ROGUE–SOUTH COAST MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN (RSP)

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Executive Summary
December 2021

ODFW MISSION

To protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

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RSP SYNOPSIS

Goals

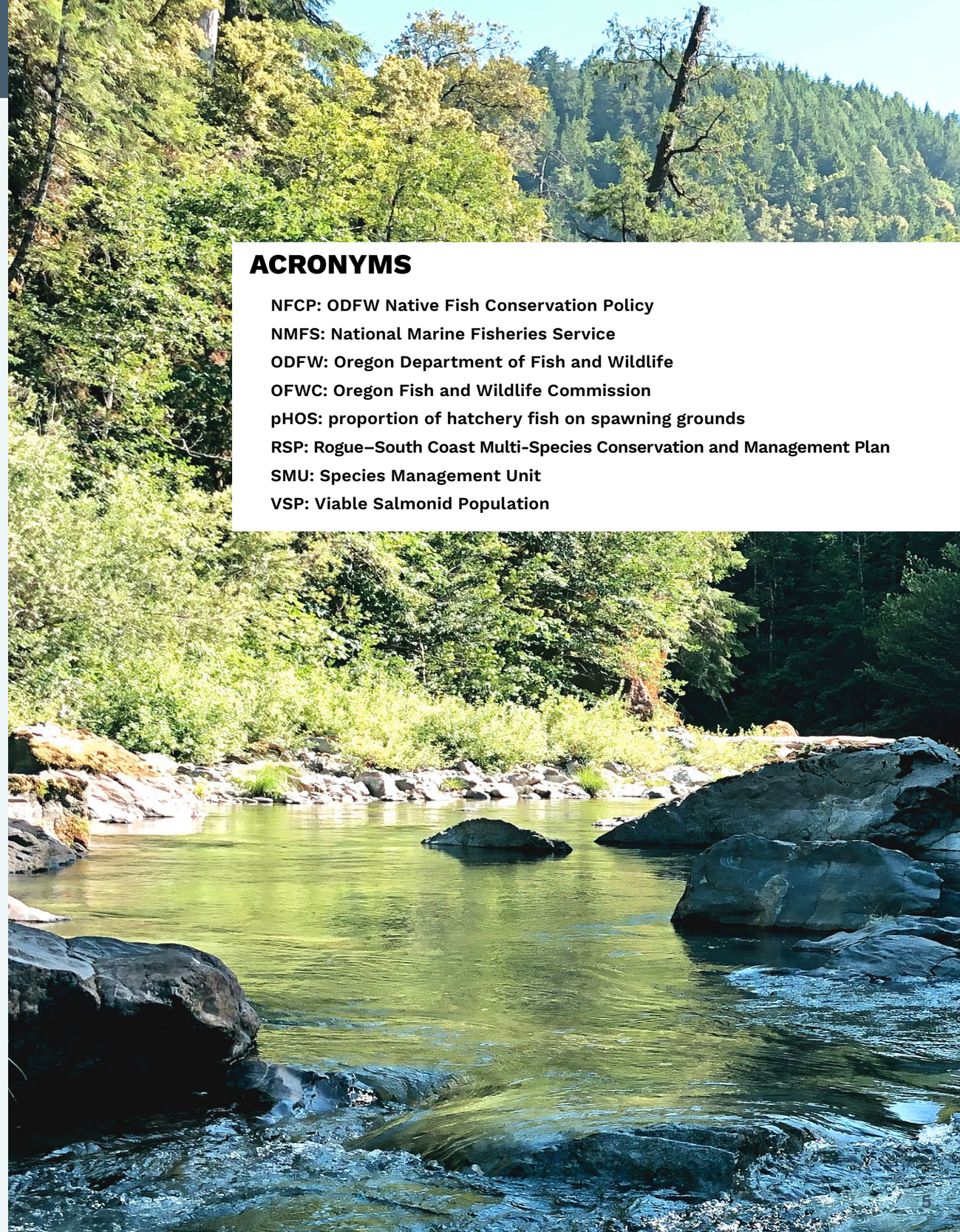
- Ensure long-term sustainability of wild steelhead, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout to provide ecological, economic, and cultural benefits for present and future generations.
- Foster and sustain fishing opportunities while conserving wild steelhead, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout.

Key Conclusions

- Wild winter steelhead and coastal cutthroat trout are widespread, abundant, and are expected to persist through time.
- Wild summer steelhead populations are sensitive due to development pressure in areas of key spawning and early rearing habitat and less widespread distribution, and require a cautious management approach.
- Coho salmon need status improvement to ensure future persistence.
- Climate and ocean change pose a risk to the long-term persistence of plan species. The degree of risk varies among plan species and locations.
- Desired status for all species is to increase abundance relative to recent levels, which would reduce risks to long-term persistence, increase resilience to climate change, and ensure strong, consistent fisheries.
- Primary limiting factors for all plan populations relate to habitat — particularly stream temperature, flow, and passage barriers (dams, culverts, etc.).
- Addressing habitat limiting factors will increase population resilience and reduce risk from climate and ocean change.

