

## Agenda Item Summary

### BACKGROUND

The *Coastal Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* (CMP) describes the conservation status and management actions for several species of salmonids on the Oregon coast, and is intended to secure their sustainability and contribution to fisheries into the future. This plan is guided by Oregon's Native Fish Conservation Policy and includes opportunities to maintain or strengthen overall conservation of native fish and coastal fisheries.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has completed development of this draft CMP with support and input from four Stratum Stakeholder Teams, Public and Angler Opinion Surveys, a Hatchery Technical Work Group, the Independent Multi-Disciplinary Science Team, and the public. The CMP covers conservation and management for six Species Management Units (SMUs) of salmon, steelhead and trout along the Oregon Coast from Cape Blanco to Seaside (see Attachment 2, especially the Executive Summary Attachment 2a). Management actions for four categories of limiting factors (hatcheries, harvest, predation, and habitat) are described for the conservation of Chinook, Spring Chinook, chum, winter steelhead, summer steelhead, and cutthroat trout. In addition, actions to manage fishery opportunities are included in the CMP.

The draft CMP is being presented to the Commission at the April 25, 2014 Commission meeting as an informational briefing and to provide additional opportunity for public input. The Commission will consider approving the final CMP at the June 5-6, 2014 Commission meeting in Salem, including associated Administrative Rules, modifications to existing Basin Plan Administrative Rules, and deferred angling regulations in the CMP area.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The draft CMP being presented to the Commission for review ("Commission Draft"; Attachments 2a-e) is the third draft of the CMP. This draft takes into account considerable public comment obtained through a formal public comment process (comments from this process are included in Attachments 2d and 2e). Public input was also key to developing the first two drafts of the CMP. The first draft ("Stakeholder/Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) Review Draft") was developed with four Stakeholder Teams, a Habitat Technical Work Group (HTWG), a public and angler opinion survey, and public input (though not through a formal public comment process). The first draft was reviewed by the Stakeholder Teams and IMST, as well as others. Review comments and discussions were used to develop the second draft of the CMP ("Public Draft"), which is the draft that underwent the formal public review in order to develop the Commission Draft. Changes made to the draft CMP between the Public Draft and the Commission Draft are identified (Attachment 3). More details on the development process follow.

The draft CMP development process has included a significant amount of public involvement. The first public nexus for the CMP was through a new ODFW web page dedicated to the plan ([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal\\_multispecies.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal_multispecies.asp)). This website gives an overview of the plan and development process, has documents and news releases associated with the plan, and has information on all of the meetings so members of the public and interested parties could attend.

Four Stratum Stakeholder Teams (North Coast, Mid-Coast, Umpqua, and Mid-South Coast) were recruited to help the State of Oregon develop the CMP. Teams consisted of 10 to 12 members (excluding alternates). Representatives from agriculture, conservation/recreation groups, fishing groups, guides, STEP groups, forestry, local governments, Native American Tribes, and watershed councils were on the Teams and provided their input throughout the development of the Plan, which began in August, 2012. The Stakeholders met numerous times and provided comments on two drafts of the CMP (i.e., the Stakeholder/IMST Review draft and the Public Review Draft). A majority of team members approved the management actions that were presented in the Public Draft CMP.

A Habitat Technical Work Group (HTWG) was convened to provide initial feedback on habitat components and strategies in the CMP. Two meetings of the HTWG were conducted in November 2012 to receive input on what analyses the CMP should include to help prioritize habitat actions and projects and to identify what other habitat assessments and prioritizations are already in use. Members included Stakeholder Team representatives, watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, tribes, state and federal agencies and land managers, forest and agricultural landowners, and others.

In addition to the Stakeholder Teams process, the Department contracted with the Oregon State University Survey Research Center to help develop and implement both a Public Opinion Survey and an Angler Opinion Survey (Attachment 2c). Information from the surveys helped the Department and Stakeholder Teams develop goals and actions defined in the draft CMP.

The IMST is a scientific review panel charged with advising the State of Oregon on matters of science related to the *Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds*. The IMST provided a comprehensive review of the first CMP draft, with numerous suggestions that were used to inform both the Public Draft and Commission Draft of the CMP. However, it is significant to note that IMST had *no formal recommendations* regarding the CMP in their review. Recommendations are the mechanism that requires state agencies to formally respond to their comments if they have serious concerns. IMST's review and ODFW's informal response are included (Attachment 4).

ODFW has sought broad involvement and input from the general public on the CMP, with ongoing public information about its development and opportunities for comment via the website, an e-mail distribution list maintained by staff, a separate e-mail notification list associated with the website, numerous meetings with interested groups and individuals throughout the entire process, a formal public comment period on the Public Draft of the CMP (described below), and participation in Commission proceedings.

