

Public Meeting Guidelines and Etiquette

Please note the following guidelines for our meeting:

- Upon joining the virtual meeting, your microphone will be muted automatically.
- In case of any technical issues during the meeting, notify us in the chat, and we will help you. Please note that the chat will only be monitored for technical assistance.
- Public comments are welcome and will be rotated between in-person and virtual attendees.
- To ask a question or make a comment, please use your device's "raise hand" feature. If on the phone, dial *9 on Zoom, and if using a computer, click the hand/reactions icon at the bottom of your screen.
- During the comment period, the host will enable you to unmute yourself. You can then unmute yourself by pressing the mute button on your device or dialing *6 on your phone.
- Keep discussions focused on the agenda items and questions at hand. Offensive, disrespectful, or derogatory language, including profanity, personal attacks, threats, or insults towards individuals, governments, or organizations, is strictly prohibited.
- Assume positive intentions from those speaking and listen respectfully.
- To ensure a balanced discussion, limit your comments to two minutes with one clarifying follow-up question.
- Provide constructive feedback regarding the fisheries in which you participate. Remember that the most compelling comments are those that pertain to the topics under discussion.
- WDFW staff may close public comment to stay on schedule with the agenda or to provide others who still need to comment with an opportunity to speak.
- The Hybrid meetings will be recorded and posted online.
- If you have further questions or comments, please submit them in written format on our public comment webpage:
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/public-input>



Puget Sound NOF Recreational Breakout Discussion

March 13, 2024



WDFW Recreational Fisheries Team

- **Mark Baltzell**, Statewide Salmon and Steelhead Manager
- **Dr. Kirsten Simonsen**, Puget Sound Recreational Salmon Manager
- **Dr. Derek Dapp**, FRAM modeling team
- **Hailey Rosenthal**, Puget Sound Recreational Support Biologist
- **Ty Garber**, FRAM modeling team
- **Sarah Richardson**, Mark Selective Fisheries Biologist



Agenda

- Chinook management objectives
- Coho management objectives
- Recreational considerations
- Marine 10/11 management considerations
- Modeling exploration
- Public comment



Chinook Management Objectives PS

Management Unit	NMFS Guidance/Co-Manager Proposal
Nooksack Spring	TBD*
Skagit Summer/Fall	15% SUS ER
Skagit Spring-run	36% Total
Stillaguamish River	9% UM SUS max; 14% M SUS max
Snohomish River	TBD*
Lake Washington	14% PT SUS
Green River	14% PT SUS
White River Spring-run	22% SUS
Puyallup	14% PT SUS
Nisqually	47% Total
Skokomish fall-run	50% total
Mid Hood Canal	<4 spawner reduction in PS
Dungeness	10% SUS
Elwha	10% SUS



Current Chinook Modeling PS

Management Unit	NMFS Guidance/Co-Manager Proposal	2023 Inside Fisheries/2024 Abundances (High Ocean Option, Chin-0724 Coho-2410)
Nooksack Spring	TBD (10.9)	11.8%
Skagit Summer/Fall	15% SUS ER	17.1%
Skagit Spring-run	36% Total	26.9% Total
Stillaguamish River	9% UM SUS; 14% M SUS max	9.4% UM; 12.8% M SUS
Snohomish River	TBD* (Below LB)	20.9% Total/8.3% SUS
Lake Washington	14% PT SUS	12.7%
Green River	14% PT SUS	12.7%
White River Spring-run	22% SUS	16.9%
Puyallup	14% PT SUS	12.7%
Nisqually	47% Total	46.0%
Skokomish fall-run	50% total	48.9%
Mid Hood Canal	<4 spawner reduction in PS	TBD
Dungeness	10% SUS	4.5%
Elwha	10% SUS	5.0%



