



## Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation Summary Sheet

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**Meeting date:**

10/27/2023

**Agenda item:**

Co-Manager Hatchery Policy – update on revisions and decision

**Presenter(s):**

Kenneth Warheit and Eric Kinne

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**Background summary:**

WDFW and Tribal Co-Managers completed a draft hatchery policy in November 2022. The draft Policy was initially presented to the FWC January 27-28, 2023. Following the presentation FWS authorized WDFW staff to initiate public review of the draft Policy. At the March 16, 2023, FWC Fish Committee meeting WDFW staff presented a summary of the public comments. Between the March FWC meeting and April FWC meeting, WDFW and Tribal staff made minor changes to the draft Policy and WDFW staff completed a draft environmental review (SEPA Checklist) of the Policy. These changes and the draft SEPA checklist were presented to both the FWC Fish Committee and the full FW Commission during the April FW Commission meeting. The FW Commission approved the SEPA Checklist for submission on April 8, 2023. A Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) for a Phased SEPA review was issued by WDFW's SEPA Coordinator on May 1, 2023, which opened a 26-day public comment period on the DNS. Staff presented a summary of the written public comments on the SEPA DNS to the FWC Fish Committee on June 16, 2023. On August 10, 2023, at the FWC Fish Committee and on August 12, 2023, at the full FW Commission staff presented a summary of the SEPA written public comments and staff's response to these comments. On August 18, 2023, the full FW Commission meet with Tribal Co-Managers to discuss the draft policy, SEPA comments, Tribal values, FW Commission values, alignment of the policy with HGMPs, and Tulalip science with respect to hatchery management. An outcome of the August 18, 2023, meeting, was a minor modification to the draft policy consisting of an addition of 164 words and edits to a 22-word sentence. This revised draft policy was distributed to the FW Commissioners ~September 21, 2023, and discussed with two Commissioners on September 26, 2023.

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**Staff recommendation:**

The purpose of this agenda item is for the FWC to discuss the draft Co-Manager policy, ask questions of Staff, and decide to Adopt or Not Adopt the draft policy.

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**Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:**

The genesis of the Co-Manager Hatchery Policy is a directive in the FWC's Anadromous Salmon and Steelhead Hatchery Policy (C-3624). FWC will need to Adopt or Not Adopt the final draft of Co-Manager Hatchery Policy. Staff have no expected outcome.

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**Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:**

None

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**Public involvement process used and what you learned:**

There have been two opportunities for the public to provide oral comments to the full FW Commission on the draft policy and SEPA DNS (January 27, 2023, and August 12, 2023), in addition to opportunities during every FW Commission meeting during open public input. The public also had 22 days to provide written comments on the draft policy and 26 days to provide written comments on the SEPA DNS.

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**Action requested and/or proposed next steps:**

See Staff recommendation above.

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**Draft motion language:**

"I move that the Commission adopt the hatchery policy developed by Co-Managers as presented by staff today."

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**Post decision communications plan:**

To be determined

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