

## **Cumulative Risk Initiative web-based reporting**

### **Problem Statement**

The need for “collaborative efforts” is frequently mentioned in discussions of resource management issues. This is certainly the case when the research involves salmon recovery and risk assessment issues. To facilitate input into this process, the Cumulative Risk Initiative (CRI) Team holds frequent workshops and uses web-based avenues for outreach.

### **Critical Factors**

- Workshops need to balance clear presentation of in-progress science and opportunities in order for those outside the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to offer their views.
- Web-based materials should allow a hierarchy of involvements ranging from documents that can be read superficially to formats that permit users to repeat or alter analyses.
- Currently, CRI team members take the lead in identifying topics for workshops and web posting. Ultimately, it would be helpful if the public became more involved in this process. The CRI Team could then respond to subjects of greatest concern to others.
- Ultimately, documents posted on the CRI web site need to function as a decision-support tool for policy makers. Meeting that challenge will require a great deal more research and the accumulation of background information.

### **Status of Research**

Although the CRI Team has developed an effective workshop program and website, links to raw data and other sources of information could be improved. This will require additional work documenting regional sources of data and the methods by which those data were collected.

### **Future Considerations**

The CRI Team is essentially a research group. Building effective web sites for dialogue, decision-support, and public outreach is beyond the mainstream scientific skills of the Team. A great deal of technical help from data and information technology specialists will be needed.

### **Key Players**

**Cumulative Risk Initiative (CRI) Team, Science Directorate (SD), NWFSC**

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