Hatchery Reform Minimizing Adverse Effects

NOAA Fisheries
Northwest Region
Salmon Management Division
August 20, 2012



Columbia River Basin

- 80 hatchery facilities in Columbia basin
- 178 hatchery programs in Columbia basin
- 48 along the Oregon coast; 7 in the Willamette
- Annual hatchery production of around 144 million juvenile salmon and steelhead



Figure 1-3. Hatcheries and facilities in the Columbia and Snake River basins.

Puget Sound

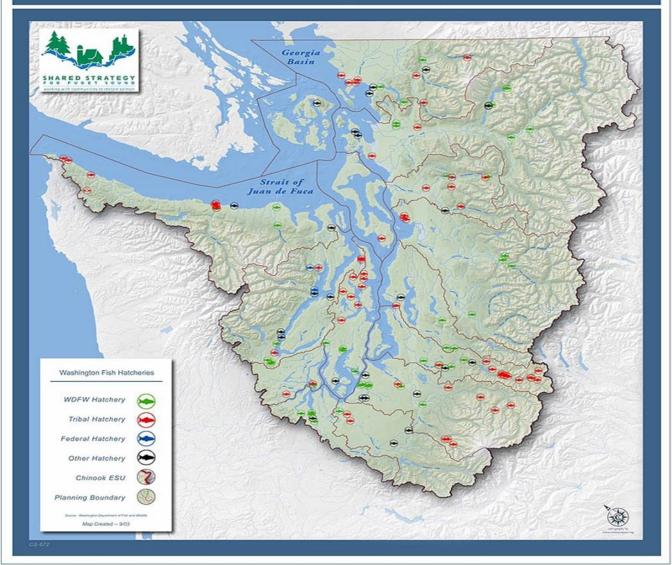
• 50 hatcheries and 11 net pens in Puget Sound

• 144 hatchery programs in Puget Sound.

 Annual hatchery production of around 144 million juvenile salmon and steelhead



Hatchery Locations in the Shared Strategy Planning Area





Klamath-Trinity/Central Valley

- Two hatcheries in Klamath/Trinity
 - Seven hatchery programs in K/T
 - 9 million chinook released
- Six hatcheries in the Central Valley
 - Twelve hatchery programs in CV
 - 32 million chinook released
- 50 million salmon and steelhead released in California



Hatchery Reform under the HSRG:

- Broodstock Management
- Minimize Ecological Interactions
 - Environmental Compliance



Hatchery Reform under the ESA:

NMFS 2011, after summarizing the science: "Hatchery fish thus pose a threat . . . "

- "Risk is outweighed" when population size critically small.
- "Extent and duration of genetic change" is uncertain.
- "Hatchery intervention is a legitimate and useful tool," but minimize adverse effects.
- Transition from current practices to those "consistent with recovery, implementation of treaty rights and in harmony with other applicable laws and policies."



Hatchery Reform under the ESA:

"If you produce them, you own their effects."

- Identify the effects
 - Minimize
- Create "transition strategy" from status quo
 - Spell it out in an HGMP



Hatchery Genetic Management Plan The "Spell it out" Document

- Purpose: Conservation or Harvest.
- Performance objectives and measures.
- Account for genetic and ecological effects on natural populations, particularly from straying.
- Tight criteria for collection of natural broodstock.
- Effects of subsequent harvest, good and bad.
- Monitor and evaluate the program, including the disposition of all adults.

NEPA Madness

- Federal Actions, including most ESA hatchery determinations, must comply with the NEPA.
 - Columbia River Hatchery EIS Final EIS, Spring 2013
 - Puget Sound Hatchery EIS Draft EIS, Spring 2013



The NEPA Pivot

in the Northwest:

- Prior to 2011, Columbia R. Hatchery EIS (Mitchell Act) and Puget Sound EIS were to *PRECEDE* ESA determinations.
- Beginning in 2011: First in First out;
 EAs to be followed by big EIS.

ESA Hatchery Consultations/Reform in the Northwest Region

