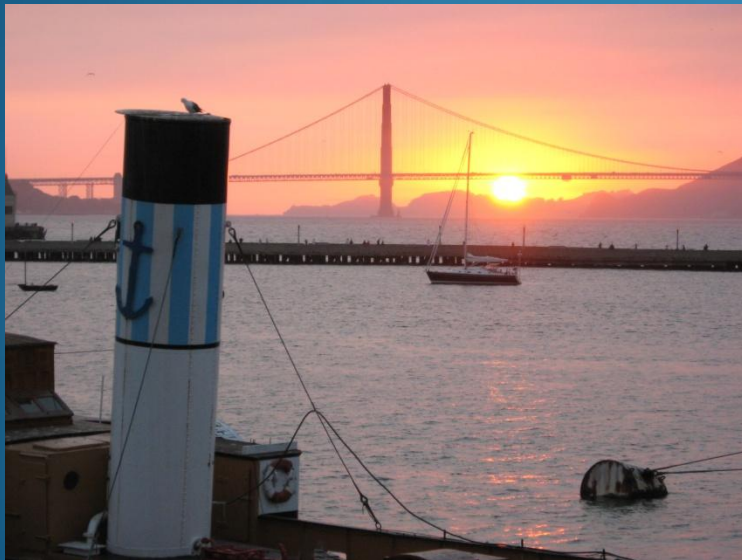


Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership



NFHAP Board Update
October 13, 2010
Portland, OR

Dan Shively (USFWS)
Korie Schaeffer (NOAA Fisheries)

Partnership History

- Formation of partnership ongoing since 2008, when participants from the states of OR, WA, and CA inspired a marine and estuarine focused Fish Habitat Partnership (FHP) along the Pacific Coast.
- Received “candidate” status as a FHP by the NFHAP Board in late 2009.
- Partnership interest has grown from inception to present; and now includes state of Alaska, tribal governments, and non-governmental collaborators.



Partnership Development in 2010

- Held 2-day workshop in Portland, OR; May 2010.
- 48 participants attended, representatives from:

Alaska Dept. Fish & Game	Northwest Sportfishing Industry Assoc.	The Freshwater Trust
Col. River Intertribal Fish Com.	Northwest Straits Com.	The Nature Conservancy
Coquille Indian Tribe	Oregon Dept. Fish & Wildlife	The Wetlands Conservancy
Ducks Unlimited	Oregon Governor's Office (representing West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health)	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Hoopa Tribe	Oregon Watershed Enh. Board	Washington Dept. of Ecology
Inst. For Fisheries Resources	Pacific Coast Joint Venture	Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Makah Tribe	Pacific Fishery Mgmt. Council	Western Native Trout Initiative
Marine Cons. Biology Inst.	Pacific States Marine Fish. Com.	Wild Salmon Center
Nat'l Fish & Wildlife Found.	People for Puget Sound	Yurok Tribe
Nat'l Wildlife Federation	S. Slough Nat'l Est. Research Res.	
NOAA Fisheries & NOAA Restoration Center	Surfrider Foundation	Note: CA state agencies not represented.

Goals for 2-Day Partnership Meeting

1. Further define the partnership – its relevance and purpose.
2. Determine the partnership's niche – answer: *“How can this new partnership aid other ongoing partnership efforts?”*
“What can it accomplish that others cannot?”
3. Develop a mission statement with goals and objectives that articulate the breadth and scope of the partnership.
4. Review completed broad-scale scientific assessments likely to contribute towards identifying critical marine and estuarine areas to focus conservation and restoration efforts.
5. Define the geographic scope for the partnership.
6. Begin prioritizing needs for initial work.
7. Establish an organizational and governance structure.



Draft Vision

Enhance native fish populations and improve resiliency of estuarine and marine ecosystems along the Pacific Coast through priority habitat conservation work, including protection, restoration and enhancement activities.

