

# Public Meeting Guidelines and Etiquette

## Please note the following guidelines for our meeting:

- Upon joining the virtual meeting, your microphone will be muted automatically.
- In case of any technical issues during the meeting, notify us in the chat, and we will help you. Please note that the chat will only be monitored for technical assistance.
- Public comments are welcome and will be rotated between in-person and virtual attendees.
- To ask a question or make a comment, please use your device's "raise hand" feature. If on the phone, dial \*9 on Zoom, and if using a computer, click the hand/reactions icon at the bottom of your screen.
- During the comment period, the host will enable you to unmute yourself. You can then unmute yourself by pressing the mute button on your device or dialing \*6 on your phone.
- Keep discussions focused on the agenda items and questions at hand. Offensive, disrespectful, or derogatory language, including profanity, personal attacks, threats, or insults towards individuals, governments, or organizations, is strictly prohibited.
- Assume positive intentions from those speaking and listen respectfully.
- To ensure a balanced discussion, limit your comments to two minutes with one clarifying follow-up question.
- Provide constructive feedback regarding the fisheries in which you participate. Remember that the most compelling comments are those that pertain to the topics under discussion.
- WDFW staff may close public comment to stay on schedule with the agenda or to provide others who still need to comment with an opportunity to speak.
- The Hybrid meetings will be recorded and posted online.
- If you have further questions or comments, please submit them in written format on our public comment webpage:  
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/public-input>



# 2024 North of Falcon

## NOF # 1 - Preliminary Modeling

March 13, 2024



# Agenda

- Welcome and introduction
- Overview of North Of Falcon process
- Review of 2024 forecasts, management objectives, and stocks of concern
- PFMC - Non-treaty ocean options
- Preliminary modeling results
- Remaining meeting schedule

