

PRISM Modifications

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) revised their reporting metrics in the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) database. We are working with NOAA and the RCO’s programmers to make significant updates to PRISM to implement the new metrics. Funds from the 2008 and 2009 PCSRF grants are funding the work.

In addition, RCO has been working on a module in PRISM for progress and final reports. This module will increase communication between RCO staff and sponsors. Lead entities and regions also will have access to help them track their projects’ progress. The progress report module is currently being tested and should be available for use in the next couple of months.

Project Administration

Since the beginning of the salmon recovery effort in 1999, 1,531 projects have been funded. As of September 17, 2009, sponsors have completed 1,028 projects (about 67.1 percent).

Funding Cycle	Fiscal Year	Active Projects	Pending Projects	Completed Projects	Total
GSRO Federal 1999	1999	0	0	94	94
Early Action (IRT) State 1999	1999	0	0	163	163
SRFB - Early (State) 2000	2000	1	0	89	90
SRFB - Second Round 2000	2001	3	0	145	148
SRFB - Third Round 2001	2002	2	0	130	132
SRFB - Fourth Round 2002	2003	10	0	78	88
SRFB – Fifth Round 2004	2004	21	0	88	109
SRFB – Sixth Round 2005	2006	43	0	66	109
SRFB – Seventh Round 2006	2007	60	0	38	98
SRFB – 2007 Grant Round (<i>includes PSAR</i>)	2008	213	0	22	235
SRFB – 2008 Grant Round ⁱ	2009	106	1 ⁱⁱ	1	108
Family Forest Fish Passage Program	To Date	43	317 ⁱⁱⁱ	114	157
Totals		501	1	1028	1,531
Percent		32.73%	.00065%	67.1%	

IRT: Interagency Review Team (Early Action grant cycle);
 GSRO: Governor’s Salmon Recovery Office

ⁱ The numbers in the table include some “programmatic grants,” so the 2008 grant round totals differ from those in the text.

ⁱⁱ These projects are awaiting signature. A project is not under agreement (“active”) until both parties have signed.

ⁱⁱⁱ FFFPP projects landowners that have applied to the program and are waiting to become a high priority for funding. These projects are not included in totals.



STATE OF WASHINGTON

GOVERNOR'S SALMON RECOVERY OFFICE

Natural Resources Building, PO Box 43135 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3135

MEETING DATE: October 2009

ITEM NUMBER: 2B

TITLE: Salmon Recovery Management Report: Governor's Salmon Recovery Office

PREPARED BY: Phil Miller, Interim Team Lead

APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR:

The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) transition into the Recreation and Conservation Office has gone smoothly and, except for the permanent hiring of the GSRO Executive Coordinator, is essentially completed. GSRO has taken on contract management responsibility for the regional salmon recovery organization and lead entity operations grants. Highlights of recent developments and activities involving GSRO include:

2008 Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion

In September, the federal defendants filed additional documents that respond to questions raised by Judge Redden. These documents include a more extensive Adaptive Management Implementation Plan and an Estuary Habitat Memorandum of Agreement with the State of Washington. Washington is a defendant intervener in the challenge to the 2008 FCRPS Biological Opinion. The parties to the litigation are awaiting further ruling by Judge Redden.

Regional Reviews

We are conducting performance reviews with all regional salmon recovery organizations, and expect to provide a summary report to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) by the December meeting. These reviews are coordinated with Megan Duffy, who is working on the assessments of regional efficiencies and coordination opportunities required by the Legislature.

Mid-Columbia Steelhead Plan

NOAA Fisheries adopted a final recovery plan for Mid-Columbia Steelhead on September 30. This recovery plan covers the entire Distinct Population Segment (DPS) area (i.e., Washington and Oregon) and incorporates steelhead plans for the Yakima Basin and areas of the Snake River region that were previously approved as interim plans by NOAA Fisheries. This is the first multi-state salmon recovery plan to be adopted by NOAA. A Mid-Columbia Steelhead Recovery Forum has been formed to assist in bi-state coordination of plan implementation. Two additional multi-state final recovery plans – Lower Columbia and Snake River – are still in development.

Washington Coast Region Leadership

The Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership (WCSSP) Fiscal Agent, Grays Harbor County, did not renew the contract for WCSSP Executive Director, Nancy Allison. On September 16, the WCSSP discussed this action and decided to retain Grays Harbor County as the fiscal agent and to move forward with the regional activities outlined in their contract with the RCO. The current program assistant, Miles Batchelder, will serve as Interim Executive Director while they recruit for a permanent executive director.

