

Bruce A. Measure
Chair
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

W. Bill Booth
Idaho

James A. Yost
Idaho



Joan M. Dukes
Vice-Chair
Oregon

Bill Bradbury
Oregon

Tom Karier
Washington

Phil Rockefeller
Washington

September 1, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Karl Weist

SUBJECT: Briefing on ODFW Fish and Wildlife Program Activities

Curt Melcher, Deputy Director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will brief the Council on Fish and Wildlife Program support activities conducted by the Department, and on some activities not funded by the Program but related to and supporting the Council's Program.

c:\users\weist\documents\briefing\9-11 astoria\odfw program activities - counclmemo.docx (Karl Weist)

Managing Oregon's Fish and Wildlife Resources

**NORTHWEST POWER & CONSERVATION COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 14, 2011**

CURT MELCHER, TOM RIEN



ODFW Mission

2

Our mission is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

Background: ODFW Agency Structure

3

- **Seven-member Commission appointed by the Governor**
- **Director Roy Elicker**
- **Deputy Director Curt Melcher**
- **Deputy Director Debbie Colbert**
- **About 1,300 FTE Employees**
- **4 Regions**
- **25 District and Field offices**
- **34 Hatchery Facilities**
- **15 Fish Rearing Facilities**
- **20 Wildlife Areas**

Background: What We Do

4

- ✓ Monitor fish and wildlife populations
- ✓ Enhance fisheries & fishing opportunities
- ✓ Restore threatened and endangered species
- ✓ Conserve at-risk wildlife & their habitats
- ✓ Improve passage at dams and other obstacles
- ✓ Mitigate impacts to fish & wildlife during
- ✓ Manage wildlife areas
- ✓ Help private landowners reduce wildlife damage and improve wildlife habitat
- ✓ Open millions of acres of private land to hunting
- ✓ Certify 8,000 new hunters in hunter safety education every year
- ✓ Teach families to fish, clam and hunt in outdoor skills workshops
- ✓ Research best practices for managing the wild and hatchery fish

Today's Topics

5

- **Conservation Planning**
- **Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program**
- **Fisheries Performance and Forecast**
- **Regional Coordination Commitments**

Lower Columbia River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Oregon Populations of Salmon & Steelhead

6

- **Coho, Chinook, Steelhead, Chum**
- **Goals for Delisting and Broad-Sense Recovery**
- **Assess Threats and Limiting Factors**
- **Describe Strategies and Management Actions**
 - Protect and Restore Estuary and Tributary Habitat
 - Harvest strategies that emphasize Hatchery Fish
 - Hydropower Operations
 - Minimize Hatchery Straying
 - Manage Competition and Predation
- **Implementation**
- **Adaptive Management Frameworks**
- **Research, Monitoring & Evaluation**

Lower Columbia River Conservation and Recovery Plan for White Sturgeon

7

- **Thresholds for Conservation Status**
- **Desired Status Goals**
- **Assess Population Viability**
- **Identify Threats and Limiting Factors**
- **Describe Strategies and Management Actions**
 - Reduce Sea Lion Predation
 - Reduce the effects of Hydropower Operations
 - Protect spawning and rearing habitat
 - Compensate for other losses by reducing Harvest Rate
- **Implementation**
- **Adaptive Management Frameworks**
- **Research, Monitoring & Evaluation**

The Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program

- \$117 Million for acquisition, 2010 to 2025
- Acquire a total of 26,537 acres
- Public Advisory Committee will assist ODFW in developing criteria to select projects
- Four projects submitted to BPA for 2011
- Fourteen in preparation for 2012

Willamette Mitigation Acquisitions

Acquisition Sites	Acres	BPA Cost	Total Cost
<u>Approved in 2010</u>			
Wildish	1,270	\$23,000,000	
Trappist Abby	1,343	\$12,000,000	
<u>Submitted in 2011</u>			
Horseshoe Lake	205	\$250,000	\$900,000
Harkens Lake	347	\$250,000	\$900,000
N Santiam Property	293	\$1,000,000	3,500,000
S Eugene Meadows	193	\$1,075,000	\$3,200,000
<u>Proposed for 2012</u>			
14 Solicitations	2,368		\$9,500,000

2011 Fisheries Performance

10

- **Preseason objectives -- Season, Days & Catch**
- **Post-season or In-season Performance**

- **Spring Chinook**
- **Summer Chinook**
- **White Sturgeon**

2011 Upriver Spring Chinook Fishery Performance

Fishery	<u>Pre Season</u>		<u>Post Season</u>		<u>Take</u>
	Dates	Days	Dates	Days	Allowed Post Season
Mainstem Commercial					3,472
Select Area Commercial					276
Sport Below Bonneville	3/1 - 4/4	35	3/1 - 4/4 & 5/15 - 6/15	66	9,440
Sport Above Bonneville	3/16 - 4/24	40	3/16 - 5/1, 5/7 - 5/10 & 6/3 - 6/16	65	4,735
					22,400 17,923

2011 Summer Chinook Fishery Performance

Fishery	<u>Pre Season</u>		<u>Post Season</u>		<u>Take</u>	
	Dates	Days	Dates	Days	Allowed	Post Season
Ocean Harvest						3,263
Mainstem Commercial						5,076
Sport Below PRD	6/16 – 7/31	46	6/16 – 7/16	31		5,328
Sport Above PRD	7/1 – 8/31	62	7/1 – 8/31	62		~ 5,000
					23,000	18,667

2011 White Sturgeon Fishery Performance

Fishery	<u>Pre Season</u>		<u>In Season</u>		<u>Harvest</u>	
	Dates	Days	Dates	Days	Guideline	To date
Mainstem Commercial			Ongoing		3,400	2,108
Sport – Below Wauna	1/1 – 4/30 5/14 – 6/26 & 7/1 – 7/4	168	1/1 – 4/30 5/14 – 7/31	199	6,800	6,435
Sport - Above Wauna	1/1 – 7/31 & 10/13 – 12/31	103	Ongoing		3,410	~ 658
Lower Willamette			2/1 - 3/13		2,550	2,688
					16,160	
Sport - Bonneville Res			1/1 – 2/19 6/30 – 7/2 7/7 – 7/8	54	2,000	2,341
Sport - The Dalles Res			1/1 - 7/29	210	300	222
Sport - John Day Res			1/1 – 4/10	100	500	532
					2,800	

Regional Coordination

14

- **Oregon works closely with State and Tribal Co-Managers on issues of common interest through a broad range of existing forums that address Wildlife, Resident Fish, and Anadromous Fish Issues**
- **We will work with co-managers to develop a joint set of recommendations for the next amendment of the Council Fish and Wildlife Program**

Regional Coordination

15

Council and Bonneville Initiatives

- Subbasin Planning
- Tagging Forum
- Coordinated Assessments

A scenic photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow that reflects on the water's surface. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. In the background, there are silhouettes of trees and a bridge. The text "Questions/Comments" is overlaid in the center in a white, serif font.

Questions/Comments