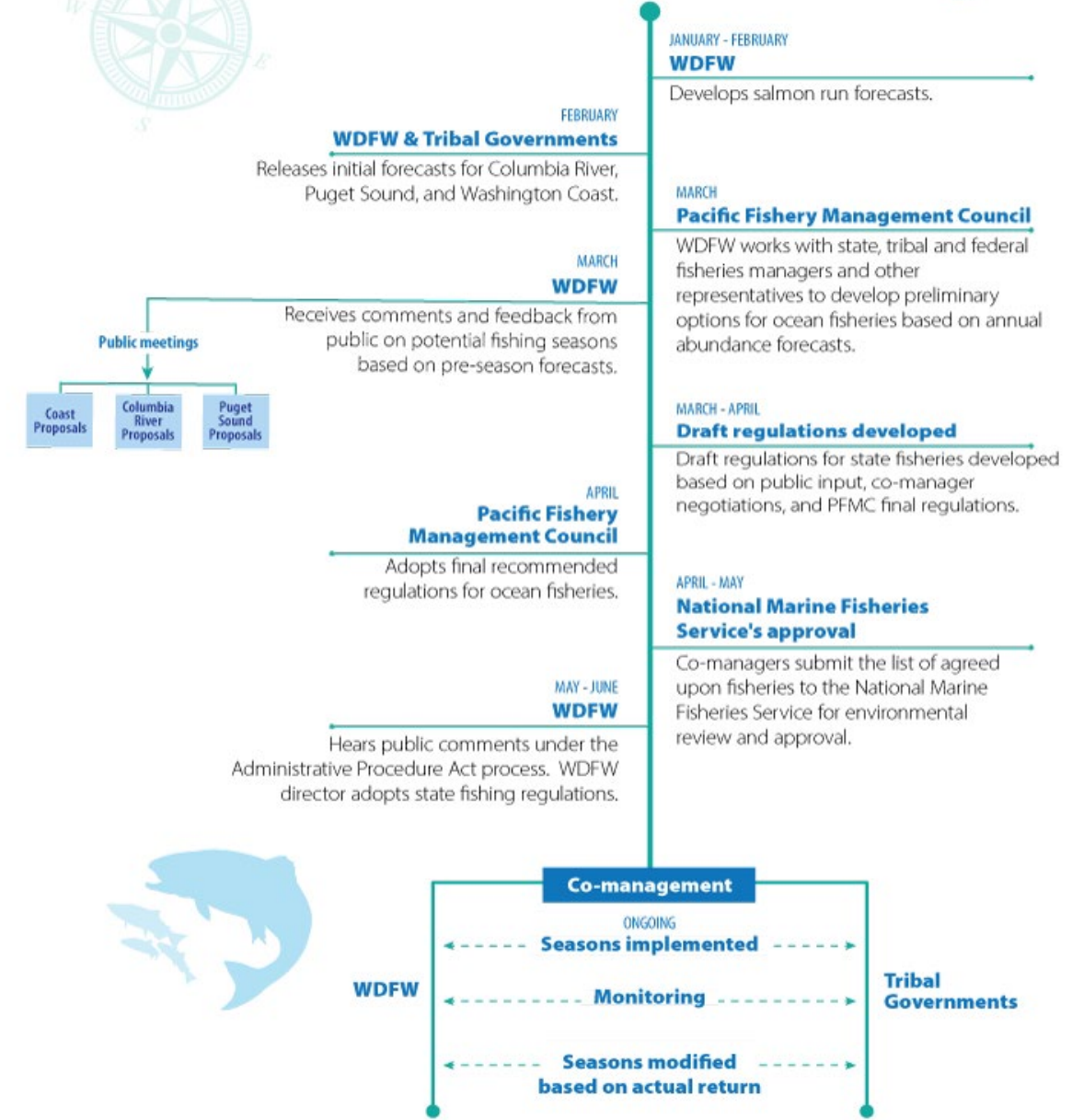


# What is North of Falcon?

- North of Falcon is the annual, cooperative process to set salmon seasons in Washington waters.
- The name refers to waters north of Oregon's Cape Falcon, which marks the southern border of Washington's management of salmon stocks.
- One component of a larger salmon season-setting process that also involves the state, tribal governments, federal regulators, other U.S. states, and Canada.



