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WCSSP MEETING JANUARY 21, 2009 FACILITATION MINUTES

Workshop Purpose:

Develop a coordinated work plan for completing the WCSSP Regional Plan and the WSC Needs Assessment

1. Agenda

- Panel Discussion: Exploring Potential Components of a Coast Region Restoration Plan
- Defining the Scope of our Regional Plan
- Defining Action Steps for Moving Forward
- What's Next

2. Panel Discussion: Exploring Potential Components of a Coast Region Restoration Plan

Panel: Phil Miller
Rosemary Furfey
Brad Thompson
John Kliem

Talking Points

- This is not an ESA-Driven Recovery Plan
- When writing the plan, try to answer four questions:
 - What is the status / current situation of species
 - What are contributing factors
 - What are our goals, what do we want
 - What is the difference, what are our strategies and actions
- How do we know we're making progress?

- Working with multiple species
- Only region in the State with no listed species
- Including Adaptive Management (i.e., climate change)
- Build on plans that are already out there
- Add value to Lead Entity strategies
- It's helpful to address species of concern (not required)
- It's helpful to address time & cost (not required)
- Think of it as a Conservation Plan
- Science based methods of a plan to measure progress
 - To guide on-the-ground projects
- Regional Specific Plan
- All 6 Recovery Plans that are finished are implementing projects & progressing
- Show you've really thought through the projects / for funding
- Use tools and models already out there
- Build on Lead Entity foundation
- Voluntary collaboration
- Community Ownership
- 3 Key Elements
 - Criteria
 - Site specific management (LFA)
 - Time & Cost
- Carry out a Limited Factors Analysis (LFA)
- Ecosystem Management
- Work with all interested members (shareholders)
- Best Science
- Monitor & adapt your program
- Over time see how species is doing
- Be pro-active and forward-looking
- Flexibility
- Work Together

Basic Outline of a Recovery Plan

- General Overview
- Salmonid Profile
- Ecosystem Processes
- Habitat Strategy
- Hatchery Strategy
- Harvest Strategy
- Hydro Strategy
- Integration of 4 H's Strategy
- Adaptive Management Strategy

- Wild Salmon Center's Needs Assessment plays an integral role in feeding the scientific data for this planning effort

3. Defining the Scope of What Should our Regional Plan Look Like?

The group was asked the focus question “What should our Regional Plan look like?” Each person worked individually to come up with 10 items they would like to see in a regional plan. The group, working in teams of 2-3 people, identified their top 5-7 ideas on index cards. Working in rounds, these index cards were brought to the front of the room, discussed, and grouped in categories. The group identified 12 items they would like to see in the regional plan (sorted by its “natural flow”) and three process steps they would need to develop it.

REGIONAL PLAN CONTENT:

1. Goals
2. Clear Science
3. Eco-System Based Planning Scale
4. Local Scale
- 5.1 Stock and Habitat Status
- 5.2 Identify Limiting Factors
6. Strategies for Protection
7. Integrated Strategies
8. Implementation Prioritization
9. Funding / Money / Budget
- 9.2 Recipe for Measuring Progress
10. Adaptive Management

PLANNING PROCESS STEPS:

1. Collaborative Process
2. Methods
3. Outreach

The following pages show a layout of the workshop board.

Workshop Board – Content of Regional Plan

1. Goals	2. Clear Science	3. Eco-System Based Planning Scale	4. Local Scale	5.1. Stock & Habitat Status	5.2. Identify Limiting Factors
Determine Vision / Goals	Integrate Available Science / Research	Consider Species Assemblages	Value Separate Lead Entity Group Strategies	Assess Habitat	Identify Limiting Factors Current Conditions
Describe Broad Vision and Goals	Community Driven; Science Supported	Beyond Salmon – Biodiversity	Community Based / Local / Watershed	Assessment – Monitoring Plans	Outline Obstacles
Clearly Defined Scope and Intent	Create a Framework for Data Transparency	Link Land Use with Species Recovery / Ecosystem Planning	Does Not Include Lake Ozette Sockeye	Measure Current Stocks Status	Identify Coastal Limiting Factors
Try to Keep it Simple		Be the Example for Others to Follow; A Model for Ecosystem Management & Planning	Building on Existing Plans (i.e., 2514 Watershed Planning)	Baseline Monitoring Plan	Determine Limiting Factors
Think Outside Box No Boundaries Visionary Approach				Assess Impacts of Commercial & Sport Catch	Identify Threats
Wild Sustainable Harvestable Salmon		Identify Natural & Community Resources			
		Ecosystem Based			
	Ecosystem Natural Process Design / Based				
	Consider Factors -Stream Access -Water Temp -Water Poll -Streambed Suitability -Reproduction Suitability				

