

Joint-State Columbia River Fishery Policy Review Committee

January 17, 2019

10am to 5pm

Location: ODFW Office, Salem Oregon

Meeting Summary Notes and Decisions

ATTENDANCE:

Holly Akenson – ODFW Commissioner
Bruce Buckmaster – ODFW Commissioner
Bob Webber – ODFW Commissioner
Curt Melcher – ODFW Director
Michelle Tate – ODFW Staff
April Mack – ODFW Staff
Ed Bowles – ODFW Staff
Chris Kern – ODFW Staff
Tucker Jones – ODFW Staff
John North – ODFW Staff

David Graybill – WDFW Commissioner
Bob Kehoe – WDFW Commissioner
Don Mclsaac – WDFW Commissioner
Ron Warren – WDFW Staff
Bill Tweit – WDFW Staff
Ryan Lothrop – WDFW Staff
Cindy LeFleur – WDFW Staff
Myrtice Dobler – WDFW Staff

NOTES:

See meeting agenda, attached.

Agenda Item 2: Procedural Matters

2a: Conducting the meetings

- Commissioner Don Mclsaac (WA) was elected Chair
- Meeting to be conducted in accordance with standard Roberts Rules of Order
- All meetings are to be open to the public
- Public Comment: These meetings won't have regular public comment, as the formal Commission meetings do.
- There will be no formal minutes written for the PRC meetings, but summary notes to include and key progress decisions and recommendations by the RRC or a PRC will be prepared in writing
- The summary notes and decisions document will be drafted by staff with consultation with the Chair and circulated to PRC Commissioners for approval.
- Reaching a committee recommendation
 - While no decisions binding to either full Commission can be made by the PRC, decisions of the PRC will strive to make a recommendation that can be taken back to the full Commissions
 - Recommendations made by the committee will be transcribed by staff and approved by the PRC as part of the summary notes process

2b: Use of Fishery Advisors

- There will be no appointment of fishing industry or participant advisors, but fishery experts may be called on situationally as desired by the PRC

2c: Future meeting schedule and process.

- The overarching goal is to achieve concurrent policies and regulations for 2019 and beyond
 - First step: Focus on the 2019 season, to have concurrency prior to the start of the North of Falcon process in mid-March
 - Secondary priority: continue the dialogue on the long term beyond 2019 and make this the primary focus after mid-March
- Next meeting scheduling
 - When and where
 - Feb 6th @ WDFW, Ridgefield, 9am-5pm
 - Feb 26th @ ODFW, Salem, 10am-5pm
 - March 14th @ WDFW, Ridgefield, 10am-5pm
- A detailed schedule and process document should be developed for PRC review at the next PRC meeting

Agenda Item 3: Policy and Regulatory Concurrency in 2019

3a: Initial review of issues identified at the November 1 joint Commission meeting.

- **3a iii: Discussion of issues, next steps and staff tasking for next PRC meeting.**
 - The following criteria that should guide PRC decision-making on 2019 concurrency (from current WA Policy):
 - Maintain or enhance the economic well-being and stability of both the sport and commercial fishing industries
 - As referenced in original WA Policy language, use ex-vessel values and angler trips, in comparison to the period prior to 2013
 - Meet conservation goals for salmon and steelhead
 - Promote orderly fisheries (concurrent rules)
 - Committee Members agreed that it would be best to not return to non-concurrence after 2019.
 - Four options were identified for further staff analysis and review and the next PRC meeting:
 - i. Option 1: Transition Period Rules
 - allowance of fisheries under the allocation and gear type measures in the policy during the Transition Period years. Include the following and any others appropriate to the Transition Period.
 - 70/30 spring Chinook – tangle nets ok in mainstem
 - 70/30 summer Chinook – gill nets ok in mainstem
 - 70/30 fall Chinook – gill nets ok in mainstem
 - ii. Option 2: Approximately 2018 Status Quo
 - 80/20 spring Chinook with no mainstem commercial fishery. Unused impacts go to escapement
 - 2018 regulations for summer and fall Chinook

iii. Option 3: No Economic Loss from Base Period

- Describe allocations and gear types that provide for no economic loss to the commercial fishery across a full season (not by individual season/fishery) – (base period identified as the 2010-2012 average values)

iv. Option 4: Other Option Identified by Staff

The PRC agreed that staff could present additional approaches if applicable.

Agenda Item 4: Policy and Regulatory Concurrency 2020 and beyond

4b: Initial review of List of Ideas Matrix (handout), if possible and appropriate.

- **4b i: Discussion of issues, next steps and staff tasking for upcoming PRC meeting.**
 - For the upriver/downriver allocation of spring chinook within the sport fishery allocation, include in the listing of ideas the ideas received from the eastside stakeholders to the WFWC; for example, the “payback” options
 - For the commercial fishery license buyback program option, the PRC will need to identify and list program goals for further analysis
 - Provide example of 2010-era spring Chinook Willamette/Upriver allocation matrix (note, differences existed between WA and OR allocation policy on this matrix)

Agenda Item 5: Conclusion

5a: Review of expectations for next and future meetings.

- Staff Assignments
 - Send around draft meeting summary notes to PRC members very soon
 - Prepare a descriptive narrative of the four options described for 2019 above and analysis that PRC members should consider at the next meeting towards a goal of making progress towards a single recommendation
 - Prepare a draft schedule and process document for PRC activities, for review at the next PRC meeting
 - Provide materials for next meeting by ~February 1
- Expectations for next meeting
 - The PRC will focus first on 2019 issues, including the review the staff analysis of the four options above and further discussion of voluntary barbless hooks and the status of the Youngs Bay fishing closure sanctuary.
 - The PRC will continue dialogue on a long-term policy, as a secondary focus.