**Abstract – Washington State steelhead status review 2016**

Jeremy Cram, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

 Washington State includes 7 steelhead DPSs and 117 individual populations. The two coastal DPSs are not listed for protection under the ESA, but all other DPSs are considered threatened. The WDFW is developing a product that will: 1) assess the status of WA populations, 2) identify populations at the highest risk of extinction, and 3) identify DPS- and population-level management actions that will improve steelhead status. Of the 117 populations, only 65% have adequate data to assess abundance trends. Of those, populations in the Columbia River basin had generally increased in abundance since 1980, whereas populations on the coast and in Puget Sound have declined or remained stable. Despite recent population growth for Columbia River steelhead populations most have not achieved delisting goals. There are numerous threats and risks associated with the viability of steelhead populations across the state. We identify nearly ubiquitous threats like hatchery programs and habitat degradation as well as more locally-specific threats related to water management in the interior Columbia River basin and unnaturally high stray rates of Middle Columbia and Snake River DPS fish that is linked to adult passage problems at Snake River dams. Finally, we offer suggested management actions that may help reduce the magnitude of key threats and increase the viability of steelhead throughout the state of Washington.