



Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation Summary Sheet

Meeting date:

9/23/2022

Agenda item:

Coastal Steelhead Update (Season Review, Prospects and Process for Next Season) – Briefing, Public Comment

Presenter(s):

Kelly Cunningham, Director of Fish Program and James Losee, Region 6 Fish Program Manager

Background summary:

Report on 2022 Coastal Steelhead Performance and Indicators for 2023

Staff recommendation:

No recommendation at this time.

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

Answer questions and provide feedback to the full commission.

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

N/A

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

Ad-hoc Coastal Steelhead Advisory Group and planned town hall meetings in October and November.

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

No new action requested at this time.

Draft motion language:

Post decision communications plan:

Coastal Steelhead 2022/23 Season Planning Schedule

Co-Manager Season Planning Milestones

- **Mid July:** Survey data exchange with tribal comanagers
- **Mid August:** Spawning Escapement Estimates Finalized
- **Early September:** Exchange pre-season forecasts with Tribal Co-Managers
- **Early October:** Pre-season Forecasts Agreement with Tribal Co-Managers
- **Mid October:** Comanager policy meetings to develop Management Plans
- **Mid November:** Finalize management plans with Co-Managers
- **Late November:** Agreed to Co-Manager Fishing Plans
- **December 1:** Announce coastal winter Steelhead fishing rules.

Season Planning Process

- **August Fish Committee:** Briefing
 - What is known regarding the performance of 2021-22 season
 - Initial indicators for the 2022-23 season
- **September Full Commission:** Briefing, Public Comment

September/October -News release announcing Town Hall #1

- **October Town Hall #1:** Final escapements and preliminary forecasts
 - Trends in abundance and environmental indicators, escapement estimates, forecasts
 - Preliminary catch estimates
 - Management concerns such as probable/possible conservation situations
 - Review of pre-season schedule
 - Solicit fishing rule proposals from the public
- **October Fish Committee** (post Town Hall #1): Briefing
- **October 27 Commission meeting-Status update**

November-News release announcing Town Hall #2

- **November Town Hall #2:** Final Pre-season planning
 - Initial staff recommendations for season dates, area, and regulatory options
 - Stakeholder questions, feedback, and analysis of public proposals
 - Review of pre-season schedule
- **November Special Fish Committee Meeting Placeholder** (post Town Hall #2): Briefing/Update-proviso implementation
- **Mid November:** Finalize Management Plans with tribal Co-Managers.
- **November 18 Commission Meeting-Briefing/Status Update**

November-News release announcing Town Hall #3

- **Mid/Late November Special Fish Committee Meeting:** Discuss Public Proposals and Staff Recommendations
- **Mid/Late November Town Hall #3:** Communicate Director's decision on agreed to fishing plans
- **December 1:** Announce coastal winter Steelhead fishing rules

Note: *although not relevant to the season planning process, we would like to brief the Committee on the implementation status of the Coastal Steelhead Proviso during the August Fish Committee meeting.*