The most notable decision embedded in the adopted indicators for salmon recovery is the principle that the unit of measurement for salmon recovery is population (versus, for example, stocks). While Forum members recognize that much work remains to align monitoring efforts with these indicators, the Forum's adoption of the measures represents a significant step toward clarifying the monitoring objectives and target indicators for the state.

Adoption of High-Level Indicator Categories for Watershed Health

The Forum also adopted the main *categories* for high-level indicators for watershed health (Attachment B). That step narrows the focus for the remaining work to develop and agree on the specific indicators and actual measures (metrics) that will inform the indicators, which are due in December.

Invitations to Become Members of the Forum

The Forum agreed to extend invitations to both the Bonneville Power Administration and the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission to become members of the Forum.

Forum Budget Letter to OFM and the Legislature

The Forum is required to make annual recommendations to the Office of Financial Management and the main legislative committees on agency budget requests related to monitoring. In light of the state's budget situation and the declining economy, no state agencies reported any plans to forward monitoring budget requests for this year's supplemental budget. The Forum's letter acknowledged that outcome, along with its hope that agencies would maintain their on-going commitments to monitoring programs that support the state's Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy and Forum priorities.

Attachments

- A. Forum approved high level indicators for salmon recovery
- B. Forum draft high level indicators for watershed health

ATTACHMENT A: FORUM APPROVED HIGH LEVEL INDICATORS FOR SALMON RECOVERY

Washington Forum on Monitoring: High Level Indicators for Salmon

Fish Abundance (salmon, steelhead, bull trout)

- **Total adult spawners**
- **Total adults harvested**
- **Total juvenile out-migrants**

For listed species by population
(rolls up into MPG and ESU)

*Enumerated separately for wild
fish and hatchery fish*

For all species by population
(not currently compiled)

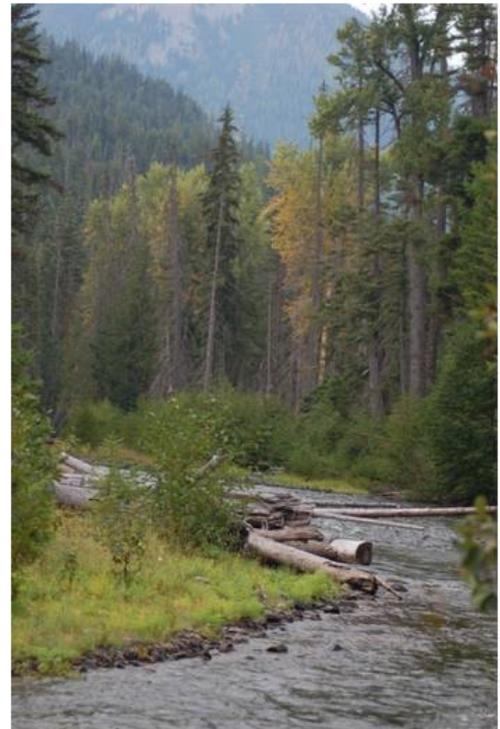
*Enumerated separately for wild
fish and hatchery fish*



ATTACHMENT B: FORUM DRAFT HIGH LEVEL INDICATORS FOR WATERSHED HEALTH

Watershed Health *proposed high-level indicators*

- **Water Quality**
Ecology WQ Index (by region/province)
- **Stream Flow**
% time in-stream flows met Aug - Sept
- **Sediment Quality**
sub-set of sediment quality measures
- **Habitat Quality (in-stream & riparian)**
sub-set of habitat measures
- **Biological Health (in-stream)**
macro-invertebrate index
- **Land Use / Land Cover**
% impervious surface; % forest, urban, ag



Lead Entity Reductions

In late August, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) completed their reimbursements to the lead entities for fiscal year 2009 expenses. Due to underexpenditures, we expect that WDFW will be able to return sufficient funds to cover the two and five percent reductions to the lead entity contracts for this biennium.

The returned funds also will be made available to provide a \$9,000 stipend per biennium to the chair of the Lead Entity Advisory Group and \$16,000 for training for lead entity coordinators. This action will restore nearly all the support for lead entities that has been provided in the past by WDFW.