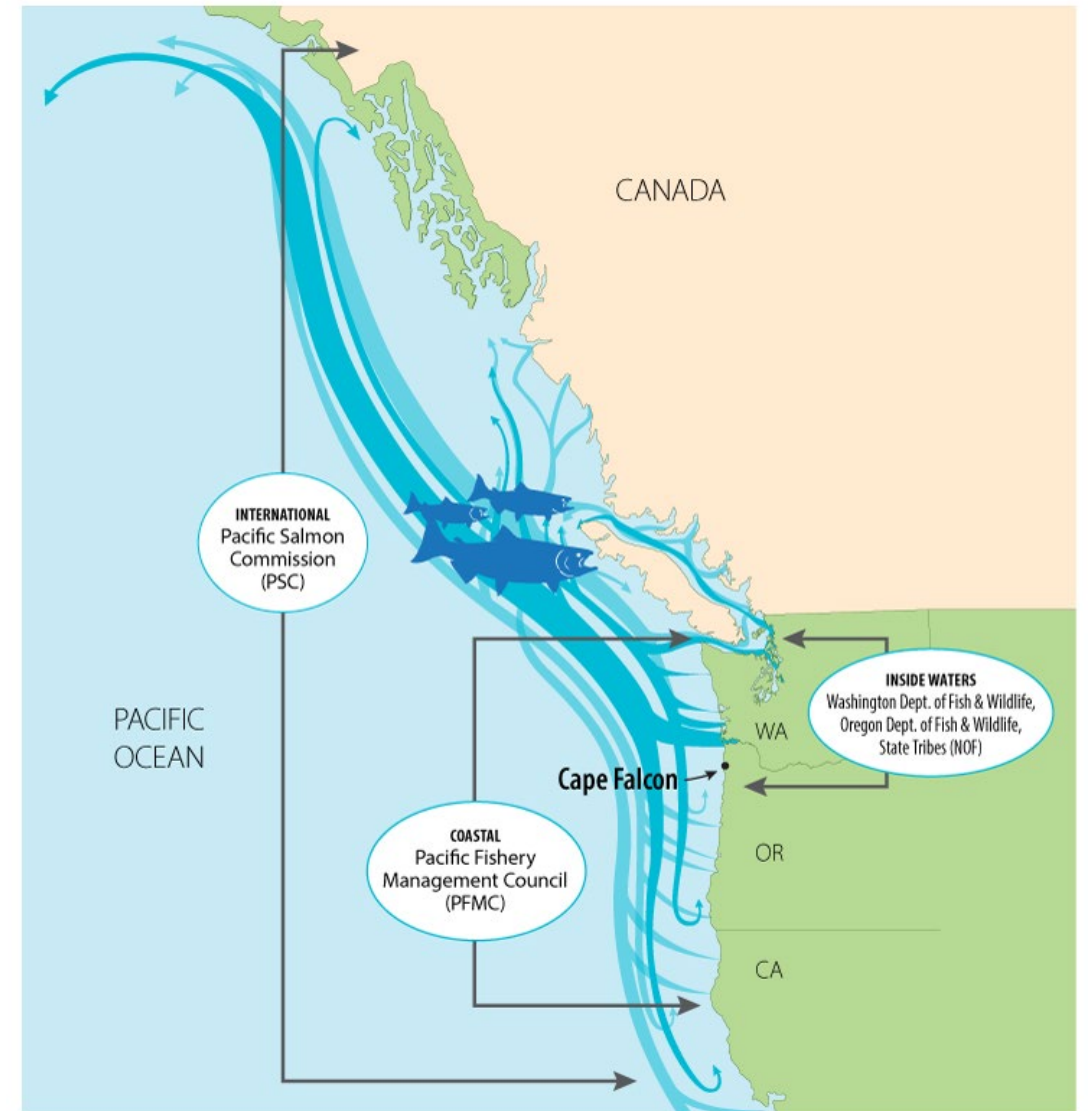
# North of Falcon timeline



# What guides North of Falcon?

Fishery managers must weigh many factors when developing salmon seasons, including:

- Endangered Species Act (ESA) constraints
- Commission policy
- Pacific Salmon Treaty obligations
- Tribal co-management: Washington's treaty tribes manage their own fisheries, sharing data and splitting harvest with the state
- Extensive monitoring and evaluation of fisheries statewide



# Forecast Recap for 2024

## Puget Sound Chinook:

- Overall, total Chinook **down 3%** from last years forecast
- Natural stocks **down 6%** and Hatchery stocks **up 22%** from recent 10-yr avg

## Coastal Chinook:

- Natural Stocks **up 2%** and Hatchery stocks **down 7%** from recent 10-yr avg, both slightly down from 2023 forecasts

## Columbia River Chinook:

- Forecasts for Spring and Summer Chinook are **less than** the 2023 forecasts and similar to actual returns
- Lower river Hatchery and Upriver Bright stocks are similar relative to last year's forecast, Bonneville Pool Hatchery forecast is **slightly less** than last year's forecast

## Puget Sound Coho:

- Overall, total Coho **down 5%** from last years forecast
- Natural stocks **up 15%** and Hatchery stocks **up 43%** from 10-yr avg

## Coastal Coho:

- Natural Stocks **up 15%** and Hatchery stocks **up 52%** from 10-yr avg
- Natural stocks and Hatchery stocks **down 22%** from last year's forecasts

## Columbia River Coho:

- The Columbia River Coho forecast methodology was changed starting in 2024 and therefore cannot be compared to previous forecasts



# Forecast Recap for 2024

## Puget Sound Chum:

- Natural stocks **down 25%** and hatchery stocks **down 46%** from 10-year average
- PS Fall Chum total ~818k

## Coastal Chum

- Willapa **up 40%** and Grays Harbor is **up 24%** from 10-year average





# Forecast Recap for 2024

## Baker Lake Sockeye:

- Forecast is **up 57%** from 10-year average
- 56k

## Lake Washington Sockeye

- Forecast is **down 58%** from 10-year average
- 19k

## Columbia River Sockeye

- Wenatchee is **up 46%** from last year's forecast
- Okanogan is **up 154%** from last year's forecast
- Total CR forecast ~401,700



# Ocean/Columbia River Management Objectives

Key Stock	Management Criteria ( Total ER)
Columbia Lower River Tules (Chinook)	41%
Lower Columbia River Natural (Coho)	23%
Grays Harbor Natural Coho	57%
Queets Natural Coho	55%
Hoh River Natural Coho	59%
Quillayute River Fall Natural Coho	39%
Oregon Coastal Natural Coho	30%
Interior Fraser River (Thompson) Coho (Canada)	10% SUS ER
Snake River Wild/Upriver Bright Chinook	15% Harvest Rate



# Proposed Non-Treaty Ocean quotas for 2024

Alternative #1		Alternative # 2		Alternative # 3	
2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Chinook</b>					
85,000	85,000	78,000	75,000	72,000	65,000
<b>Coho</b>					
105,000	200,000	95,000	185,000	80,000	170,000



# Ocean Preliminary Modeling

Key Stock	Management Criteria (Total ER)	High Ocean Option (Chin-0724, Coho-2410)
Columbia Lower River Tules (Chinook)	41%	40.6%
Lower Columbia River Natural (Coho)	23%	17.1% (marine)
Grays Harbor Natural Coho	57%	56.0%
Queets Natural Coho	55%	41.6%
Hoh River Natural Coho	59%	51.2%
<b>Quillayute River Fall Natural Coho</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>42.6%</b>
Oregon Coastal Natural Coho	30%	26.2%
Interior Fraser River (Thompson) Coho (Canada)	10% SUS ER	9.8%



