

11: Puget Sound Shrimp Policy Review –(Briefing)

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“GREEN SHEET”

Meeting dates: August 3, 2012, Commission Meeting

Agenda item: Briefing only: Overview of fishery management options and draft policy language for the Puget Sound shrimp fishery.

Staff Contact: Rich Childers, Fish Program

Presenter/s: Rich Childers, Puget Sound Shellfish Manager (Fish Program)

Background:

This agenda item is a continuation of the Commission process to review and update the Puget Sound shrimp fishery policy C-3610. Staff will request Commission guidance on the following:

1. Management options for the Puget Sound spot shrimp fishery that will be distributed to stakeholder groups for input.
 2. Draft language for a Puget Sound shrimp policy that includes fishery management objectives and resource conservation principles.
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Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:

None, briefing only

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

None, briefing only

Action requested (identify the specific Commission decisions you are seeking):

None, briefing only

Draft motion language:

None

Justification for Commission action:

N/A

Communication Plan:

Agency web site, news releases

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

POLICY DECISION

POLICY TITLE: Puget Sound Shrimp
Resource and Fishery Policy

POLICY NUMBER: C-3610

Cancels: POL-C3610
Effective February 5, 2000

Effective Date: February 10, 2003

Termination Date:

See Also:

Approved by 

General Policies

- Preserve, protect, and perpetuate Puget Sound shrimp resources and associated habitat.
- Provide for shrimp trawl and shrimp pot fisheries in a manner that is consistent with resource conservation goals.
- Allocate the harvest opportunity between state and treaty Indian fisheries consistent with applicable federal court orders.
- Monitor all non-Indian recreational and commercial shrimp harvests for accurate catch accounting.
- Obtain biological and stock assessment information to improve the Department's understanding of the effectiveness of the current harvest management strategy.
- Manage Puget Sound shrimp fisheries conservatively until fishery impacts to stock abundance are better understood.
- Adopt provisions of this policy for a minimum of five years, unless a buy-back program of commercial licenses succeeds. Region specific allocations will be reassessed if the number of commercial shrimp permits is reduced by at least four.

Regional Management Policies

Region 1 - The recreational spot shrimp fishery will be designed for an annual harvest allocation up to 15% of the state spot shrimp share, and the state commercial fishery will be allocated up to 85% of the state spot shrimp share. The non-spot pot recreational fisheries will be managed for up to 10% of the non-Indian share, and the non-spot pot commercial fishery will be managed for the remaining non-Indian share. The state shrimp trawl fishery in Region 1 will be managed for the exclusive benefit of the commercial fishery.

Regions 2 and 4 – Design the recreational spot shrimp fishery to take up to 60% of the non-Indian spot shrimp share, and the non-Indian commercial spot shrimp fishery to catch approximately 40% of the annual non-Indian share. The state non-spot pot recreational fisheries will be managed for up to 10% of the non-Indian share, and the state non-spot pot commercial fisheries will be managed for the remaining non-Indian share.

Region 3 – The state shrimp fishery in Port Angeles Harbor and Discovery Bay Districts will be managed for the exclusive benefit of the recreational fishery. The state spot shrimp recreational fishery outside the Districts will be managed for up to 15% of the state share, and the state commercial fishery outside the Districts will be managed for the remaining non-Indian share.

The non-spot pot recreational fishery in Region 3 outside the Port Angeles Harbor and Discovery Bay Districts will be managed for up to 10% of the non-Indian share, and the non-spot pot commercial fishery outside these Districts will be managed for the remaining non-Indian share. The state shrimp trawl fishery in Region 3 will be managed for the exclusive benefit of the commercial fishery.

Region 5 – The state fishery in Hood Canal will be managed for the exclusive benefit of the recreational fishery.

Region 6 – The recreational spot and non-spot shrimp fishery in Region 6 will be managed for up to 40% of the non-Indian share, and the commercial spot and non-spot shrimp fishery will be managed for the remaining non-Indian share.