

Mission

Ad-hoc Puget Sound Steelhead Advisory Group

Draft April 14, 2017

Our Mission is to:

“Develop a broadly supported vision with forward-looking watershed-specific strategies that provides for the conservation and recovery of steelhead and a diversity of sustainable fishing opportunities across the rivers of Puget Sound.”

Legal and Policy Sideboards for Fishery and Artificial Production Strategies

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The fishery and artificial production strategies identified by the Ad-hoc Puget Sound Steelhead will:

- 1) be consistent with *U.S. v. Washington*, the Endangered Species Act, federal and state court decisions, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other statutes;
- 2) apply the policy guidance of the Hatchery and Fishery Reform policy (C3619) and the Statewide Steelhead Management Plan;
- 3) draw on the strategies and actions of the Statewide Steelhead Management Plan to inform discussions and decisions; and
- 4) recognize budget constraints and explicitly identify when new funding would be required.

Ground Rules
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The Ad-hoc Puget Sound Steelhead Advisory Group developed the following ground rules and provided permission to the facilitator to enforce them as necessary to increase the effectiveness of the group.

- 1) We can create a better future by working collaboratively:
 - a. There is no team in FY.
 - b. Focus on our mission and what is being discussed, not the person.
 - c. Provide members the flexibility to explore ideas from a new perspective.
 - d. Avoid placing blame ("if only...").
 - e. Create win-win solutions where possible.
 - f. Work to find solutions that everyone can live with.
- 2) Mutual respect is critical to our success:
 - a. Respect other member's perspectives and experiences.
 - b. Listen and let the other person finish speaking – be patient
 - c. No projectiles – literally and figuratively.
 - d. Try to see both sides - put yourself in the other person's shoes.
- 3) Each of us provides valuable perspectives:
 - a. Provide everyone with an opportunity to express their views.
 - b. There is no bad idea when we are brainstorming.
- 4) Meeting time is valuable:
 - a. Distribute the agenda and materials prior to the meeting.
 - b. Arrive at the meeting on time.
 - c. Stay focused on the current agenda topic.
 - d. Express your thoughts concisely and as thoughtfully as possible.
 - e. Come to the meeting prepared.
- 5) Science provides a foundation for sustainable management:
 - a. Provide access to key scientific information and uncertainties.
- 6) Anyone can call for a break.
- 7) At the end of each meeting, capture 3-7 key messages for discussion with stakeholders who are not members of the advisory group.
- 8) {Address in the future – decision-making on products and deliverables of the group}

Objectives

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Within eight months, we will be successful if we have developed a document that:

- 1) promotes the conservation and recovery of Puget Sound steelhead;
- 2) describes a path toward diverse and sustainable fishing opportunities, with benchmarks to assess our progress;
- 3) recognizes the importance of steelhead and steelhead fisheries to our rural communities;
- 4) is informed by our scientific understanding of steelhead and the factors affecting their abundance, productivity, diversity, and spatial structure;
- 5) promotes greater understanding of steelhead populations through an experimental approach, and recognizes that adaptive management will be required to be successful;
- 6) is not constrained by previous fishery and hatchery management approaches;
- 7) highlights major factors limiting the productivity of Puget Sound steelhead;
- 8) identifies watershed-specific strategies for fisheries and artificial production programs designed to achieve specific seasons and fishery types (catch and release, catch and keep, rivers with no hatchery production)
- 9) provides estimates of the funding necessary to implement the strategies;
- 10) enjoys broad support among stakeholders interested in steelhead, including fishers and those interested in steelhead as a part of the Puget Sound ecosystem; and
- 11) provides encouragement to our children, and their children, that they will also be able to enjoy our Puget Sound rivers and Washington State fish – steelhead.