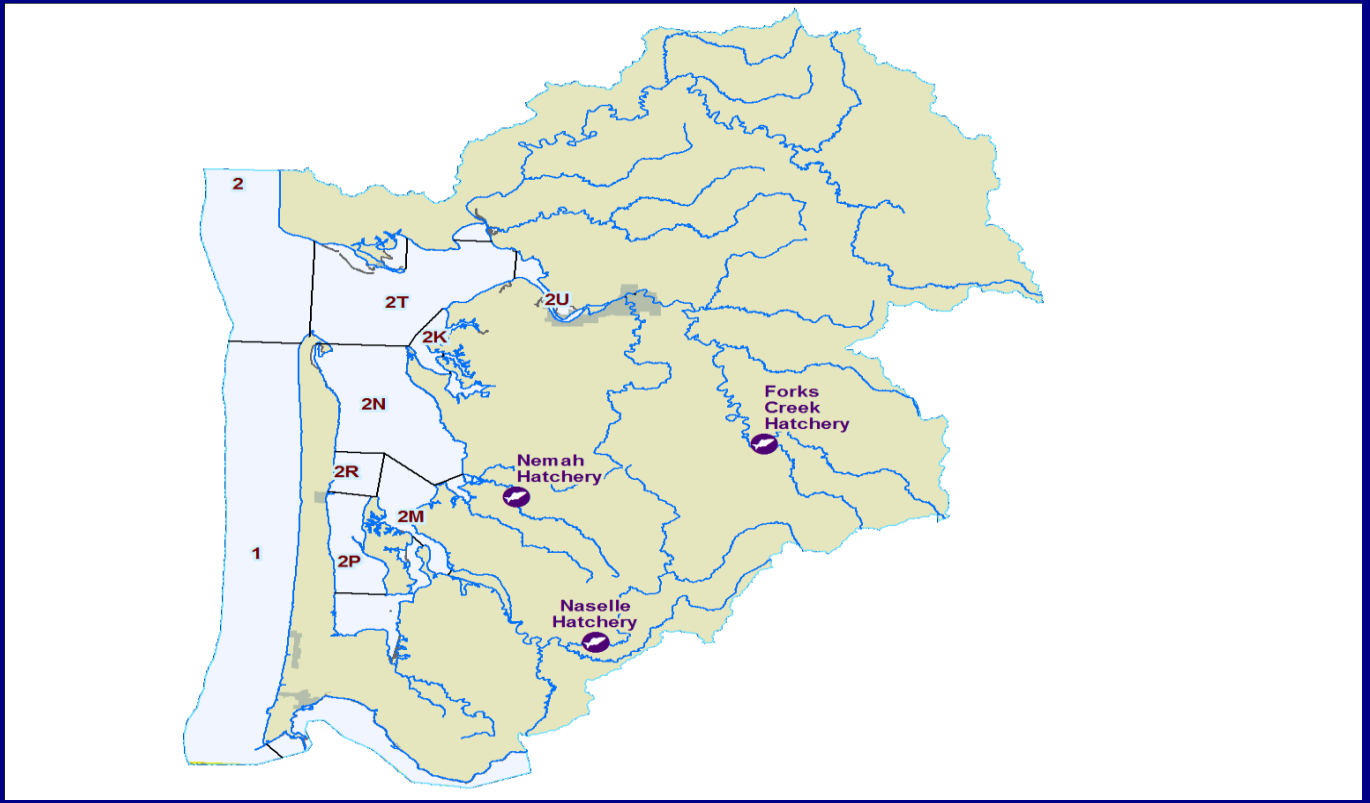
Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy
C-3622



Chad Herring – South Coast Fishery Policy Lead
Kirt Hughes – Statewide Salmon and Steelhead Manager
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
April 6, 2019

Presentation Outline

- Why was a policy needed?
- Basis for 14% impact rate cap for wild Chinook?
- 2019 fisheries options analysis
- Proposed timeline for comprehensive review

Why was a Policy Needed?

