



# Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force

*Working to Restore Anadromous Fish in the Klamath River Basin*

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JUL 15 2004

California Commercial  
Salmon Fishing Industry

California Department  
of Fish and Game

California In-River Sport  
Fishing Community

Del Norte County

Hoopa Valley Tribe

Humboldt County

Karuk Tribe

Klamath County

Klamath Tribes

National Marine Fisheries Service

Oregon Department  
of Fish and Wildlife

Siskiyou County

Trinity County

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of the Interior

Yurok Tribe

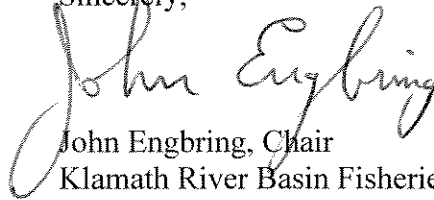
**Subject: Revisions to the Long Range Plan of the Klamath River Basin  
Conservation Area Restoration Program**

Dear Interested Parties:

This letter is to provide 2004 revisions to the Long Range Plan of the Klamath River Basin Conservation Area Restoration Program, originally approved by the Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force (Task Force) in 1991. In 1999, the Task Force commissioned Kier and Associates to prepare a Mid-term Evaluation of the Program to restore anadromous fisheries of the Klamath River. The Task Force reviewed and adopted some of the recommendations contained in this evaluation and responded by providing revisions to the Step-Down Structure of the Restoration Program's Long Range Plan in Chapter 8 of the Plan. Attached here are two addenda to the Long Range Plan that identify the Task Force approved revisions to the Long Range Plan. Addendum 1 is a list of the changes to the Step-Down Structure that were approved by the Task Force. Addendum 2 shows the new, edited Step-Down Structure with these changes incorporated. These addenda should be inserted in the Long Range Plan in Chapter 8 starting at page 8-7 to create an updated version of the Long Range Plan.

If you have any questions concerning these addenda or the process whereby the Long Range Plan has been updated, please contact Laurie Simons at the Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office, (530) 842-5763.

Sincerely,



John Engbring, Chair  
Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force

Enclosures (2)

**Addendum 1 to the Long Range Plan of the Klamath River Basin Conservation Area  
Restoration Program  
LONG RANGE PLAN REVISIONS  
April 29, 2004**

The Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force (Task Force) reviewed recommendations from the Mid-term Evaluation of the Klamath River Basin Conservation Area Restoration Program, dated April 1999, during some of its regularly scheduled meetings from October 15, 1999, through February 16, 2004. Below are recommended changes to the Objectives in the Step-down Structure of the Restoration Program's Long Range Plan (Chapter 8 of the Long Range Plan) that were adopted by the Task Force during these meetings. The page numbers provided after each are pages within the Mid-term Evaluation where the topics are discussed.

**I. Changes to Objective 2.A:**

**Change Objective 2.A.1.d to:**

Promote the use of KRIS for data storing and sharing. (Page 3-37)

**Change Objective 2.A.2.b to:**

Work to keep fish population data current and available. (Page 3-21)

**Add as Objective 2.A.2.c:**

Continue to use erosion potential surveys to help prioritize abatement projects. (Page 3-22)

**Change Objective 2.A.3 to:**

The Task Force should encourage sub-basin interests to work proactively with the EPA and SWRCB to meet TMDL objectives instead of seeking an enforcement solution. (Page 3-13)

**II. Changes to Objective 2.E:**

**Change Objective 2.E.1.a to:**

Support studies to evaluate spawning and rearing habitat above Iron Gate Dam. (Page 3-25)

**Change Objective 2.E.1b to:**

Pursue funding through FERC to monitor water quality above, within and below Copco and Iron Gate Dams. (Page 3-26)

**Change Objective 2.E.1.c to:**

Pursue full funding for the TWG flow study plan for all life stages of salmonids. (Page 3-25)

**Change Objective 2.E.1.d to:**

Seek funding to examine the effects of Lake Shastina on Klamath River flows as part of the larger Klamath Basin flow study. (Page 3-25)

### **III. Changes to Objective 2.F:**

#### **Change Objective 2.F.1 as follows:**

2.F.1 (only changes to c-f)

- c. Promote more efficient water delivery practices, where appropriate, in order to avoid serious waste of water.
- d. Support effective screening of all diversions.
- e. Actively support needed changes in state water rights law.
- f. Support the purchase of water rights from willing sellers for the purpose of instream flow improvements.  
(Page 3-12)

**Remove Objective 2.F.1.e.** (Page 3-11)

#### **Change Objective 2.F.1.f to:**

Explore the use of salmon recovery funds for acquiring water rights or improving delivery efficiency, with the stipulation that instream flow benefits are accrued. (Page 3-11)

#### **Change Objective 2.F.3 as follows:**

2.F.3. In the year 1995, if adequate progress towards improving instream flow conditions for salmonids has not been made as a result of Policy 2.F.1, then seriously pursue the available alternatives:

- a. Encourage verification of water rights compliance under the Scott River Adjudication.
- b. Encourage action by the US Forest Service to enable it to achieve adequate instream flows for fish.
- c. Encourage the State Water Resources Control Board to enforce the water rights law pertaining to wasteful use of water by agricultural and other users.  
(Page 3-12)

**Delete Objective 2.F.4.** (Page 3-12)

### **IV. Changes to Objective 3:**

#### **Change Objective 3.2.a to:**

Direct the TWG to encourage local basin interests to work cooperatively on sub-basin planning with the USFS in areas with large public land tracts. (Page 3-20)

**Remove Objective 3.9.d.** (Page 3-14)

**Remove Objective 3.10.c.** (Page 3-14)

**Remove the third sentence in Objective 3.11.** (Page 3-27)

**Insert as first sentence in Objective 3.12:**

Maintain instream structure policy. (Page 3-15)

**Add as Objective 3.13.c:**

The TF and Council must work together to identify a stable source of fish monitoring funding. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has, on occasion, stepped into the monitoring funding breach on the Trinity River side of the basin. Inasmuch as the Bureau's water operations affect fish conditions on both legs of the system – the Trinity and mainstem Klamath – the Bureau's project maintenance and operations budget represents one logical place to start in the search for a stable fish monitoring funding base. (Page 1-4)

**Add as Objective 3.13.d to:**

Continue funding flow gauge operation but seek a long term sponsor for this data collection so that flow monitoring does not continually drain Restoration Program assets. (Page 3-24)

**Add as Objective 3.13.e:**

To use all tools available to monitor riparian recovery. (Page 3-23)

**Add as Objective 3.13.f:**

Continue sharing of water data through KRIS. (Page 3-26)

**V. Changes to Objective 4:**

**Change Objective 4.3.a to:**

Ensure salmonid monitoring continues. (Page 3-27)

**Change Objective 4.3.f to:**

Ask CDFG why using data from guides and punch cards to gauge changes in catch success rates is not effective. (Page 3-28)

**Add as Objective 4.3.l:**

The Task Force should continue to assist in funding fish health studies as needed. (Page 3-29)

**Change Objective 4.4a and b to:**

The KFMC will work with fishery co-managers to explore alternative marking methods at both hatcheries within the Klamath Basin and to improve the inventory method of fish released. (Page 3-17)

**Remove Objective 4.6:** (Page 3-16)

**Remove Objective 4.7.** (Page 3-16)

**Remove Objective 4.8.** (Page 3-16)

**VI. Changes to Objective 5.A:**

**Replace Objective 5.A.1.a. with:**

Support and encourage a working group to review hatchery practices. (Page 3-17)

**Remove Objective 5.A.1.b.** (Page 3-18)

**Remove Objective 5.A.1.e:** (Page 3-18)

**Add new Objective 5.A.1.d:**

Encourage and support the steelhead program at Iron Gate Hatchery and the need to study and determine the life history pattern of existing Iron Gate rainbow trout and steelhead. (Page 3-18)

**VII. Changes to Objective 5.B:**

**Remove Objective 5.B.2.** (Page 3-18)

**Remove Objective 5.B.3.** (Page 3-19)

**Add to Objective 5.B.4 :**

All projects must be considered with appropriate Endangered Species Act cautions. (Page 3-19)

**Remove Objective 5.B.6.** (Page 3-27)

**VIII. Changes to Objective 6:**

**Change Objective 6.2.c to:**

The Task Force should explore with the Yurok Tribe the creation of a model restoration demonstration project and interpretive center adjacent to the Klamath River Estuary along Salt Creek and lower Hunter Creek adjacent to Highway 101. (Page 3-31)

**Add Objective 6.2.k to:**

Support conferences on riparian restoration and increasing efficiency of water use, including field trips to local project sites. (Page 3-31)

**IX. Change to Objective 7:**

**Insert the following as objective 7.2.f.:**

Foster commitment of Task Force members to the goals of restoration. (Page 1-5)

**Addendum 2.**  
**EDITED STEP-DOWN STRUCTURE**  
**OF THE RESTORATION PROGRAM'S LONG-RANGE PLAN**  
**April 29, 2004**

**Goal I:** Restore, by 2006, the biological productivity of the Klamath River Basin in order to provide for viable commercial and recreational ocean fisheries and in-river tribal (subsistence, ceremonial and commercial) and recreational fisheries.

**Objective 2.A. Protect stream and riparian habitat from potential damages caused by timber harvesting and related activities.**

2.A.1. Improve current timber harvest practices through the following:

- a. Instigate local workshops and seminars on timber harvest methods, including erosion control and stream and riparian protection methods for timber operators and foresters by working with appropriate resource agencies and groups.
- b. Develop salmonid habitat protection and management standards and guidelines (by the Technical Work Group) for agency endorsement and use.
- c. Develop educational materials addressing stream protection measures for use by foresters, timber operators, and their employees.
- d. Promote the use of KRIS for data storing and sharing.
- e. Encourage foresters, land owners, and timber harvesters to view the existing regulations as minimum rather than maximum expectations.
- f. Promote communication between timberland managers and salmon and steelhead users.
- g. Foster Coordinated Resource Management and Planning in mixed ownership watersheds with important fish habitat (e.g., Blue Creek, Beaver Creek, French Creek, and others).

