

MEETING SUMMARY

Hatchery Scientific Review Group November 12–14, 2003, Courtyard by Marriott, Tukwila

Agenda: The purpose of this meeting was to complete the draft recommendations for hatchery programs reviewed in 2003; discuss the 2004 Hatchery Reform Project work plan; discuss several scientific papers the HSRG is preparing; and receive an update on Hatchery Reform Project management and communications.

In Attendance:

1. HSRG members John Barr (vice chair), Lee Blankenship, (vice chair), Don Campton, Trevor Evelyn, Lars Moberg, Lisa Seeb, Paul Seidel and Bill Smoker, and alternate Tom Flagg.
2. Facilitation team members Barbara Cairns, Michael Kern, Linda Lyshall, Bj Mirk and Jim Waldo.

Discussions/Presentations:

On November 12, Jim Waldo welcomed HSRG members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. Michael Kern reviewed the meeting materials. Barbara Cairns provided a facilitation/communications update. Barbara explained that the facilitation team will coordinate a press event in March 2004 to mark the release of a document containing the HSRG's foundations, tools and recommendations (including the program-specific recommendations for all four regions reviewed in 2003). Lee Blankenship announced that an abstract he submitted on behalf of the HSRG was accepted for presentation as a poster at the June 2004 Fourth World Fisheries Congress in Vancouver, BC. Other upcoming presentations included Lee and Michael Kern attending the December 3 meeting of the Wild Steelhead Coalition, in response to this group's invitation for an update on the Hatchery Reform Project, and Don Campton responding to an invitation to present the HSRG's integrated/segregated hatchery program concept on December 3 at the Northwest Fish Culture Conference in Portland. Don provided a completed "Emerging Issues in Hatchery Reform" paper on the integrated/segregated concept, for final review by the HSRG. Michael agreed to make the paper available from the web site, alongside the other "Emerging Issues" papers.

The HSRG discussed several issues relating to its research program. The group agreed to host its annual Research Review at the NOAA Fisheries Science Center in Seattle in February, in order to receive updates from researchers funded under the HSRG research grant program, along with those receiving funding from state, tribal and federal hatchery reform research budgets. In addition, the HSRG would like to set aside time for presentations on hatchery-related research being conducted by several key scientists in other Northwest states. If the HSRG provides research grants in 2004, these will be discussed and awarded at the February meeting.

Bj Mirk provided an update on the November 4, 2003 meeting of the Hatchery Reform Coordinating Committee. She said that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to draft a

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work plan for the implementation phase of the Hatchery Reform Project, to begin in January 2004. The Coordinating Committee members agreed to create a task team to draft a work plan. The task team includes members of the Coordinating Committee, the HSRG and the facilitation team. That task team met on November 10 and developed a draft list of priority tasks and a calendar for 2004. These items were presented to the HSRG, which made a series of suggested refinements and revisions. The facilitation team will pass these suggestions on to the task team. The task team will meet again on December 12, to finalize its proposed work plan. That proposed plan will be presented to the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission on December 16 and the Coordinating Committee on December 17. The HSRG and the Coordinating Committee will approve a FY 2004 budget for the Hatchery Reform Project in January, based on the final work plan. The HSRG agreed to provide a more detailed explanation of its principles and system-wide recommendations at the December Coordinating Committee meeting.

The HSRG spent the remainder of the meeting completing edits and revisions for hatchery program reviews in the four regions reviewed in 2003. Michael will incorporate these revisions. The group agreed to distribute the draft recommendations to the managers for comment and responses, as in past years, and then to finalize them at the February meeting, for publication in March.

The HSRG agreed to end the December 10–12, 2003 meeting at noon on December 12, so that the 2004 Work Plan Task Team can meet in the afternoon to complete its work. The HSRG also agreed to hold its member and officer elections at the December meeting. The facilitation team will determine if any revisions need to be proposed to the HSRG's Policies and Procedures. The first HSRG meeting in 2004 will be February 9–12 in Seattle. There will be no formal HSRG meetings in January or April. These months will be devoted to task team work. The March meeting dates and location will be determined later, to coincide with the press event.