- Key stocks not meeting escapement objectives
  - Enhance conservation focus

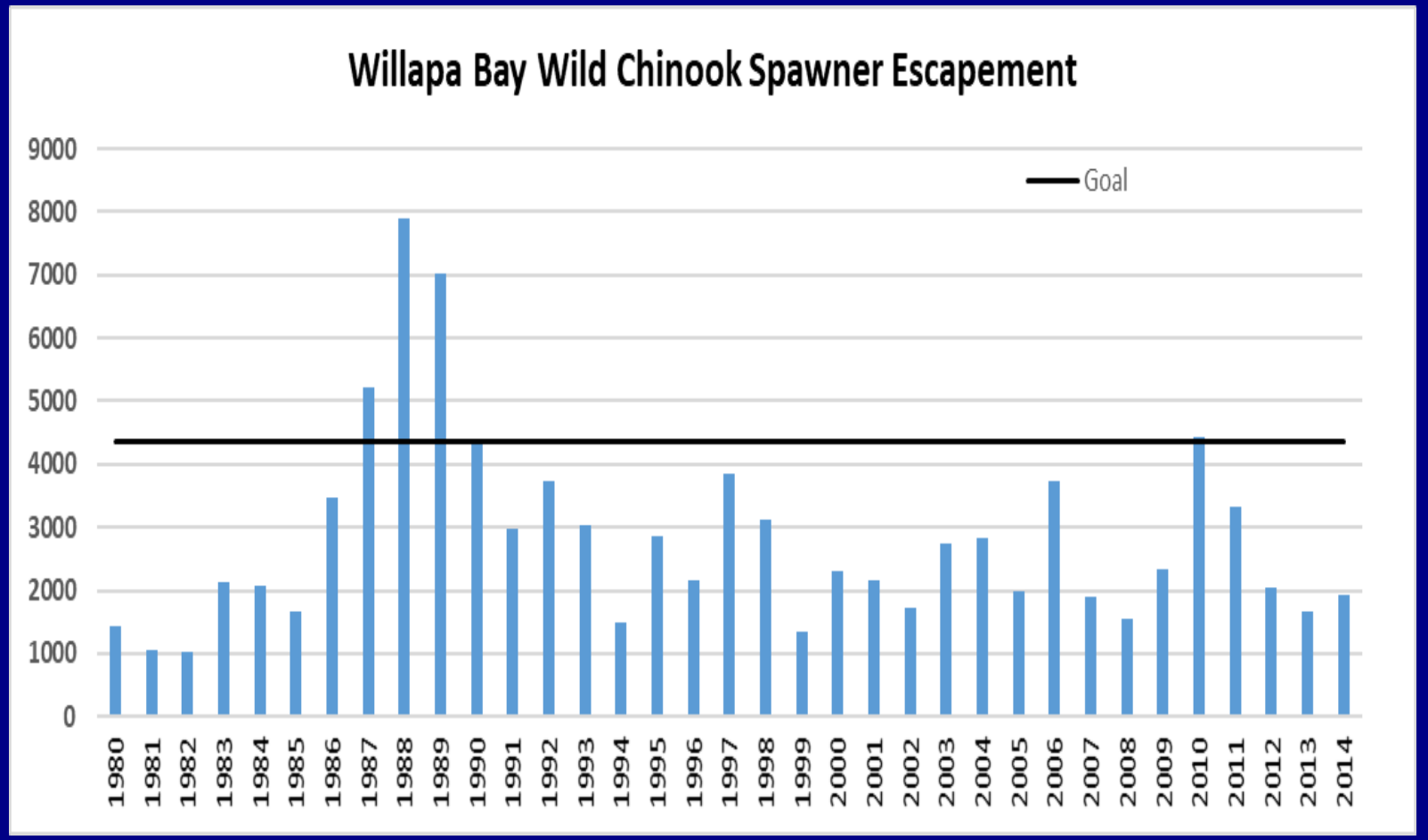
- Frustration in harvest allocation
  - Provide guidance on reducing gear conflict and sharing of impacts

- Lack of trust
  - Restore and maintain public trust

Why was a Policy Needed?

Enhance Conservation Focus

- Percent of time goal has been achieved
  - 1980 – 2014
    - Chinook – 14%
    - Chum – 34%
    - Coho – 88%

