

NOAA Fisheries Service Salmon Recovery Program

January 2006

NOAA's statutory guidelines

Endangered Species Act

- Listing
- Recovery
- Avoid jeopardy
- Avoid adverse modification to critical habitat

Tribal Treaty and Trust Responsibilities

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act

Recovery plans will be:

1. Developed at the local level
2. Based on science
3. Realistic roadmaps to recovery



Local level: starting with what we have...

- Use subbasin/watershed plans as foundation
- Ask for assistance from local, regional, and tribal groups in developing plans
- NOAA will write plans if not initiated by others
- Seek broad base of support for implementation

Link to existing processes...

- NPCC Plan
- State Programs
- NOAA Hatchery Listing Policy / Guidance
- PCSRF Funding
- HGMPs
- Tribal Resource Management Plans
- Federal Land Management Plans
- Section 7, HCPs

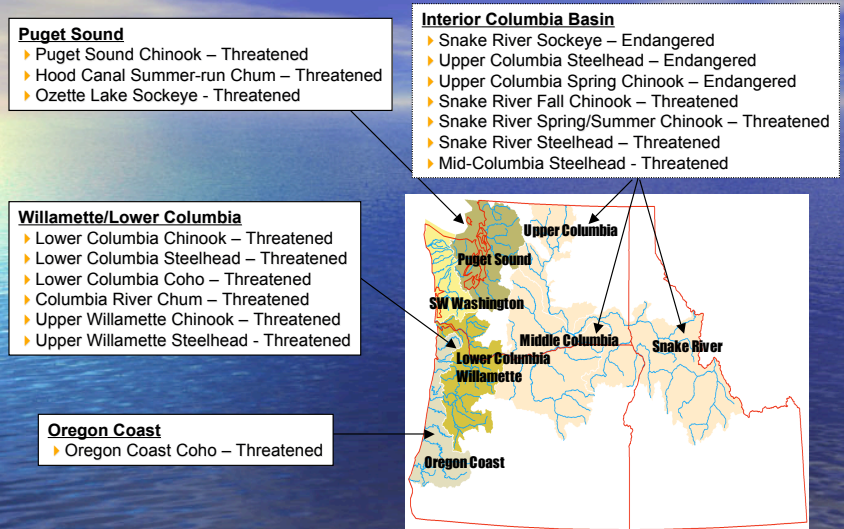
Based on science...

- Participation on technical recovery teams (TRTs)
- Role of the technical recovery teams
 - Identify historical populations
 - Develop and recommend viability criteria for each population
 - Develop guidelines for viable ESUs (how many and which populations)
 - Developing other technical products
 - Review of the draft recovery plans

Realistic roadmaps to recovery: how recovery plans will be used...

- Improved context for ESA decisions:
 - Consistent approach to all Hs in consultation
 - Expedite actions that implement recovery plans
- Setting priorities
 - Focus restoration on limiting factors in priority areas
 - Use plans as a guide in processing permits
 - Improve cost effectiveness and likelihood of success

ESUs within the domains



Components of a recovery plan...

- Recovery Goals*
- ESU and Population Status
- Limiting Factors and Threats
- Strategies and Actions*
- Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation
- Implementation Plan
- Cost Estimates*
- Adaptive Management

VSP attributes for each population

- Abundance
- Productivity
- Spatial Structure
- Diversity

Natural/hatchery guidelines for each population

Research, monitoring, and evaluation

- Identify key questions for making decisions
- Understand and document risk and certainty, including research of critical uncertainties
- Monitor biological status and trends, the trends of ecological interactions, the effect of actions, and how the plan is being implemented

All H integration

The role in recovery of:

- Harvest
- Hatcheries
- Hydro
- Habitat

The importance of integrating the Hs...

