

Willapa Bay Public Meeting – 2019 North of Falcon

April 9, 2019 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Raymond Elks Lodge, Raymond, WA

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions and opening comments
2. Comprehensive Policy Review Process
3. 2019 Commission Guidance
4. Layered Gear Restrictions Issue
5. Fishery Planning – Suggestions and comments

We have two links where meeting information and documents for this year's 2019 North of Falcon process can be found:

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

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/wbsag>

If you have any comments and/or fishery suggestions you would like to provide regarding Willapa Bay fisheries, you can go online to:

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

Or send your comments/suggestions directly to our Willapa Bay email at:

WillapaBay@dfw.wa.gov

**2019 Fish and Wildlife Commission Guidance for the Willapa Bay
Comprehensive Policy Review
April 6, 2019**

With reference to slide 15 in the staff presentation titled "Proposed Policy Review Process":

1. Staff should incorporate into the review analysis the feedback from the Commission at this meeting and any specific questions related to the evaluation of policy performance that are submitted by Commissioners in the next two weeks.
2. A "table of contents" outline of the comprehensive review should be provided to the Commission and the WBSAG in early May.
3. The Policy Review Process should add Fish Committee progress reviews at the June, September and October Commission meetings.
4. A draft final comprehensive review report should be presented at the October 18-19, 2019 FWC meeting and the agenda item should include a call for adoption of a preliminary range of alternatives for policy changes, for staff analysis. Public testimony should be taken on both reaching finality on the comprehensive review and identifying a range of alternatives for possible changes to the policy.
5. Add a tentative agenda item for the January 2020 FWC meeting, with public testimony taken, that would include
 - a. the staff analysis of the Range of Alternatives for policy revisions;
 - b. Commission identification of a preferred alternative for public review; and
 - c. identification of the public review timeline for a strikeout/markup version of Policy C-3622 showing proposed changes.
6. Add a tentative agenda item for the February or March FWC meeting for a final Commission decision on any policy language changes; public comment to be taken at this meeting.
7. Add in Advisory Body meetings between 4-6 above.

**2019 Fish and Wildlife Commission Guidance for Willapa Bay Fishery Planning
April 6, 2019**

With reference to the presentation on April 6, 2019 titled "Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy C-3622", a motion was made. There were two amendments to the motions and there was considerable clarifying dialogue between Commissioners and staff, and an amended motion passed as follows:

1. Motion was made to adopt Option C that was presented by staff, which continues the guidance from 2018;
 - a. At the time of the motion, slide 14 of the staff presentation was on the screen, showing detailed components of Option C.
 - i. There was discussion about whether there was to be exact adherence to the values on the screen, such as 18.3% impact for Willapa River Chinook and 19.3% for Naselle River, in comparison to the aggregate natural origin impact rate of 20% in 2018 guidance.
 - b. There was reference to slide 13 of the staff presentation, which also described Option C, showing the following in a column with a header of "Natural Chinook HR Cap":
 - i. Actively manage to not exceed a 20% total impacts for Chinook on Willapa River
 - ii. Actively manage to not exceed a 20% total impacts for Chinook on Naselle River
 - iii. Actively manage to not exceed a 10% total impacts for Chum
 - c. There was clarifying discussion that the aggregate natural-origin impact rate cap of 20% was intended to replace the 14% aggregate rate cap in the Policy and that the intent was to provide the staff flexibility in adoption management measures so long as the 20% impact rate cap was not exceeded.

2. 1st amendment to the original motion was to suspend the Fishery Management #6 in the Willapa Bay Policy;

Item #6 of the Fall Chinook Salmon Species-specific guidance section on page 6 reads: Fishery Management After 2018. Fisheries in the Willapa Bay Basin will be managed with the goal of:

- a. Limiting the fishery impact rate on Willapa and Naselle river natural-origin fall Chinook salmon to no more than 14%.
- b. No commercial fisheries shall occur within areas 2T and 2U prior to September 16.
- c. No commercial Chinook fisheries shall occur in areas 2M, 2N, 2P and 2R until after September 7.