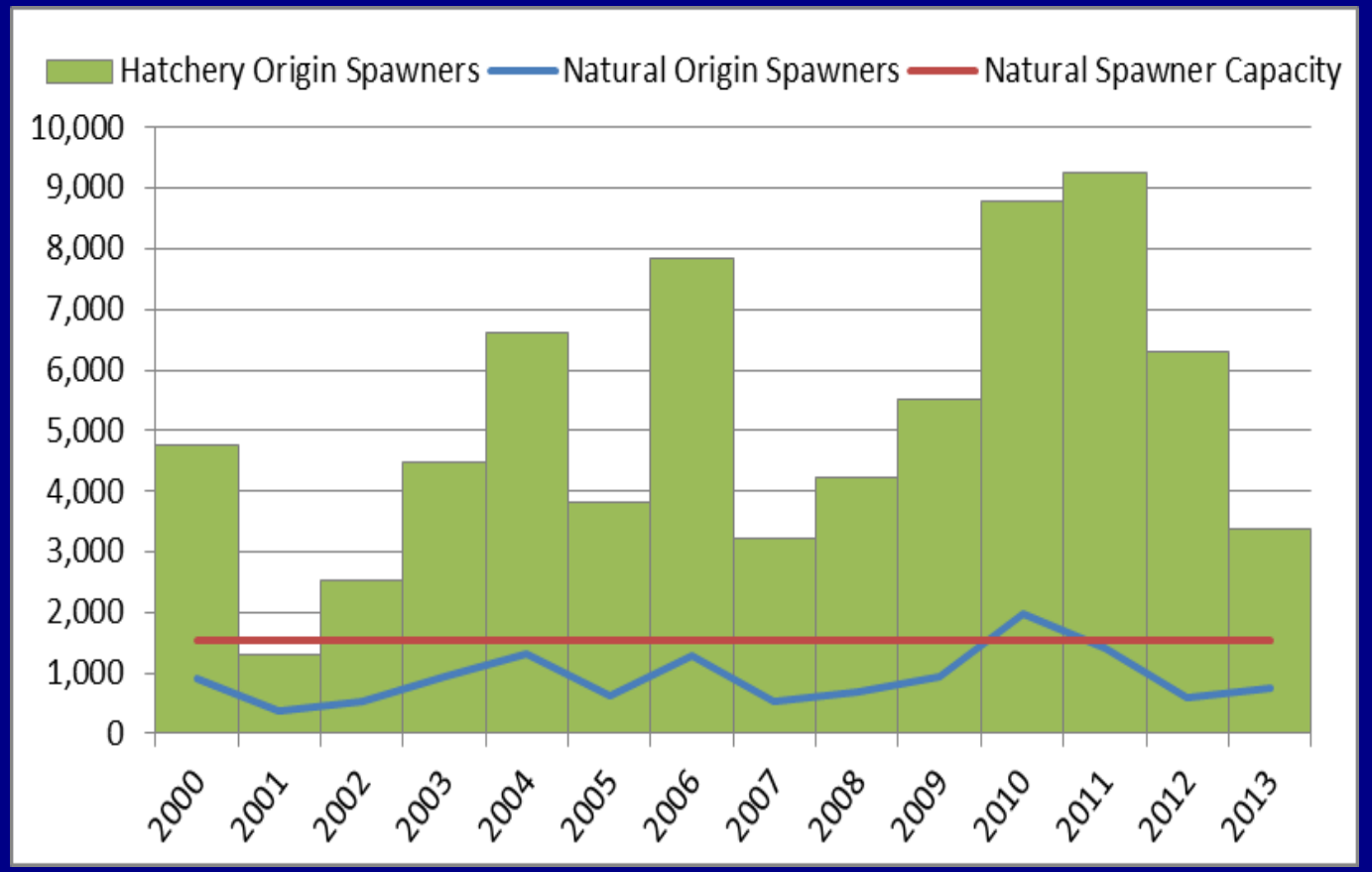


Why was a Policy Needed?

Enhance Conservation Focus

Naselle River Chinook

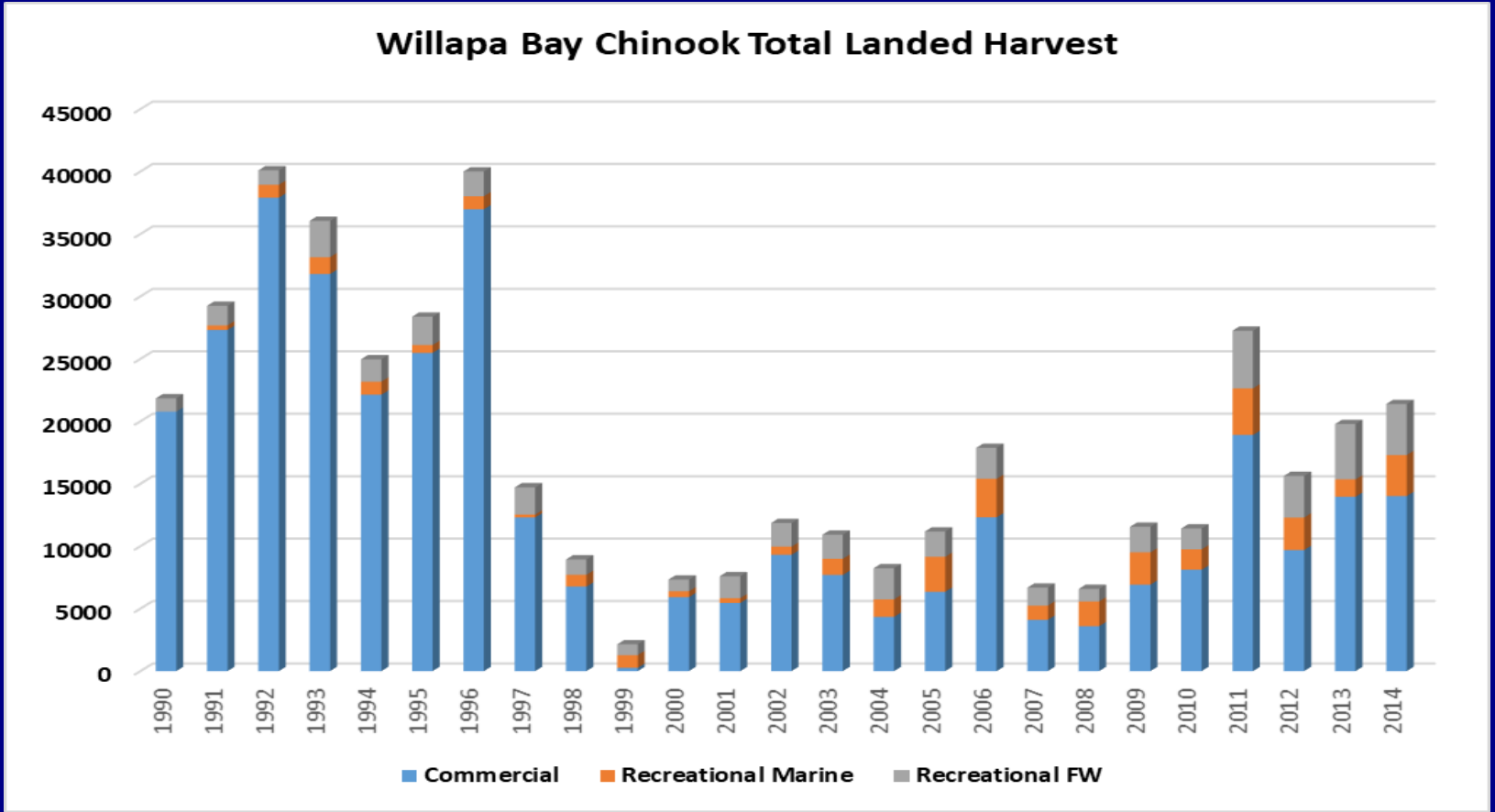
- Primary stock designation
- Too many hatchery origin strays
- Lack of infrastructure



Why was a Policy Needed?

Clarify Sharing of Impacts and Reduce Gear Conflict

- Catch allocation
  - 2000 – 2014
  - Chinook
    - 69% commercial

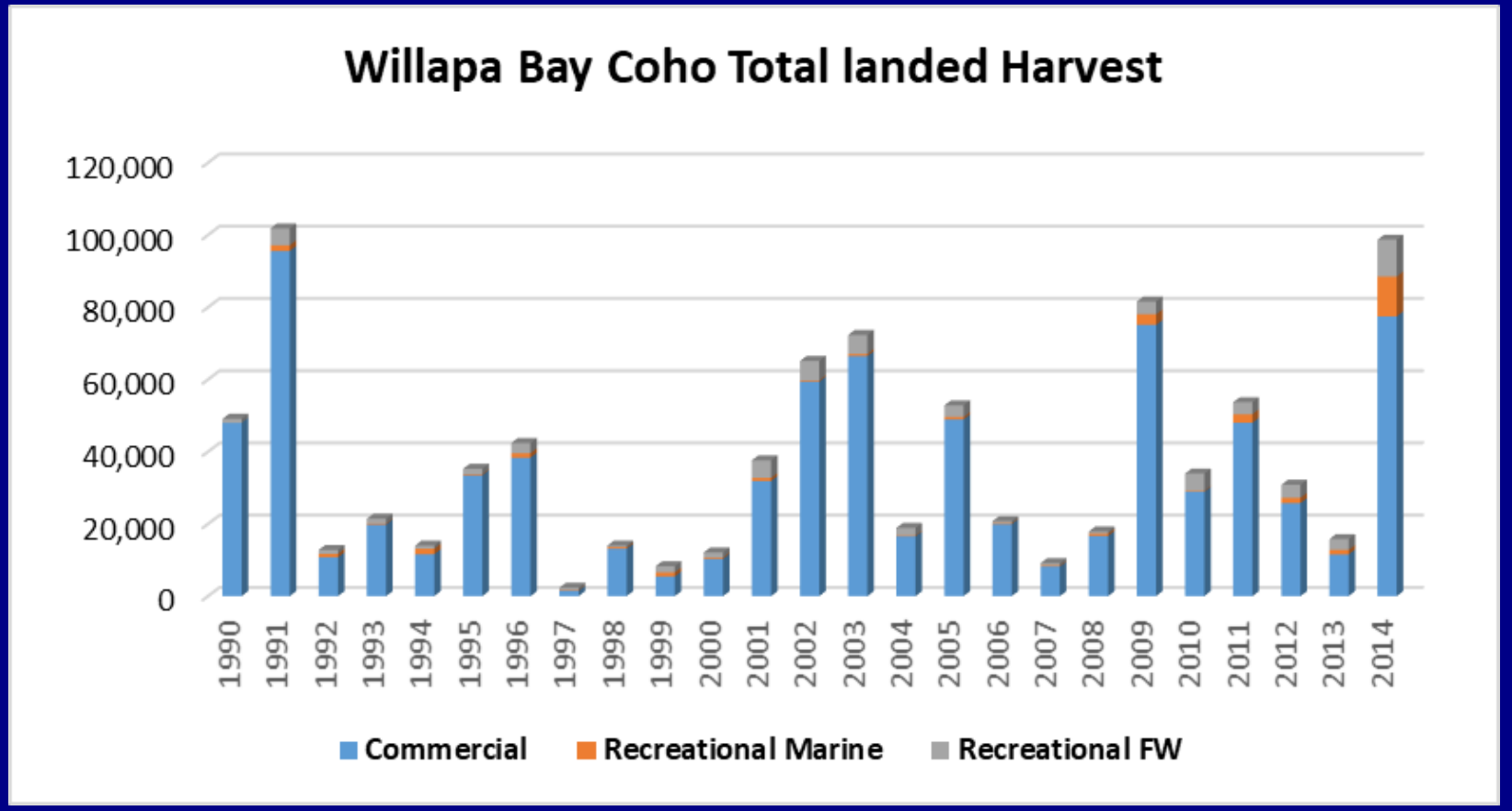


Why was a Policy Needed?

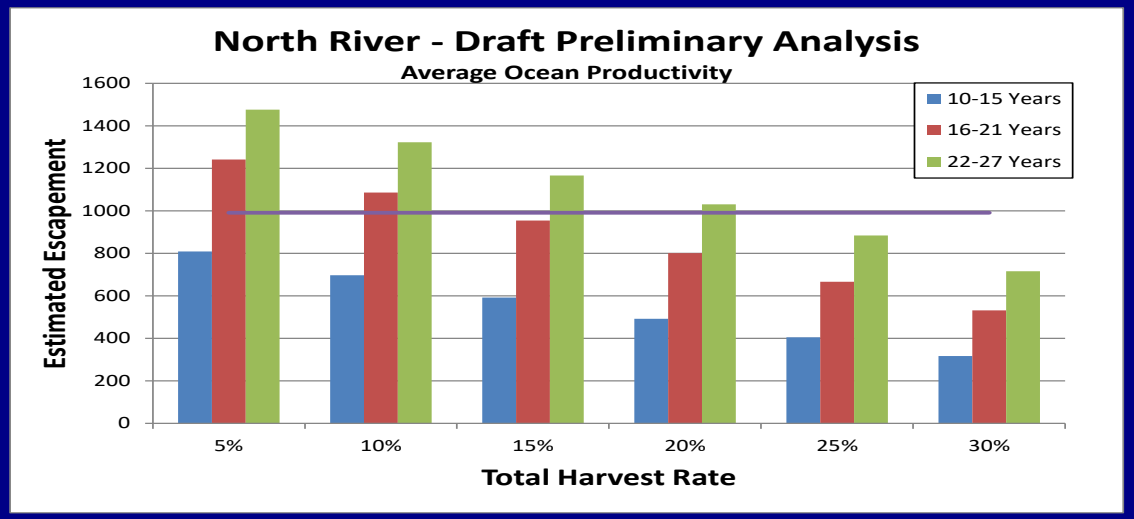
Clarify Sharing of Impacts and Reduce Gear Conflict