# Chinook Management Objectives PS

Management Unit	NMFS Guidance/Co-Manager Proposal
Nooksack Spring	TBD*
Skagit Summer/Fall	15% SUS ER
Skagit Spring-run	36% Total
Stillaguamish River	9% UM SUS max; 14% M SUS max
Snohomish River	TBD*
Lake Washington	14% PT SUS
Green River	14% PT SUS
Puyallup	14% PT SUS
Nisqually	47% Total
Skokomish fall-run	50% total
Mid Hood Canal	<4 spawner reduction in PS
Dungeness	10% SUS
Elwha	10% SUS



# Current Chinook Modeling PS- Mid

Management Unit	NMFS Guidance/Co-Manager Proposal	2023 Inside Fisheries/2024 Abundances (High Ocean Option, Chin-0724 Coho-2410)
Nooksack Spring	TBD (10.9)	11.8%
Skagit Summer/Fall	15% SUS ER	17.1%
Skagit Spring-run	36% Total	26.9% Total
Stillaguamish River	9% UM SUS; 14% M SUS max	9.4% UM; 12.8% M SUS
Snohomish River	TBD* (Below LB)	20.9% Total/8.3% SUS
Lake Washington	14% PT SUS	12.7%
Green River	14% PT SUS	12.7%
Puyallup	14% PT SUS	12.7%
Nisqually	47% Total	46.0%
Skokomish fall-run	50% total	48.9%
Mid Hood Canal	<4 spawner reduction in PS	TBD
Dungeness	10% SUS	4.5%
Elwha	10% SUS	5.0%



# 2024 Coho Management Objectives Puget Sound

Wild Management Units	Ocean Age-3 Forecast	Assigned FMP Status	Total ER Ceiling
Strait of Juan de Fuca	19,690	Low	40%
Hood Canal	36,541	Low	45%
Skagit	63,430	Normal	60%
Stillaguamish	30,809	Normal	50%
Snohomish	71,600	Low	40%
Thompson (Interior Fraser)		Low* (PST status)	10% SUS



# Current Coho Modeling Puget Sound (2024 Abundances with 2023 Inside Fisheries)

Management Unit	ER CEILING	High (2410)	Mid (2411)	Low (2412)
SKAGIT	60%	33.3%	32.7%	32.0%
STILLY	50%	39.1%	38.6%	38.2%
<b>SNOHOMISH</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>43.7%</b>	<b>43.2%</b>	<b>42.7%</b>
HOOD CANAL	45%	42.6%	42.0%	41.4%
JUAN DE FUCA TRIBS	40%	12.6%	11.8%	11.1%
Lower Fraser (Thompson)	10% SUS	9.8%	8.9%	7.9%





# Preliminary 2024 Washington Salmon Season Meeting Schedule

Date	Purpose	Location/Contact
March 19 (Tue)	Recreational Fisheries Discussion - Coastal Freshwater and Puget Sound	Zoom (6-8pm)
March 21 (Thu)	Columbia River fisheries	Ridgefield, WDFW office and Teams (hybrid) (10am)
March 21 (Thu)	Recreational Fisheries - Puget Sound freshwater and Puget Sound	Zoom (6-8 pm)
March 25 (Mon)	PFMC Public Hearing on Ocean Salmon Alternatives	Chateau Westport, Westport WA; 7pm-9pm
March 27 (Wed)	WDFW and public North of Falcon meeting #2	In-person and online Lynnwood Embassy Suites, 20610 44 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (time TBD)



# Preliminary 2024 Washington Salmon Season Meeting Schedule Cont.

Date	Purpose	Location/Contact
March 27 (Wed)	NE of McNary/Upper Columbia/Snake River	Location TBD, Clarkston, WA (6-8 pm)
March 28 (Thu)	Willapa/Grays Harbor fisheries	Zoom (6-8 pm)
April 6 - 11	Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting	The Westin Seattle, 1900 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101
April 16 (Tue)	Willapa/Grays Harbor final proposed fisheries	Zoom (6-8 pm)

**On-line commenting – March-April**

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon>

**Puget Sound Sport Fishing Advisory Group**

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/pssfag>

**Full NOF schedule also available on our website:**

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/public-meetings>



# Questions/Comments?