Key Outcomes

- Climate change is addressed in numerous strategies and actions.
- Support for prioritized and effective habitat protection and restoration efforts.
- Increase monitoring to guide management.
- Maintain and enhance fishing opportunities while minimizing risk from harvest, hatchery programs and climate change.
- Increase management surety through identification of locations, targets, and limits for hatchery programs.
- Implement a harvest management framework based on additional monitoring and data for wild winter steelhead.
- Strengthen public outreach and engagement in native fish conservation.



ACRONYMS

NFCP: ODFW Native Fish Conservation Policy
NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service
ODFW: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OFWC: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
pHOS: proportion of hatchery fish on spawning grounds
RSP: Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan
SMU: Species Management Unit
VSP: Viable Salmonid Population

INTRODUCTION

The RSP was developed under guidance of ODFW's Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP).

The NFCP seeks to:

- Prevent serious depletion of any native fish species.
- Maintain and restore native fish.
- Foster and sustain fishing opportunities.

Read more about the NFCP **here.**

The RSP addresses conservation and management of winter and summer steelhead, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout populations on the Oregon coast from Cape Blanco south to the California border.

ODFW groups native fish populations into species management units (SMUs) for conservation and management purposes. An SMU is a collection of populations from a common geographic region that share similar genetic and ecological characteristics.

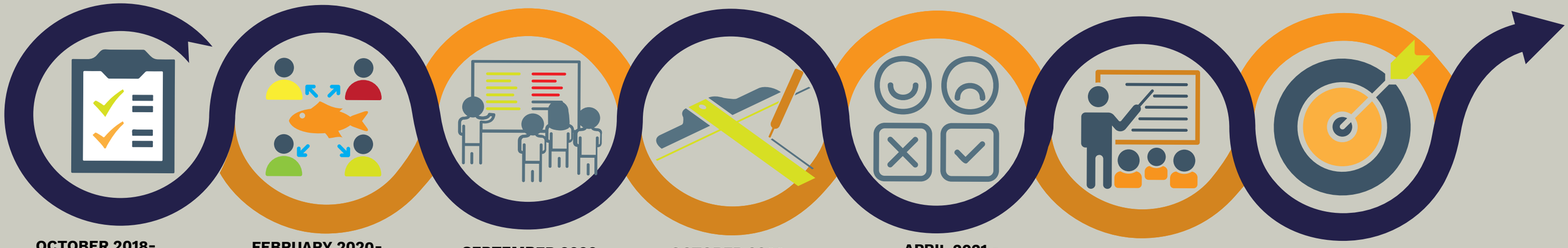
Of the SMUs covered in the RSP, only coho salmon are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act and require status improvement to ensure viability. For the other SMUs, management is directed toward increasing societal benefits (including robust fisheries) and reducing long-term conservation risk.

The figure on the following page outlines the planning process used to develop the RSP.

Note: spring and fall Chinook Salmon SMUs in the area covered by the RSP have separate conservation plans. These plans can be found **here**.

> **Conservation: managing for sustainability of native fish so present and future generations may enjoy their ecological, economic, recreational, and aesthetic benefits.**
>
> — Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP)

PLANNING PROCESS TIMELINE



OCTOBER 2018-JANUARY 2020

ODFW Develops Plan Foundations
- Species and populations
- Current status assessment
- Rogue-South Coast angler survey

FEBRUARY 2020-AUGUST 2020

Stakeholder Process
- 2 Stakeholder Teams: Rogue & South Coast
- 6 meetings to seek consensus on:
  - Management Strategies & Actions
  - Desired and Conservation Status

SEPTEMBER 2020

Habitat Work Group
- 2 meetings: Rogue & South Coast
- ODFW seeks input on Habitat Management Strategies & Actions

OCTOBER 2020 – MARCH 2021

First RSP Draft
- Developed with input from Stakeholders, Tribes, and NMFS
- Independent science review

APRIL 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2021

Public Review Draft RSP
- Developed with input from Stakeholders, Tribes, NMFS, and independent science reviewers
- Public comment period and public meetings

OCTOBER 2021

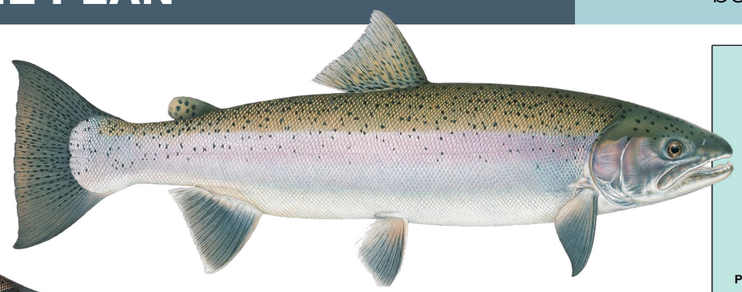
Commission Draft
- Presented to OFWC for review and comment

