

PSRFEF Oversight Committee Minutes, May 23, 2017

1. Minutes approved with understanding that first/second/third person references would be changed to actual names to provide clarity (i.e., 'I' changed to 'Ryan' or 'we' changed to 'PSRFEF'). Maybe look at the organizational context. Approved with changes noted.
2. Oversight Committees: Legislative – Williams, Puki, Reinhardt, Knutzen; Innovative – Rian, Gilchrist, Knutzen; Hatchery Evaluation – Tachell, McKelvey, Freeman, Knutzen. Ad hoc groups as needed.
3. Legislation
 - a. Very tough spot as House potentially supports WDFW fee increase with \$15 mil in general funds while Senate does not approve of license fee increase and only \$5 million in general funds. Additionally, there is a possibility of the Senate conducting an audit of WDFW as it may be believed WDFW is hiding money.
 - b. Revenue forecast is anticipated June 17-20 so likely BN17-19 Budget would be worked on until then and June 30th.
 - c. Outlook for future WDFW budget is tight with pending budget cuts that would lead to potential loss of hatchery production and fishery monitoring, though for now, some federal funding would slow the cuts temporarily.
4. Marketing
 - a. Promote what we do good or have (i.e., hatchery/resident coho, Elliott Bay and Green River Chinook)
 - b. Fishing regulation app received positive reviews at the ESRI mapping conference and may be highlighted. Anticipated launch date is July 1. Test the entire functionality of this app and report back through the 'feedback' option. Any questions talk with Mike R. VTR option (and CRC reporting) functionality is likely available this winter.
 - c. Anticipated electronic version of the pamphlet will be available ~June 1. A lot of anglers have not bought their license as they are unaware of what is open. WDFW will push marketing at the local level on specific fisheries, but all should step up to make sure they know our fishing package this year is generally better than last year, which includes retention of hatchery coho nearly everywhere when open.
5. North of Falcon
 - a. Difficult NOF this year, with a slight improvement from 2016, but challenges remain in defending recreational fisheries (VTRs and sample data proved extremely valuable this year). Technical discussions have not played a large enough role at NOF during recent years; hopeful with additions of new WDFW staff to provide path towards more success in better forecasts, modeling, and strength to use the data.
 - i. Other big challenges included Queets coho and multiple years not meeting escapement, Skokomish, and fishery adjustments to provide stability for recreational fisheries
 - b. Skagit coho proved most challenging. Coho will be a challenge (hopefully just wild) in 2018 NOF due to low numbers heading out to the salt.
 - c. Dungeness and Nooksack were Chinook limiters (new due to updated FRAM, CWT base period years updated), with impacts primarily occurring during the winter fisheries in Area 5-7.
 - d. Governor's office was at NOF and helped; hopefully efforts will be more beneficial in the future as well as there appears to be a commitment to participate in other NOFs.
6. Hatchery
 - a. Tumwater falls ladder is anticipated to be fixed this year (unless it is a bigger problem, then next year).
 - b. Puyallup hatchery planned to be rebuilt soon.

- c. White River Spring Chinook were not marked as that became a possibility with BKD forcing these fish to stay on-station.
 - d. Garrison Jumbo HGMP was not approved by all co-managers, so did not occur and will help maximize the Garrison sub-yearling group. Further discussion to occur.
 - e. Barging, no major glitches. Had to ensure good weather, which is mainly luck. It seems it went well, but we'll know for sure in about three months. Tagging on-station was difficult, and would like something off-station if possible in the future.
7. Budget
- a. BN15-17
 - i. HSRG approved to occur, may or may not (or some) occur during current BN - \$25k
 - ii. Motions approved to purchase additional items during BN15-17 to be used in the immediate future.
 - 1. CWT – up to \$100k (all in favor with one abstention)
 - 2. Feed for yearling Chinook – provide authority for Jim to purchase a 3-month supply for PSRFEF yearling programs (all in favor)
 - 3. Descending Device - \$5k (all in favor)
 - b. BN17-19
 - i. Anticipated budget is nearly the same as BN15-17 with same spending authority
 - 1. Potential increase in \$90k spending authority to cover cost of living adjustment if approved by legislature – no action necessary by PSRFEF
 - ii. To-do for Ryan
 - 1. will Hatchery/Agency bills be included in BN17-19?
 - 2. CWT hatchery evaluation
 - 3. How to accept funds/items?
 - a. Can PSRFEF or WDFW receive direct funding from the public or non-profits?
 - b. Will or what would the indirect rate be?
 - c. If an item was donated, does PSRFEF or WDFW get charged indirect?
 - iii. To-do for Art, Mike, Mike, Dave K – meet in late July to create a list of options for funding
 - 1. HSRG information may become available for use – Hatchery Evaluation group could also get updated
 - iv. Motions to fund/not fund
 - 1. Lake Washington counts – remove due to no fishery in the foreseeable fishery as one has not occurred since 2006 (all in favor)
 - 2. Minter yearlings – removed as program has been discontinued
 - 3. Glenwood sub-yearlings – reduced to \$60k per BN (\$30k per year) based upon contribution to rec fisheries (\$60K Biennium at \$30K year: 3 opposed; 6 years; motion passed)
 - 4. Garrison Jumbos – pursue and fund
8. Next meeting, doodle poll for September