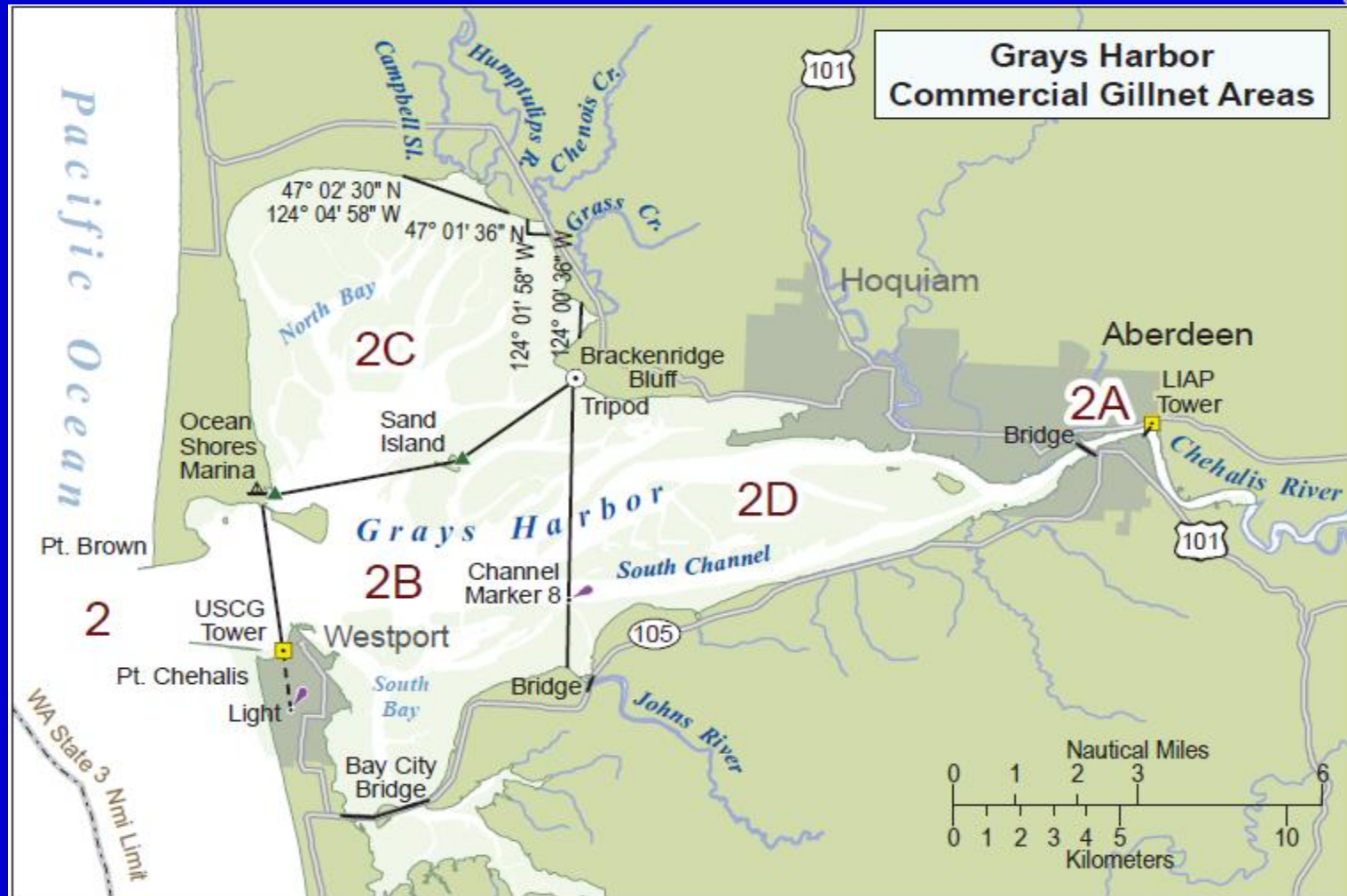




Grays Harbor Basin Salmon Management Policy 2016 Season Review



Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
February 11, 2017

Purpose

- **Brief Commission on implementation of Grays Harbor Basin Salmon Management Policy**

Presentation Outline

- **Review of key Policy elements**
- **Review 2016 Planning**
- **Report on 2016 Actual**
- **2017 Implementation**

Key Policy Elements

- **Enhance Conservation Focus**
- **Reduce Gear Conflict**
- **Clarify Sharing of Impacts**

Enhance Conservation Focus

- **Advance conservation and restoration of wild salmon.**
- **Limit the impacts of WDFW-managed fisheries to a maximum of 5% of the adult return if:**
 - **natural origin forecasts are less than 10% over goal**
 - **spawning goals for natural origin salmon are not met in three out of the previous five years.**

Reduce Gear Conflict

- **Structure seasons, when possible, so that sport anglers have at least three consecutive days of fishing per week with no commercial fisheries in progress. This is known as the 4/3 principle, principle #8**

Clarify Sharing of Impacts

Fishery management objectives, in priority order, are:

- 1) Achieve spawner goals.**
- 2) Provide meaningful recreational fishing opportunities for Chinook.**
- 3) Limit commercial fishery impacts to the incidental harvest of fall Chinook during fisheries directed at other species.**

Clarify Sharing of Impacts

Maintain WDFW-managed commercial fisheries for Coho and Chum salmon, but limit incidental Chinook impacts:

- **5.4% - Humptulips fall Chinook Area 2C**
- **0.8% - Chehalis fall Chinook Area 2A/B/D**
- **Rates may increase at high run size.**

Review of 2016 Planning

- **Constraining stocks**
 - **Humptulips River natural-origin Coho Below spawner goal – 5% limit**
 - **Chehalis River natural-origin Coho forecasted less than 110% of goal – 5% limit**
 - **Chehalis River natural-origin Chinook below goal 3 of 5 years – 5% limit**
- **Humptulips Chinook and Grays Harbor Chum were forecasted at more than 10% over goal**
- **Crafted fisheries to comply with key policy elements**

Review of 2016 Planning

- **Crafted fisheries to target Humptulips Chinook and Chum**
- **Schedule WDFW-commercial fisheries on abundance Chum.**
- **Recreational sharing objectives between freshwater and marine are difficult to achieve when meeting conservation criteria**
- **4/3 principle difficult**
 - **Delay and final co-manager net schedule**
 - **Uncertainty for WDFW commercial fishery**

2016 Preliminary Chinook Performance

Spring Chinook

Metric	Objective	Pre-Season	Actual*
Run-Size		2,700	1,078
Spawners	1,400		926

* Preliminary data subject to change

2016 Preliminary Chinook Performance

Chehalis Natural-Origin Fall

Metric	Objective	Pre-Season	Actual*
Run-Size		19,500	7,600
Spawners	9,753	11,837	6,200
NT Commercial HR	0.8%	0.08%	0.12%
WDFW-Managed Fisheries	5%	4.36%	2.53%

Humptulips Natural-Origin Fall

Run-Size		8,300	7,050
Spawners	3,573	4,790	4,290
NT Commercial HR	5.4%	4.14%	0.18%
WDFW-Managed Fisheries		25.55%	22.65%

* Preliminary data subject to change

2016 Preliminary Coho Performance

Chehalis Natural-Origin Coho

Metric	Objective	Pre-Season	Actual*
Run-Size		31,041	38,000
Spawners	28,506	28,000	31,500
NT Commercial HR		1.39%	0.38%
WDFW-Managed Fisheries	5%	3.25%	2.27%

Humptulips Natural-Origin Coho

Run-Size		3,444	5,000
Spawners	6,894	2,970	4,470
NT Commercial HR		1.36%	0.48%
WDFW-Managed Fisheries	5%	4.97%	4.06%

* Preliminary data subject to change

2016 Preliminary Chum Performance

Grays Harbor Chum

Metric	Objective	Pre-Season	Actual*
Run-Size		35,700	70,300
Spawners	21,000	27,829	62,800
NT Commercial HR		9.02%	1.61%
WDFW-Managed Fisheries		10.77%	3.45%

* Preliminary data subject to change

2016 Actual Performance

WDFW-Managed Commercial Catch/Impacts

Species	Pre-season		Actual	
	NOR	HOR	NOR	HOR
Chinook	496	160	24	12
Coho	479	245	168	88
Chum	3,221		1,163	

Other Policy Components

- **Chum escapement methodology**
 - **Continued project to evaluate method**
 - **Got Chehalis and Quinault Tribes involved with data collection**
- **Wynoochee Mitigation Plan**
 - **Communication and discussion with QIN and Tacoma Power are on-going**

Summary

- **Preliminary information suggests that escapement goals will not be achieved for NOR Humptulips Coho or Chehalis Chinook, but will be for Humptulips Chinook, Chehalis Coho, and Grays Harbor Chum**
- **Preliminary information also shows that all fisheries impact limits were obtain in 2016**

2017 Implementation

- **2017 may be another difficult season**
- **Constraining Stocks**
 - **Chehalis River natural-origin Chinook**
 - **Humtulsips River natural-origin Coho below goal**
 - **Grays Harbor Control Zone may be closed if final escapement estimate for Chehalis River NOR Chinook is less than the conservation objective**
- **Refine tools for in-season updates**

Questions?