DECEMBER 2021

Final RSP
- Modified and approved by OFWC

SPECIES AND POPULATIONS COVERED BY THE PLAN

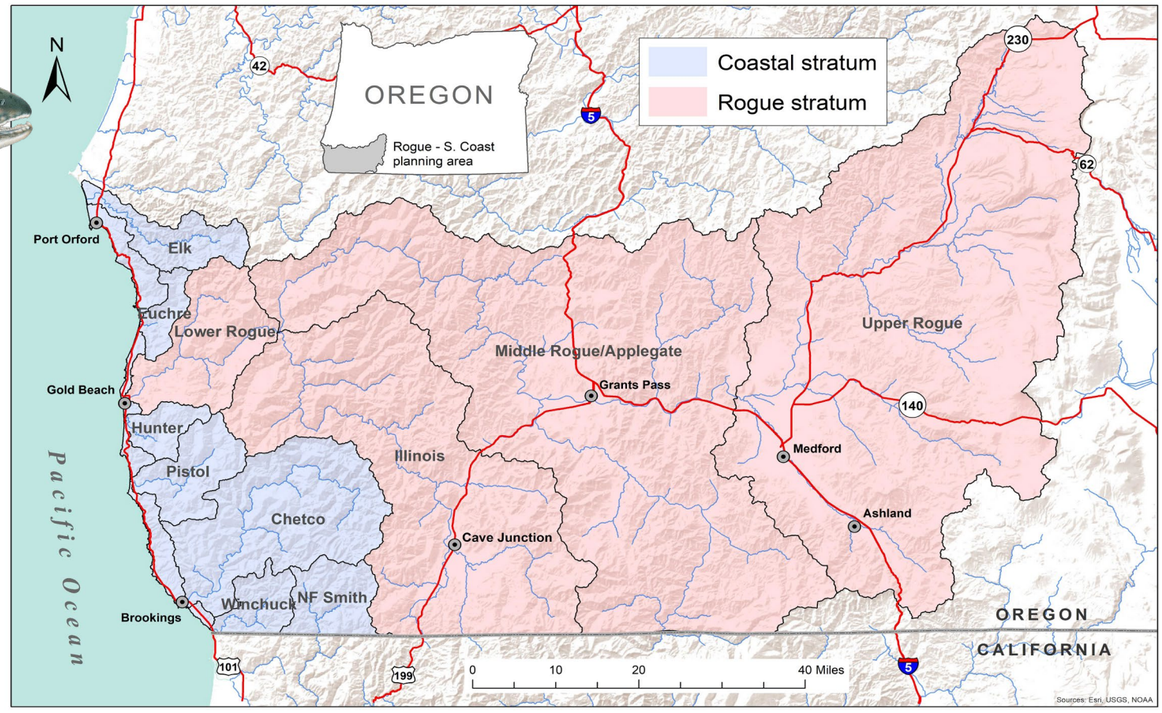
Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
Rogue–South Coast Winter Steelhead SMU
Rogue Summer Steelhead SMU



Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*)
Rogue–South Coast Coho Salmon SMU

Coastal Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii*)
Rogue–South Coast Cutthroat Trout SMU

Map of the watersheds and fish populations covered by the RSP. Populations are grouped in two strata — Coastal and Rogue. Important differences between the two strata are described in the plan.



CURRENT STATUS

Assessing the current status of plan species is one of the foundations of plan development.

Current status was determined by:

1. Assessing populations and strata based on Viable Salmonid Population (VSP) parameters:
   - Abundance.
   - Productivity.
   - Spatial structure.
   - Diversity.
2. Determining a viability risk score for each population and stratum. “Viability” is the ability to persist through time.
3. Determining SMU status based on:
   - Population and stratum viability risk scores.
   - Confidence in the assessment results.
   - Other risk factors.

SMUs were assigned to one of the following status categories:

SMU Status Categories

Strong	Strong-Guarded	Sensitive	Sensitive Critical	Threatened	Endangered

Healthy SMUs with few or no population viability concerns ⟷ SMUs not considered viable into the future

Current Status Assessment Results

Rogue–South Coast **WINTER STEELHEAD**	**Strong-Guarded**
Rogue–South Coast **CUTTHROAT TROUT**	**Strong-Guarded**
Rogue **SUMMER STEELHEAD**	**Sensitive**
Rogue–South Coast **COHO SALMON**	**Sensitive-Critical**

CLIMATE AND OCEAN CHANGE

- The Earth's climate and oceans are changing and these changes are expected to continue in coming decades.
- Oregon is already experiencing climate and ocean changes:
  - Increased average air and water temperatures.
  - Disrupted precipitation patterns and increasing drought frequency.
  - Increased ocean acidification and hypoxia.
- Following direction in ODFW's Climate and Ocean Change Policy, the RSP:
  - Assesses climate and ocean change risk for plan species.
  - Uses assessment results to inform management goals, strategies, and actions in the plan.

Climate and Ocean Change Projections

The following changes in freshwater and marine habitat are expected. There is uncertainty about the timing and extent of these changes, but all are likely to affect plan species in coming years.

Freshwater

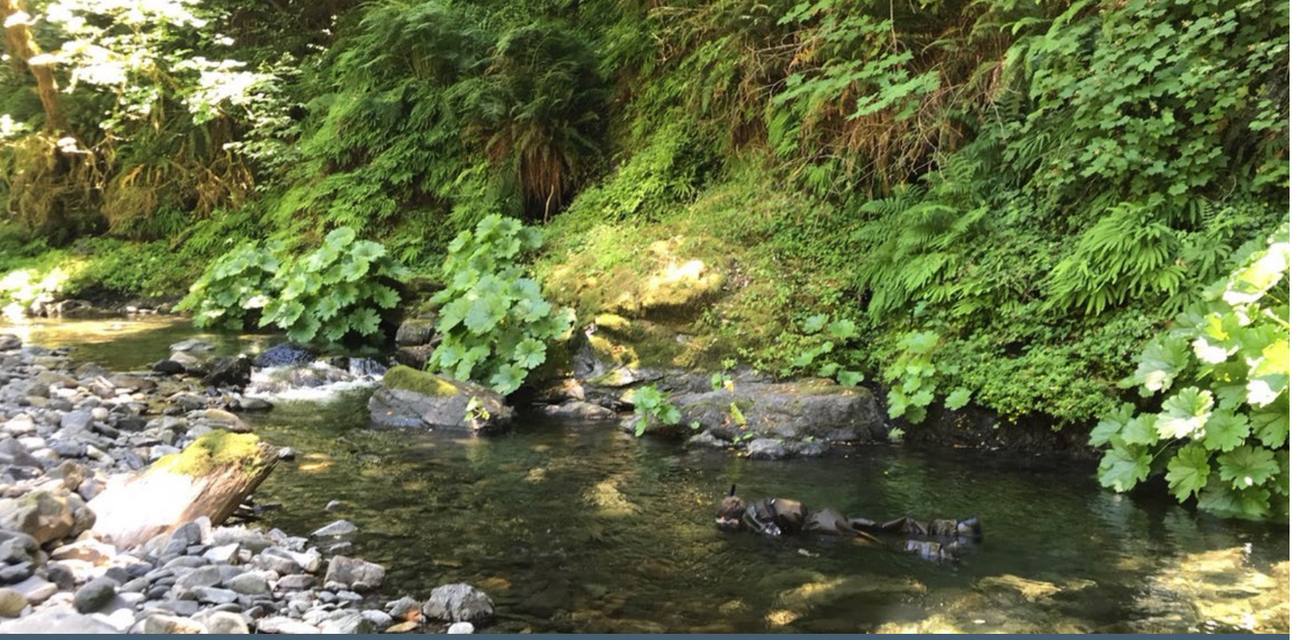
- Higher water temperatures.
- Reduced summer streamflow and more stream drying.
- Increased winter precipitation and extreme storm events.

Ocean

- Higher ocean temperatures and more marine heat waves.
- Increased ocean acidification.
- Changes in the timing and magnitude of upwelling.
- Altered marine productivity and food webs.

Key Conclusions of the RSP Climate and Ocean Change Assessment

- Projections suggest that both freshwater and the ocean will become less suitable for salmonids during the next 80 years.
- Some locations in the planning area will experience less change than others.
- In many cases, projected changes due to climate change are smaller than impacts from past land use and development.
- Coho salmon are most at risk from climate and ocean change, followed by summer steelhead and winter steelhead. Cutthroat trout have the lowest risk.
- **Protecting, restoring, and enhancing key freshwater habitats is crucial to minimizing longer-term impacts of climate and ocean change.**
- Climate and ocean change assessment results were used to inform desired status goals for SMUs and develop management strategies and actions needed to achieve and maintain desired status.



DESIRED STATUS

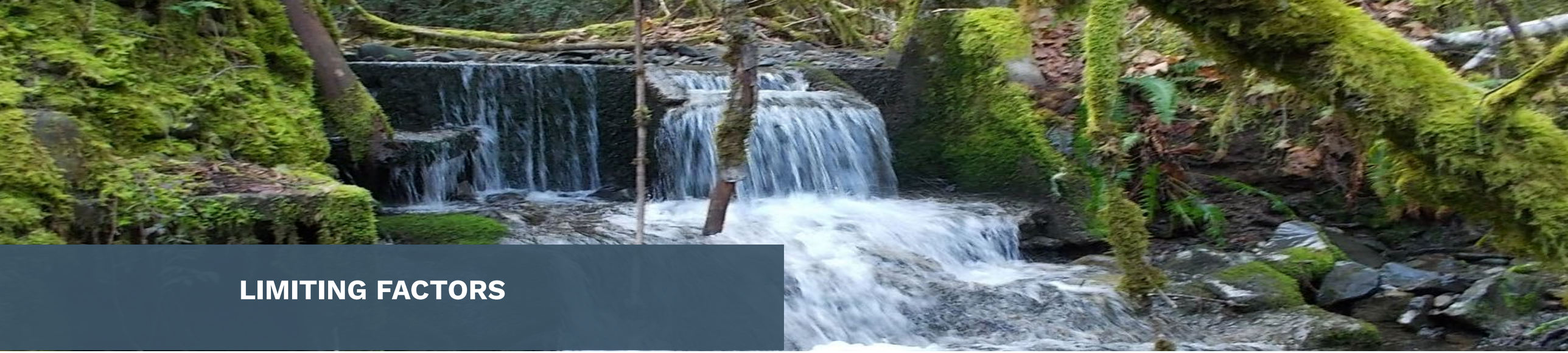
- Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP) plans describe an SMU desired status that reflects the ecological, economic and cultural benefits to be sought from naturally produced fish.
- The RSP identifies categorical desired status for SMUs and numerical desired status thresholds for populations or strata.
- SMU desired status resulted from considering both current status and climate change risk. Climate change risk is also an indicator of the “urgency” for actions to make the SMU more resilient to expected climate and ocean changes.
- All population or strata-level desired status thresholds are set higher than current levels to restore populations at risk and improve populations that are not at risk.
- Achieving desired status for populations, strata, and SMUs will reduce viability risk, increase resilience to climate change, and ensure strong, consistent fisheries.
- In the summaries that follow, even if current status and desired status are the same for an SMU, increased abundance in all of the SMU’s populations is called for to provide additional societal benefits, including more fishing opportunity.

Rogue–South Coast **WINTER STEELHEAD**	**Current Status**	**Strong-Guarded**
	Climate Change Risk	**Moderate**
	Desired Status	**Strong-Guarded**

Rogue–South Coast **CUTTHROAT TROUT**	**Current Status**	**Strong-Guarded**
	Climate Change Risk	**Low**
	Desired Status	**Strong-Guarded**

Rogue **SUMMER STEELHEAD**	**Current Status**	**Sensitive**
	Climate Change Risk	**Moderate**
	Desired Status	**Sensitive**

Rogue–South Coast **COHO SALMON**	**Current Status**	**Sensitive-Critical**
	Climate Change Risk	**Moderate to High**
	Desired Status	**Sensitive**



LIMITING FACTORS

Limiting factors are conditions causing or contributing to a "gap" between current status and desired status for a population or SMU. Identifying limiting factors helps determine and prioritize management strategies and actions needed to achieve desired status (which includes improved fishing opportunity).

Limiting factors are identified in six categories:

Direct Management

Hatchery fish predation and/or competition are possible limiting factors for populations in the Middle Rogue/Applegate, Upper Rogue, and Elk River. Under current angling regulations in the region, fishing was not identified as a limiting factor for any SMU.

Other Species

Predation by pinnipeds and birds occurs across all SMUs but isn't considered a primary or secondary limiting factor. Non-native fish competition and/or predation are considered secondary or possible limiting factors in several population areas where non-native minnows are established.

Habitat Access

Barriers to upstream passage and impacts from downstream passage and unscreened diversions are primary limiting factors for Middle Rogue/Applegate and Upper Rogue populations, and possible limiting factors for Illinois populations. Reduced access to natural off-channel habitat is a secondary limiting factor for most populations.

Water Quality

High stream temperatures during summer are a primary or secondary limiting factor for all populations. Sedimentation and poor estuary water quality are secondary or possible limiting factors in some populations. Toxic pollutants are a possible limiting factor for coho salmon in the urbanized Bear Creek watershed.

Water Quantity

Low flows during summer and early fall are a primary limiting factor for all populations. Flashy/high flows during winter are a possible limiting factor for most populations.

Instream Physical Habitat

A lack of habitat structure within stream channels is a primary limiting factor for the Elk River coho salmon population and a possible limiting factor for all populations in the Rogue stratum.

MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

To address limiting factors and achieve desired status, ODFW worked with stakeholders and other plan development partners to identify management strategies and actions in seven categories:

HABITAT

Habitat is the foundation for conservation and fishing opportunity. Protecting habitat, especially high quality habitat, and restoring degraded habitat benefit both of these interests.

There are important differences in habitat protection and restoration needs for watersheds in the interior Rogue basin compared to other coastal watersheds covered by the plan.

Focusing habitat protection and restoration resources on the right actions in the right places at the right scale is the key to achieving desired status and reducing risk from climate and ocean change.

Strategies

- Promote and implement a tiered approach to habitat restoration efforts and funding to achieve maximum benefit for plan species. Prioritize restoration actions in the following order: 1) actions to address primary limiting factors in population areas with an independent coho salmon population; 2) actions to address primary limiting factors in other population areas; and 3) actions to address secondary limiting factors for all population areas.
- Within the Rogue and Coastal strata identify watersheds that will be key to supporting plan populations in the future, and focus habitat protection and restoration activities towards these watersheds.
- Consistent with ODFW's mission, policies, and laws, continue to coordinate with and advise other agencies, local governments, and regulatory entities to ensure that habitat protection processes and actions provide the best possible outcomes for native fish.
- Exhibit leadership in coordinating the implementation of actions to adapt to climate change.
- Encourage citizen involvement to help implement habitat protection and restoration actions.
- Promote beavers and beaver-related pond habitat to increase water quantity and stream complexity, primarily through riparian restoration and helping landowners learn to live with beaver impacts.

