

Avian Salmon Predation Working Group

Meeting #5

June 3, 2025
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Virtual

Welcome!

- Brief introductions
- Updates since last meeting
- Accomplishments at last meeting
- Today's agenda
- Today's objectives



Alan Bauer

Agenda and objectives

- Report content – Puget Sound science
 - **Objective:** Discuss “offline” content revisions/additions as a group
- Final review of content sections:
 - Intervention Principles
 - Remedies
 - **Objective:** Last call for group input on these sections before the final draft review
- Discuss and finalize Recommendations
 - **Objective:** Continue the Meeting 4 discussion re: proposed recommendations/requests to the Legislature, finalize list of recommendations

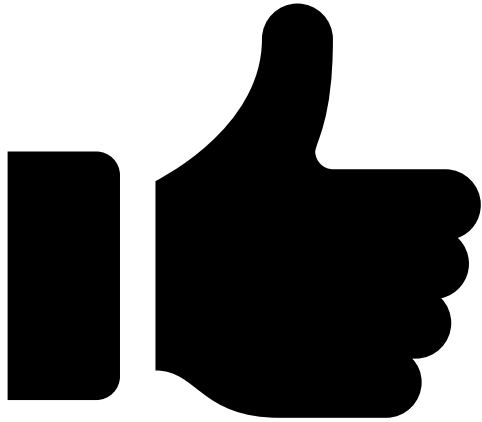
Your task from the legislature

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

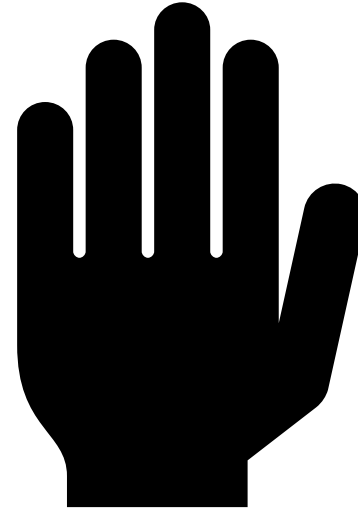


Bill Hebner

Finalizing report content; virtual facilitation



Give a **thumbs up** if you support moving forward with the content (including any proposed final edits we discussed).



Raise your hand if you have a question/concern or need to discuss further before proceeding.

Report content: Puget Sound science



WDFW

Final review: Intervention Principles



Bret Hachtel

Break: back at 2:40 p.m.

Discuss and finalize Recommendations



WDFW

Recommendations

1. Fund research that examines geographically-specific anecdotes of salmon predation by birds, particularly in Puget Sound. ...
2. Fund a WDFW position that is focused on the shared needs of birds and salmon.
3. Coordinate with Oregon to fund avian predation management in the Columbia River corridor and continue to support existing management.
4. Update Washington seabird colony inventory or diet database and fund research of piscivorous bird species diet and foraging dynamics in Washington state.



Alan Bauer

Recommendation 1

Fund a WDFW position that is focused on the shared needs of birds and salmon. The person or people in this role can make critical connections between ecosystem recovery actions that benefit both species and increase the Department's ability to participate in avian predation policy and science. This position can help fulfill the Department's co-management responsibilities by working directly with Tribal co-managers to ensure effective coordination.



Alan Bauer

Revised Recommendation 2

Fund research that examines geographically-specific anecdotes of salmon predation by birds, particularly in Puget Sound. *and in places like the Stillaguamish River and the Nisqually River Delta.*



Yakama Nation fisheries

Recommendation 3

Continue coordinating with State of Oregon to fund avian predation management in the Columbia River corridor, support existing **science and management, and conduct additional research on avian salmon predation in the Columbia River system.**



WDFW

Recommendation 4

Update Washington seabird colony inventory and diet database and fund research of piscivorous bird species diet and foraging dynamics in Washington state.



Alan Bauer

What else?



Final review: Remedies



Bret Hachtel

Next steps



WDFW

Proposed timeline for finalizing report

- *End of May: 1:1 opportunities with Jenna, invitation to submit additional recommendations, draft report review*
- June 3: Final ASPWG meeting
- June 4 – 6: Facilitation team implement final report edits
- **June 9 – 13: ASPWG final review of legislative report**
 - “Fatal flaw” review: typos, factual inaccuracies, critical issues
 - Not adding new content or making substantial content edits
- June 16 – 20: Facilitation team finalize document
- June 23 – 27: WDFW internal processing of document
- No later than June 30: WDFW submits report to the Legislature on behalf of ASPWG

Does this seem right to the group?

Future opportunities

- ASPWG presentation to Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Fish Committee
- Legislative work session re: the report
- Dates TBD

If you would be interested in either opportunity, let Jenna know.



WDFW

Thank you!!!

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833-885-1012, TTY (711), or CivilRightsTeam@dfw.wa.gov.