2019 Willapa Bay Salmon Advisory Group Policy Review Meeting
January 9, 2019
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Region 6 office Montesano, WA

Staff: Chad Herring, Kirt Hughes, Barbara McClellan

Public: 5 Individuals

Chad: Opening statements

Implementation:

Report Card (Stop Light) Handout –
This is an indicator of implementation, not an indicator of success
- Red = Not implemented
- Yellow = Mixed, on-going
- Green = Implemented

Advisor Comments/Suggestions:
- Out-migrant smolt traps below hatcheries in Naselle and Willapa
- Major milestone for restoration in the Willapa River
- Habitat issues have not been met. No inventory on eelgrass
- Impacts to non-local stocks in or out of the control zone
- Be clear to the Commission that this is an indicator of implementation not of success or if it worked
- Alternative gear wouldn’t be fair to say it as is given that tangle nets are the only thing tried and it was before the policy
- Chinook impact rate should be changed to red since we missed it 2015-17
- We are straying away from biological principles for Chum
- It’s important to stress what actually happened with Chinook relative to the impact rate – Should be red
- Stress where we are for the spawner escapement goal reviews
- Need to bring up the topic of designating a primary system in the entire coastal areas not just inside Willapa Bay
- Aggregate spawner goals should be red if we didn’t make the goal
- Provide two set of columns or rows with boxes/colors for pre vs post season results
- In-season management actions should be red not green
- Freshwater habitat productivity – Should be red – fish ladder was closed almost the entire year so there is no access to habitat for wild steelhead and cutthroat.
- Add a legend to this handout because what these colors represent isn’t clear

Performance:

Slide Handouts –
Advisor Comments/Suggestions:
- Add runsize slides
- Add a total column to slide 4 table for Chinook and Coho harvest
- New AHA run with the current data included

2019 WBSAG Policy Review Mtg Notes 01.09.19.docx
• Show/provide model to show impacts would be
• Commercial fishery should be able to harvest hatchery Chinook early to get them from ending up at the hatchery or the spawning grounds
• What is the spawning capacity for the Willapa systems for natural spawners?
• Reallocate impacts from ocean fisheries back to inside Willapa Bay
• Highlight what we have gained and learned with the increase of data collection

Herring Spawning
• Forage fish team in Olympia reinitiated in 2018 the data surveys/review in Willapa Bay
• Report is every four years

2018 Data
• Still preliminary, will have something for the late February meeting

Public Testimony
Allan Hollingsworth
• Timber companies are spraying and killing all of the fish
• The way the policy is written is putting the commercial fishery out of business
• Gravel on the Willapa River is moving. This is washing out the eggs.
• Chum on North River in Hatchery Creek has over 200 fish trying to spawn. You are missing some of the survey areas.
• Have mass hatchery production