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Eulachon Listing and Resources

### Eulachon

(pronounced you-lakon in the United States), also known as candlefish, small fish, savior fish, salvation fish, fathom fish, Columbia River smelt, hoolakan, hooligan, hoolikan, olachan, ollachan, oolachan, oolichan, oulachan, oulachon, oulacon, ulchen, ulichan, uthecan, yshuh, ooligan, olachen, olachon, quat-ra, páagwáls, are found in the North East Pacific Ocean.

## Eulachon Newsletter! December 2014

### Introduction

Welcome! In this issue of the Eulachon Newsletter I provide a few updates on upcoming events, recovery planning, and research activities.

Also, reports are coming in that eulachon have been observed in the Cowlitz and Lewis Rivers. So the eulachon run is on!

### The Basics of a Recovery Plan

Section 4(f) of the ESA requires the preparation and implementation of recovery plans for all listed species. Under Section 4(f)(1)(B), to the maximum extent practicable, each plan must contain at a minimum:

- 1) A description of such site-specific management actions as may be necessary to achieve the plan's goal for the conservation and survival of the species;
- 2) Objective, measurable criteria that, when met, would result in a determination that the species be removed from the list;
- 3) Estimates of the time required and the cost to carry out those measures needed to achieve the plan's goal and achieve intermediate steps toward that goal.

### Upcoming Events

NOAA is planning on holding the first Stakeholder Group meeting in March 2015. The meeting will be held in Portland, OR. Stakeholder Group members, please mark your calendars. Details for the meeting to follow in a separate e-mail.

### Updates from the Recovery Team

The Recovery Team has spent the past few months refining the approach to delisting criteria for the eulachon recovery plan. We anticipate on having preliminary delisting criteria, as well as a draft set of recovery actions, in time for the Stakeholder Group meeting in March.

Additionally, we have been working hard on other parts of the recovery plan, and we anticipate having a draft recovery plan available for public review and input by the fall/winter of 2015.

## Updates on Research Activities

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are continuing their spawning stock biomass research on eulachon in the Columbia River and selected tributaries in Washington and Oregon. This is the fifth year of research estimating the abundance and productivity of eulachon in the Columbia River.

In September 2014, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife submitted their Project Completion Report to NOAA for on Studies of Eulachon Smelt in Oregon and Washington. This report details the findings of (1) Columbia River eulachon spawning stock biomass, (2) freshwater distribution of eulachon in Oregon and Washington, and (3) marine life stage of eulachon and the impacts of shrimp trawl operations. The report can be found by clicking on the Eulachon Listing and Resources link, under the Quick Links tab.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will also be conducting a series of genetic analyses exploring temporal diversity and structure of spawn timing within the run for the Columbia River subpopulation.

This work by WDFW and ODFW is being funded by NOAA's Species Recovery Grants for States, and funds from NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region.

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe is also conducting a spawning stock biomass estimation on eulachon in the Cowlitz River.

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe has also contracted with a laboratory to conduct a series of genetic analyses to explore inter-tributary structure of eulachon from three tributaries of the Columbia River. This work is being funded by NOAA's Species Recovery Grants for Tribes, and NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region.

That's all for now. Please contact me anytime with questions regarding conservation and management of eulachon.

Sincerely,  
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## Eulachon Newsletter

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