Commission Request to Department

"Blue Sheet"

Date of Request: May 25, 2023

Title of Request: Overview of a new Management Strategy Evaluation approach for salmonids in WA state

Commissioner: Timothy Ragen

Request Due Date: August/September commission meeting

Priority Level (put one check in each row):

Importance:	[ ] High	[x] Medium	[ ] Low
Urgency:	[ ] High	[x] Medium	[ ] Low

Knowledge or Action Being Requested (narrative). Describe what you want to know. Be specific.

Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) can be used to assess the effectiveness of alternative harvest control rules in perpetuating salmonid populations while supporting sustainable fishing opportunities. WDFW is currently developing a framework for conducting MSEs for salmon and steelhead populations that can form the basis for future fishery management plans. This approach to management planning, while widespread globally, is new to salmon and steelhead management in Washington State, and the intent of this request is for WDFW to brief the commission on this approach.

Output Requested (e.g., telephone call, memo, material from files, new report, presentation, other):

A presentation to the commission on the process of conducting a management strategy evaluation, including a description of what an MSE is, how it is different from other approaches, how it works in the short and long term, and how WDFW can apply it to salmon and steelhead management throughout the state. Specific topics to cover include: 1) the effects of increasing recruitment variability on future conservation risks and 2) the consequences of using harvest control rules that allow fishing when the stock is below escapement goals.

For Commission Executive Assistant Use

Date Assigned: _____ [At Debrief] **Assigned To:** _____ [Program]

revised 8/07/12 -eg