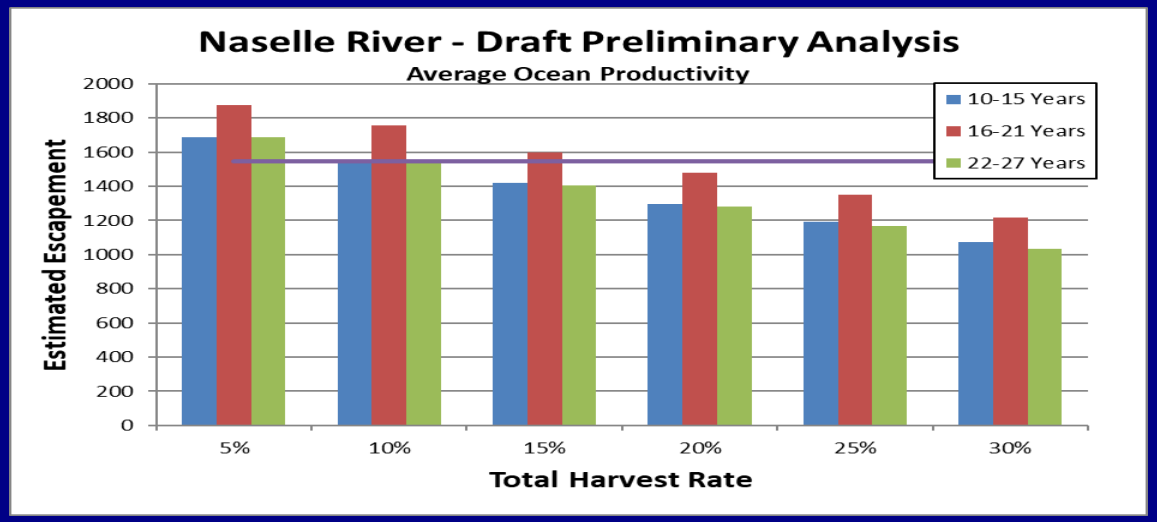
Catch allocation

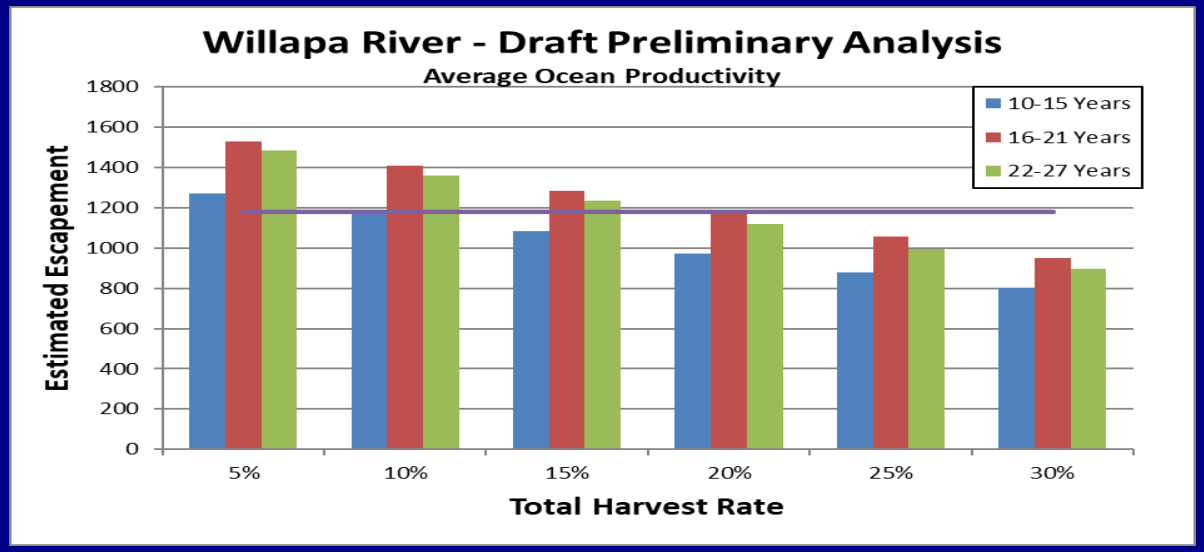
- 2000 – 2014
- Coho
  - 88% commercial



Basis for the 14% Impact Rate



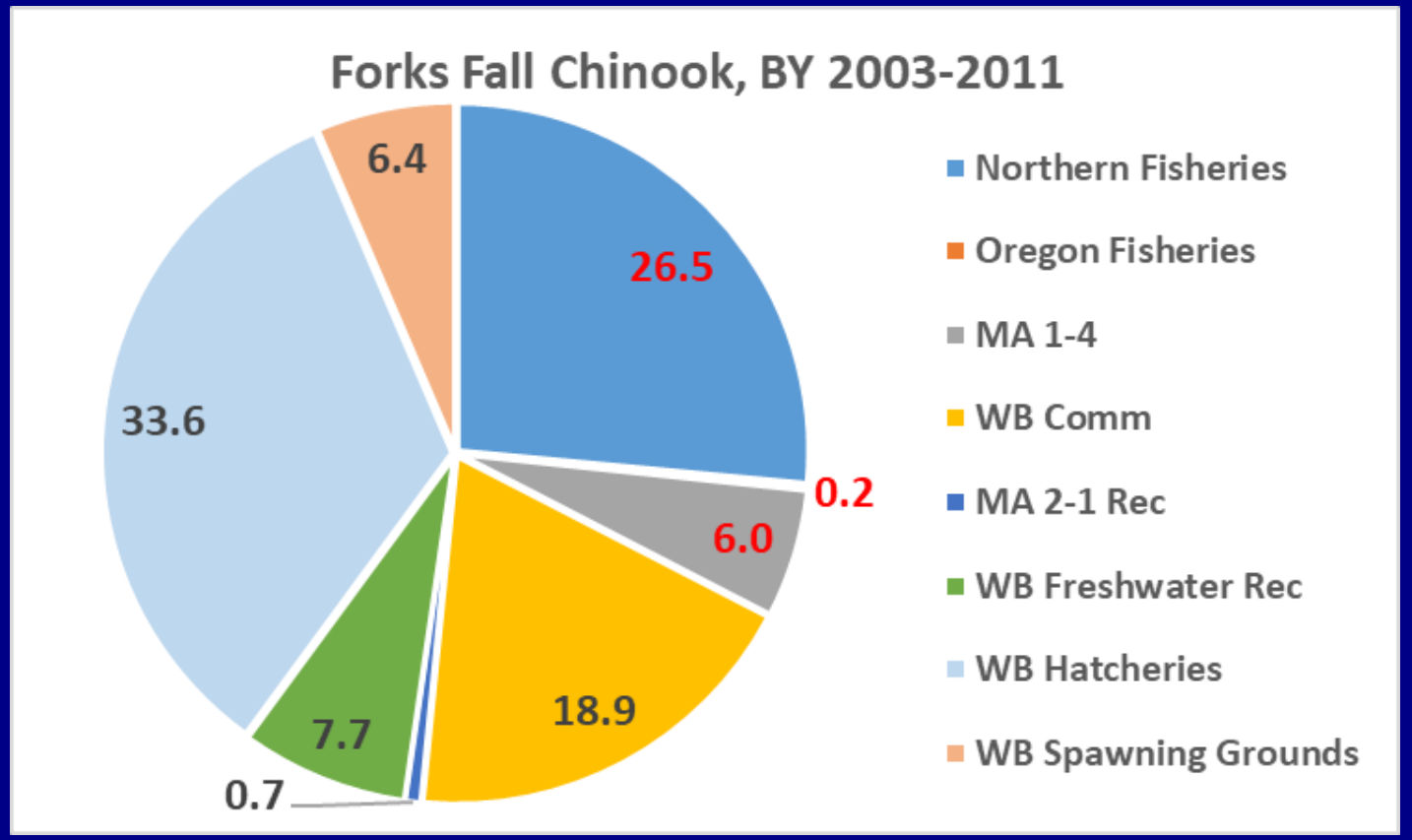




Basis for the 14% Impact Rate

Pre-terminal impact rate estimated during policy development was 35%

- Actual
  - Forks Creek = 32.7%
    - BY 2003-2011
  - Naselle River = 43.6%
    - BY 2003-2006, 2009-2011
  - Nemah River = 38.8%
    - BY 2003-2006

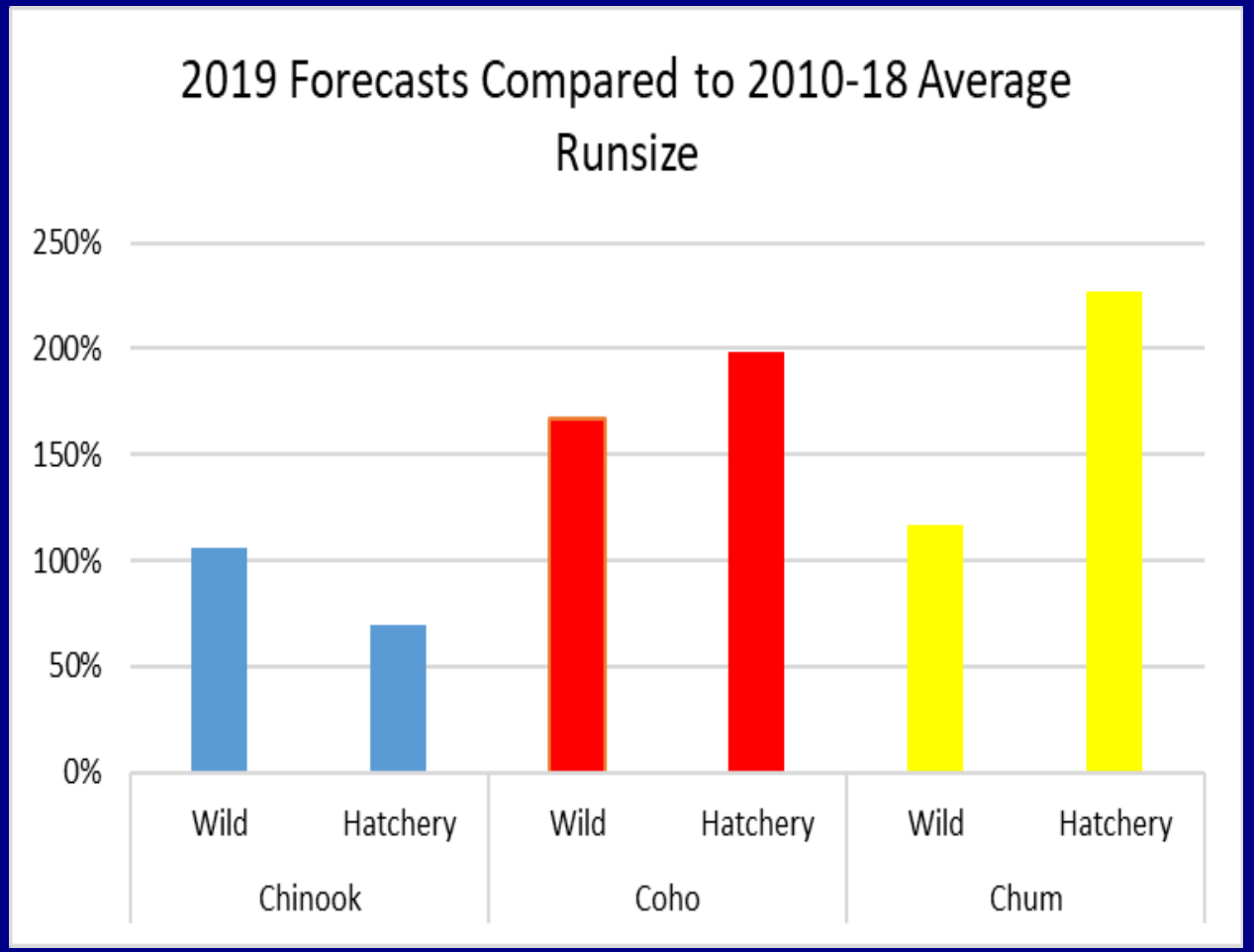


2019 Fisheries Options Analysis

- 2019 Forecasts

Species	Wild	Hatchery
Chinook	4,309	23,807
Coho*	63,448	94,019
Chum	51,383	822

* Ocean age 3



2019 Fisheries Options Analysis

Modeled options summary

A. 2018 fishery schedule on 2019 forecasts, labeled as MODEL A

B. Implementation of Phase Two (14% impact rate cap for UM Chinook), labeled as MODEL B

C. Continuation of 2018 Commission guidance (20% impact rate cap for UM Chinook), labeled as MODEL C

D. Modifying harvest control rules, labeled as MODEL D

2019 Fisheries Options Analysis

- Things to consider
  - Preseason planning model updates for 2019
    - 2017 CRC data
    - 2018 Creel estimate
    - 2018 comm. fishery data
  - Willapa Bay hatchery Chinook production
    - Majority of Chinook production in south
  - Commercial fishery schedule
    - Maximize coho harvest
    - Limitless possibilities for scheduling