Key Actions

Habitat Access

In addition to removing priority barriers and installing fish screens at unscreened diversions:

- Report barrier-impacted stream miles and associated loss in fish production; document improvements during plan implementation.
- Work with partners to develop outreach materials and training on proper culvert sizing and construction for installers and the general public.
- Remove barriers to improve linear connectivity in small valley bottom streams where development constrains floodplain use or cost limits floodplain restoration opportunity.
- Work with community members to install and maintain temporary structures at barriers in urban areas, while working toward permanent passage improvements in the long-term.

Many of the actions listed above address multiple limiting factors. A full list of actions can be found in Table 10 of the plan, including important details and projects of interest. The combination of strategies and actions in the plan is a strong approach to addressing primary limiting factors, and a changing climate whose primary effect is to make these factors more severe for Oregon's native fish populations. Readers are encouraged to read the full list.

Water Quality and Quantity

In addition to working with partner organizations to purchase or temporarily lease water rights from willing sellers:

- Work with restoration practitioners to increase the scope and efficacy of riparian restoration. Prioritize streams where intact riparian habitat from forested reaches can continue down toward the valley bottom.
- Promote riparian protection through coordination with regulatory authorities to foster shade and future large woody debris for instream structure and floodplain connectivity.
- Promote beavers and beaver-related pond habitat to increase instream habitat; initiate beaver emphasis areas in targeted subbasins.
- Encourage citizens to become involved in all aspects of water conservation.
- Work with partners to identify and map cold-water refuges to help prioritize protection and restoration.
- Work with partners to implement pilot projects to increase streamflow and cool water input.

Instream Physical Habitat

- Continue and strengthen outreach on the importance of riparian vegetation to foster shade as well as future large woody debris for instream structure and floodplain connectivity.
- Implement actions to increase habitat structure/complexity identified in coho salmon strategic action plans (SAPs).

OTHER SPECIES

Steelhead, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout interact with other species in many ways. Interactions such as predation, competition, and food availability can potentially affect population status.

Competition and predation by non-native minnows (pikeminnow and redside shiners) are the only interactions with other species currently thought to be a limiting factor or potential limiting factor. Impacts from these non-native fish are strongly influenced by stream temperature, a synergy that could increase their impact in a warming climate.

Pinniped (seals and sea lions) and avian (fish-eating birds) predation is a source of mortality for all RSP species, but currently isn't a primary or secondary limiting factor for any population. The plan identifies research and monitoring actions to learn more about predation impacts and how they may change over time.

Predation impacts both the fishing experience and Oregon's investment in hatchery resources regardless of whether there are conservation impacts. The RSP supports the ongoing, successful program to reduce conflict between pinnipeds and anglers in the Rogue Bay and identifies additional actions to increase the program's effectiveness.

Strategies

- Provide support for programs that reduce conflict between predators and anglers.
- Assess predator impacts and feasibility of management options with an over-arching science approach across predators.
- Implement a strategic approach to reducing impacts from non-native minnows, with a focus on water quality to favor salmon and steelhead. Remove non-native minnows where possible to reduce impacts on native fish.
- Prohibit the introduction of non-native fin fish species into flowing waters, and develop and support programs designed to decrease illegal introductions of non-native species.

Key Actions

- Continue three-pronged approach to reduce pinniped-angler interaction in the Rogue Bay.
- Maintain pinniped research and monitoring; expand sampling to address uncertainties.
- Continue local (lower Rogue River and estuary) and coastwide avian predation monitoring.
- Remove fish passage barriers to reduce avian predation.
- Protect and restore riparian habitat to help keep streams cool.
- Survey the distribution and abundance of non-native fish.
- Encourage pikeminnow removal in the Rogue River by angling and explore feasibility of non-native fish removal using other techniques.

HATCHERIES

Hatchery fish are a very important component of fisheries, but interactions with hatchery fish can present a risk to wild fish through genetic interaction, competition, predation, and predator attraction.

Risk from hatchery programs is very low in the plan area and can be managed successfully to ensure hatchery programs don't negatively impact wild populations and continue to meet fishery augmentation or mitigation goals.

Most hatchery production (80 percent) in the RSP planning area is mitigation for wild production lost from construction of federal dams in the Rogue basin.

Strategies

- Manage hatchery programs to provide optimal harvest opportunities and meet mitigation goals while being consistent with desired status targets for wild populations.
- Manage hatchery programs to minimize risk to the long-term adaptive capacity of wild populations.
- Manage for wild fish emphasis or mixed emphasis in the appropriate Management Areas and obtain OFWC approval for starting new or eliminating existing hatchery programs in a Management Area relative to those in Table 14 of the RSP.

Key Actions

- Designate "Mixed Emphasis Areas" and "Wild Fish Emphasis Areas" to indicate where hatchery fish can and cannot be released (see plan for details).
- Establish smolt release targets and limits for pHOS in a population.
- Minimize risk from Rogue mitigation programs by promoting angler harvest of hatchery steelhead.
- Create a new acclimation site for the Chetco winter steelhead program.
- Create a new winter steelhead acclimation site at Jumpoff Joe Creek in the Middle Rogue.
- Increase Rogue coho salmon hatchery production by 25,000 smolts to improve fishing and support coho salmon monitoring.

Current and Proposed Steelhead and Coho Salmon Hatchery Programs

	Number of smolts stocked			Management Areas with Releases	
	Current	Proposed	%Change	Current	Proposed
Coastal Salmon					
Winter Steelhead	50,000	50,000*	0%	1	1
Rogue Stratum					
Winter Steelhead	313,000	313,000	0%	3	3
Summer Steelhead	220,000	220,000	0%	2	2
Coho Salmon	75,000	100,000	+33%	1	2
Total	608,000	633,000	+4%	3	3

* Release target may increase in the future if program remains within limits established in the plan.

FISHING

Angling regulations for wild steelhead, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout in RSP basins have changed significantly in the last 30 years, increasing protections for wild fish, addressing social concerns, and maintaining limited wild cutthroat and winter steelhead harvest opportunity.

Fishing actions identified in this plan build on that framework to address social and biological concerns to ensure the long-term conservation of each SMU.

Actions are intended to add to current proactive management in the face of climate change, consistent with ODFW's Climate and Ocean Change Policy.

Geography and remoteness of the Coastal Stratum of the RSP planning area has provided additional protection and limited angling opportunity to the majority of winter steelhead distribution open to angling.

Strategies

- Manage recreational fisheries to provide harvest and angling opportunities consistent with conservation of naturally produced steelhead, coho salmon and cutthroat trout, and achievement of desired status goals for each SMU.
- Manage fisheries proactively for the future and respond to changing environmental conditions.
- Collect appropriate data to manage wild fisheries.

Key Actions

Winter Steelhead

Implement a new Wild Winter Steelhead Angling Framework that meets the following criteria:

- Improves data on steelhead harvest through mandatory reporting.
- Establishes a season structure for the winter steelhead fishery.
- Tracks overall participation in the fishery, including catch and release angling.
- Improves management through increased monitoring.
- Establishes harvest rate limits for each population.
- Responds to variable and poor returns due to ocean and freshwater conditions (i.e., climate and ocean change).
- Provides a balanced angling opportunity that takes into consideration social concerns.

To meet these criteria, the Wild Winter Steelhead Angling Framework has several components:

1. NEW AUTHORIZATIONS

Two new authorizations (Rogue–South Coast Steelhead Validation and Rogue–South Coast Wild Steelhead Harvest Card) will allow overall fishery participation to be tracked, facilitate the collection of comprehensive harvest data, and generate funds for winter steelhead monitoring. Authorizations will be issued by winter steelhead return year (December-April).

2. NEW CONTROLS

Harvest rate limits for populations with wild steelhead harvest opportunity. **ODFW will track harvest rates using new adult monitoring and improved harvest data**.

Conservation thresholds that trigger changes in regulations to protect spawners when returns are expected to be low. **Forecasting and conservation status thresholds are based on ongoing monitoring and will allow proactive, stratum-specific action to reduce harvest impacts.**

Adjust regulations with environmental and social conditions. **Additional within-basin regulations to address site-specific environmental conditions, angling practices, and other unanticipated situations can be implemented**.

3. FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

Interim winter steelhead harvest regulations (see next item) will be implemented for five years following plan approval.

ODFW will initiate new winter steelhead population monitoring and harvest monitoring during this period.

After five years of plan implementation, ODFW will review monitoring results and revise angling regulations as needed to ensure consistency with harvest rate limits in the plan.

4. INTERIM HARVEST REGULATIONS

Proposed regulations maintain existing interim bag limits and set up a new season structure for winter steelhead fisheries.

Summer Steelhead

- Continue to prohibit harvest of wild summer steelhead.
- Consider limited wild harvest opportunity in the future if abundance increases and threats are reduced.

Coho Salmon

- Continue to prohibit harvest of wild coho salmon.
- Work with NMFS to consider limited wild harvest opportunity in the Rogue Basin in the future when conditions merit.

Cutthroat Trout

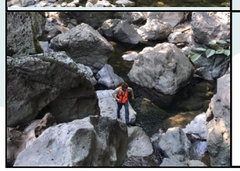
- Maintain current regulations that provide harvest opportunity in the Coastal Stratum and extra protection for juvenile steelhead in the Rogue Stratum.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Monitoring is intended to meet four primary needs:

- Provide information needed for harvest and hatchery management decisions.
- Track status of plan species based on specific, measurable criteria.
- Document changing climate and ocean conditions and resulting impacts on plan species.
- Gauge the success of management strategies to address limiting factors.

The following types of monitoring are proposed in the plan; some are currently occurring, and others are new. Monitoring methods vary among species and populations based on data needs.