Draft Mission



Identify science-based regional priorities for estuarine and marine habitat conservation along the Pacific Coast and protect, restore and enhance habitats in these areas by coordinating, expanding, strengthening, and supporting local partnerships and habitat conservation efforts.



Geographic Focus Options Considered

Vertical (Latitudinal) Options	Horizontal (Longitudinal) Options
1. CA, OR, WA (not including Puget Sound)	A. Estuaries only
2. CA, OR, WA (including Puget Sound)	B. Estuaries and Nearshore
3. CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), S.E. AK	C. Inland, Estuaries, Nearshore
4. northern Baja CA, CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), British Columbia, S.E. AK	D. Inland, Estuaries, Nearshore, Pelagic
5. CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), AK (whole coast)	E. Estuaries, Nearshore, Pelagic
6. northern Baja CA, CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), AK (whole coast)	



Geographic Focus

Polling Results

Vertical (Latitudinal) Options	Results	Horizontal (Longitudinal) Options	Results
1. CA, OR, WA (not including P. S.)	11%	A. Estuaries only	3%
2. CA, OR, WA (including P. S.)	25%	B. Estuaries and Nearshore	46%
3. CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), S.E. AK	18%	C. Inland, Estuaries, Nearshore	18%
4. northern Baja CA, CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), B. C., S.E. AK	43%	D. Inland, Estuaries, Nearshore, Pelagic	11%
5. CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), AK (whole coast)	3%	E. Estuaries, Nearshore, Pelagic	22%
6. northern Baja CA, CA, OR, WA (including P. S.), AK (whole coast)	0%		



Geographic Focus

Polling results indicate the partnership favors a geographic scope extending along the Pacific Coast from northern Baja to S.E. Alaska, including British Columbia; and would focus on the full assemblage of estuarine and nearshore, marine fish and aquatic species.

Not a salmon-focused partnership.



Workshop Information

Information from the workshop is posted on PSMFC's web site at: <http://www.psmfc.org/habitat/pmefhp.html> and includes:

- Presentations regarding habitat assessments
- Presentations about the National Habitat Action Plan
- Presentations about other partnerships
- Notes from discussion of priority focus areas for partnership work
- Notes from discussion of geographic scope
- Working documents regarding draft structure of group

What Have We Done Since the Workshop?

- NOAA Fisheries entered into an Agreement (\$50k) with The Nature Conservancy to hire a part-time coordinator.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Region 1) will match commitment in FY2011.
- Working on confirming the Interim Steering Committee

Interim Steering Committee Representation

NGOs

The Nature Conservancy
Pacific Coast Joint Venture
Surfrider
Marine Conservation Biology Inst.

States

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Dept. of Ecology
National Estuarine Research Reserve
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Com.

Tribal

Coquille Tribe
Yurok Tribe
NW Indian Fish Comm.

Federal

NOAA Fisheries
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Next Steps

Resource Assessment – use existing efforts to evaluate conditions, threats, and opportunities

- NFHAP Coastal Assessment
- TNC Marine Assessment
- TNC West Coast Estuary Assessment
- PRBO California Current Assessment
- Other efforts ...



Next Steps

Initiate Strategic Planning – engage the Steering Committee participants to:

- Further refine the geographic focus – identify sub-regions, start in U.S., and build out to Mexico and Canada.
- Refine the partnership's Vision and Mission.
- Identify priority habitats/threats to address (e.g., seagrass, marine debris, invasive species, areas of high ecological integrity for protection and conservation)
- Develop goals, objectives, and measurable actions based on focus habitats/threats/needs.