The Public Draft of the CMP was posted on the Department's website on January 3, 2014 for 66 days of public review and comment (through March 10, 2014). Public comments were received by mail and email. In addition, six public open house meetings were held in Salem, Tillamook, Newport, Roseburg, North Bend, and Reedsport to describe the draft CMP, allow for public comment and seek public participation in implementing the CMP. Comments received on the Public Draft CMP through mail, email and in-person at the open houses is presented and summarized in the Facilitator's Report (Attachments 2d and 2e). Comments on the Public Draft CMP were used to revise the draft CMP being presented to the Commission (Commission Draft). Changes made to the draft CMP between the Public Draft and the Commission Draft are identified (Attachment 3).

Public review and comment on the draft CMP will also be accepted prior to, and during, the Commission meetings where it is presented (April 25 and June 5-6, 2014).

**ISSUE 1**  
**ANALYSIS**

**COASTAL MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION AND  
MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP) – COMMISSION DRAFT**

This agenda item summary does not go into details of the draft CMP because the attached Executive Summary of the CMP fulfills this need (Attachment 2a). The CMP covers the management of salmon, steelhead and trout populations from the Necanicum River (near Seaside) south to the Elk River (near Port Orford) and all streams in between. The species management units covered in the plan are Chinook salmon (spring-, summer-, and fall-run), spring Chinook, winter steelhead, summer steelhead, chum salmon, and coastal cutthroat trout. Coho salmon, the only additional anadromous salmonid in this area, already has an approved conservation plan in place. With the completion of this plan, along with the six conservation and recovery plans already adopted for other species and locations, the Department is approaching having conservation plans in place for all salmon and steelhead in Oregon. Consistent with the Native Fish Conservation Policy, the CMP attempts to provide a diverse portfolio of angling opportunities along the majority of the Oregon Coast that balances the need to provide harvest opportunities with the need to ensure the long-term conservation of Oregon's wild salmon, steelhead and trout, of which many of these fisheries rely on.

The operating assumptions that directed the development of the CMP's management actions were based on the Department's technical assessment of the status of and threats to the various species and populations. The operating assumptions were:

- Except chum, there currently is no conservation or fishing crisis
- A "portfolio" approach will be used to identify both wild and hatchery emphasis areas
- The outcome of the actions identified in the CMP should specifically address limiting factors for populations that are not currently viable and overall provide a little more conservation and fishing opportunity than under current management
- Hatcheries and harvest create conservation risk, but are vital to provide fishing opportunities
- New programs will require new funding and support
- Predators can be a risk to both conservation and fishing
- The fishes' habitat is important and location-specific actions will be determined by local entities during implementation
- Adaptive management is required to ensure the objectives of the CMP are met

The Department, with considerable help and support from the Stakeholder Teams, used the operating assumptions to develop management actions in the draft CMP to address hatcheries (both risks and opportunities), harvest (both risks and opportunities), predation, and habitat. The CMP includes specific actions designed to help non-viable populations become viable. Overall, the CMP does not propose major reductions in hatcheries or harvest, and identifies a few new programs that will need additional funding and support to implement. In addition, the draft CMP identifies a strategy for how monitoring in the planning area should be structured and will be used to collect the information needed to determine progress towards the desired status of more robust salmon, steelhead and trout populations throughout all of the species management units.

## **ISSUE 2**

### **ANALYSIS**

#### **DEFERRED ANGLING REGULATIONS FROM 2012 PUBLIC REGULATION PROCESS AND 2013 ODFW UPDATE PROCESS**

In 2012, the Department undertook the quadrennial process to solicit public proposals for angling regulations across the state. Because the CMP planning process was already underway in 2012 and also covered the subsequent annual angling regulation update in 2013, the Department decided to defer any proposed regulations (from the public or staff) for the CMP planning area until the CMP was adopted to ensure they would be consistent with the plan.

All of the public and staff angling proposals were reviewed by Department planners after the management strategies for the draft CMP were finalized to determine each proposal's consistency with the management direction of the CMP (Attachment 5). At the June 5-6, 2014 Commission meeting, the Department will be bringing to the Commission those deferred regulation proposals that were found to be consistent with

the management strategies in the CMP for consideration to adopt.

**OPTIONS**

Provide direction to staff regarding the draft CMP's content or process, or deferred angling regulations.

**STAFF  
RECOMMENDATION**

Not applicable

<b>DRAFT MOTION</b>	Not applicable.
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	Not applicable.