MONITORING TYPE (OLIVE = NEW)		WHICH SPECIES WILL BE MONITORED?	WHAT METRICS WILL BE MONITORED?
	Spawning surveys	Winter steelhead Summer steelhead Coho salmon	Abundance
	Adult count stations Huntley Park seining Adult traps Sonar (see plan for details)	Winter steelhead Summer steelhead Half-pounder steelhead Coho salmon	Abundance
	Fishery monitoring Electronic Licensing Systems (ELS) Steelhead fishing authorization Creel surveys	Winter steelhead	Harvest Fishing effort
	Snorkel surveys	Winter steelhead Coho salmon Cutthroat trout	Juvenile abundance Distribution
	Habitat monitoring	All	Physical habitat Temperature Flow

Research actions identified in the RSP address the following needs:

- Reduce key uncertainties that limit ODFW's ability to assess status or management strategy effectiveness.
- Reduce key uncertainties in how plan species and their habitats respond to climate and ocean change.
- Investigate emerging monitoring techniques that can provide new or improved information compared to traditional methods.

OUTREACH/ENFORCEMENT

- Outreach is a critical component of RSP implementation.
- Outreach will be used to communicate plan outcomes as well as involve other entities and the public in actions that will have a real benefit to native fish and fisheries.
- Involve ODFW STEP volunteers and other partners in implementing monitoring, restoration, hatchery programs, and angler education.

Strategies

- Encourage angler stewardship to reduce impacts without adding layers of regulation, and increase cooperation with Oregon State Police (OSP) to help enforce existing regulations.
- Increase and diversify public participation in fishing and native fish conservation.
- Improve communication with the public; provide more information through more diverse avenues of communication and collect information to inform management.
- Encourage citizen involvement to help implement habitat protection and restoration actions, and encourage landowner participation in these critical actions.

Outreach/Enforcement Topics In The Plan

- Promoting angler stewardship through informational outreach.
- Distributing fish management information to the public.
- Promoting diversity in native fish conservation and fishing.
- Improving data collection from ODFW's Electronic Licensing System.
- Enlisting public help with enforcement.
- Developing enforcement expectations and targets.
- Habitat protection and restoration outreach.
- Plan implementation reporting.

FACILITIES

Facilities actions are primarily intended to foster and sustain fishing opportunity consistent with ODFW's mission and the Native Fish Conservation Policy.

- In this plan, facilities include infrastructure such as hatcheries and boat ramps, and sites that may have little or no development but provide access to fisheries.
- Many actions require partnerships with other agencies or entities to implement, and most will require additional funding.

Strategies

- Invest in infrastructure that best supports ODFW's mission.
- Develop and maintain public access to increase fishing opportunity and improve angler experience.

Key Actions

- Upgrade Rogue mitigation hatchery infrastructure.
- Improve several existing access sites and boat ramps.
- Maintain and improve bank fishing access.
- Pursue opportunities to establish new access sites for the public.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Monitoring is key to successfully implementing the RSP. Ongoing and new monitoring will:

- Inform management decisions.
- Provide data for future status assessments.
- Allow for adaptive management of wild and hatchery fish.
- Determine if management goals (e.g. harvest and pHOS limits) are being met.
- Measure progress in maintaining or achieving desired status.

Monitoring results will be reported yearly and will help inform future plan assessments, which will occur every 12 years. Post-plan returns will begin around 2025.

Implementation costs:

- ODFW's base budget supports most RSP implementation, excluding habitat restoration and protection actions, many of which will require external coordination and funding.
- New funding sources for one-time or annual costs are also needed for some Hatchery, Research and Monitoring, Outreach/Enforcement, and Facilities actions.

How Will The Plan Be Used? The RSP will:

- Inform local management decisions.
- Inform adaptive management to meet plan goals.
- Inform ODFW's budget process.
- Provide guidance to other agencies and organizations conducting habitat restoration and protection on public and private lands.
- Guide project prioritization to improve wild fish conservation and fishing opportunities.
- Provide comprehensive information and assurances on fish management direction.

ODFW will report annually on RSP implementation and conduct a comprehensive status assessment in 12 years. This assessment will determine if the status of any of the four SMUs has changed and if additional or modified actions are needed to meet RSP goals.

Outlook

The desired status for each species is ambitious, especially given climate and ocean change projections. Achieving desired status will require improvements in habitat, proper stewardship in the management of fisheries and hatchery programs, and hard work to address other risks the fish face. It will require cooperation and dedication from all parties interested in salmon, steelhead and trout to reach these goals.

Fortunately, there is a long track record of citizens in Oregon, and the Rogue–South Coast area in particular, working together to restore fish and their habitats. If this can be maintained and increased, the ambitious goals in this plan can be achieved, and Oregonians for many generations can benefit from all that healthy salmon, steelhead, and trout populations provide.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
(ALPHABETICAL)

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Scott Patterson
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Pete Samarin
Laura Street
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Mark Vargas
Micki Varney
Angela Ward
John Weber
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Kara Wymore

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ INDIANS

COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE

COW CREEK BAND OF UMPQUA TRIBE OF INDIANS

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS)

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