2.A.2. Contribute to evaluating the effectiveness of the current timber harvest practices in protecting stream habitat through:

- a. Development of an index of habitat integrity to better understand the possible cumulative effects.
- b. Work to keep fish population data current and available.
- c. Monitoring the recovery of stream habitat in logged watersheds.
- d. Evaluating watershed and riparian conditions in logged areas.
- e. Continue to use erosion potential surveys to help prioritize abatement projects.

2.A.3. The Task Force should encourage sub-basin interests to work proactively with the EPA and SWRCB to meet TMDL objectives instead of seeking an enforcement solution.

2.A.4. Anticipate potential stream protection problems by requesting:

- a. Surveillance monitoring programs, which "208" certification requires, be conducted as soon as possible in Klamath Basin streams by the State Board of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service.
- b. Modification of the State Forest Practices Rules to:
  - 1. Protect highly erodible soils like the decomposed granitic soils.
  - 2. Incorporate watershed planning in THP reviews.
  - 3. Provide adequate protection of riparian areas.
  - 4. Allow for a longer review period for THPs in critical watersheds.
  - 5. Provide a meaningful level of cumulative impact analysis.
  - 6. Provide damaged fish habitat adequate time to recover before new timber harvesting or roads occur in watersheds that are over threshold.
- c. Policies in the US Forest Service's Land Management Plans and changes in administrative actions to:
  - 1. Give first priority to protection of salmonid habitat which is presently unimpaired (e.g., Clear Creek, Dillon Creek).
  - 2. Protect highly erodible soils like the decomposed granitic soils.
  - 3. Provide damaged fish habitat adequate time to recover before new timber sales or roads occur in watersheds that are over threshold.
  - 4. Ensure the survival of anadromous salmonids through adequate protection of their habitat.
  - 5. Provide adequate protection of riparian areas.
  - 6. Provide a meaningful level of cumulative impact analysis.
  - 7. Ensure the land base allocation and protective measure for water quality and fish habitat are adequate.

**Objective 2.B. Ensure that mining activities do not cause habitat damage.**

2.B.1. Seek to minimize impact of suction dredge mining on salmon and steelhead habitat and populations by:

- a. Communicating with miners about fish habitat needs and possible impacts of dredging through personal contact as well as preparing a clear and concise illustrated handout to be distributed with suction dredge permits.
- b. Evaluating the impacts of concentrated dredging activity, where cumulative effects may pose serious problems.
- c. Supporting evaluation of the effects of the larger suction dredges (6 to 10 inches) on salmonid habitat.
- d. Supporting CDFG in maintaining complete closure (no exceptions) of essential summer steelhead streams: Wooley Creek, Dillon Creek, and Clear Creek.
- e. Requesting that the California Department of Fish and Game:
  - 1. Change the season's beginning date from June 1 to July 1 to protect winter-run steelhead eggs and fry, which may still be in the gravels during early summer.
  - 2. Require miners dredging in the river to mark the dredged site for safety reasons, and notify fishermen through the licensing process.

3. Promote a better record-keeping system through the permit process for collecting data on the numbers, locations, and sizes of dredge activity.
- f. Based on the results of research, pursuing any necessary improvements in regulations and education to adequately protect the habitat.

2.B.2. Seek effective protections of salmonid habitat from potential impacts of other mining practices (gravel, lode, placer) by:

- a. Promoting education of miners.
- b. Supporting needed evaluations and monitoring.
- c. Working with the appropriate regulatory agencies in establishing permit conditions.
- d. Ensuring minimum reclamation standards be adopted, implemented and enforced.
- e. Supporting a mandatory form of financial assurance (e.g., bond) to assure reclamation of mines.
- f. Promoting the abatement of any water quality and habitat problems associated with abandoned mining operations.
- g. Requesting lead SMARA agencies to assess penalties and fines for non-compliance with SMARA statute provisions, and also for failure to comply with reporting requirements.

2.B.3. Promote communication between miners and salmon and steelhead users.

**Objective 2.C. Protect and improve the water quality of stream habitat from adverse agricultural practices.**

2.C.1. Seek opportunities for farmers and ranchers to reduce their impact on stream water quality:

- a. Instigate local workshops and seminars with local Resource Conservation Districts, County Farm Advisor, Soil Conservation Service, California Department of Fish and Game, Farm Bureau, Cattleman's Association, and others.
- b. Encourage "best management practices" to reduce the amounts of animal waste and fertilizers entering watercourses, initially focusing on demonstration projects.
- c. Promote the fencing of riparian areas in vulnerable sites to protect existing vegetation, to provide for natural regeneration, and to protect new plantings.
- d. Explore the option of conservation easements to protect riparian zones.
- e. Make funding available to help implement improvements which will provide a significant benefit to the fisheries.
- f. Investigate and pursue other sources of financial assistance (e.g., ASCS, CDFG, SWRCB).
- g. Promote communication between the farmers and ranchers and the salmon and steelhead users.