Recreational Fishery Impact Rate for UM Willapa River Chinook

Year	MA 2-1	FW	Total
2015	10.0%	5.0%	15.0%
2016	13.8%	1.1%	15.0%
2017	6.5%	3.2%	9.7%
2018*	1.8%	3.5%	5.3%

* Preliminary

Willapa Bay Hatchery Chinook Releases by Brood Year

Hatchery	BY 2014	BY 2015	BY 2016
Forks Creek	3,221,073	379,192	368,537
Nemah	3,264,062	3,259,623	3,185,438
Naselle	749,265	788,229	2,499,279

2019 Fisheries Options Analysis

Model	Natural Chinook HR Cap			Fishery	Total Adult Bag Limit	Chinook Fishery - UM Release Required (MSF)	Natural Coho Bag Limit	Hatchery Coho Bag Limit
	Willapa River	Naselle River	Chum Impacts					
A	Base Model - 2018 schedule with 2019 Forecasted Abundances			Marine Rec	3	MSF starting August 1	1	1
				Freshwater Rec	4	MSF	1	4
				Commercial	Tangle Nets	2N & 2M prior to 9/15		
						2U Sept & Oct		
					November	MSF		
B	14.0%	14.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	3	MSF starting August 1	3	3
				Freshwater Rec	3	MSF	3	3
				Commercial	Tangle Nets	2N & 2M prior to 9/15		
						2U wks 38 - 40		
					November	MSF		
C	20.0%	20.0%	10.0%	Marine Rec	3	MSF starting August 1	3	3
				Freshwater Rec	3	MSF	3	3
				Commercial	Tangle Nets	None - gillnet gear only		
					November	MSF		
D				Marine Rec	2	MSF starting August 1	2	2
				Freshwater Rec	2	MSF	2	2
				Commercial	Tangle Nets	2N & 2M prior to 9/15		
						2N & 2M 2 days in Aug		
					November	MSF		

2019 Fisheries Options Analysis

Model	Natural Chinook Expected Impact Rate			Expected Escapement			Policy Priorities				Allocation % by Sector				# Commercial Days Scheduled
							Willapa Bay Total Expected Harvest								
	Willapa River	Naselle River	Chum Impacts	NOR Chinook	NOR Coho	Chum Total	Chinook		Coho		Chinook		Coho		
				Goal= 4,353	Goal= 13,600	Goal = 35,400	Rec	Comm	Rec	Comm	Rec	Comm	Rec	Comm	
A	11.9%	20.1%	8.2%	3,738	44,074	47,906	7,604	2,779	12,052	23,525	73.2%	26.8%	33.9%	66.1%	45
B	14.0%	14.0%	10.0%	3,740	37,053	46,996	5,848	2,500	17,358	28,909	70.1%	29.9%	37.5%	62.5%	46
C	18.3%	19.3%	10.0%	3,553	36,881	46,984	5,848	3,383	17,358	30,191	63.4%	36.6%	36.5%	63.5%	52
D	16.7%	24.9%	15.0%	3,550	37,012	44,361	4,489	5,003	14,619	32,330	47.3%	52.7%	30.7%	68.0%	56

Proposed Timeline for Comprehensive Review

Type	Purpose	Date	Status
Public workshop	Public feedback on policy	Jan 23, 2018	Completed
WBSAG	Proposed process, review public feedback	Sept 14,2018	Completed
WBSAG - rec	Review questions development	Oct 23, 2018	Completed
WBSAG - comm	Review questions development	Oct 24, 2018	Completed
FWC	Proposed process, commissioner feedback	Nov 2, 2018	Completed
WBSAG	Review of relevant data	Nov/Dec 2018	Completed
FWC- Fish Committee	Briefing on progress to date	Dec 2018	Completed
WBSAG	Review of relevant data	Jan 2019	Completed
FWC-Fish Committee	Briefing on progress to date	Jan 2019	Completed
FWC	Briefing on progress to date	Feb 2019	Completed
FWC	Decision on 2019 fisheries	Apr 2019	Scheduled
WBSAG	Review draft report	Aug 2019	Proposed
FWC-Fish Committee	Briefing on progress to date	Aug 2019	Proposed
WBSAG	Review final report	Nov 2019	Proposed
FWC	Presentation and seek approval of final report	Nov 2019	Proposed

Questions?