There was clarifying justification discussion that the additional reductions in northern ocean interceptions from the new Pacific Salmon Treaty in 2019 together with a 20% in-bay impact rate would achieve near conservation neutrality with the 2015 Policy intent of

a 14% in-bay impact rate cap and higher historic northern interceptions, and that the removal of area and time restrictions would provide the staff the flexibility to manage the fishery in-season to achieve the 20% impact rate cap.

The amendment passed unanimously.

3. 2nd amendment to the original motion was to allow the staff the flexibility to determine the bag limits for Chinook and Coho in the recreational fishery;
 - a. There was clarifying discussion about while Option C had a firm bag limit of three adult Chinook, that a two fish bag limit might be more appropriate for a year like 2019; however the discussion concluded with providing the staff flexibility to establish a bag limit that is appropriate within the cap of 20% and the input during the North of Falcon process.
 - b. The amendment passed unanimously.
4. The amended motions passed unanimously.

2019 Willapa Bay Fishery Model Proposals

Model	Natural Chinook Expected Impact Rate			Expected Escapement			Policy Priorities				# Commercial Days Scheduled				
	Willapa River	Naselle River	Chum Impacts	NOR Chinook Goal=4,353	NOR Coho Goal=13,600	Chum Total Goal = 35,400	Willapa Bay Total Expected Harvest		Allocation % by Sector						
				Rec	Comm		Rec	Comm	Rec	Comm	Rec	Comm			
Commercial Proposal #1	15.4%	19.1%	9.9%	3,647	40,819	47,012	4,489	2,976	14,620	28,861	60.1%	39.9%	33.3%	66.4%	44
Commercial Proposal #2	15.9%	19.1%	9.9%	3,633	40,641	47,012	4,489	3,092	14,620	29,236	59.2%	40.8%	33.3%	66.7%	47
Commercial Proposal #3	14.4%	17.9%	9.9%	3,689	38,899	47,050	5,848	2,839	17,358	29,719	67.3%	32.7%	36.9%	63.1%	46
Commercial Proposal #4	14.7%	19.0%	9.9%	3,669	38,844	47,049	5,848	3,184	17,349	30,157	64.7%	35.3%	36.9%	64.1%	48
Proposal #5	14.7%	17.5%	9.9%	3,684	40,575	47,062	4,489	3,247	14,620	29,014	58.0%	42.0%	31.1%	61.6%	44

2019 Fishery Description of Above Model Proposals

Model	Natural Chinook HR Cap			Fishery	Total Bag Limit	Chinook Fishery - UM Release Required (MSF)	Natural Coho Bag Limit	Hatchery Coho Bag Limit	Chum
	Willapa River	Naselle River	Chum Impacts						
Commercial Proposal #1	20.0%	20.0%	10.00%	Marine Rec	2	MSF starting August 1	2	2	Retention
				Freshwater Rec	2	MSF	2	2	Retention
				Commercial	Tangle Nets November	2N & 2M prior to 9/15 MSF		Retention Sept & Oct Release in Nov	
Commercial Proposal #2	20.0%	20.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	2	MSF starting August 1	2	2	Retention
				Freshwater Rec	2	MSF	2	2	Retention
				Commercial	Tangle Nets November	2N & 2M prior to 9/15 2 days in 2N in Aug MSF		Retention Sept & Oct Release in Nov	
Commercial Proposal #3	20.0%	20.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	3	MSF starting August 1	3	3	Retention
				Freshwater Rec	3	MSF	3	3	Retention
				Commercial	Tangle Nets November	2N & 2M prior to 9/15 2U Sept & Oct 1 day in 2N in Aug MSF		Retention Sept & Oct Release in Nov	
Commercial Proposal #4	20.0%	20.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	3	MSF starting August 1	3	3	Retention
				Freshwater Rec	3	MSF	3	3	Retention
				Commercial	Tangle Nets November	2N & 2M prior to 9/15 2U Sept & Oct MSF		Retention Sept & Oct Release in Nov	
Proposal #5	20.0%	20.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	2	MSF starting August 1	2	2	Retention
				Freshwater Rec	2	MSF	2	2	Retention
				Commercial	Tangle Nets November	2N & 2M prior to 9/15 2U Sept & Oct MSF		Retention Sept & Oct Release in Nov	
Commercial Proposal #1	20.0%	20.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	2	MSF starting August 1	2	2	Retention
				Freshwater Rec	2	MSF	2	2	Retention
				Commercial	Tangle Nets November	2N & 2M prior to 9/15 2U September 1 day in 2N & 2M in Aug MSF		Retention Sept & Oct Release in Nov	

