

QUEETS RIVER SPRING/SUMMER CHINOOK REBUILDING PLAN - PROGRESS REPORT

Queets River natural spring/summer Chinook were declared overfished in November 2023 (November 2023 Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Meeting, [Agenda Item D.1.a](#), Supplemental NMFS Report). Under the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP), a rebuilding plan is required when a stock is declared overfished. The FMP requires a plan be proposed by the Salmon Technical Team (STT) for Council consideration within one year and be implemented by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) within two years. NMFS has stated that the Council should submit rebuilding plans for approval by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce within 15 months of the overfished declaration. This is the first update the Council has received on development of the rebuilding plan.

The STT is working collaboratively with tribal, state, and Federal entities to develop the rebuilding plan. Work began in January 2024 and continues to date. In addition to the required elements outlined in the FMP, each plan must meet Federal guidelines found in the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the National Environment Policy Act and typically contain an Environmental Assessment. Prior to implementation, the plan will go through the Federal notice and comment rule-making process.

Under this agenda item, the STT will provide a report on progress made so far. The Council should consider this report and provide guidance on next steps. The Council is slated to select a Preliminary Preferred Alternative at the September 2024 Council meeting and adopt a final plan for recommendation to NMFS at the November 2024 Council meeting.

Council Action:

Consider progress report and provide guidance on next steps.

Reference Materials:

1. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- E.2 Queets River Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan – Progress Report Robin Ehlke
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Consider Progress Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps