

Coastal Steelhead 2022 Performance and 2023 Indicators

WDFW Fish Committee

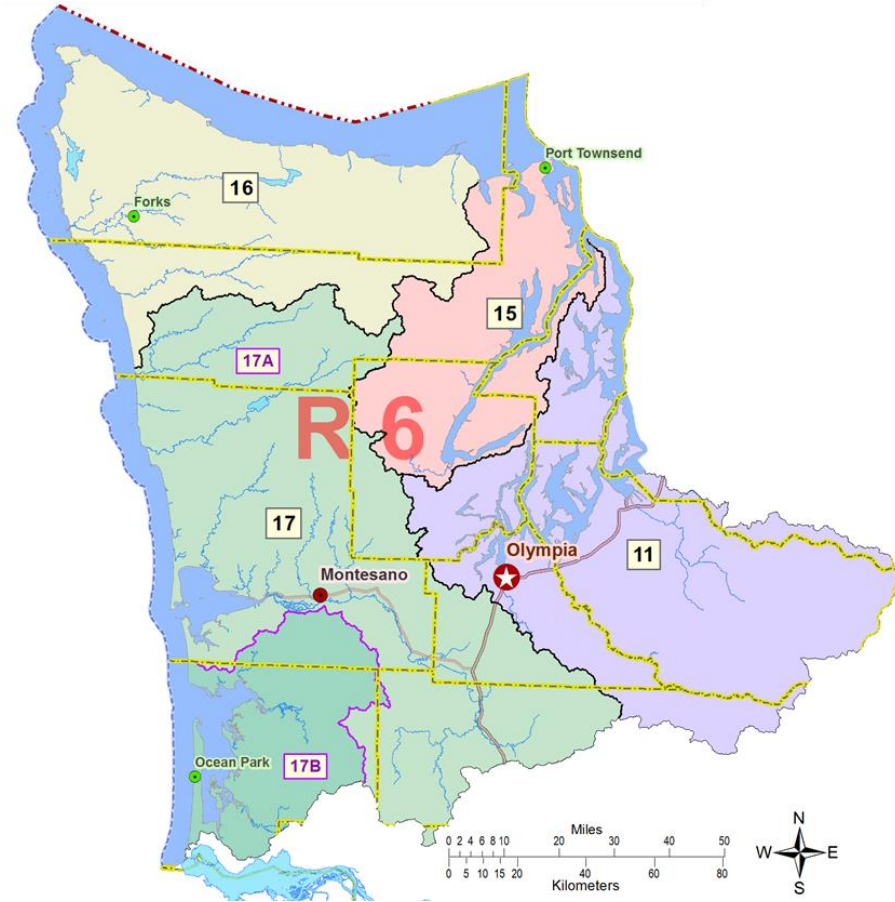
August 4-6, 2022

Kelly Cunningham, Fish Program Director
James Losee, Regional Program Manager



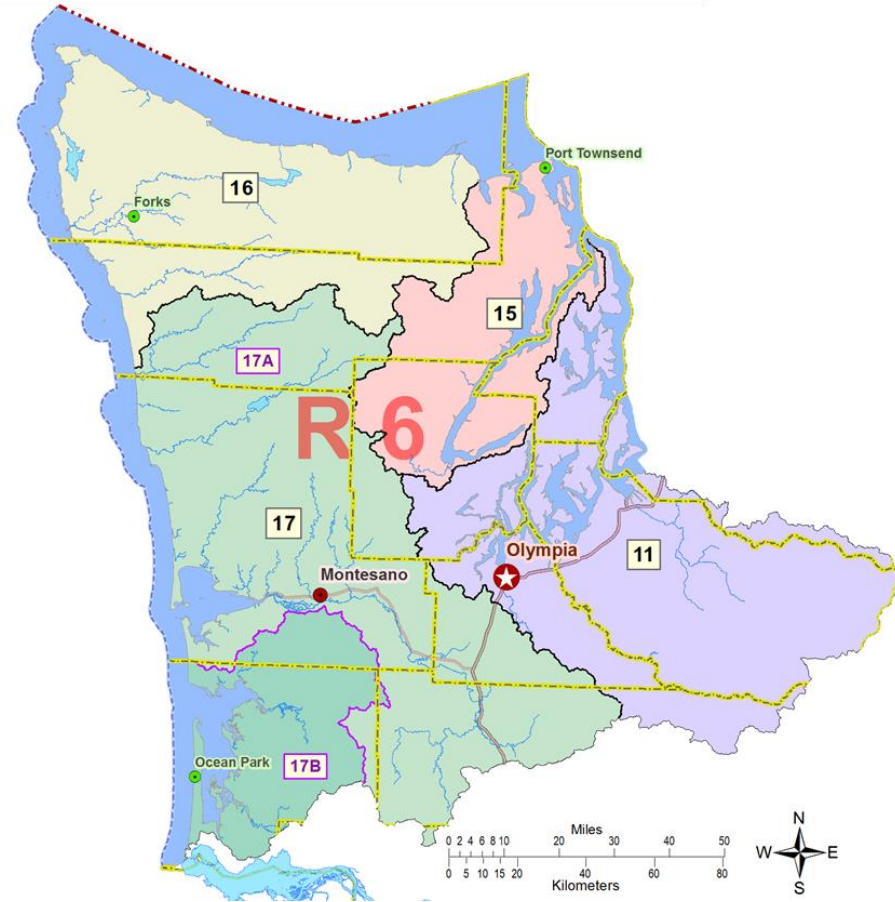
Agenda

- 2021/22 Monitoring and Performance
- 2022/23 Indicators
- Coastal Steelhead Proviso Implementation Plan



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2021/22 Monitoring and Performance

- Creel: Prioritized funding in 2021/22 to support increased monitoring of coastal steelhead fisheries. Resulted in estimates of CPUE in the Hoh, and pilot monitoring in the Quillayute and Willapa Bay
- Spawning ground surveys
- Hatchery rack returns
- Tribal Fisheries data



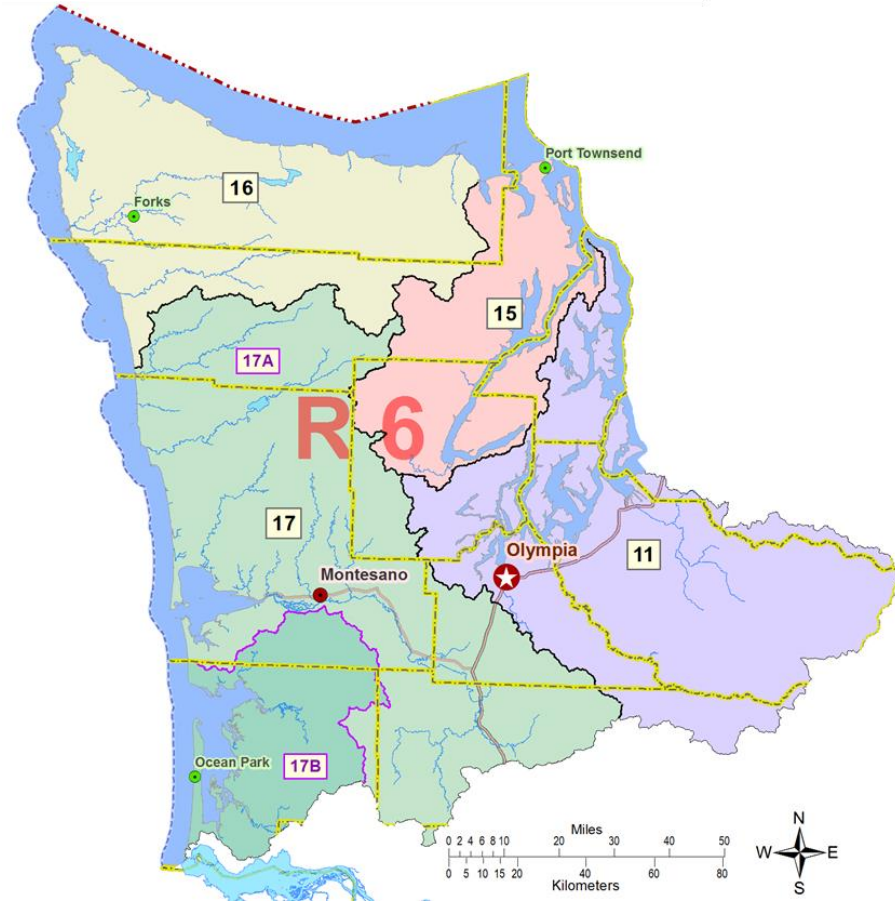
2021/22 Monitoring and Performance

- Preseason: Low forecasts in all rivers and conservative season regulations with fishing opportunity in Willapa, Quillayute and Hoh Rivers and boat fishing opportunity in the Quillayute.
- In-season: Sport and tribal catch suggested lower than expected runsize.
- Emergency Regulations: Closed state and Tribal fisheries in-season.

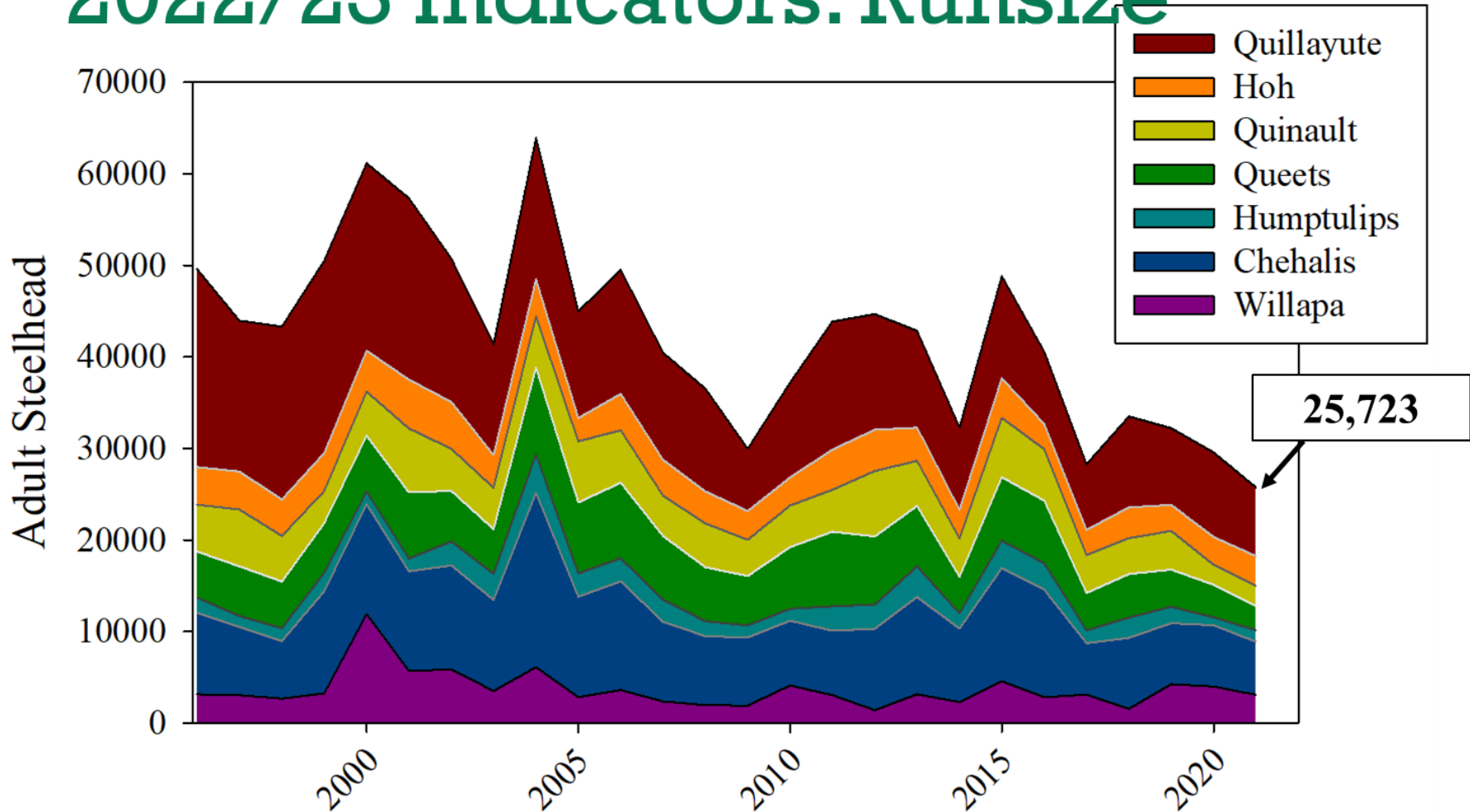


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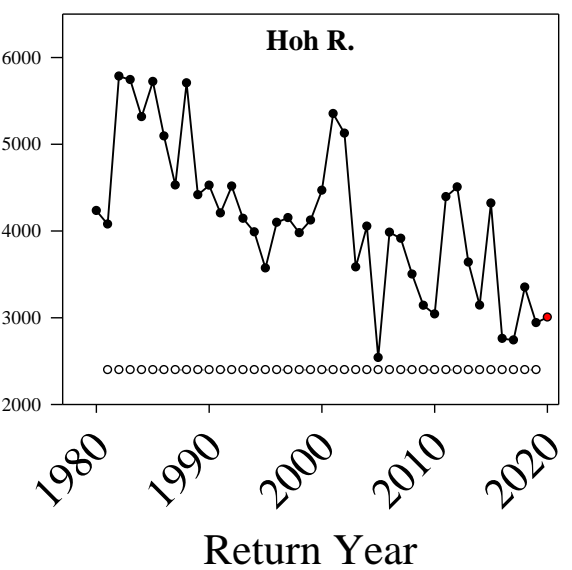
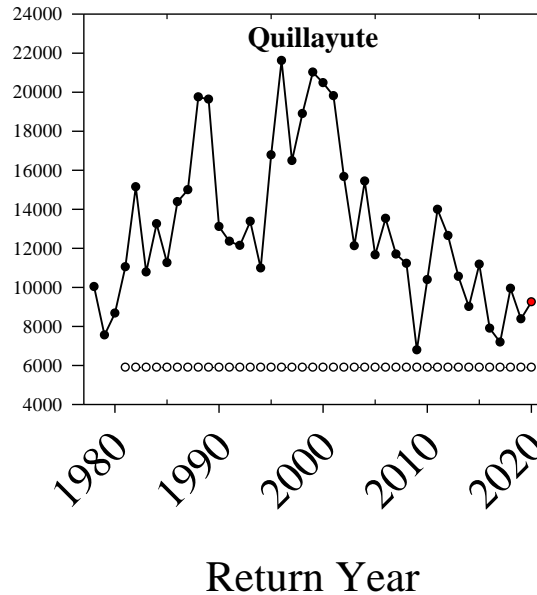
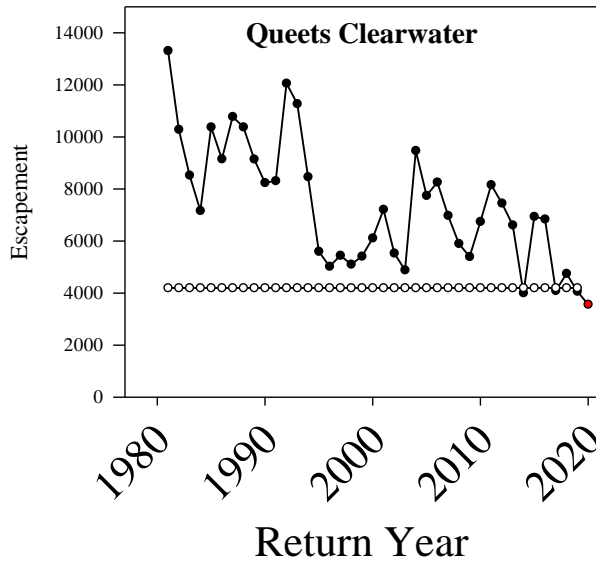
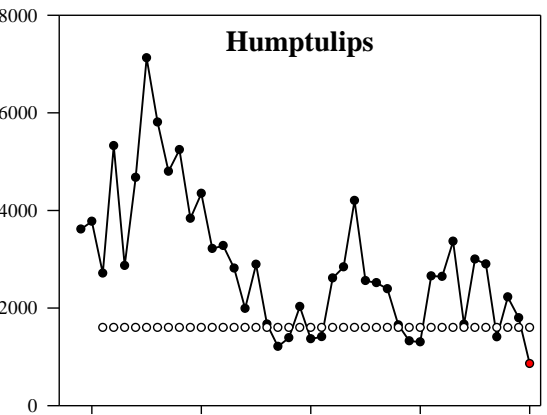
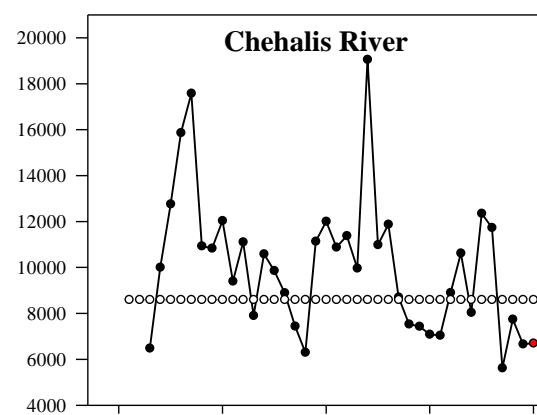
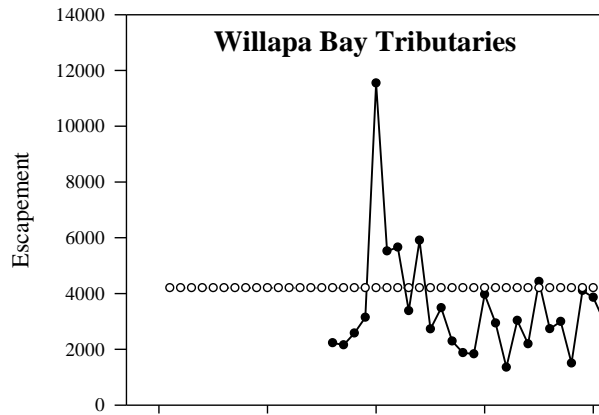
2022/23 Indicators: Runsize



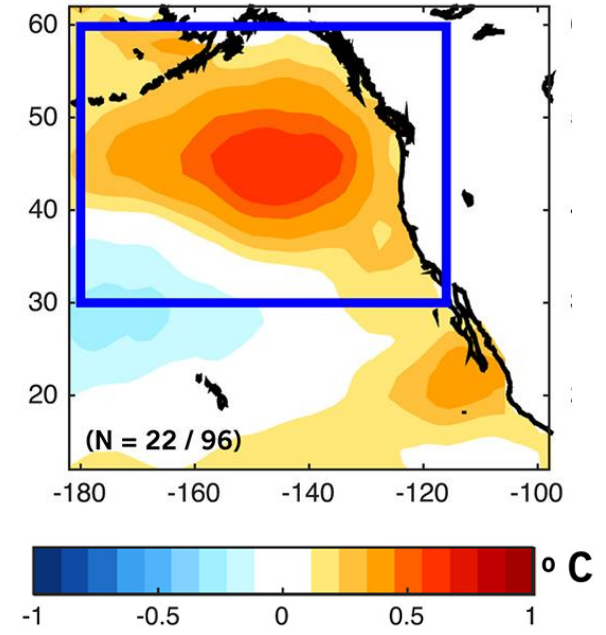
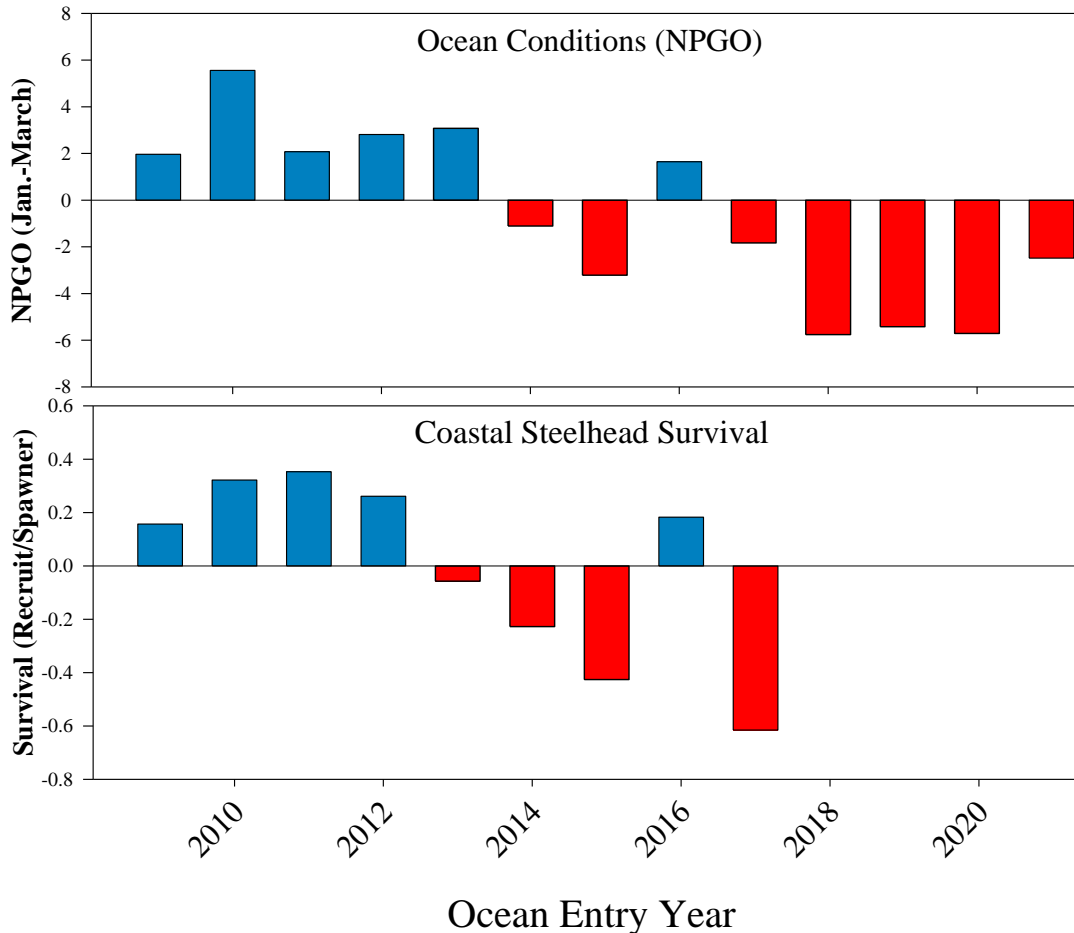
 2021 total returns to the Washington Coast were the lowest on record.



2022/23 Indicators: Escapement



2022/23 Indicators-Ocean Conditions



Joh & Lorenzo 2017
Scheuerell et al. 2020

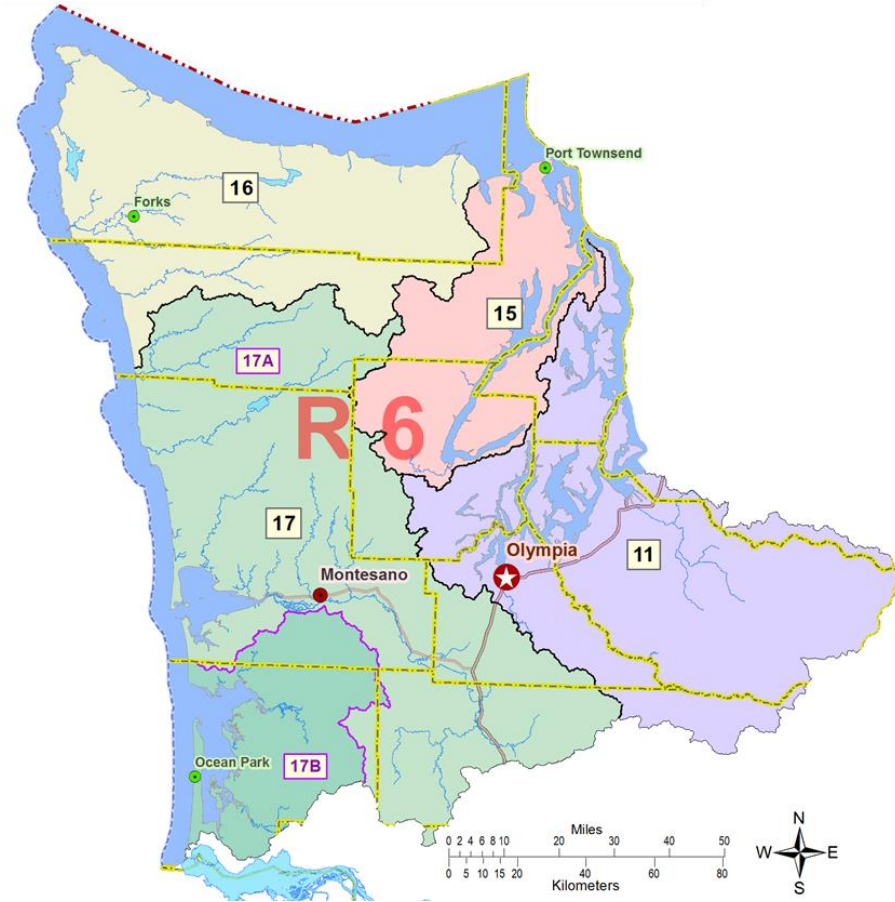


NPGO=North Pacific Gyre Oscillation-a climate pattern used as an index to explains key physical and biological changes in the ocean



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Coastal Steelhead Monitoring Proviso

“\$300K for the Department to develop steelhead plans for Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay, and coastal Olympic Peninsula. The plans must protect fisheries, provide fishing opportunities, and include stakeholder input and outreach. The Department must submit the final plans to the legislature by December 2022.”



Coastal Steelhead Proviso Implementation Plan

Timeline:

- November 2021-Developed WDFW team to lead writing and implementation.
- January 2021-Initial meeting of ad-hoc coastal steelhead advisory group.
- December 2022-Coastal Steelhead Proviso Implementation Plan and funding request to implement plan submitted to legislature.



Questions

