

# Avian Salmon Predation Working Group

## Meeting #2

February 4, 2025  
9 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
Olympia, WA and online

# Welcome!

- Brief introductions
- Update since last meeting
- Today's agenda
- Today's objectives



*Alan Bauer*

# Today's agenda

- “Part 1” Presentations - Science overview, regulatory framework
  - Washington “State of the Salmon”
  - Piscivorous birds in Washington
  - Migratory Bird Treaty Act and other regulatory frameworks
- “Part 2” - Group discussions
  - Reflections on the pre-meeting materials and presentations; establishing a knowledge base
  - Scope of report; how will the Work Group frame its response to the legislative ask?

# Today's objectives

- Establish a knowledge base on this topic – “level setting” (Reflections)
- Identify working definition of “impact” (Scope of report)
- Establish a shared vision of how the report will discuss remedies (Scope of report)
- Identify if the Working Group needs more information to meet legislative directive

# Expectations

- Participate and engage
- Bring your ideas, experiences, and perspectives
- Hold space for *others'* ideas, experiences, and perspectives
- Engage in respectful dialogue; listen to understand
- If there are disagreements – challenge the idea, not the individual
- Be considerate of time and scheduling
- Hybrid meeting: if you're participating virtually, please use the Raise Hand feature and mute mic when not speaking.

# Presentations

# Washington “State of the Salmon”

Jeremy Cram

Salmon Recovery Policy Lead

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife



**Break: back at 10:45 a.m.**



# Piscivorous birds in Washington

Allison Anholt

Shorebird, Colonial Waterbird Species Lead  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife



**Lunch: back at 12:15 p.m.**

# Migratory Bird Treaty Act and other regulatory frameworks

Michelle McDowell

Permits Branch Chief

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Migratory Birds and Habitat Program



**Break: back at 2:15 p.m.**

# Group discussions

# Your task from the legislature

1. Identify all avian species that contribute to predation of juvenile salmon at a population level
2. Determine whether such species are adversely impacting the recovery of any threatened or endangered salmon species
3. Identify remedies to predation



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# Reflections, establishing knowledge base

- Pre-meeting materials
  - Any questions? Discussion?
- Today's presentations
  - What did you hear?
  - What did you NOT hear?
  - What do you still have questions about?
- Do you have additional information that wasn't covered in the pre-meeting materials or presentations?



*Bruce Spalding*

# Reflections, establishing knowledge base

- **OBJECTIVE:** Establish a knowledge base that builds the foundation the Working Group will move forward with to produce the report and answer the legislature's questions
- **OBJECTIVE:** Identify if the Working Group needs more information and if so, how do we accomplish that by Meeting 3?



*Anthony Maestas*



# Reflections, establishing knowledge base

*“Identify all avian species that contribute to predation of juvenile salmon **at a population level**”*

- Is it possible to answer this question in whole?
- We can identify avian species that predate on salmonids; is it possible to identify at a population level?
- What other info do we need to answer “at a population level”? Can we?

# Scope of report

- **OBJECTIVE:** Identify working definition of “impact”
- Part of the report should be an opportunity to gather potential different definitions of “impact,” so the legislature understand the scope of what they asked for?
- *Avian predation in a specific place at a specific time – IS IT MEASURABLE?*
- *If it is measurable – IS IT ADDITIVE?*
- *If so – then perhaps it is predation that is “impactful” at that spatial and temporal scale*

# Scope of report

## *“Identify remedies to predation”*

- **OBJECTIVE:** Establish a shared vision of how the report will discuss remedies
- The legislature directed the group to identify remedies – what more information does this group need to be able to accomplish this?
- There are different scales you could consider when “identifying remedies.” How do you think the group should approach answering that question? At what scale do you think you should be answering this question?



# Almost done for the day!



*John Chao*

# Meeting summary

- **OBJECTIVE:** Establish knowledge base?
- ✓ **OBJECTIVE:** Identify working definition of “impact”?
- ~~**OBJECTIVE:** Establish a shared vision of how the report will discuss remedies?~~
- **OBJECTIVE:** Identify if the Working Group needs more information to meet legislative directive?



# Next steps

- Follow ups? Action items? (Shelby)
- Upcoming meetings:
  - March 17 – Olympia?, full day
  - May 6 – Yakima (hybrid), full day
  - June 3 – Virtual, half day



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# Proposed timeline

- *Meeting 1: November 7, 2024*
  - *Meeting 2: February 4, 2025*
    - ✓ *Science/data presentations – level setting*
    - ✓ *Information sharing/gathering*
    - ✓ *Topical discussions*
  - **Meeting 3: March 17, 2025**
    - Full day, virtual
    - Discuss remedies; decide how they will be covered in the report
    - Develop report outline
  - **Meeting 4: May 6, 2025**
    - Full day, hybrid, Yakima area
    - Edit/discuss draft report
    - Additional topical discussions
  - **Meeting 5: June 3, 2025**
    - Half day, virtual
    - Finalize draft report
- June 30, 2025 – Report finished, ASPWG adjourns**



# Public comment



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# Thank you!

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