

## **Line Item Rationale of Grays Harbor Basin Salmon Management Policy Revisions**

**General Statement:** The staff-recommended revisions of the Grays Harbor Basin Salmon Management Policy are included in a separate mark-up strike-through document. The revision removes redundant and/or prescriptive language, re-organizes sections to provide more clear and parsimonious flow, provides for flexible and adaptive management, and more closely resembles the newly approved Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy. The mark-up strike-through document contains line numbers that are used below to describe each section and promote further discussion.

### **Line items 1-12:**

The Purpose section is rewritten to include both natural- and hatchery-origin fish and explicitly state the three species of salmon present in the Grays Harbor Basin. Steelhead are omitted as they fall under their own statewide management plan. Topics such as fair sharing, economics, and technical rigor are discussed in other sections.

### **Line items 14-30:**

The Authority Definition and Intent section is renamed to mirror the Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy. The section has been rewritten to more clearly state that the Fish and Wildlife Commission establishes this policy to be executed by the Department and the basis for this in the Fish and Wildlife Code of the State of Washington

### **Line items 32-48:**

A Policy Objectives section has been added. The objectives provide concise statements for future outcomes in the management of Grays Harbor Basin salmon.

### **Line items 50-59:**

The Adaptive Management section has been moved to provide better flow by being placed before the Guidance section. The rewrite clearly explains what adaptive management means in this context and removes topics that are not specifically related.

### **Line items 61-86:**

The former Policy's General Policy Statement has been removed. Topics such as fishery monitoring, adaptive management, mark-selective fisheries, habitat restoration, and co-management are discussed elsewhere.

### **Line items 88-246:**

This Guidance section of the policy provides the core guidance for managing salmon fisheries and follows the flow of the Commissioner's new Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy.

**Lines 92-96:** Guidance #1 is listed first to emphasize WDFW's mandate to conserve salmon populations. Direction to work with partners to achieve habitat restoration has been moved to Guidance #5.

**Lines 98-109:** Guidance #2 has been rewritten for parsimony and to include WDFW's partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation.

**Lines 111-117:** Guidance #3 specifically discusses how performance measures are to be used to meet policy objectives, elaborating on the Adaptive Management section. Pacific Salmon Commission and Pacific Salmon Treaty items have been moved to Guidance #8d.

**Lines 119-124:** Guidance #4 directs WDFW to use in-season management to use performance measures for in-season fisheries management. Pacific Fisheries Management Council process has been moved to Guidance #8e.

**Lines 126-130:** Guidance #5 discusses working with partners to protect and restore habitat. This was carved from #1 to its own section.

**Lines 132-135:** Guidance #5 in the old policy has been moved to Guidance #6.

**Lines 137-143:** Guidance #8 in the old policy has been moved to Guidance #7.

**Lines 145-193:** Guidance #8 provides information on harvest management. Direction regarding mark-selective fisheries has been moved from the former General Policy Statement section to Guidance #8a. The Pacific Salmon Treaty and Pacific Salmon Management Council sections have moved here to #8b and #8c. Guidance #8d directs WDFW to conduct Management Strategy Evaluations to update harvest control rules for all salmon stocks. Guidance #8e provides direction on species specific management. The revised policy moves the Fisheries and Species Specific section here to #8e.

**Lines 195-197:** Guidance #9 moves annual fisheries reviews from the former Adaptive Management section here.

**Lines 202-246:** Former Guiding Principles 9-14 are redundant, prohibitively prescriptive, or discussed elsewhere.

**Lines 248-349:** The Fishery and Species Specific Guidance has been moved and included under the new Guidance section. Prescriptive restrictions on commercial fishery impact rates that were based on an analysis using outdated information from 2008-2012 and the previous fall chinook escapement goal are removed. Allocation and impact rates expressed in the policy between marine and freshwater recreational fisheries that were based more on public input than data have also been removed.

**Lines 351-382:** The Adaptive Management section is rewritten and moved to precede the Guidance section.

**Lines 384-394:** The Delegation of Authority section is updated to match the Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy.