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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 16, 2008

NOAA Announces Workshops to Get Public Input on Proposed Columbia River Estuary Module

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service has scheduled two community workshops so people can learn more about the proposed Columbia River Estuary Module and provide comments on it:

- Astoria, Ore., Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2008, 6 - 9 p.m., Columbia River Maritime Museum, 1792 Marine Drive
- Vancouver, Wash., Thursday, Jan. 31, 2008, 6 - 8:30 p.m., Water Resources Education Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way

The proposed *Columbia River Estuary Recovery Plan Module for Salmon and Steelhead* will be the basis of estuary recovery actions for Endangered Species Act-listed salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin. Recovery plans for these fish will incorporate the module by reference. The goal of the module is to identify management actions that, if implemented, would improve the survival of ESA-listed salmon and steelhead during their migration and rearing in the estuary and Columbia River plume. The module identifies and prioritizes limiting factors in the estuary—physical, chemical, or biological habitat features that affect the viability of salmon and steelhead populations. The module then identifies 23 broad actions whose implementation would reduce the threats and thus increase survival of salmon and steelhead during their time in the estuary. It's important to have a unified set of actions for the Columbia River estuary to address the needs of all ESA-listed Columbia Basin salmon and steelhead populations.

For more details on the proposed estuary module, see the Web at:

<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Salmon-Recovery-Planning/ESA-Recovery-Plans/Estuary-Module.cfm>

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