2.C.2. Monitor and assess stream quality to help evaluate the location, extent, and trends of water quality and riparian problems related to agricultural practices, particularly in the Shasta River, while coordinating with pertinent agencies.

**Objective 2.E. Protect salmon and steelhead habitat from harmful effects of water and power projects in the Klamath Basin.**

2.E.1. Support the evaluation of existing large water storage projects in the basin to determine their effect on limiting factors for anadromous fish production, including the following:

- a. Support studies to evaluate spawning and rearing habitat above Iron Gate Dam.
- b. Pursue funding through FERC to monitor water quality above, within and below Copco and Iron Gate Dams.
- c. Pursue full funding for the TWG flow study plan for all life stages of salmonids.
- d. Seek funding to examine the effects of Lake Shastina on Klamath River flows as part of the larger Klamath Basin flow study.

2.E.2. Identify and implement methods to rectify habitat problems identified in #1 above, including the following:

- a. Access above Iron Gate and Copco Dams to the Upper Klamath Basin.
- b. Water quality above and below Iron Gate Dam.
- c. Instream flow and habitat below Iron Gate Dam.
- d. Water quality and flow from Lake Shastina.

2.E.3. Promote adequate fish protection requirements in the relicensing conditions for the Iron Gate Hydroelectric Project and other power projects by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

2.E.4. Advocate inclusion and enforcement of effective conditions for salmonid habitat protection on small and large hydroelectric projects and other water storage projects.

2.E.5. Oppose further large water storage projects until habitat problems caused by existing projects are rectified, and proof is available that any proposed project will not contribute to habitat problems.

2.E.6. Oppose the additional exportation (through water marketing or other means) of water from the Klamath River or Trinity River Basins, which is necessary to restore and protect anadromous fish populations.

2.E.7. Require water flows adequate to achieve optimal productivity of the basin.

2.E.8. Seek the establishment of law that mandates minimum streamflow standards.

2.E.9. Advocate improved streamflow releases from the Trinity River Project which will better mimic the natural or pre-dam streamflow patterns.

**Objective 2.F. Protect the instream flow needs of salmon and steelhead in streams affected by water diversions.**

2.F.1. As a first priority, seek opportunities for stream diverters to reduce their impact on salmon and steelhead habitat:

- a. Involve landowners in the Scott and Shasta Valleys in developing solutions to the instream flow and water quality problems of the Scott and Shasta Rivers and their tributaries.
- b. Develop an inventory of water conservation practices for agricultural users in the basin, and seek their implementation by working with the local Resource Conservation Districts, County Farm Advisor, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Bureau, Cattleman's Association, and other interested groups (e.g., through workshops, seminars, County Fair displays).
- c. Promote more efficient water delivery practices, where appropriate, in order to avoid serious waste of water.
- d. Support effective screening of all diversions.
- e. Actively support needed changes in state water rights law.
- f. Explore the use of salmon recovery funds for acquiring water rights or improving delivery efficiency, with the stipulation that instream flow benefits are accrued.
- g. Contribute financial support to water conservation measures which will provide significant benefit to the fisheries.
- h. Investigate other sources of financial assistance which can help implement improved practices or purchase water rights (e.g., ASCS, DWR, Water Heritage Trust).
- i. Promote communication between water users and salmon and steelhead users.
- j. Evaluate the instream flow needs of the Scott and Shasta Rivers and their tributaries.

2.F.2. If fish population trends in a tributary system are found to be at critically low levels by the Task Force, the following policies will be instituted, along with necessary harvest restrictions:

- a. Pursue appropriate agency solutions.
- b. Exercise water allotment rights to provide emergency instream flows.

2.F.3. In the year 1995, if adequate progress towards improving instream flow conditions for salmonids has not been made as a result of Policy 2.F.1, then seriously pursue the available alternatives:

- a. Encourage verification of water rights compliance under the Scott River Adjudication.
- b. Encourage action by the US Forest Service to enable it to achieve adequate instream flows for fish.
- c. Encourage the State Water Resources Control Board to enforce the water rights law pertaining to wasteful use of water by agricultural and other users.

**Objective 3: Restore the habitat of anadromous fish of the Klamath River Basin by using appropriate methods that address the factors that limit the production of these species.**

3.1 The Klamath River Basin Fisheries Restoration Task Force should solicit the support and cooperation of all the citizens of the Klamath River Basin in its mission to restore anadromous fisheries resources. The communities can be involved by:

- a. Direct the TWG to encourage local basin interests to work cooperatively on sub-basin planning with the USFS in areas with large public land tracts.
- f. Holding training sessions to increase understanding of the contract and bid process to encourage local firms and groups to get involved.
- c. Giving preference to projects that have strong local participation.
- d. Encouraging the formation of local restoration groups to "adopt" subbasins and become advocates for fisheries resources and the Restoration Program.

