

# Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan

Establishing the scope of Amendment 17:  
Updating Essential Fish Habitat and  
Other Considerations

# Conclusion

- Establish scope
- Council Action: Recommend issues for inclusion in scope of Amendment 17
- Do not need to select alternatives now
- Next steps – Consider alternatives in September 2012

# Major areas to consider changes

1. Description and Identification
2. Freshwater EFH (Chinook, coho, PS pink)
3. Marine EFH
4. Impassable barriers
5. EFH detailed descriptions
6. HAPCs

# Major areas to consider changes

7. Fishing activities
8. Non-fishing activities
9. Information and research needs
10. Procedures for EFH changes without an FMP amendment
11. Other FMP issues (NMFS/staff supplemental report)

# 1. Description and Identification

- MSA §305 Defines Essential Fish Habitat:
  - “those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity”

# 1. Description and Identification

- Amendment 14 general description:
  - “...waters and substrate necessary for salmon production needed to support a long-term sustainable salmon fishery....”
  - “...all those streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, and other currently viable water bodies and most habitat historically accessible....”

# 2. Freshwater Extent



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Image: USDA Farm Service Agency  
41°37'59.02" N 121°17'34.59" W elev: 4344 ft

CANADA



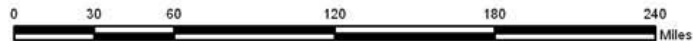
WASHINGTON

MONTANA

OREGON

IDAHO

 4th Field Hydrologic Units with known current Chinook Distribution  4th Field Hydrologic Units with Current Chinook EFH

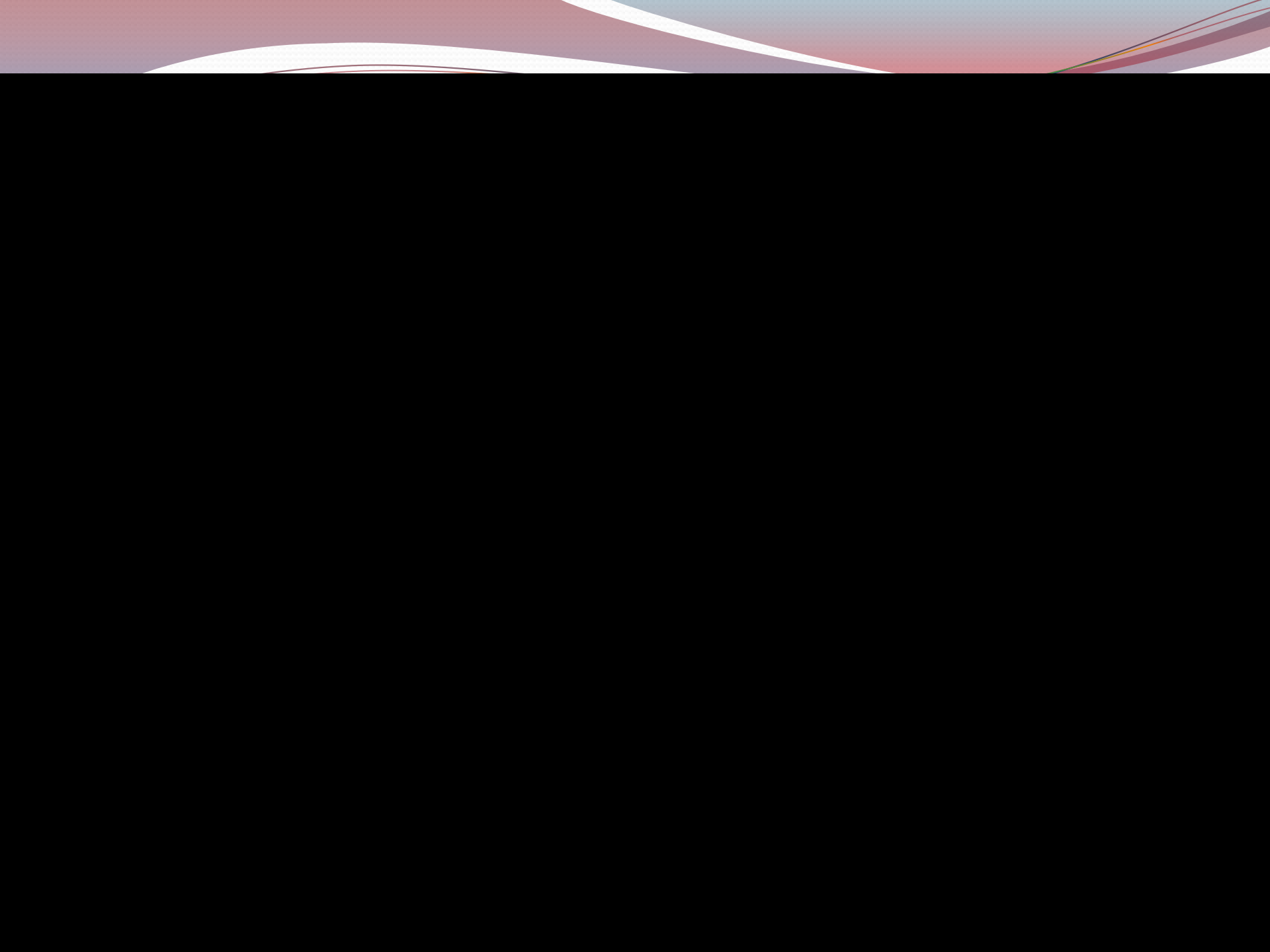


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EFHChinookHUCs3\_22\_11.mxd



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## **3) Marine EFH**



## 4) Impassable Barriers

- ~ 45 dams identified as impassable and therefore representing upstream extent of EFH
  - 4 criteria used in Amendment 14: permanence, upstream of another barrier, passage under consideration, importance of upstream habitat
  - Several dams were not included in the Amendment 14 the (e.g., Elwha, Condit)

# 5) Essential Fish Habitat Descriptions

- Amendment 14 described essential habitat by life stage and species
- Most information from Amendment 14 remains accurate/relevant

## 6) Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

- No HAPCs were designated for Pacific Coast salmon
- Four criteria:
  - Ecological function
  - Sensitivity to human degradation
  - Likelihood of being stressed by development
  - Rarity
- HAPC designation adds no additional regulation, but adds emphasis to the importance of HAPCs

# HAPCs, continued

- Five potential HAPCs:
  - Complex channels and floodplain
  - Thermal refugia
  - Spawning
  - Estuaries
  - Marine and estuarine SAV

# 7) Fishing Activities

- Amendment 14 described fishing activities:
  - Roundhaul
  - Bottom trawl
  - Derelict gear
  - Shellfish harvest
  - Etc.
- OP reviewed the list of activities
  - Prey species



# 8) Non-fishing Activities

- 21 activities in Amendment 14
- 10 newly identified

# 9) Information and Research

- Improve mapping
- Improve habitat mapping
- Increase understanding of marine distribution of Pacific salmon
- Improve data on adverse effects of fishing activities
- Climate change
  
- More?

# 10) Amending EFH Outside FMP Process

- Advantage: some changes to EFH could be made more efficiently
- NOAA GC providing guidance

# 11) Other (non-EFH) Issues

- MFMT for Quillayute fall coho
- Adding stocks to FMP
- Updating conservation objectives
- Housekeeping items
  - Process/administrative
  - Update language/descriptions/definitions, etc
  - Reporting requirements



# Conclusion and Council Action

- Establish scope of Amendment 17
- Do not need to select alternatives now
- Next steps – Consider alternatives in September 2012

# Acknowledgements

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*Columbia River Chinook Salmon*