

Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy

Marlene Wagner, Kelly Cunningham, Chad Herring, & Ken Warheit
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
August 12, 2023



Outline of Presentation

- June FWC meeting—staff were directed to put policy out for public review/comment
 - Public comment summary
- Commissioner Discussion
- Next steps
 - September decision



Public Comment on Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy Draft

Public Comments

- 10 individuals responded
- 2 comments from organizations
 - CRCFA/CCF
 - CCA



Summary – Public Comment on Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy*

- Hatchery production numbers should be increased
- Water flow issues not addressed
- Too much commercial harvest
- Chinook predation by pinnipeds
- Policy is harvest-centric
- Enforcement is lacking in WB
- Policy did not have meaningful public comment
- Willapa should have recreational priority
- No “paybacks”
- Purpose statement does not include conservation
- Commission should have more oversight

*Several comments did not address the draft policy directly.





Commissioner Discussion

Timeline for 2023 Willapa Bay Policy Completion

Date	Event	Purpose
August 10	Fish Committee	Briefing on Public Comment
August 12	FWC Meeting	Briefing on public comment/Hear public comment
September 28	Fish Committee	Briefing on staff response to public comment
September 30	FWC meeting	FWC decision



QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION