

**Exhibit B**  
**Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and  
Management Plan**

**Amended Agenda Item Summary  
December 17, 2021**

Replaces Pg 4 – removed “(Represents alternative 1A of attachment 4)”; added “(Use if all the staff recommended alternatives in Attachment 4 are chosen)”



## **AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

### *Amended Attachment 1*

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) provided an informational briefing on a draft of the *Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan (RSP)* to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) at its October 15, 2021 meeting. The Department provided additional information about the draft plan to the Commission at a special Commission meeting on October 25, 2021. The RSP will serve as a State of Oregon Conservation Plan consistent with requirements of Oregon’s Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP).

The Department is presenting the final draft of the RSP and several additional Commission-requested management alternatives to the Commission for review and approval. The Department is also presenting administrative rules associated with the RSP for adoption by the Commission.

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

There has been extensive public involvement in the development of the RSP. This involvement has been provided through:

- A Rogue-South Coast angler survey conducted by the Department.
- A website ([https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/rogue\\_south\\_coast\\_multi-species\\_conservation%20and%20Management\\_plan.asp](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/rogue_south_coast_multi-species_conservation%20and%20Management_plan.asp)).
- Two stakeholder teams that helped develop consensus management actions.
- A habitat work group that provided feedback on habitat components and strategies.
- Coordination with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries) prior to and following development of the first full draft.
- Coordination with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Coquille Indian Tribe, and Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians to seek review and feedback prior to developing the first full draft and following subsequent drafts.
- Stakeholder review and comments on the first full draft and subsequent drafts.
- Science review by two independent reviewers.
- A public written comment period.
- Three public open house meetings held in Gold Beach, Grants Pass, and virtually during the public comment period.
- Numerous meetings with individuals and organizations.
- Numerous news releases that announced opportunities for public participation and comment.
- Public comment prior to and at the October 15, 2021 Commission briefing.
- A special Commission meeting on October 25, 2021 to discuss the draft plan and alternative management actions.

In addition, public review and comment on the final draft of the RSP will be accepted prior to, and during, the December 16-17, 2021 Commission meeting, when the RSP will be presented to the Commission for final approval as a state conservation and management plan.

## **ISSUE 1**

Approval of RSP, with possible management action alternative selection

## **ANALYSIS**

The RSP is the State of Oregon’s working document that describes the status and identifies management actions that the Department will implement for the conservation and utilization of winter steelhead, summer steelhead, coho salmon, and coastal cutthroat trout along the Oregon coast from the Elk River to the Winchuck River, including the Rogue Basin. As with other conservation plans approved by the Commission, the RSP includes a detailed blueprint for implementation and adaptive management.

The RSP was modified slightly after the October Commission meetings. The revisions made to the plan and presented in the final draft (Attachment 3) include correcting typographical and grammatical errors; removing language indicative of a draft plan under development; adding clarifying text on a few topics, including the adaptive management process for plan implementation, the timeframe for evaluating the percentage of all naturally spawning fish that are of hatchery origin (PHOS) and potential impacts to other native fish species; and adding Appendix VII.

The Department also developed management action alternatives for specific topics from the draft RSP based on direction from the Commission at the October 25, 2021 special Commission meeting. Attachment 4 details management action alternatives for these topics:

1. Wild fish emphasis areas and mixed emphasis areas
2. Rogue coho salmon hatchery release
3. Winter steelhead interim bag limits and conservation status thresholds

The final approved RSP will include any necessary changes to the final draft (Attachment 3) based on Commission direction regarding management action alternatives in Attachment 4. Attachment 4 also contains a table summarizing management triggers in the plan and associated actions. This table will be added to the final RSP as a new appendix.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Approve the final draft RSP (Attachment 3).
2. Approve the final draft RSP (Attachment 3), but with certain alternative management actions (per Attachment 4).
3. Approve the final draft RSP (Attachment 3) with other modifications.

4. Do not approve the final draft RSP and maintain *status quo*.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option 1.

## ISSUE 2

Adopt administrative rules to direct the Department's implementation of the RSP

## ANALYSIS

The proposed administrative rules for the RSP (OAR 635-500-6785; Attachment 5) are consistent with the plan and were developed to codify the overarching framework for the RSP, direct how the Department implements the RSP, and ensure consistency with the NFCP. Certain portions of the RSP are incorporated directly or by reference into the rules.

Note that if Alternative 2 for the management action associated with wild fish emphasis areas and mixed emphasis areas in Attachment 4 is selected, the alternative text in Attachment 6 for the hatchery fish management strategy identified in OAR 635-500-6785(6)(c)(C) (Attachment 5) should be adopted. Other management action alternatives in Attachment 4 would not affect proposed administrative rules.

Note also that the RSP also has bearing on angling regulations that the Commission adopts. Specifically, the plan identifies changes in winter steelhead angling seasons (as detailed in Table 17 of Attachment 3). These angling regulation changes will be brought to the Commission for adoption into rule within the regular, annual angling regulation process. Additionally, if the Commission selects Alternative 2 for interim wild winter steelhead bag limits (catch and release; see Attachment 4), the Department will develop a temporary rule to implement this regulation change for the current (2021-22) winter steelhead fishing season.

## OPTIONS

1. Adopt administrative rules as proposed by staff in OAR 635-500-6785 of Attachment 5 to govern implementation of the RSP.
2. Adopt administrative rules as proposed by staff in OAR 635-500-6785 of Attachment 5, as modified per Attachment 6 to incorporate Alternative 2 of Attachment 4 for the management action associated with wild fish emphasis areas and mixed emphasis areas.
3. Modify and adopt alternative administrative rules as directed by the Commission.
4. Do not adopt administrative rules and maintain *status quo*.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option 1. (Use if all the staff recommended alternatives in Attachment 4 are chosen)

**DRAFT MOTION:** I move to approve the final draft of the *Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* as contained in Attachment 3 and adopt the Oregon Administrative Rule for the *Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* as proposed by staff in Attachment 5.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Administrative Rules will be effective when filed with the Secretary of State.

### **Alternative Draft Motion.**

(Use if anything other than the staff recommended alternatives in Attachment 4 are chosen)

I move to approve the final draft of the *Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* as contained in Attachment 3 but modified consistent with decisions made about alternatives in Attachment 4 that are not staff recommendations.

In addition, I further move to adopt the Oregon Administrative Rule for the *Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* as proposed by staff in Attachment 5.

**[If the Commission selects Alternative 2 for the management action associated with wild fish emphasis areas and mixed emphasis areas, then the latter motion should be modified to state instead:**

In addition, I further move to adopt the Oregon Administrative Rule for the *Rogue–South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* as proposed by staff in Attachment 5 but with changes as outlined in Attachment 6.]

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Administrative Rules will be effective when filed with the Secretary of State.