6. Strategies For Protection	7. Integrated Strategies	8. Implementation Prioritization	9. Funding / Money / Budget	9.2 Recipe for Measuring Progress	10. Adaptive Management
Protect the “Healthy” Stocks	Integrated Strategies that Address Key Factors (Hs)	Prioritized Monitoring Plan	Funding Requirement for Complete Implementation	How do We Reach Our Goal	Biennially or Triennially Review the Plan
Projects Evaluated Based on Ability to Produce Fish or Protect Habitat for Fish	Integrate Impacts of Commercial & Sports Catch	Prioritized Action Plan	Monitoring Plans Using Volunteers	Will Action Plan Achieve Measurable Objectives?	Adaptive (Management)
Identify High Priority Protection Areas	Implementation Strategies for Watersheds, Estuaries & Nearshore		Identify Resources \$		Regularly Assess for New Needs
Recognize River Systems with Healthy Stocks					Effectiveness or Validation Monitoring (Afterward)
					Consider Climate Change
					Commitment to Implementation and Adaptive Management

Workshop Board – Process for Regional Plan

Methods	Outreach	Collaborative Processes
Use Ecosystem Services Valuations	Outreach Plan for Community Support	Bring Together Commonalities (i.e., funding, projects, data, models)
Create Maps (species & stocks)	Define What Public Outreach Means	Reflects Broad Agreement and Support
		Bring Together Differences & Develop Solutions

5. Implementation Steps for the Regional Plan Components and Planning Processes

The group then self-selected into small groups to develop individual work plans for the thirteen individual plan components and three planning process steps. The work plan for each one follows below.

Project		1. Goals	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Define Scope (e.g., spatial, temporal, content)	WCSSP	Now
2.	Develop a Vision Statement (e.g., Conserve / Restore Coastal Aquatic Ecosystem Function and Structure that will Support Sustainable Fish Communities and Human Health)	WCSSP	Now
3.	Develop Several Goals (e.g., Wild Sustainable Salmon, Conserve and Restore habitat, Protect/Restore Ecosystem Services)	WCSSP	Now
4.	Define measurable objective related to each goal	WCSSP, Tech	Now
Coordinator		Lonnie, Brad	

Project		2. Clear Science	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Gap Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock • Limiting Factors • ECO Regional 	WCS	
2.	Community Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priorities • Expectations 		
3.	On-Line Database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working data sets • Integrated data sets 		
4.	Identify Strategies for Filling gaps		
Coordinator			

Project		3. Eco-System Based Planning Scale	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Define Scale & Scope – Physical (watershed basin, water, land, land use, lots of maps)	Academia, Tribes, ONP, ONF, DNR, WDFW, NGO's, Cons. Dist, Counties, NOAA, USFWS, NMFS	
2.	Define Scale & Scope – Biological (fish, birds, mammals, forests; web-distribution & assemblies)		2010
3.	Define Scale & Scope – Ecological (web, processes, micro-climate)		2012
	Use the Ellsworth Watershed, TNC as an example		
4.	Define process for restorations & completion from ecosystem concept – connectivity. Process based approach to “true restoration”		
Coordinator		Ownership (private, federal, state, tribes)	

Project		4. Local Strategies “Local Scale”	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Develop Lead Entity Group Strategy(ies) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach • Tech input • Policy input 	LEG Committees	
2.	Communicate with Region	LEG Coordinator	
3.	Evaluate other related plans	LEG Committees	
4.	Finalize Distinct LEG Approach(es)	LEG voting group	
5.	Update		
Coordinator			

Project		5.1. Stock Status & Habitat Status	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Compile appropriate database & documentation to inform and describe current stock & habitat status with a historic synopsis using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SaSI database (stk) • SGS (Spawning Ground Survey db) (stk) • Habitat Survey Data (all available) (hab) / Ambient Monitoring, SSHIAP, habitat utilization data (snorkel / trapping) • Harvest – PRMC (Pacific Fisheries Mgmt. Council), Post Season Reviews (primarily Chinook & Coho) • Annual Co-Manager Harvest Plans (salmon & steelhead) & BT • Water Quality Monitoring (Clean Water Act Compliance) • Habitat Monitoring (effectiveness, what to monitor) (Alan Smart? EPA 1990) 	WDFW Dan Lowry Co-Managers ONF & Cty Stream Keepers Co-Managers can provide / ONP DOE, Tribes, Counties Phil Deguis can provide	Now / 2009
Coordinator			