MSF = Mark Selective Fishery

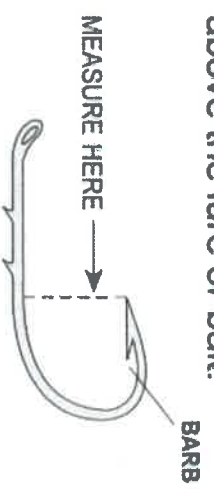
WDFW Pamphlet Overlapping Rules

- Language is contradictory
 - Using anti-snagging rules, the language states, “terminal fishing gear is restricted to a lure or bait...”
 - Using Selective Gear Rules, the language states, “Bait is prohibited...”
- These two rules taken together can easily be confused when bait is allowed in the Anti-Snagging Rule and bait is not allowed in the Selective Gear Rules.

Sport Fishing Regulations Pamphlet 2018-2019:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/01998/wdfw01998.pdf> Page 10-11

Anti-Snagging Rule Except when fishing with a buoyant lure (with no weights added to the line or lure), or trolling from a vessel or floating device, terminal fishing gear is restricted to a lure or bait with one single-point hook. Hooks must measure $\frac{3}{4}$ " or less from point to shank, and must be attached to or below the lure or bait. Weights may not be attached below or less than 12" above the lure or bait.



Selective Gear Rules Only unscented artificial flies or lures with one single-point, barbless hook are allowed. Up to a total of three artificial flies or lures, each containing one single-point, barbless hook may be used. Bait is prohibited; fish may be released until the daily limit is retained. Only knotless nets may be used to land fish except where specifically allowed under Special Rules for individual waters. If any fish has swallowed the hook or is hooked in the gill, eye, or tongue, it should be kept if legal to do so.

Pamphlet Regulation

	LAST DAY OF FISH.		
NEMAH RIVER, MIDDLE - Pacific Co. from mouth upstream to the Dept. of Natural Resources bridge on Middle Nemah A-Line Rd. (379)	ALL SPECIES	Aug. 1-Nov. 30 Sat. before Memorial Day-Mar. 31	Night closure. Single-point barbless hooks required. Staterwide min. size/daily limit, except CUTTHROAT TROUT and wild RAINBOW TROUT: min. size 14"
	OTHER GAME FISH	Sat. before Memorial Day-Mar. 31	Staterwide min. size/daily limit.
	SALMON	Sept. 1-Jan. 31	Min. size 12". Daily limit 6. Up to 4 adults may be retained of which 1 may be a wild adult COHO. Release wild CHINOOK.
from Dept. of Natural Resources bridge on Middle Nemah A-Line Rd. upstream (379)	ALL SPECIES	Aug. 16-Nov. 30 Sat. before Memorial Day-Mar. 31	Selective gear rules. Night closure. Anti-snagging rule.
	TROUT	Sat. before Memorial Day-Mar. 31	Staterwide min. size/daily limit, except CUTTHROAT TROUT and wild RAINBOW TROUT: min. size 14"
	OTHER GAME FISH	Sat. before Memorial Day-Mar. 31	Staterwide min. size/daily limit.