Citizen involvement

- Role of citizens – recovery won't happen without community support
- The kind of citizen involvement varies from plan to plan, state to state
 - Washington: Recovery Boards
 - Oregon: State taking the lead
 - Idaho: NOAA working with the State
- Opportunities in plan development, plan review, and plan implementation

Citizen groups involved in recovery plans

Puget Sound

- ▶ Shared Strategy
- ▶ Hood Canal Coordinating Council
- ▶ Lake Ozette Sockeye Steering Committee (still evolving)

Interior Columbia Basin

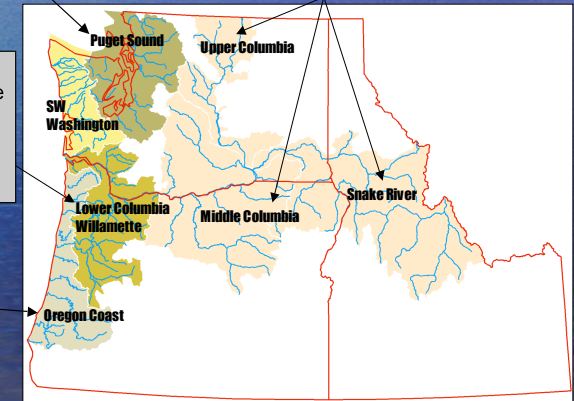
- ▶ Upper Columbia Recovery Board
- ▶ Yakima Recovery Board
- ▶ Mid Columbia Sounding Board
- ▶ Snake Recovery Board
- ▶ Grande Ronde Model Watershed

Willamette/Lower Columbia

- ▶ Willamette Exec. Committee
- ▶ LC. Estuary Partnership
- ▶ LC Fish Recovery Board
- ▶ Willamette Sounding Board (to be developed in 2006)

Oregon Coast

- ▶ Oregon Coast Stakeholder Group



Puget Sound Watershed Recovery Plans - Background

- List of six questions from Shared Strategy for watershed groups in 2004
- Watersheds provided draft salmon recovery plans for review in June 2004
- July-August 2004 meetings with watersheds
- Feedback to watershed fall 2004
- Plan review May 2005
- Draft Regional Salmon Recovery Plan June 2005
- Draft Plan Published in Federal Register Dec. 2005
- Final Plan Adopted by NOAA Fisheries Spring 2006

Watershed Plan Reviews

- NOAA Fisheries Puget Sound Domain Team members/designees and TRT reviewed 2004 draft plans and provided feedback to watershed groups
- TRT liaisons worked with watershed groups to improve plans (2004-2005)
- TRT and Domain Team Leads (SRD, SFD only) review and comment on 2005 plans

Domain Team Role

- Review ESU plans (July 2005)
- Draft sections of the supplement for Federal Register (July –November 2005)
- Assist Domain Team leads in responding to comments on FRN (Early 2006)
- Assist in preparing final FRN (Spring 2006)

Questions for Planning Groups 2004

- What will it take to achieve the planning targets or properly functioning conditions for independent spawning salmonid populations, including the protection of existing habitat functions and restoration? In areas without independent spawning populations, what will it take to protect existing functions and where are there good opportunities for enhancement and restoration?
- What is the watershed vision for salmonid recovery and other interests and needs in the watershed? How do you envision balancing and complementing the various needs and the interests of your watershed?

Watershed Recovery Plan Questions cont'd.

- What are your measurable recovery goals (for each population in your watershed) and the timeframe for achieving them? What has already been accomplished toward achieving them?
- What on-the-ground actions can be accomplished in the next 5 to 10 years and what will be the result for populations and habitat functions (i.e. actions to turn the negative trend around)? What are the next steps to advance other changes that cannot be addressed in the shorter timeframe?

Watershed Recovery Plan Questions cont'd.

- What are the preliminary estimates for cost of actions (i.e. projects, acquisition, regulations, incentives, etc.) and ongoing operations in the next 5 to 10 years?
- What commitments (policy level decisions, funding, etc.) will be necessary for implementation, and what conditions need to be in place for the commitments to be made? Statements of commitment are expected from local decision-makers by June 2005.

Conclusion

NOAA seeks support for developing recovery plans that are:

1. Developed at the local level
2. Based on science
3. Realistic roadmaps to recovery

Recovery is everyone's responsibility