

## **PSRFEF Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes**

**November 17 2022, 10-12NOON**

### **Location: Issaquah Hatchery**

Attendees: Gabe Miller, Mark Riedesel, Tom Nelson, Christian Grue, Norm Reinhardt, Troy McKelvey, Hank Vanderhag, Mike Gilchrist, Kurt Pachaud

Wayne Harmond via phone-in.

WDFW Attendees: Kirsten Simonsen, Hailey Rosenthal, Christina Iverson, Eric Kinne, Anja Huff, Larry Leclair

PSRFE budget depends on revenue from license sales for saltwater and combination license types. Combination license types include 1-day, 2-day, and 3-day licenses. A survey, the dedicated fund survey, is conducted annually to determine how many anglers purchase saltwater licenses with the intent to fish for salmon or any marine fish on Puget Sound areas 5-13 or Lake Washington. The dedicated fund survey has been conducted annually since 2011 when legislation changed for PSRFEF.

Chris Grue: If I purchase a saltwater license and only a portion of my time is spent fishing for salmon on Puget sound and I spend some time on the coast, how is that factored into revenue for PSRFEF?

Please find the dedicated fund survey attached to this email to understand the sample design.

### **Budget**

The projected budget distribution shows 72% of the overall budget used for hatchery production. See slide 8 and 9 for a map and a breakdown of hatchery production, respectively. NOTE: The Glenwood springs LLTK contract ended this biennium. We pledged \$30k through fiscal year 2021. We will not be seeing Glenwood springs on this table moving forward.

Slides 10 and 11 show the budget breakdown for MI Codes 54912 Goal Development and 54915 Marking and Tagging, respectively.

There was discussion over using MI Code 54912 for the dedicated fund survey. The committee recommended a "point-of-sale" question vs. this survey to save money.

Note: The marking and tagging group for Glenwood springs is no longer funded after 2022.

Note: Slide 12 shows the total amount we have to spend. This does not include the \$10,000 we pledged to mark and tag the 350k surplus Marblemount spring chinook that will be released at Baker acclimation ponds (stress relief ponds). With that subtracted from the total amount, PSRFE has:

**\$67,410 to utilize for outreach events, projects, etc**

### **The 4 strategies of PSRFE are:**

1. Improve marketing and remove obstacles: Develop and post an online survey to gauge public knowledge of PSRFE January through March 2023. We will have incentives, such as rods, reels, nets, FISH Washington sweatshirts to increase engagement. Encourage angler participation in fisheries through new tools and education.

Ideas for outreach events: Target youth: youth pink salmon event for kids who don't get on the water-partner with PSA. PSRFE to attend the Salmon for soldiers event in mid August.

Video ideas: how to cook your catch- prepare fish and clean fish, recipes for dogfish, pink salmon, etc.

2. Stabilize and enhance resources: Angler trips correspond to the number of open salmon days on the water. To increase license sales and stabilize resources coming in, we need to promote underutilized fisheries. We can encourage these fisheries through how-to videos mentioned above to eat your catch. Before Covid, we held events at JBLM such as orientations and seminars. After these events we always saw an increase in license sales. Target: hold fishing seminars and orientation to fishing in Washington events in 2023. Dr. Kirsten Simonsen gave a presentation on the sockeye population status in Lake Washington. She also went over her current work utilizing hydroacoustic surveys for population assessments in the Apple Cove commercial chum test fishery, as well as monitoring in the skagit river. There is discussion and interest from the committee to use hydroacoustics in Lake Washington.

### 3. Increase effectiveness of hatcheries

Anja Huff from the Hatchery Evaluation and Assessment Team gave a presentation detailing fisheries contributions from each hatchery program funded by PSRFEF.

Discussion: the committee is interested in heat maps that are created showing where in each marine area recoveries occur. Additionally there is interest in the cost per fish for PSRFE programs.

Anja also went over the south sound barging study that PSRFE supported and funded 45k coho for the project. This study researched whether recoveries of coho salmon would increase if they were barged past known mortality zones in southern Puget sound. The preliminary results suggest that barging had no real positive affect on fish returns. Barged fish returned to the net pens where they were released, contributing more to sport fisheries. Fish that were not barged past known mortality spots returned to the natal streams, contributing to the PS Net fishery (Squaxin tribe).

### 4. Improve bottomfish fisheries

Larry Leclair from the Bottomfish unit with WDFW gave a presentation on Lingcod species and management needs. Lingcod respond well to management.

Interest from committee members to participate / assist in the dinglebar lingcod survey in Hood Canal.