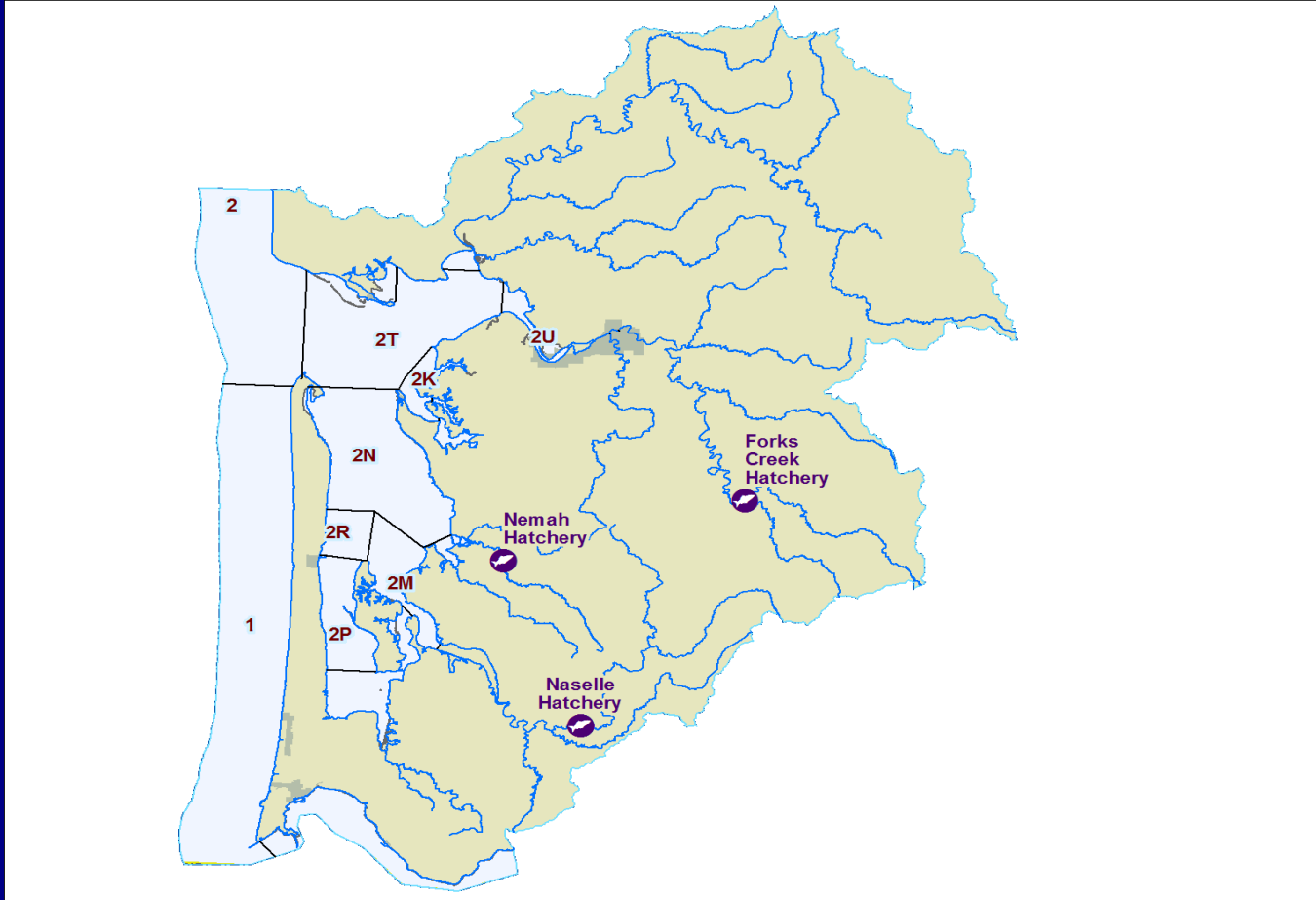


# Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy 2016 Season Review



Chad Herring – Fish Program  
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting  
February 11, 2017

# Presentation Outline

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- Review of Key Policy Elements
  - Enhance conservation focus
  - Reduce gear conflict
- Review of 2016 Planning
- Report on 2016 Preliminary Performance
- Report on 2016 Recreational Monitoring
- 2017 Implementation

# Enhance Conservation Focus

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- **Implement Phase I: Chinook Rebuilding**
  - 20% harvest rate limit on Naselle and Willapa River stocks
- **Pursue Alternative Commercial Gears**
  - Additional mark selective fishery opportunities
  - 6% of commercial impacts

# Reduce Gear Conflict

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## Chinook Fishery Management

- No commercial fisheries in areas 2T and 2U prior to September 16.
- No commercial fisheries in areas 2M, 2N, 2P and 2R until after Labor Day.

# Review of 2016 Planning

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- Constraining stocks
  - Chinook
  - Chum
- Crafted fisheries to comply with key policy elements
- Alternative gear proposals

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

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- **Recreational Fishery**
  - CRC estimates for 2016 season not available
  - Difficult to assess impacts
  - Need for additional monitoring
  - Local vs. non local
  - Landowner issues
- **Commercial Fishery**
  - Scheduled 50 openers
  - Actual 42 openers
  - Chum concern
  - Tangle net

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

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- **Chinook**

- Baseline genetic analysis
- Challenging river flows
- Lower than predicted natural origin return

- **Coho**

- Hatchery runsize higher than predicted
- Carcass recoveries

- **Chum**

- Lots of Chum
- In-season runsize update (ISU)

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Willapa Bay Fall Chinook - Naturals

Metric	Objective	Pre-Season	Actual*
<b>Runsize</b>		<b>3,261</b>	<b>2,476</b>
<b>Spawners</b>	<b>4,353</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>1,581</b>
<b>Harvest Rate for Willapa / Naselle</b>	<b>20% / 20%</b>	<b>19.5% / 19.4%</b>	<b>25.1% / 25.0%</b>
<b>Alternative Gear Willapa / Naselle</b>	<b>2% / 2%</b>	<b>6.8% / 11.0%</b>	<b>2.7% / 2.7%</b>

\* Preliminary data subject to change



# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Willapa Bay Fall Chinook - Hatchery

Metric	Pre-Season	Actual*
Runsize	36,186	22,992
Escapement	19,977	12,766
Total Harvest Rate	44.8%	44.1%

\* Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Willapa Bay Coho - Naturals

Metric	Objective	Pre-Season	Preliminary*
Runsize		37,069	33,233
Spawners	13,600 <sup>1</sup>	26,012	24,946

<sup>1</sup> WDFW goal; PFMC goal 17,200 naturally spawning Coho

## Willapa Bay Coho - Hatchery

Metric	Pre-Season	Preliminary*
Runsize	23,810	42,920
Escapement	15,535	22,672

\* Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

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## Willapa Bay Fall Chum

<b>Metric</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Pre-Season</b>	<b>Actual*</b>
<b>Runsize</b>		<b>47,555</b>	<b>86,475</b>
<b>Spawners</b>	<b>35,400</b>	<b>42,855</b>	<b>80,748</b>
<b>Harvest Rate</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>

\* Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

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## Commercial Landed Catch

Species	Pre-Season	Actual*
<b>Chinook</b>	<b>7,512</b>	<b>3,144</b>
<b>Coho</b>	<b>12,512</b>	<b>19,304</b>
<b>Chum</b>	<b>4,425</b>	<b>5,183</b>

\* Does not include estimated impacts and drop off

\* Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Natural Origin Spawner Escapements

