

# MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 21, 2007  
**From:** Laura S. Jackson, Acting District Biologist  
Dan Meyer, Acting Watershed Supervisor  
**Cc** Steve Denney, Regional Supervisor  
**Subject:** Calapooya Fall Chinook/Umpqua Fishermen's Association  
Propagation Proposal Renewal

## **Program Justification**

This is a harvest augmentation program. It should produce at least 600 fall chinook to be available for ocean or freshwater harvest. This number of adults is 3.7 times the number of brood collected to produce the hatchery adults. This program has been designed to reduce hatchery strays on the primary spawning grounds of the stock 18 fall chinook population by releasing the hatchery presmolts downstream of the South Umpqua. Since the hatchery fish will thus return and linger below the South Umpqua—they will also provide a longer lasting freshwater fishery for the Roseburg area. The South Umpqua, which is the migration destination of the bulk of the stock 18 chinook, is closed to all angling after September 15. These hatchery chinook will linger in an area with three public boat ramps and several bank fishing areas until mid- to late October when rainfall allows them to enter the Calapooya. Having easy public access to these fish makes the program congruent with the ODFW's "Easy Angling Oregon" program which promotes fishing on the Umpqua River.

## **Native Fish Conservation Policy**

In addition to addressing the NFCP in Part II, section a; language was added to note the record keeping responsibilities of this propagation proposal in Part II, section f. Note that computerized records for each hatchbox site were also submitted with this proposal. The volunteer-operated computer program records mortality, water temperature, temperature units, comments and release information.

## **Hatchery Genetic Management Plan**

The South and Mainstem Umpqua River Fall Chinook HGMP was reviewed by both Fish Division Production, Research and Conservation & Recovery staff. It is not within the scope of this project proposal to try and re-align an HGMP that has already been through district, division, and public review and sent to NOAA. The advice given to the district at the time of writing the HGMPs was to provide as wide of side boards as possible to give the department flexibility in developing and refining its hatchery programs. Consequently the district's HGMP was written to include potential hatchery programs for several streams within the South and Mainstem Umpqua. The HGMP was also written during a time period that the district was in transition from conducting recovery programs to harvest augmentation programs. So, no doubt, despite the best efforts of the many reviewers of the HGMP, there is likely some confusing verbiage.

**Release Strategy**

Releasing all of the program fish in one basin has been the release strategy used by the Umpqua Watershed since 1998. This was documented in the 2002 UFA propagation proposal, and the 2006 HGMP in addition to this proposal. There was concern expressed that the release strategy had just recently been changed to targeted basins. Releasing hatchery fish in targeted basins helps reduce stray rates and helps localize the program contribution.

**Access Agreements**

This proposal was submitted with access agreements for each hatchbox site. The agreements were the same as the agreements used for the 2002 Propagation Proposals. It never occurred to either the UFA or me that because the agreements were on UFA letterhead, that the ODFW was not included in the access. A set of UFA keys is available at the Roseburg ODFW office and part of the STEP Biologist's keys.

ODFW reality agreements have been distributed to the landowners of hatchbox sites.