3.2 Because large scale contributions of sediment continue to have substantial negative impacts on the ecosystem of the Klamath River, the Task Force will focus on evaluating areas where erosion continues to be a problem, and will work to solve the problem by:

- a. Directing the TWG to encourage local basin interests to work cooperatively on sub-basin planning with the USFS in areas with large public land tracts.
- b. Entering into Cooperative Resource Management Plans (CRMPs), with public and private landowners, with the objective of reducing erosion from their land.
- c. Working with resource agencies such as the State Water Resources Control Board, the California Department of Forestry and the Environmental Protection Agency to identify problems, monitor progress on the abatement of sediment problems, and, where necessary, step up enforcement of clean water laws.
- d. Exploring the feasibility of using a GIS system and the EPA Reach File to track the fate of sediment basinwide.

3.3 Technically sound habitat restoration measures which benefit depressed stock groups of concern will receive priority consideration for funding.

3.4 The Klamath River Task Force will support the Trinity River Task Force in its efforts to restore adequate streamflow for fisheries resources in the Trinity subbasin.

3.5 The Task Force will work to gain the release of flows of adequate quality and quantity for fishery resources from Iron Gate Dam.

3.6 The Shasta River should be given high priority in the Restoration Program because of its significant potential to produce fall chinook salmon and steelhead. Adequate streamflow for fish are needed here, together with the restoration of riparian areas. ....

3.7 The Scott River and its tributaries are also a high priority for restoration because of their substantial salmon and steelhead production potential. Solutions to the major problems in the basin include:

- a. Improving stream flows and restoring riparian zones.
- b. Using the recently completed sediment study to prioritize actions to control erosion of decomposed granite sands and identifying funds for their implementation.
- c. Work with private timberland owners and others engaged in road construction and maintenance to insure that future activities do not continue to increase erosion.

3.8 The Salmon River, a refuge area for spring chinook salmon and summer steelhead, has a greatly elevated erosion risk as a result of recent fires. Therefore, the following actions will be taken:

- a. Assess erosion problems in the Salmon River Basin, paying particular attention to areas burned during the 1987 fires.
- b. Implement measures to stabilize subbasins as soon as possible using the results of the erosion control study to prioritize actions.
- c. Make certain that any continuing timber harvest activities by the USFS in the Salmon River Basin do not contribute further to current high erosion hazard.

3.9 The Task Force will work closely with the Yurok Tribe to improve anadromous fisheries resources on the Reservation and on ancestral territories. Actions on lower Klamath tributaries will include:

- a. Seeking cooperative agreements with the major private land owners to evaluate slope stability and take appropriate measures to avoid soil loss and related negative impacts on salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout.
- b. Funding a study using aerial photographs, such as the RAPID method, to speed the evaluation of erosion factors.
- c. Seeking further agreements to expand fisheries restoration efforts if erosion hazards are reduced or found to be at lower-than-believed levels.

3.10 The Task Force will pursue the following actions with regard to the middle Klamath tributaries:

- a. Encourage the USFS to expand cooperative efforts in mixed ownership drainages having decomposed granite soils, such as Beaver Creek and Cottonwood Creek, to control erosion and modify future timber harvests and road building to prevent erosion from continuing.
- b. Study the feasibility and cost of removing the fish migration barriers at or near the mouth of middle Klamath tributaries such as Humbug Creek.
- c. Seek cooperation from farmers and ranchers in securing adequate flows for fish in drainages such as Seiad and Cottonwood Creeks.

3.11 Fish screens should be installed wherever needed. Adequate funds for screen maintenance shall be provided.

3.12 Proposed projects to structurally increase fisheries habitat in any Klamath tributary will be evaluated as to whether:

- a. The erosion potential in the watershed and the expected sediment yield would place the project at risk during moderate storm events (10 year interval or less).
- b. The stream channel remains highly aggraded and, thus, likely to threaten the stability of the proposed structure.
- c. The project is properly engineered in terms of its setting (gradient and channel type) and expected flows.
- d. Habitat assessment has been conducted and the suspected limiting factors identified.
- e. The proposed project has a clear goal of remedying the identified limiting factors.
- f. The proposal includes methods to evaluate whether the goal of the project has been reached after project implementation (ideally, a demonstration of its positive cost-benefit performance).
- g. The project budget includes cost estimates for maintenance.

3.13 The Task Force will undertake an affordable evaluation and monitoring program, one which employs accepted, standardized techniques, in order to acquire the information needed for adaptive management. Specifically, the Task Force will:

- a. Fund, or find funding from such cooperators as the USFS, for completion of habitat typing and other quantitative habitat assessment of all basin streams having significant restoration potential.
- b. Work with agencies such as the EPA, SWRCB, and USFS, which have water quality protection responsibilities, to monitor stream conditions of interest to the Restoration Program.
- c. The TF and Council must work together to identify a stable source of fish monitoring funding. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has, on occasion, stepped into the monitoring funding breach on the Trinity River side of the basin. Inasmuch as the Bureau's water operations affect fish conditions on both legs of the system – the Trinity and mainstem Klamath – the Bureau's

project maintenance and operations budget represents one logical place to start in the search for a stable fish monitoring funding base.