Sport Fishing Regulations Pamphlet 2018-2019:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/019998/wdfw019998.pdf> Page 29

Middle Nemah River, from the Dept. of Natural Resources Bridge on the Middle Nemah A-Line Rd upstream



In this section of the Middle Nemah River:

- There is no fishing for salmon.
- However while fishing for Trout or Other GameFish, there are impacts to salmon and wild steelhead.
- The proposed solution is to remove the Anti-Snagging Rule and use only the Selective Gear Rules.
- This change would be consistent with an enhanced conservation approach that follows the Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy and provide consistency throughout the pamphlet.

2019 Willapa Bay Salmon Fishery Planning Model

Updater 9-Apr-19
 PFMC # Coho1918_NOF2_040519.xlsx
 Mid Ocean Option

**Commercial Proposal #1:
 20% Willapa/Naselle NOR
 CHK**

Marine Area Rec: Chinook MSF Aug 1, 2 fish bag, Release UM CHK
 Freshwater: 2 fish bag, Release UM CHK
 Commercial: Tangle Net prior to 9/15 in 2N & 2M, Release UM CHK

				Chinook				Coho				Chum															
				Total Hatchery	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Hatchery	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total							
Commercial Chinook Drop out	0.03	Sport hook & line drop off				0.05	Pre-Season Runsize				23,807	4,758	12,257	6,792	4,309	2,940	357	1,012	82,768	13,741	0	69,027	56,366	32,694	8,339	15,333	52,205
Commercial Coho Drop out	0.02	Marine Hooking Mortality				0.14	Escapement Goal				3,525	200	1,950	1,375	4,353	2,172	328	1,853	2,500	1,000	0	1,500	13,600	9,679	1,294	2,628	35,400
Small mesh gear mortality	0.56	Freshwater Hooking Mortality				0.10	Harvestable				20,282	4,558	10,307	5,417	-44	768	29	-841	80,268	12,741	0	67,527	42,766	23,015	7,046	12,705	16,805
Tangle net mortality	0.31																										

0.75 25% Savings for 12 hr fishery using 24 hr rate

Stat Week	Days Fished 2019 2017 Dates	MSF					Chinook Catch Natural					Hatchery Chinook					Natural Chinook					Hatchery Coho					Natural Coho					CHUM MSF	Chum Catch					Total Chum			
		T	U	N	R	M	T	U	N	R	M	Total Hatchery	Total WB Origin	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Total WB Origin	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Hatchery	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	T	U		N	R	M						
		32	Aug 4 - Aug 10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0		1.00	0	0
Commercial Catch Totals		38	38	43	15	39						97	152	73	0	108	2,976	2,976	1,125	29	1,822	519	430	267	1	162	18,994	4,191	0	14,803	9,867	5,996	1,727	2,145	16	1,368	568	521	111	2,225	4,792
Commercial Harvest Rate												0.125	0.236	0.002	0.268		0.100	0.091	0.002	0.160		0.229	0.305		0.214	0.175	0.183	0.207	0.140									0.092			

Willapa R Natural Chinook Mortality Rate	Naselle Natural Chinook Mortality Rate	Chum Mortality Rate	Recreational Marine Catch Harvest Rate	Recreational Freshwater Catch Harvest Rate	Total Recreational Catch Harvest Rate	Expected Escapement	Total Harvest Rates
Projected 15.4% Cap 20%	Projected 19.1% Cap 20%	Projected 9.9% Cap 10%	1,474 0.062	3,015 0.127	4,489 0.189	40,819	0.314
			1,027 0.216	2,962 0.053	8,939 0.108	3,647	0.515
			2 0.000	2,064 0.168	2,066 0.169	10,162	0.171
			445 0.065	652 0.096	1,097 0.161	3,873	0.430
			170 0.057	3,594 0.052	7,481 0.108	47,012	0.154
			853 0.062	2,962 0.053	1,458 0.106	2,488	15.4%
			3,887 0.056	2,061 0.063	3,594 0.052	341	0.046
			2,718 0.048	32 0.015	549 0.031	818	19.1%
			1,329 0.041	869 0.057	1,741 0.114	54,835	0.337
			517 0.062	869 0.057	1,741 0.114	40,819	0.276
			872 0.057			35,400	9.9%

