Salmon Technical Team Salmon Rebuilding Plan_ Progress Report 1

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) has been charged with producing a salmon rebuilding plan (plans) for each of the five stocks that meet the criteria for being overfished. The draft plans are scheduled for Council review at the November 2018 Council meeting, and final plans are slated for adoption at the March 2019 Council meeting. This report provides an update to the Council on the progress made towards development of the five rebuilding plans. The STT plans on providing a second Progress Report at the September 2018 Council meeting.

At the April 2018 Council meeting, the STT provided a tentative timeline for development of the five plans (Agenda Item H3a, Supplemental STT Report 1, April 2018). Since the April 2018 Council meeting, the STT held a public meeting via webinar as requested by the Council. Topics discussed at this webinar included 1) a general outline for each plan, 2) a detailed timeline, 3) work-flow plans, 4) inclusion of subject matter experts outside of the STT, and 5) the schedule for a series of public meetings with tribal, state, and other management entities to start work on the plans.

The STT has worked with management entities to construct a general outline applicable to all five plans which follows the fishery management plan's (FMP) instructions on what a proposed rebuilding plan shall include. Because each stock is unique, there may be slight differences in the specific content of each plan; however, each plan will look to evaluate the role that harvest, freshwater survival, and marine survival played in the overfished determination. Forecast errors may also be reviewed. Each plan will include recommendations, or alternatives, that the Council can take/adopt to rebuild the stocks, and identify a specific rebuilding period. Additional factors affecting the overfished stock, and additional recommendations the Council could make to outside entities, may also be included in the plans.

As stated in the FMP, in addition to the STT assessment, the Council may direct the Habitat Committee to work with tribal, Federal, state, and local habitat experts to review the status of essential fish habitat affecting the overfished stock, and, as appropriate, ask the Habitat Committee to provide recommendations to the Council for restoration and enhancement measures within a suitable timeframe. This action would be prioritized if the STT found that freshwater survival was a significant factor leading to the overfished determination.

The STT is required to propose the plans for Council consideration within one year. In order to meet that requirement, a tight schedule has been developed (Table 1). Work is focused during the months of June through September. In order to meet the advanced briefing book deadline in preparation for the November 2018 Council meeting, draft plans will be submitted in early October.

Table 1. 2018 STT Schedule for Salmon Rebuilding Plans_ preliminary			
Date	Task	# of work days	Comments
17-May	Webinar - planning session	1/2 day	Public planning/coordination
7-Jun	Develop template for Draft 1 - rough outlines for each plan		Table of Content, formatting, adjust as move through planning process
20-Jun, 21-Jun	Chinook meetings (Redding, CA)	2 days	Public work session (planning/coordination). Finalize Table of Content for Draft 1
26-Jun, 27-Jun, 28-Jun	Coho meetings (Olympia/Lacey, WA)	3 days	Public work session (planning/coordination). Finalize Table of Content for Draft 1
2-Jul	Draft 1 - managers and STT have a clear path forward		Draft 1 template finalized, forwarded to STT
12-Jul	Due - Draft 1 managers to STT lead	7 days	Data/Tables compiled
17-Jul	Due - Draft 1 STT lead to PFMC	3 days	Data/Tables compiled
20-Jul	Draft 2 out to STT for Review	3 days	Develop recommendations
7-Aug	Progress Report due for Sept. BB		
10-Aug	Due - Draft 2 managers to STT lead	15 days	
15-Aug	Due - Draft 2 STT lead to PFMC	3 days	
20-Aug	Draft 3 out to STT for review	3 days	Recommendations in draft form
10-Sep	Due - Draft 3 managers to STT lead	14 days	
13-Sep	Due - Draft 3 STT lead to PFMC	3 days	Recommendations in final draft form
18-Sep	Draft 4 out to STT for review	3 days	Final draft, STT
26-Sep	Final edits from STT to PFMC	6 days	
1-Oct	STT last look out	2 days	
3-Oct	Due: STT last look	2 days	
5-Oct	Submitted for advanced BB	2 days	
1-Nov	Council review		Nov. Council Mtg - San Diego - (Nov 2-3?)
Nov-Feb	Plans finalized		STT
2019 Mar	Council adopts plans for recommendation to NMFS		

The STT has developed a work-flow plan intended to create an efficient and organized process. Essentially, each STT representative is tasked with compiling and coordinating data, analysis, and document edits and forwarding on to the STT lead. The STT lead will incorporate this information into master working drafts for each overfished stock and distribute the master drafts back to the STT representatives. The STT recognizes the tribal, state, and Federal expertise outside of the STT and encourages their participation and input in the development of each plan.

In an effort to initiate the development process, the STT has scheduled five public meetings with tribal, state, and other management entities that have professional knowledge on each of the five stocks. Each meeting will be dedicated to one specific stock (Table 2) and occur in the latter half of June 2018. These meetings will be centrally located based on the species. Discussions on

Chinook stocks will take place in Redding, California; discussions on coho stocks will take place in Washington State, in the Olympia/Lacey area.

Table 2. 2018 STT Meetings scheduled for Salmon Rebuilding Plans

June 20 - Klamath River fall Chinook, Red Lion Hotel in Redding, CA

June 21 - Sacramento River fall Chinook, Red Lion Hotel in Redding, CA

June 26 - Strait of Juan de Fuca natural coho, NOAA Office in Lacey, WA

June 27 - Queets River natural coho, NWIFC office in Olympia, WA

June 28 - Snohomish River natural coho, NWIFC office in Olympia, WA

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