- d. Continue funding flow gauge operation but seek a long term sponsor for this data collection so that flow monitoring does not continually drain Restoration Program assets.
- e. To use all tools available to monitor riparian recovery.
- f. Continue sharing of water data through KRIS.

3.14 The Task Force will seek to mandate by law, minimum habitat standards.

**Objective 4: Strive to protect the genetic diversity of anadromous fishes in the Klamath River Basin.**

4.1 Increases in populations of self-sustaining runs of fish separate in time or space from hatchery stocks, referred to here as "native" populations, will be the basis upon which the success of the Restoration Program will be judged.

4.2. The Task Force will work closely with the Klamath Fisheries Management Council to protect locally adapted anadromous fish stocks that return to all areas of the Klamath Basin, so that self-sustaining runs can be restored, with emphasis given to priority stocks for recovery.

4.3. The Task Force shall recognize the fish populations adapted to the various areas of the Klamath Basin as stock groups until further study indicates that finer or broader distinctions better serve the Klamath River Basin Fisheries Restoration Program. To this end, the following will be undertaken:

- a. Ensure salmonid monitoring continues
- b. Native spring chinook populations shall continue to be monitored closely in the Salmon River and in the lower river net harvest.
- c. CDFG will be requested to continue to monitor population trends of summer steelhead through direct observation surveys.
- d. Study feasibility of weir operation later in the season to get more information on coho and steelhead.
- e. The Task Force will provide training and supervision for community volunteers interested in conducting spawner surveys to help gather information about native salmon stocks, including coho.
- f. Ask CDFG why using data from guides and punch cards to gauge changes in catch success rates is not effective.
- g. Collect information on green sturgeon harvest.
- h. Get the information suggested in Nicholas and Hankin (1988) with which to better identify stock groups, beginning with chinook salmon and proceeding on to all salmon and steelhead stock groups.
- i. Include the fish counting methods suggested by Hankin and Reeves (1988) when habitat typing, in order to have consistent estimates of standing crops of juvenile fish.

- j. Request NMFS to fund a study of green sturgeon, including its distribution, population structure, and level of harvest of Klamath stocks in other areas, to provide sufficient information so that a management plan for the Klamath green sturgeon can be devised.
- k. Create incentives for graduate students and other qualified investigators on cutthroat trout, eulachon, and lamprey of the Klamath Basin.
- l. The Task Force should continue to assist in funding fish health studies as needed.

4.4 The Task Force will work with the California Department of Fish and Game to:

- a. The KFMC will work with fishery co-managers to explore alternative marking methods at both hatcheries within the Klamath Basin and to improve the inventory method of fish released:
- b. Share information gathered through research in a timely manner to enable adaptive management techniques.
- c. Investigate the practicality of closing anadromous fish producing streams to "trout" fishing.
- d. Promote genetic stock identification or DNA programs for ocean and river sampling to determine fish stock identification.

4.5 To strengthen law enforcement protection of Klamath Basin fish populations, the Task Force will:

- a. Encourage the formation of local citizen "watch groups" to help in the protection and monitoring of remnant fish populations throughout the basin.
- b. Ask CDFG to seek cooperative agreements with other law enforcement agencies so that sheriffs' deputies, Forest Service and CDF officers, and highway patrolmen may be interested in helping wardens curb poaching.

**Objective 5.A: Iron Gate Hatchery and Trinity River Hatchery should be operated to produce salmon and steelhead to mitigate for the losses of habitat above their dams and, at the same time, strive to reduce impacts on native fish.**

5.A.1 The Task Force's Technical Team will work with CDFG to insure that the Basin's large-scale hatcheries operate to mitigate for loss of habitat above dams while limiting their impacts on wild stocks and maintaining the long term viability of hatchery broodstock. In coordination with Trinity River Task Force, the Task Force will:

- a. Support and encourage a working group to review hatchery practices.
- b. Encourage the continuation of hatchery practices that will maintain the fitness of hatchery broodstock and decrease undesirable impacts of straying on native fish.
- c. Conduct a study to determine the resistance of Iron Gate Hatchery steelhead broodstock to Ceratomyxa shasta.

- d. Encourage and support the steelhead program at Iron Gate Hatchery and the need to study and determine the life history pattern of existing Iron Gate rainbow trout and steelhead.

**Objective 5.B: Small-scale rearing programs should be temporary measures, primarily for the purpose of accelerating the rebuilding of locally adapted native salmon and steelhead populations, and operated to maintain the genetic integrity of such populations. Ideally, small-scale rearing programs should be operated in conjunction with habitat restoration projects.**

5.B.1 Those parties having management authority over small scale rearing and pond programs in the Klamath River Basin shall, through coordinated planning, formulate independent guidelines for activities which will avoid negative effects on the genetic characteristics of native stocks. (The relevant parties, in this instance, are the Yurok, Hoopa, and Karuk Tribes and the State of California, acting through the California Department of Fish and Game.)