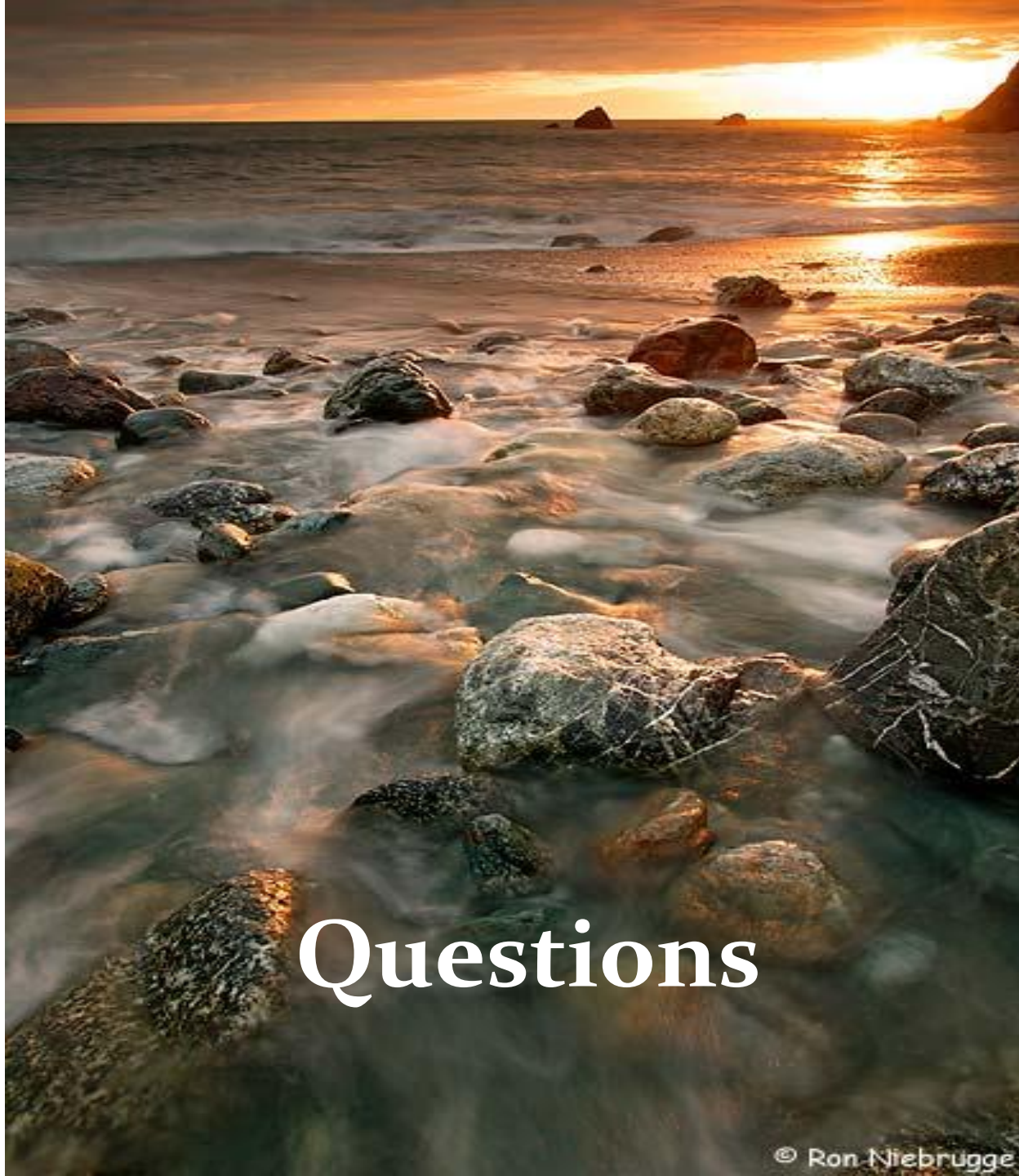
Next Steps

Establish a Communication Plan – to coordinate over the large geographic area and with other neighboring or overlapping FHPs.

Prepare Application for FHP Recognition

Develop application for PME FHP formal recognition:

- Goal is to submit application by September 30, 2011.
- Incorporate existing science-based resource assessments to define priority habitats & threats that tier to goals, objectives, and measurable actions that address these.



Questions