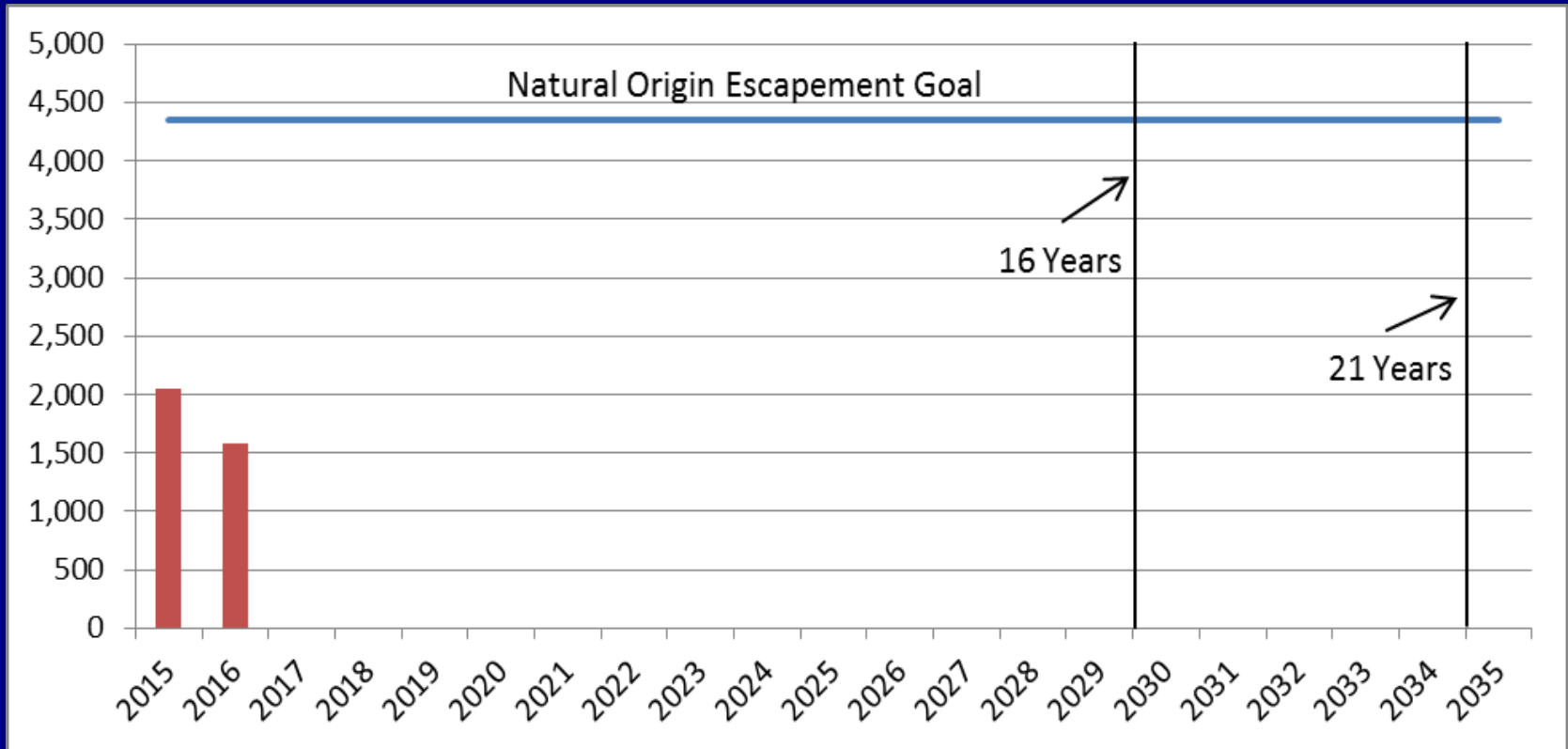
Species	Basin	Goal	Actual <sup>2</sup>	% of Goal
<b>Chinook</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>20%</b>
	<b>Willapa</b>	<b>1,181</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>49%</b>
	<b>Palix</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16%</b>
	<b>Nemah</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>69%</b>
	<b>Naselle</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>39%</b>
	<b>Bear</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Coho</b>	--	<b>13,600</b>	<b>24,946<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>183%</b>
<b>Chum</b>	--	<b>35,400</b>	<b>80,748</b>	<b>228%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Escapement estimated using in-season update model

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Willapa Bay Chinook Natural Origin Spawner Escapement



Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Chinook Pre-Spawn Mortality - Females

Basin	Natural		Hatchery	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
Naselle	532	24	1,865	5
Nemah	4	0	345	0
Willapa	18	0	96	0

Preliminary data subject to change

# 2016 Preliminary Performance

## Willapa Bay Hatchery Surpluses - Hatchery

Species	Forks Creek	Nemah	Naselle	Total
Chinook	2,598	901	1,019	4,518
Coho	4,755	19	8,549	13,323
Chum	20	0	0	20

Preliminary data subject to change



# 2016 Recreational Monitoring

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- **Creel Sampling**
  - **Marine Area 2.1 Tokeland & South Bend**
  - From August 1 – September 18, 2016
  - 44 days sampled
  - 1,414 interviews
    - 3,348 anglers
- **Voluntary Trip Reports (VTR's)**
  - From August 2 – September 15, 2016
  - 360 VTR forms handed out
  - 73 VTR forms returned
    - 20.3% return
    - 168 anglers

# 2016 Recreational Monitoring

Species	Status	Creel	VTR
<b>Chinook</b>	<b>Kept - Ad Clipped</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>49</b>
	<b>Kept - Unmarked</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Released - Ad Clipped</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Released - Unmarked</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Coho</b>	<b>Kept - Ad Clipped</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>12</b>
	<b>Kept - Unmarked</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Released - Ad Clipped</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Released - Unmarked</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Chum</b>	<b>Released</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

# 2017 Policy Implementation

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- **Constraining stocks**
  - Willapa River Fall Chinook – 20%
  - Naselle River Fall Chinook – 20%
  - Willapa Bay Chum – 10%
- **Continue to explore alternative gear**
  - Floating pontoon fish trap
- **New tools for in-season updates seemed to work in 2016 for Coho and Chum**
  - Will continue to refine those
  - Chinook ISU
- **Wild Future Initiative**

# Questions?