5.B.4 The Task Force will explore means of improving the cost effectiveness of those small-scale rearing programs now targeting late-run fall chinook by capturing other species, such as coho and steelhead, where such efforts would contribute to Restoration Program objectives. All projects must be considered with appropriate Endangered Species Act cautions.

5.B.5 The Task Force will explore the need for green sturgeon population restoration measures.

**Objective 6: Promote public interest in the Klamath River Basin's anadromous fish, their beneficial use and habitat requirements and gain support for the Restoration Program's plans and efforts to restore fish habitat and population numbers.**

- 6.1. The Task Force will maintain support for public school programs by:
  - a. Continuing to develop a curriculum and field activities for schools in the Klamath River Basin and adjacent counties.
  - b. Encouraging local school districts to make these materials part of the regular curriculum, once the materials are fully developed.
  - c. Sponsoring workshops and conferences on salmonid conservation to keep teachers interested in and updated about the Restoration Program.
  - d. Budgeting \$5,000-10,000 a year for the operation and maintenance of classroom education projects once the current five-year development process is complete. Teachers should be encouraged to submit proposals to continue the development, operation and innovation of the Program, or for special projects.



6.2. The Task Force will support communications with the public by:

- a. Supporting 4-H youth education projects involving riparian restoration.
- b. Continuing to encourage the development of interpretive programs on the Yurok Reservation near the mouth of the Klamath River, at the Interstate 5 rest stop north of Yreka and within Yreka itself.
- c. The Task Force should explore with the Yurok Tribe the creation of a model restoration demonstration project and interpretive center adjacent to the Klamath River Estuary along Salt Creek and lower Hunter Creek adjacent to Highway 101.
- d. Working with angler groups, resort owners, guides, and county fish and game advisory committees to promote angler awareness of the Restoration Program's goals and objectives.
- e. Cosponsoring workshops and seminars on water conservation with Resource Conservation Districts to assist the agricultural community.
- f. Conducting workshops for state, county, and private road maintenance personnel concerning stream protection needs.
- g. Setting up meetings between fisheries biologists and miners to explain the environmental requirements of fish and to learn more about mining activities.
- h. Joining with the Klamath Basin tribes in sponsoring a conference about the Indian fisheries.
- i. Cosponsor workshops or "tailgate sessions" with foresters, road engineers, timber and equipment operators concerning watershed protection needs.
- j. Providing public information services (e.g. Newsletters, Flyers) for the Klamath Fishery Management Council.
- k. Support conferences on riparian restoration and increasing efficiency of water use, including field trips to local project sites.

**Objective 7: Provide adequate and effective administration to successfully implement the Restoration Plan and Program.**

7.1. Involve interests or agencies not represented on the Task Force through several methods:

- a. Decision-making: Task Force members should each try to reflect public interest and equity values in their decisions and not just the views of their organization.
- b. Technical Work Group membership: Appointments of technical specialists from other agencies or groups should be made to this Task Force subcommittee, which solicits and evaluate project proposals.
- c. Public Involvement: Task Force should continue seeking public opinion at its meetings but also develop or support working groups to address different problems or problem areas. Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) is another method to involve a wide spectrum of participants.

- d. Cooperative or interagency agreements should be used to carry out restoration activities with non-Task Force agencies, which may be jointly funded.

7.2. Ensure the decision-making process will work well.

- a. Arrange a training session for the Task Force in the consensus decision-making process.
- b. As an option, use the "abstention" position when a member does not feel strongly enough about a proposal to vote "no," yet cannot support the proposal.
- c. Adoption of rules similar to the "T/FW Ground Rules," under which each member agrees to work.
- d. Actively seek to negotiate a compromise that considers the needs of all parties.
- e. Retain the consensus approach to decision-making.
- f. Foster commitment of Task Force members to the goals of restoration.

7.3. Assign Committees, made up of Task Force and Technical Work Group members or representatives, to monitor each of the Plan's major components: Habitat Protection and Management, Habitat Restoration, Population Protection (includes liaison with Council), Population Restoration, Education and Communication, and Administration. Committees shall report at each Task Force meeting about progress of policy implementation.

7.4. Formally evaluate plan and program progress and provide for amendments to the Plan.

- a. A Program Review shall be done every 5 years during the Program's lifespan. The first Program Review should begin in 1995, followed by reviews in the years 2000 and 2005.
- b. An Annual Progress Report appropriate for public review shall briefly summarize the results of Task Force actions and projects to date, including an accounting of the costs. Both Federally and non-Federally funded projects should be included.
- c. Plan Amendments shall be provided for on a regular basis, as new information and conditions arise. Policy changes should be based on new findings in the text.

7.5. The Task Force will use any or all of the following options to fulfill staffing needs:

- a. Continue using permanent USFWS staff:
  - 1. Review all administrative functions every 2 to 5 years to ensure that they are fulfilling their original purpose, and to evaluate whether the original purpose needs to be revised and updated.