2019 Willapa Bay Salmon Fishery Planning Model

Updater: 9-Apr-19
 PFMC #: Coho1918_NOF2_040519.xlsx
 Mid Ocean Option

Commercial Proposal #4:
 20% Willapa/Naselle NOR
 CHK

Marine Area Rec: Chinook MSF Aug 1, 3 fish bag, Release UM CHK
 Freshwater: 3 fish bag, Release UM CHK
 Commercial: Tangle Nets prior to 9/15 in 2N & 2M and 2U Sept & Oct, Release UM CHK

Commercial Chinook Drop out	0.03	Sport hook & line drop off	0.05
Commercial Coho Drop out	0.02	Marine Hooking Mortality	0.14
Small mesh gear mortality	0.56	Freshwater Hooking Mortality	0.10
Tangle net mortality	0.31		

	Chinook				Coho				Chum								
	Total Hatchery	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total				
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Escapement Goal	3,525	200	1,950	1,375	4,353	2,172	328	1,853	2,500	1,000	0	1,500	13,600	9,679	1,294	2,628	35,400
Harvestable	20,282	4,558	10,307	5,417	-44	768	29	-841	80,268	12,741	0	67,527	42,766	23,015	7,046	12,705	16,805

0.75 25% Savings for 12 hr fishery using 24 hr rate

Stat Week	2017 Dates	Days Fished					MSF					Chinook Catch Natural					Hatchery Chinook					Natural Chinook					Hatchery Coho				Natural Coho				CHUM MSF	Chum Catch					Total Chum
		T	U	N	R	M	T	U	N	R	M	T	U	N	R	M	Total Hatchery	Total WB Origin	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Total WB Origin	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Hatchery	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear	Total Natural	Willapa North	Nemah Palix	Naselle Bear		T	U	N	R	M	
		32	Aug 4 - Aug 10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	1.00	0	0	
Commercial Catch Totals		41	39	47	10	37						108	85	84	0	100	3,184	3,184	1,193	31	1,960	467	376	217	1	158	19,460	4,383	0	15,077	10,697	6,597	1,814	2,286	16	1,442	669	574	56	2,016	4,756
Commercial Harvest Rate																	0.134					0.087				0.235				0.190				0.091							

Harvest Rate	Willapa R Natural Chinook Mortality Rate	Projected	Cap	Naselle Natural Chinook Mortality Rate	Projected	Cap	Chum Mortality Rate	Projected	Cap	Recreational Marine Catch Harvest Rate	1,681	1,172	2	507	203	183	0	20	5,712	1,028	4,684	3,275	1,601	623	1,051	171								
	14.7%	20%	19.0%	20%	9.9%	10%	0.071	0.246	0.000		0.075	0.047	0.082	0.000	0.020	0.069	0.075	0.068	0.058	0.049	0.075	0.069	0.003											
Coho Natural Expected Escapement	Projected	Goal	Recreational Freshwater Catch Harvest Rate										4,167	356	3,048	764	62	31	16	15	4,822	744	4,078	3,550	2,532	32	986	230						
	38,844	13,600	0.175										0.075	0.249	0.112	0.014	0.011	0.044	0.015	0.058	0.054	0.059	0.063	0.077	0.004	0.064	0.004							
Chum Expected Escapement	47,049	35,400	Total Recreational Catch Harvest Rate										5,848	1,527	3,050	1,271	264	214	16	35	10,533	1,771	8,762	6,825	4,133	655	2,037	401						
											0.246										0.321	0.249	0.187	0.061	0.073	0.044	0.034	0.127	0.129	0.127	0.121	0.126	0.079	0.133
										Expected Escapement										14,775	2,038	9,177	3,561	3,669	2,509	341	819	52,775	38,844	47,049	47,049			
										Total Harvest Rates										0.379	0.572	0.251	0.476	0.149	14.7%	0.046	19.0%	0.362	0.311	0.311	0.311	0.311	0.311	9.9%

