

Fishing Guide Advisory Committee

November 1, 2023

Agenda

- Welcome/ introductions
- Brief overview of Coastal Steelhead forecasts
- Q&A and input from guides on management options
- Info on Coastal Steelhead budget request (time permitting)
- Wrap up

Input from guides on Coastal Steelhead regulations

WDFW staff provided an overview of forecasts and management options and solicited input from fishing guides on area specific management options. The suggestions below were provided by committee members.

- Close above the hatchery on the Sol Duc at the end of February to provide some more opportunity in early April.
- Allow use of barbs and/or bait to catch hatchery fish in the Bogachiel and Calawah in December.
- Allow a boat fishery below the oxbow on the Hoh River.
- Work with guides to provide more data on catch from boat vs out-of-boat to get the agency more data on savings from the no fishing from a floating device regulation. Alternate regulations between different sections of river to look at savings on a weekly basis. Develop a test fishing study design outlining how this would work.
- Chehalis – Satsop and Skookumchuck are priorities for anglers/ guides. Develop budget needs for focused creel on sections of those rivers and seek private funding to cover a portion of the monitoring needs until long-term funding is identified.
- Expand monitoring so we can do more widespread and precise testing of savings from no fishing from a floating device.

Next Steps

WDFW staff committed to following up with notes from the meeting, more information on coastal salmonids budget request and legislative contacts for natural resource committees. The committee members will send additional ideas to the Region 6 team directly or to Raquel to add to committee notes. Alternatively, committee members can provide input online via the following link: [Coastal Steelhead Management | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)