 40 ft) for monitoring
- We had one participant and data are currently being analyzed
- We are looking into extending our grant for another year, and possibly the geographic scope



Mark-Selective Fishery Fund Award

WDFW's CRMU was recently awarded ~\$45K during 2022 fisheries to supplement our mainstem mark-selective fishery sampling and monitoring, such as:

- Spring Chinook recreational
- Spring Chinook tangle net
- Summer Chinook recreational
- Fall Chinook and Coho recreational
- Fall alternative gear fisheries (tangle net, purse seine, beach seine, pound net)



2022 Supplemental Budget Request

- Funding for one-time purchase of a passive integrated transponder array (PIT tag detector), PIT tags and supplies.
- Staff to assist with development and implementation of a more rigorous monitoring plan (e.g., logbooks, enhanced creel).



Guide License Limitation

- This would need to be a joint effort with OR, and little discussion has occurred to date
- WA recently made logbooks mandatory for guides
- Data from logbooks may inform future direction



Hatchery and Natural Production Goals

Many goals exist in a variety of places including:

- The Columbia Basin Partnership
- Recovery plans
- Management agreements
- HGMPs/FMEPs/Biological Opinions



Thermal Angling Sanctuaries

- WDFW staff across all regions in the Columbia River are working on a white paper on this topic with recommendations for future actions
- We anticipate an initial draft to be ready in early 2022





Questions?

