

TRRP Fish Workgroup Meeting Summary

FWS Office, Arcata, CA
Monday, November 9, 2015

Participants

Core members Aaron Martin (YTF), Todd Buxton (FWS), Billy Matilton and George Kautsky (HVTF), Seth Naman (NOAA), Eric Wiseman (FS), Steve Cannata (CDFW)

Others in attendance Dave Hillemeier and Shane Quinn (YTF), Joe Polos (FWS)

Note taker Todd Buxton

New Actions Items

- Provide project prioritizations for FY17 to Buxton by 5p, November 10, 2015
- Webinar/meeting to finalize FY17 prioritization list 3p, November 17, 2015

Work Group recommendations/decisions

- None

Notes

Group discussed approaches for accomplishing the fish synthesis report, and several options were identified. It was suggested the report be completed in sections rather than as a comprehensive document; a proposal was then made to first focus on Chinook spawner-recruit analysis. Another idea was to complete cohort analysis and use the results to guide composition of the report. Members recognized that if cohort analysis was undertaken now, there would be several gaps in the analysis and interpretation of results, most notably juvenile survival in the Klamath River and marine survival and commercial and sport catches in marine waters. Nonetheless, it was offered that cohort analysis be undertaken with existing data so that findings can be used to identify critical missing pieces of information that may be collected to improve results. When asked, Polos replied that it was Buxton's responsibility to coordinate completion of the fish synthesis report, but it was noted that Buxton has no authority to assign responsibility or enforce deadlines in accomplishing this task.

The group discussed project prioritizations for FY17 for the bulk of the meeting. A spreadsheet table Buxton had distributed to members to guide the prioritization process was replaced by a spreadsheet used to prioritize projects for FY16. Discussions on project prioritization generally centered on how to bundle proposed methods with project objectives, modifications to existing projects, and the need for and goals of new proposed work. Members decided to provide Buxton their prioritization lists by 5p, November 10. Buxton will summarize and disseminate the lists to members for final discussion on November 17.

The group discussed the need, logistics, and challenges associated with installing and operating a floating weir and video technology to make total counts of escapement for all adult salmonids at the Willow Creek weir. Several points for and against these changes to current weir operations were presented. Discussions concluded with the group showing support for a dedicated meeting to address the suite of issues associated with video and floating weir operations and whether these approaches are needed at the WCW site.