Project		5.2. Limiting Factors Analysis (LFA's)	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Evaluation & synthesis of WA Coastal assessments and inventories (Freshwater, WDFW, e.g., WA Conservation Commission (RCO), SaSI, SHIAPP, etc) (Marine, MRC, TNC Ecoregional, NASSP) Product: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps analysis Integration into Recovery Plan 		2009 (Dec)
2.	Build out on existing analyses (if old or missing) OR develop framework for new analyses		
3.	Integration into "Recovery Plan"		
Coordinator			

Project		6. Strategies (for Protection & Restoration)	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Review WRIA Plans for Priority Protection & Restoration Projects	LE & tech committee	
2.	Develop Criteria for Regional Priorities (i.e., stock diversity, status, habitat conditions)	Tech or Science committee	
3.	Identify actions / strategies that benefit priority restoration & protection projects across the region (i.e., policies, funding, techniques/tools)	Implementation committee	
4.	Where there are unique and localized priority projects (identify them!) develop "out of the box" strategies and "pilot" projects that enhance regional knowledge	Implementation committee	
5.	Integrate successful strategy / import from other regions and processes	Everyone? All of the above	
Coordinator			

Project		7. Integrated Strategies	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Based upon species and habitat assessment and limiting factors analyses in relation to goals:	Habitat Strategy Work Group	After LFA
2.	Identify relevant hatchery strategies from the HSRG, process / report	Co-Managers share with Integration Work Groups	
3.	Identify current and potential harvest strategies (relating to both sport/commercial harvest)		
4.	Use all-H analyzer to identify “scenario” for All-H strategy integration	WDFW, coordinate with integration workgroup	
Coordinator		Integration Work Group – Lead (?)	

Project		8. Implementation Prioritization	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Prioritize stocks & species	WCSSP & LEG	
2.	Prioritize systems with high priority stocks & species		
3.	Find best and worst habitats (Preserve best / Repair worst?)		
4.	Compare cost benefit of projects (future)		
5.	Compare cost benefit of past projects completed		
6.	Look for common issues affecting different stocks, systems, regions, and rate them by impact on WA Coast Salmon		
7.	Rank monitoring techniques and find where gaps exist		
Coordinator		Andy Olson	

Project		9.1. Funding	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Review available \$s and resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriations • Grants • Donors 		
2.	Review matches, volunteers, in-kind		
3.	Review expected costs of goals, needs		
4.	Planning costs, implementation costs		
5.	Prepare budget		
Coordinator		WCSSP	

Project		9.2. Measuring Progress	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Evaluate community support (local, regionwide)		
2.	Self evaluation/report card		
3.	Measuring matrices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock status • Baseline conditions/LFA 		
4.	Projects implemented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of resources • Habitat creation • Etc. 		
5.	Economics? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many more fish? 		
Coordinator			

Project		10. Adaptive Management	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Assemble technical team		
2.	Review results of project/strategy		
3.	Identify factors that did not conform		
4.	Develop strategies for corrective actions		
5.	Implement corrective actions		
Coordinator			

Project		Outreach Process	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Survey current citizen participants, quasi-spokespersons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify community desires • Importance of language (e.g. not “recovery” plan) • We don’t need an ESA plan 		
2.	Include community in “what should specific fish/habitat goals be?”		
3.	Plain English – “let’s keep healthy habitats, not let it deteriorate” and link summary to specific part in plan		
4.	Determine what’s controversial?		
5.	Think outside the box <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball game, etc. • Door to door knocking • Individualize discussion 		
6.	Listen – what gets a specific community’s attention?		
7.	What worked/not worked elsewhere?		
8.	ID what are barriers (e.g. Forest Practices Plans)		
9.	Outreach committee		
Coordinator			

Project		Collaborative Process	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Review and assess Lead Entity strategies	Wild Salmon Center & Committee	Feb. 2009
2.	Determine common <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data needs • Projects • Available science • Obstacles 		
3.	Pursue regional needs assessment		
Coordinator		Devona Ensmenger	

Project		Methods Process	
Steps		Who	When
1.	Symposium on Ecosystem Services Valuation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture and interactive groups • Audience: LE's, elected, private, resource industries, citizens, state agencies 	David Batker & academics	After assessment phase
2.	Public Forum – to provide comprehensive evaluation of project that have been done: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LWD/ELJs still functioning? • Culverts still passing fish? • How much habitat restored? 		Prior to prioritizing next phase proposed projects
Coordinator		John Miller, Mark Swartout	

6. What's Next?

WCSSP staff, the LE Coordinators, Kliem, and Holden will meet in the next couple weeks to review the outcomes from this workshop and evaluate any next steps needed. The results of this review will assist in planning the next steps for the upcoming February 18 meeting of the WCSSP.