

MEETING SUMMARY

Hatchery Scientific Review Group

July 15–18, 2003, Kalaloch Lodge and Olympic Natural Resources Center, Forks

Agenda: The purpose of this meeting was to begin the North Coast Regional Review.

In Attendance:

1. HSRG members John Barr (vice chair), Lee Blankenship (vice chair), Don Campton, Trevor Evelyn, Lars Mobernd (chair), Paul Seidel, Lisa Seeb, Bill Smoker and alternate Tom Flagg.
2. Facilitation team members Barbara Cairns, Kathleen Hopper, Michael Kern and Michael Schmidt.
3. Joe Hinton and Caroline Peterschmidt, Makah Tribe; Steve Meadows, Quinault Indian Nation; Paul Hayduk, Dan Sorensen and Dave Zajac, USFWS; Darrell Mills, Scott Moore, Jack Tipping and Scott Williams, WDFW joined the Scientific Group on July 15 and 16 for portions of the field tour.
4. Jim Jorgenson, Hoh Tribe; Joe Hinton and Caroline Peterschmidt, Makah Tribe; John Meyer, National Park Service, Marianna Alexandersdottir, Kyle Brakensiek, Willy Eldridge and Sandy Zeir, NWIFC; Mark Galloway and Kris Northcutt, Quileute Tribe; Mark Mobbs and Steve Meadows, Quinault Indian Nation; Joy Evered, Paul Hayduk, Tom Kane and Dave Zajac, USFWS; and Manuel Farinas, Mike Gross, Darrell Mills, Scott Moore, Don Rapelje, Jack Tipping and Scott Williams, WDFW joined the Scientific Group on July 17 and/or 18 to review regional goals and hatchery program purposes, types and operations.

Discussions/Presentations

On July 15, the Scientific Group began the North Coast field tour with a visit to the Makah Tribe's Educket Ponds facility. The tour was completed on July 16 with visits to the following facilities: The US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Makah National Fish Hatchery (where the Lake Ozette and other Makah tribal programs were also discussed), the Makah Tribe's Hoko River Hatchery; the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Sol Duc and Bogachiel hatcheries, the Quinault Indian Nation's Salmon River Fish Culture Facility, and USFWS's Quinault National Fish Hatchery (where the Quinault Indian Nation's Lake Quinault Hatchery programs were also discussed). The day concluded with a discussion session at Kalaloch Lodge.

On July 17, Michael Kern reviewed the meeting agenda and materials with Scientific Group members. Barbara Cairns provided a facilitation/communications update. Barbara said the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee included three million dollars for the Hatchery Reform Project in its FY 2004 appropriations bill. She recommended that the Scientific Group set time aside on an upcoming agenda to discuss what might be included in a draft FY 2004 project budget. The budget can be discussed with the Hatchery Reform Coordinating Committee later

HSRG Meeting Summary
July 15–18, 2003

this fall or winter, once Congress has finalized its spending bills. Barbara and Michael Kern agreed to work in the coming weeks with several Scientific Group members to prepare presentations and memoranda for various audiences on the Hatchery Reform Project and the work of the Scientific Group.

Paul Seidel reported on several WDFW efforts to implement hatchery reforms. WDFW held internal discussions in May about how to implement the Scientific Group's Wild Steelhead Management Zones recommendations. Also discussed was what the Scientific Group meant by integrated versus segregated hatchery programs, and other definitions related to hatchery reform. Paul reported that the commitment by WDFW staff to implementing the reforms is strong. Paul said WDFW has begun discussions in Regions Four and Six to revisit the purposes of hatchery programs in those regions. The intent is to make them as explicit as possible and allow for specific evaluation of whether they are achieved. Also being discussed are specific performance measures such as egg-to-hatch and hatch-to-release survival rates. WDFW is also developing a process for prioritizing the spending of the one million dollars for operations modifications and \$7.7 million for capital improvements provided by the Washington State Legislature to implement hatchery reform. Projects receiving funding must implement Scientific Group recommendations. Highest priority is placed on projects that also help to meet obligations to Endangered Species Act-listed stocks.

Don Campton reported that USFWS has begun discussions on how to implement the Scientific Group's recommendations for the Hood Canal region, the first to include a USFWS facility. This may include changing broodstocks and/or reducing egg takes and release sizes.

Lars Mobernd and John Barr reported that they will have a follow-up discussion with participants from the Hood Canal Regional Review on August 28. Don Campton and John Barr agreed to contact participants from the Willapa Bay and Eastern Straits regions, respectively, to answer specific questions raised by these participants about the Scientific Group's reviews.

The task team charged by the Scientific Group with completing revisions to the *HSRG Scientific Framework and Hatchery Review Program* document reported that good progress is being made. The document will be re-titled simply *Hatchery Reform* with the chapters rearranged under the following major headings: 1) Foundations of Hatchery Reform; 2) Applying Hatchery Reform; 3) Appendices. The intent is to collect the philosophy, processes and results of the Hatchery Reform Project into one place. One of the task team's first priorities is to work with individual Scientific Group members to complete the Emerging Issues papers, so that they can be made available on the web site and serve as the basis of a series of essays for journals such as *Fisheries* or the *North American Journal of Aquaculture*. The Scientific Group expressed interest in making the project's web site available as a clearinghouse of information and/or a potential discussion site on hatchery reform.

Michael Kern then welcomed regional participants in the meeting and led a round of introductions. Michael and Lars Mobernd provided an overview of the regional review process and led discussions on the ratings for the region's current and future stock status, habitat and harvest goals for all regional stocks that a Scientific Group task team had derived from the briefing book; along with the purpose, type and description for all regional hatchery programs.

HSRG Meeting Summary
July 15–18, 2003

The Scientific Group and regional participants spent the remainder of the day clarifying the goals for each program, ensuring that the goals and hatchery programs were correctly described, and identifying additional information that was needed to complete the review. At the end of the session, regional participants were asked to provide the Scientific Group with specific issues they would like to see addressed as part of this regional review.

On July 18, Scientific Group members were assigned to present preliminary recommendations for individual hatchery programs at the August informal review session. The Scientific Group broke into task teams and began working on the operational guidelines section of the Benefit/Risk Tool. The Scientific Group task teams, working with the regional hatchery managers, then spent the remainder of the day completing a comparison of current regional hatchery operations to the Scientific Group's Hatchery Operational Guidelines.