2. Council and Task Force Chairs shall consult together annually about the appropriate balance of staff time needed in the coming year.
  3. Evaluate need for a Watershed Specialist (as used in the Trinity Program).
  - b. Use consultants under contract to implement selected portions of the Plan.
  - c. Make greater use of Task Force Committees and the Technical Work Group to help implement the Plan.
- 7.6. Ensure adequate funding is available to implement the Plan.
- a. Inform interested parties of other funding opportunities as they arise, and encourage the use of these funds to implement the activities of the Operational Plan, where needed.
  - b. Facilitate the coordination of interstate funding needs in the Klamath Basin.
  - c. Maintain files in the Klamath River Fishery Resource Office on each funding source and provide access to the public.
  - d. Pursue additional new funding sources, if needed.
- 7.7. Promote and provide opportunities for information sharing.
- a. Klamath River Fishery Resource Office should develop a catalogued technical library as the repository for completed project reports, historical and recent Klamath Basin references, and other pertinent restoration materials.
  - b. Klamath River Fishery Resource Office should regularly produce a newsletter for continuous communication about ongoing and completed projects and their results, as well as other related topics.
  - c. The Technical Work Group should evaluate and recommend the best software option(s) for data storage and retrieval obtained through Task Force funded projects.
  - d. Staff or the TWG should thoroughly investigate the use of the EPA/SWRCB water body monitoring data system as a basic file for Klamath River fish and fish habitat information. Evaluate and apply the system's potential for stimulating Clean Water Act efforts, including technical and financial assistance, of direct interest to the Restoration Program. Request financial assistance from the EPA to explore and establish Program use of its Sect.205(b) water body data system.
  - e. Support publication of the results of Task Force funded projects in the scientific literature, periodicals for the general public, and a Klamath River Fishery Resource Office Technical Report Series.
  - f. Encourage the dissemination of Program information, as well as the seeking of pertinent information from other areas, through conferences, workshops or similar means.
- 7.8. Improve the understanding of agency jurisdictions.
- a. Resolve conflicts (existing or potential) resulting from overlapping jurisdictions by pursuing the coordination methods described in the text.

- b. Continue clarifying the jurisdictions claimed by each agency involved with fishery or habitat management in the Klamath River Basin.
- c. Encourage the expansion of jurisdiction in habitat activities having "underlapping" authority or little protection.

7.9. Ensure effective coordination through the following:

- a. Support a combination of formal and informal methods for coordinating the implementation of the Program.
- b. Develop a long-term, enduring Memorandum of Agreement among the various agencies and tribes, as required in the Act.
- c. Promote local workshops and conferences on topics related to the Restoration Program.
- d. Committees of the Task Force, Council, and the Trinity Task Force should meet with each other at least once a year to share progress reports and discuss mutual needs. Conclusions will then be shared with each policy-making body.
- e. Monitor non-Program restoration and research work in the Basin.
- f. Use the Task Force meeting as a forum for progress reports from the various agencies, tribes, and groups.
- g. Promote the use of Coordinated Resource Management Plans (CRMP) to cooperatively implement projects or to better define a long-term coordination strategy in certain areas. Involve as broad a spectrum participants as needed.
- h. Provide adequate resources for coordination.

7.10. Ensure a practical and equitable project selection process.

- a. Project solicitation by the USFWS Klamath River Fishery Resource Office shall be based on the annual Action Plan. This Action Plan shall be developed annually by the TWG, for approval by the Task Force, to define any necessary actions to implement the policies of this Plan. To the extent feasible, the CDFG projects for the Klamath Basin should also follow the Action Plan.
- b. The Klamath River Fishery Resource Office should develop a complete Project Application Manual describing the project selection process and selection criteria to assist project proponents.
- c. Clarify intent of Congress on the preferential employment requirement of the Act.
- d. Cooperative Agreements with tribes or for work on Reservations shall be consistent with the Indian Self-Determination Act (PL 93-638), and Tribal Employment and Contracting Rights Ordinances (TECRO).
- e. Seek coordination of project selection processes (e.g., timing and criteria) with Salmon Stamp Committee and CDFG.

7.11. Provide comments on proposed public and private projects within the Basin that have the potential for affecting the implementation and success of the Restoration Plan and Program.

- a. The Klamath River Fishery Resource Office shall serve as the clearinghouse for all notices for proposed outside projects within the Basin.
- b. The Task Force shall respond to those projects deemed to have the greatest potential for impact on the Restoration Plan and Program.
- c. Task Force members are encouraged to respond to proposed projects on an individual basis consistent with the approved policies of the Task Force.

**Goal II:** Support the Klamath Fishery Management Council in development of harvest regulation recommendations that will provide for viable fisheries and escapement.

**Goal III:** Recommend to the Congress, state legislatures, and local governments the actions each must take to protect the fish and fish habitats of the Klamath River Basin.

**Goal IV:** Inform the public about the value of anadromous fish to the Klamath River region and gain their support for the Restoration Program.

**Goal V:** Promote cooperative relationships between lawful users of the Basin's land and water resources and those who are primarily concerned with the implementation of the Restoration Plan and Program.