



Washington  
Department of  
**FISH and  
WILDLIFE**

# Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy Review

Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting  
April 10, 2020

## Project Status Update

- Laurie Peterson, Fish Science Division Manager

# FWC Decision in June 2018

“...review of all sections and aspects of [Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy (C-3619)]...

...suspend policy guidelines 1, 2, and 3 for salmon species other than steelhead.”

## Review to Include

- Examining performance results since the policy was adopted
- Conducting Science Review, Emerging Science focus
- Providing alternatives for possible policy changes

**FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION  
POLICY DECISION**

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**POLICY TITLE:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Hatchery and Fishery Reform      **POLICY NUMBER:** C-3619

Supersedes: N/A      Effective Date: November 6, 2009

See Also:      Approved by *Miranda Wecker*, Chair  
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission

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**Purpose**  
The purpose of this Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife policy is to advance the conservation and recovery of wild salmon and steelhead by promoting and guiding the implementation of hatchery reform.

**Definition and Intent**  
Hatchery reform is the scientific and systematic redesign of hatchery programs to help recover wild salmon and steelhead and support sustainable fisheries. The intent of hatchery reform is to improve hatchery effectiveness, ensure compatibility between hatchery production and salmon recovery plans and rebuilding programs, and support sustainable fisheries.

**General Policy Statement**  
The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) shall promote the conservation and recovery of wild salmon and steelhead and provide fishery-related benefits by establishing clear goals for each state hatchery, conducting scientifically defensible operations, and using informed decision making to improve management. Furthermore, it is recognized that many state operated hatcheries are subject to provisions under U.S. v. Washington and U.S. v. Oregon and that hatchery reform actions must be done in close coordination with tribal co-managers.

Artificial production programs will be designated as one of the following:

- Conservation Programs. Artificial production programs implemented with a conservation objective shall have a net aggregate benefit for the diversity, spatial structure, productivity, and abundance of the target wild population.
- Harvest Programs. Artificial production programs implemented to enhance harvest opportunities shall provide fishery benefits while allowing watershed-specific goals for the diversity, spatial structure, productivity, and abundance of wild populations to be met.

State commercial and recreational fisheries will need to increasingly focus on the

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# Project Elements

- Policy Review based on:
  - Science Review,  
Emerging Science
  - Policy Performance  
Evaluation
  - Joint Co-manager  
Hatchery Benefits  
document



# Project Elements

## (Continued)



- Engage Tribal Co-managers in Policy development
- Partners and Public - Outreach and Engagement
- Commission considers final reports, recommendations, and alternatives for possible policy changes.

# Science Review – Emerging Science

Status: Complete

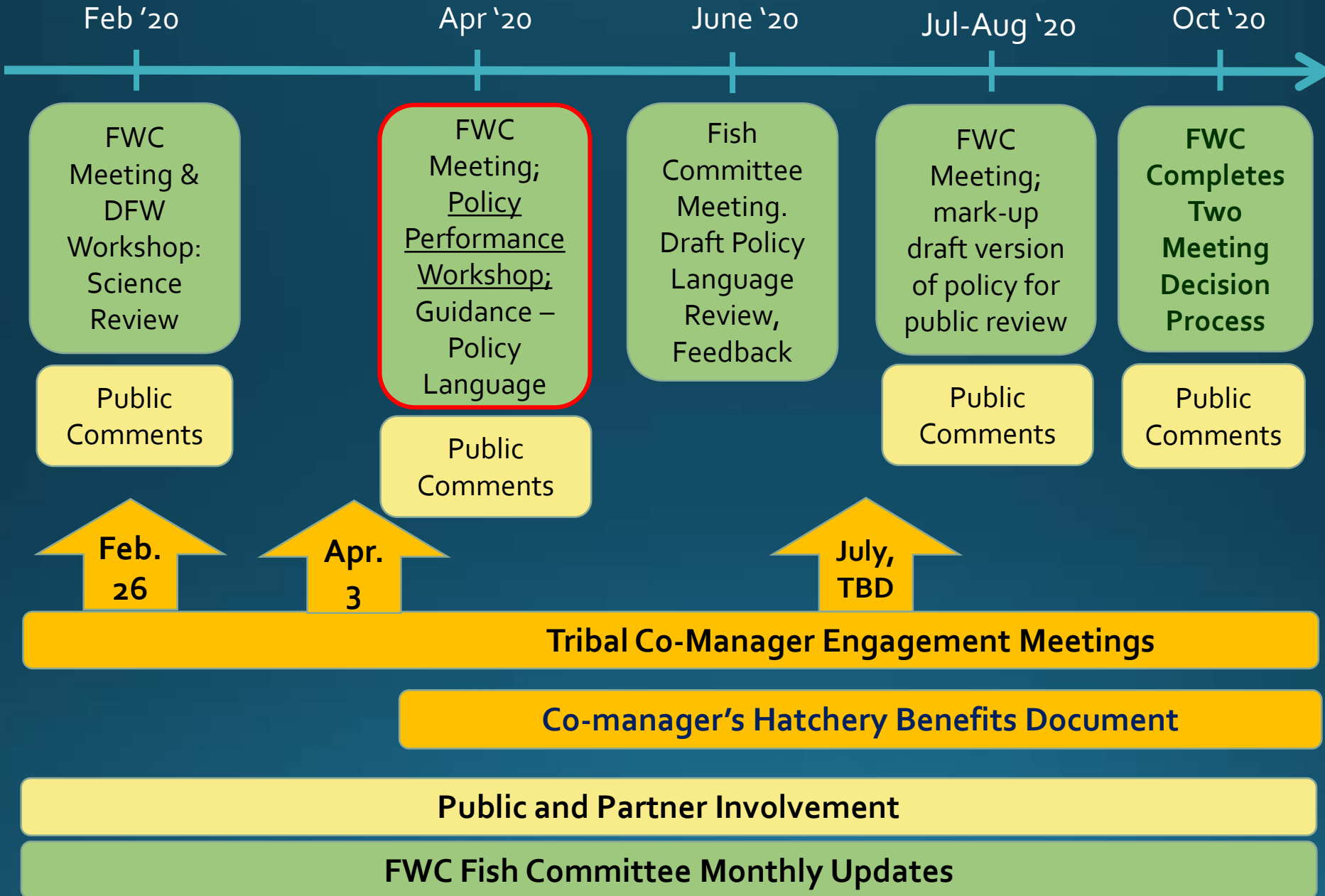
- Washington Academy of Sciences (WSAS) completed third (final) review – Oct. 31, 2019
- January 2020: Distributed document to Commissioners, Tribes, Partners, Public
- Science Review workshop completed February 6, 2020
- Currently addressing follow-up questions, input from Commissioners

# Policy Review & Evaluation

Status: Working Draft Distributed Feb 27

- Reviewed policy performance since adoption
- Evaluated 11 policy guidelines
  - Green, Yellow, Red report card format, relative to defined performance metrics
- Completed workshop with Commissioners on April 9

# Timeline Moving Forward



# Questions, Comments?