2024 Coho Management Objectives Puget Sound

Wild Management Units	Ocean Age-3 Forecast	Assigned FMP Status	Total ER Ceiling
Strait of Juan de Fuca	19,690	Low	40%
Hood Canal	36,541	Low	45%
Skagit	63,430	Normal	60%
Stillaguamish	30,809	Normal	50%
Snohomish	71,600	Low	40%
Thompson (Interior Fraser)		Low (PST status)	10% SUS



Current Coho Modeling Puget Sound (2024 abundances with 2023 inside fisheries)

Management Unit	ER CEILING	High (2410)	Mid (2411)	Low (2412)
SKAGIT	60%	33.3%	32.7%	32.0%
STILLY	50%	39.1%	38.6%	38.2%
SNOHOMISH	40%	43.7%	43.2%	42.7%
HOOD CANAL	45%	42.6%	42.0%	41.4%
JUAN DE FUCA TRIBS	40%	12.6%	11.8%	11.1%
Lower Fraser (Thompson)	10% SUS	9.8%	8.9%	7.9%



2024 Recreational Considerations

- Nooksack spring Chinook, Skagit summer/fall Chinook, Snohomish Chinook and coho
- Stillaguamish Chinook conservation limits will continue to drive most recreational opportunity
- Maximizing fishing opportunity within available impacts/conservation constraints – MA 10/11
- Recent year variability and effort trends
 - Increases in effort over historical averages
- Reduced forecast of Puget Sound Chinook and Coho relative to 2023
- Environmental Concerns
 - Current El Nino



Freshwater Fishery Considerations

Most rivers expected to have similar opportunities as 2023 seasons

Snohomish

- Continued poor stock performance will likely result in similar season structures as 2023

Concerns regarding unruly fisheries

- Cascade, Green, Minter, Naselle, Nisqually, Puyallup, Quilcene, and Samish River
- Considering a range of possible gear or retention rule changes



Areas 10/11 Management Considerations

- A lot of feedback regarding 2023 season and desires to fish in August for Chinook in Area 11, less open/close in 10, more stability
- Approaches include different management targets, more adaptive management, shorter planned seasons
- Area 11 June could use an approach like Area 7 summer
- Adding more Chinook Non-retention to August (Area 11) to ensure fishery stays open



2024 Modeling Scenarios

WDFW Modeling Team

- Dr. Derek Dapp
- Ty Garber
- Yi Xu
- Collin Edwards
- Jake Kvistad



Preliminary 2024 Washington salmon season meeting schedule

Date	Purpose	Location/Contact
March 19 (Tue)	Recreational Fisheries Discussion - Coastal Freshwater and Puget Sound	Zoom (6-8pm)
March 21 (Thu)	Columbia River fisheries	Ridgefield, WDFW office and Teams (hybrid) (10am)
March 21 (Thu)	Recreational Fisheries - Puget Sound freshwater and Puget Sound	Zoom (6-8 pm)
March 25 (Mon)	PFMC Public Hearing on Ocean Salmon Alternatives	Chateau Westport, Westport WA; 7pm-9pm
March 27 (Wed)	WDFW and public North of Falcon meeting #2	In-person and online Lynnwood Embassy Suites, 20610 44 th Avenue West, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (time TBD)



Preliminary 2024 Washington salmon season meeting schedule, cont.

Date	Purpose	Location/Contact
March 27 (Wed)	NE of McNary/Upper Columbia/Snake River	Location TBD, Clarkston, WA (6-8 pm)
March 28 (Thu)	Willapa/Grays Harbor fisheries	Zoom (6-8 pm)
April 6 - 11	Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting	The Westin Seattle, 1900 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101
April 16 (Tue)	Willapa/Grays Harbor final proposed fisheries	Zoom (6-8 pm)

On-line commenting – March-April

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon>

Puget Sound Sport Fishing Advisory Group

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/pssfag>

Full NOF schedule also available on our website:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/public-meetings>



Learn more

To get up-to-date information about upcoming meetings, proposed seasons, updated forecasts, and opportunities for public comment, visit:

wdfw.wa.gov/nof



Questions or comments?

