

## **Changes to Part 4(C) ODFW (7) Beaver**

Reviewer: NOAA Fisheries Northwest Fisheries Science Center

The reviewer addresses two points made within the report.

- 1) Recent changes in state regulations allowing beaver to be killed on private lands without the need for a permit will make it increasingly difficult to determine the status and trend of beaver populations.
- 2) There has been a decreasing trend in beaver harvest over the years, but no increasing trend in beaver pond abundance, pointing out the need for a better understanding of factors limiting beaver pond production.

A better understanding of the status and trend of beaver abundance and beaver pond habitat within the coastal coho ESU is important to fully understand impacts on juvenile coho production. I agree with the reviewer that we need to be collecting more data, not less, on beaver trapping in order to better understand abundance. It is important to note that data collected through ODFW's ongoing habitat monitoring does include beaver pond presence and can be used to infer beaver abundance. I also agree with the reviewer that there is a need to identify potential beaver habitat within the ESU, and to assess to what extent beaver are utilizing that habitat.

Reviewer: NMFS NWR

Suggestion of adding description of USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) impacts on beaver populations on the Oregon coast has been incorporated into the report.

Reviewer: Paul Englemeyer

The reviewer's concern over the effectiveness of ODFW's beaver management program is noted. At this time there are no additional data on beaver distribution/abundance to add to the report. Existing data on beaver pond presence collected through ODFW's habitat monitoring program can be used to infer beaver abundance.