

RESOLVE

Results Through Consensus

720 SW Washington Street, Suite 750
Portland, OR 97205
Ph: 503-228-6408 Fax: 503-228-6207
www.resolve.org

December 17, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: NMFS Willamette/Lower Columbia River TRT Members
FROM: Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE and Paul McElhany, NOAA Fisheries
SUBJECT: Action Items from the December 4-5, 2003 TRT Meeting

Thanks to everyone for your participation in the TRT meeting on December 4-5. For those of you not able to attend, the group was able to complete the evaluation process for all 46 Oregon salmonid populations historically in the WLC area. This memo includes action items discussed during the meeting.

Upcoming Meeting Dates	Where	Agenda Focus
<ul style="list-style-type: none">TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessment of Viability Report in light of scoring efforts; and2004 focus for the TRT.

I. UPCOMING MEETING FOCUS AND DATE

After scoring the Oregon populations, TRT members spent time discussing the potential focus of the TRT in 2004 as well as a date for the next meeting.

Paul McElhany and Patty Dornbusch began the conversation with a brief overview of the general strategic thinking NOAA has been doing regarding all the TRTs. For NOAA, in the context of the subbasin planning, the next big task is helping integrate all the information at the ESU scale and across factors that affect the fish at the population scale. Subbasin plans are due on May 28, 2004, though it is expected that the amount of progress and information in each may vary widely. It was suggested that one task for the TRT could possibly be reviewing the subbasin plans as they are to be the building blocks of recovery planning. Paul and Patty indicated internal conversations were going to continue, but that they would appreciate hearing from the TRT members as well.

Other focus areas, or tasks, identified during the conversation included, among others:

- detailed examination of hatchery, harvest, and/or hydro issues;
- review of habitat conservation plans;

- review of hatchery management plans;
- assisting subbasin planners in Oregon in their efforts to meet the May 28 deadline; and
- working more closely with ODFW, possible on better defining management opportunities on the Upper Willamette.

In the course of the deliberations, the group expressed a desire to more explicitly define its role and articulate what role it would be playing in subbasin planning (and beyond) over the next year. Part of accomplishing this objective, it was suggested, will be obtaining a better understanding of the needs, and expectations, of subbasin planners, particularly in Oregon.

A number of members offered that the effort expended to score all the Washington and Oregon populations was definitely worthwhile, but added that the TRT would be missing an opportunity if it did not should spend some time reflecting on the process. In particular, it was suggested that the group reassess the Viability Report, which served as the foundation of the scoring process, in light of the lessons learned over the last two meetings.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the group agreed its next meeting should focus on two items:

- assessing the Viability Report in light of the scoring process; and
- developing a strategic vision, and if possible specifics actions, for the WLC-TRT over the next year.

In trying to schedule the next meeting, it was apparent there was insufficient information available to choose a specific date. The group asked JJ Westfall to resend availability forms with a quick timeline for submitting them. Paul McElhany and JJ will then identify dates that work best for the next meeting and distribute this information.

II. POPULATION SCORING EFFORTS

NWFSC staff distributed packets of information for each ESU with individual sections for each population (NOTE: for those of you not in attendance, these will be sent to you in the near future). To begin the scoring efforts, Paul McElhany described the general methods used to create the summary tables, figures, and maps included with each population. This was described in a separate document. A number of ODFW staff participated during the two days (some were only available one day) to go through the scoring exercise as well.

The group present scored all 46 populations during the two days and reviewed their initial results. The TRT scores and the ODFW scores were kept separate and compared during the review. During the course of their deliberations, a number of issues were identified (e.g., missing or unavailable data, accessible habitat issues, expanded range and additional populations, and the zero category) which the group felt should be captured in a memo to be included with the final versions of the population status summaries. In addition, during the course of scoring the populations, each member had the opportunity to incorporate notes for further consideration. Jim Myers agreed to capture the major issues as well as the notes in a draft memo for review by other TRT members prior to broader distribution.

II. ACTION ITEMS

Action Items – Oregon Populations	Who	When
1. Develop draft memo capturing the issues raised by the TRT when scoring the populations.	Jim Myers	Thursday, December 11 – COMPLETED
2. Review memo drafted by Jim in order to distribute it with scoring sheets to ODFW and the Ex Com and others as appropriate.	All TRT members	Thursday, December 18
3. Participate in follow-up call with ODFW staff to discuss implications of meeting on future TRT efforts.	Paul McElhany	Monday, December 15 – COMPLETED
4. Finalize and distribute memo to ODFW and the Ex Com.	Paul McElhany	Tuesday, December 23
5. Distribute Population Status Data Reports to members not in attendance.	JJ Westfall	ASAP
Action Items – Next TRT Meeting	Who	When
6. Send schedule availability forms to TRT members.	JJ Westfall	Wednesday, December 10 – COMPLETED
7. Submit schedule availability forms.	All TRT members	Monday, December 15 – COMPLETED
8. Identify dates for the next TRT meeting and distribute information.	Paul McElhany and JJ Westfall	Friday, December 19
9. Develop proposal for future TRT focus.	Paul McElhany and Patty Dornbusch	Mid-January

Documents Distributed at the Meeting

1. Draft General Methods for Population Evaluation Data Analysis
2. Draft General Habitat Overview
3. Draft Lower Columbia Chinook Populations Status Data Report
4. Draft Lower Columbia Coho Populations Status Data Report
5. Draft Lower Columbia Chum Populations Status Data Report
6. Draft Lower Columbia Steelhead Population Status Data Report
7. Draft Upper Willamette Chinook Populations Status Data Report
8. Draft Upper Willamette Steelhead Population Status Data Report
9. SimSalmon Datasets

TRT Members in Attendance:

- Tom Backman (Friday only)
- Craig Busack
- Paul McElhany
- Jim Myers
- Dan Rawding
- Ashley Steel
- Cleve Steward
- Tim Whitesel (Thursday only)

ODFW Staff in Attendance:

- Dick Caldwell (Thursday only)
- Suzanne Knapp
- Kathryn Kostow
- Steve Mamoyac
- Tom Stahl
- Jeff Ziller

Others in Attendance:

- Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE (Friday only)
- Patty Dornbusch, NOAA Fisheries (Friday only)
- Michael Mahr, NOAA Fisheries
- J.J. Westfall, NOAA Fisheries
- Chuck Willis, US Army Corps of Engineers
- WRI Staff Person