

# **Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy (C-3622) Comprehensive Review**

## **Fish and Wildlife Commission – Fish Committee Meeting**

### **Director’s Conference Room, December 13, 2018**

The Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy (C-3622) was adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) in June 2015. The adaptive management section of Policy C-3622 directed staff to provide a comprehensive review on the implementation and performance of the policy upon the completion of phase one (e.g. 2019). The review will focus on whether the provisions of the Policy were implemented and whether the stated purpose and objectives of the Policy were successfully achieved.

The intent of this review was to assist the Commission in their evaluation of a) whether the Policy was successful in achieving the stated objectives, principles, and provisions; b) areas where the Policy failed or has not been working well, and c) to provide information that might help explain reasons why these potential outcomes may have occurred. The intent can be abbreviated as follows: Has the Policy been implemented as written, and what has occurred as a result of Policy changes?

Below is a synopsis of guidance provided in the policy that staff will be reporting on in the final policy review presentation. This guidance 5 categories: General Fisheries Management, Chinook Management, Coho Management, Chum Management, and Adaptive Management.

#### **General Fisheries Management**

- Prioritize restoration and conservation of wild salmon
- Work with partners to protect and restore habitat productivity
- Implement improved broodstock management
- Investigate and promote the development and implementation of alternative selective gear
- Work through the Pacific Salmon Commission to promote conservation objectives
- Monitoring, sampling and enforcement programs to account for species impacts
- In-season management actions to meet conservation and management objectives
- Transparency of salmon management and catch accounting
- Improved fishery management and technical tools
- Promote mark-selective fisheries

#### **Chinook Management**

- Population designations - Willapa River; primary, Naselle River; contributing
- 20% impact rate on Willapa and Naselle River natural origin Chinook
- Prioritize recreation fishing opportunities
- Alternative gear set aside
- Timing of commercial fisheries
- Hatchery production

#### **Coho Management**

- Population designations
- Achieve aggregate spawner goal
- Prioritize commercial fishing opportunities

## Chum Management

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- Population designations
- Achieve aggregate spawner goal
- Prioritize commercial fishing opportunities
- 10% impact rate cap

## Adaptive Management

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- Conduct annual fishery management review
- Improve in-season management
- Review spawner goals
- Comprehensive hatchery assessment
- Ocean ranching report