Willapa Bay Policy Review: Brief Summary Descriptions and Cursory Analysis of Alternatives

	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
	Pure Status Quo 2015 Willapa Bay Policy[1]	Fish Committee Draft Alternative[2]	October 27 Draft Staff Recommendation [3]
Brief Description of Alternative	Manage for wild fish with reduced fisheries; fall chinook sport fishery priority and commercial priority for coho	Manage for a mix of wild and hatchery fish and increased fisheries compared to Alt 1	Near Alternative 1 wild fish and fisheries mgmt; many specifics deferred to 3624 process
Wild Fish Management Strategies	HSRG protocols	ESU-based spawner objectives with enhanced wier operations	Changes from 2021 strategies deferred to 3624 process
Hatchery Program Size Goal			Until 3624 process completed:
fall chinook	Forks Creek: 0.35 M; Nemah: 3.3 M; Naselle: 0.8 M	Forks Creek: 3.5+ M; Nemah: zero or TBD M; Naselle: 5+ M	Forks Creek: 0.4 M; Nemah: 3.3 M; Naselle: 5 M
coho	No size goal specified	Goals TBD, but at least at current levels	1.7 M Willapa Bay wide
chum	None; experiments possible	Nemah Hatchery only: 2+ M	Fks Ck: 0.5 M; Nemah: 1.5 M; Naselle: 0.5 M
Fishery Management Controls			
Rebuilding Program	16-21 year rebuilding program for fall chinook (2015 start)	No rebuidling program; manage to spawning escapement goals	Continue 2015 rebuilding pgm for fall chinook
Take Limits	Fall chinook in-Bay limit of 14%; escapement goal based for coho with <10% incidental limit; chum limit of 5% - 33%	Take limits based on pre-season forecasts and spawning escpement goals; incidental take rates 10% when < forecast	When < escapement goal: Fall chinook in-Bay limit of 20%, 10% for coho, 5-10% for chum; all subject to 3/5 previous yr feature
Sport & Commercial fishery allocation	fall chinook: high sport priority; coho and chum: commercial priority; area/date controls	"first and last crack" for rec; same general priorities w/no specific alloc; relaxed time/area controls	The same general priorities but with relaxed area/date controls except north-bay areas (2T, 2U)

			Miscellaneous	natural spawner goal reviews	Experimental approach for wild hatchery fall chinook mgmt.; new Alt gear approach	Hatchery goals are only until the 3624 process is completed, which will be guided by the pure status quo purpose statement. Accelerated HMP priority for Willapa Bay hatcheries.

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High Level Analysis of Alternatives	Alternative 1 Pure Status Quo 2015 Willapa Bay Policy[1]			Alternative 2 Fish Committee Draft November 2021 Alternative[2]			Alternative 3 October 27 Draft Staff Recommendation [3]		
hatchery programs in 2022 and beyond	Forks Ck	Nemah	Naselle	Forks Ck	Nemah	Naselle	Forks Ck	Nemah	Naselle
fall chinook	0.35 M	3.3 M	0.8 M	3.5 M+	0 or 3.3 M	5 M+	0.4 M	3.3 M	5 M
coho	300 K	0	1.4 M	300 K+	TBD	1.4 M-	300 K	0	1.4 M
chum	experimental only			0	2 M	0	0.5 M	1.5 M	0.5 M
Average take in fisheries after after implementation (year 5 and later)	show averages for each species			show averages for each species			show averages for each species		
sport									
commercial									
Status of wild fish populations at point of 2015 rebuilding plan target date (2033)	show Willapa Bay aggregates and river by river data			show Willapa Bay aggregates and river by river data			show Willapa Bay aggregates and river by river data		
fall chinook									
coho									
chum									

1 https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/commission/policies/willapa-bay-salmon-management

2 See December 2, 2021 Fish Committee draft for concepts and language drafting assignments to staff.

3 See staff draft presented at the November 2, 2021 Fish Committee meeting; as clarified at 4/1/22 Fish Committee Mtg for fall chinook salmon