

**Oregon Hatchery Research Center  
Advisory Committee Member Report**

Science-at-Large  
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As a new member of the Oregon Hatchery Research Center's Advisory Committee (OHRC AC), I will be representing "Science-at-large". I see my role on the Advisory Committee as bi-directional with regards to disseminating science. Specifically, I hope to bring relevant studies or findings to the OHRC AC's attention, but also make the larger scientific community aware of on-going or proposed studies at the OHRC.

I intend to accomplish this dual role largely through my work at, and affiliation with, Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC), where I have been employed since 2004. As an active member of the HMSC community, I attend many (and give a few) science talks, some of which cover topics of interest to the OHRC AC. I have also been employed as a research fisheries biologist at NOAA Fisheries Service's since 1992, working at the Seattle office before moving to Newport. Through my work, I am aware of studies that may be of interest to the OHRC AC and will bring them to the Committee's attention. Hopefully this dual role will prove satisfactory to the OHRC AC.

My work at the Northwest Fisheries Science Center has been extremely varied. I was originally hired as an estuarine and nearshore ecologist. Beginning in 1994, however, I became the leader of West Coast coho salmon status review, which provided the scientific basis for U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA) listings of coho salmon. Although the major effort of defining conservation units (Evolutionarily Significant Units or ESUs) and initial risk assessments has been completed, I continue to be involved with re-evaluating the status of listed ESUs and the technical aspects of recovery, particularly Oregon Coast coho salmon. I also serve on the Pacific Salmon Commission's Coho Technical Workgroup, which ensures equitable management of coho salmon between the U.S. and Canada.

On the research side, I am involved with a large study looking at juvenile salmon immediately after they enter the ocean. This early ocean period is a "critical period" when mortality rates are high, and our project has greatly increased understanding of conditions that are favorable (or unfavorable) for the survival of salmon. As part of this larger project, I run a field project that samples juvenile salmon and associated fish community in the Columbia River estuary, just before the salmon enter the ocean. By comparing the condition of juvenile salmon (primarily coho, steelhead and yearling Chinook salmon) immediately before and after they enter the ocean, we can better understand patterns of ocean entry and the factors that likely influence survival during this critical period.