

8 July 2008 MCWC Council Meeting

Called to order: introductions, 16 people in attendance

Recorder report: one action taken to approve a letter supporting additional work money for salmon fishermen

Treasurer report: We have 36000 in the account, about 5000 payable; 112, 000 receivable-see handout. We invested \$1,200,217 in MIDCOAST region this fiscal year

Education Program:

At sea distribution of tagged Chinook and Coho Laurie Weitkamp:

Laurie works for NMFS/NOAA, she is a fish biologist, salmon biologist

Most of her duties work on endangered salmon. Coho are back on the endangered species list (listed as threatened).

Marine distributions of salmon inferred from coded wire tag CWT recoveries. Technical recovery team-federal scientists identifying status of Oregon coast coho. CWT coded wire tags are input to the fish they are small magnetized metal tags tags must be removed to read the code so the fish is dead, cost is 0.15 per tag, about 1 mm long. They are tagged as groups. They are tagged about 4000 per day per person tagging. Hatchery fish are tagged at the hatchery. The tags are recovered in fisheries, on spawning ground or at the hatchery. There is a wand used to identify that a fish has a tag. These are the primary tool for salmon management. Used to determine the harvest and survival rates, distributions, 50 million CWTs are released -39 million Chinook 10 million Coho-275,000 adult salmon are recovered. This is Washington and Oregon. The fin is no longer clipped. If the fin is clipped it is a hatchery fish. Marine distributions-methods using the data base, contains information about every release group hatchery, stock release location release date, brood year, size, number released. Contains recovery information on-location, date, length, weight sex, location type, fishery type, hatchery spawning ground. The Chinook base has over 21000 release groups, 833 million Chinook from 350 hatcheries.

Millions of CWTs released and recovered in Chinook and Coho every year, 15 million dollars a year for this system. Laurie noted a limited amount of CWT on wild fish release and recoveries so she focuses on hatcheries with consistently large releases and recoveries. Release groups with hatchery name = stock=release location-Use marine recoveries in CWT database to determine ocean distribution patterns - salmon-fishers as samplers of marine environment, using recoveries 1979-1994, 77 hatcheries, 16 wild groups for Chinook-spring, fall and summer as well as late fall Coho 90 hatcheries and 36 wild groups-fall populations. On the Oregon coast-Trask, Salmon, Rock creek, Elk, Cole rivers, Nehalem, Siletz, Fall creek. 8000 marine recovery area codes assigned to 21 areas, follow fishery management boundaries, Approximately equal sized areas. For Oregon used Cape Falcon, Heceta Head, Humbug Mt. as recovery areas.

Results-Marine Recovery patterns were displayed as bar charts, summarized in maps Coho patterns and Chinook vs. Coho for 1.5 million recoveries-Cook Inlet to Monterey Bay....Coho from a geographic region share a common recovery, Abrupt breaks show up in the patterns .65 million fish recoveries for Chinook patterns

Spring, summer, fall and late fall have distinct differences, Spring run come into rivers in the spring, Spring runs that are caught are the first/second year out Chinook fall run only: the break points are more obvious in the chart and looks more like Coho. Chinook from a geographic regions show some coherence but more variation in recovery patterns, unique patterns associated with run timing and transitions

Coho Recovery maps: Washington mainly come from the north, Columbia river and south from the south so have a different migration pattern

Columbia has type N and Type S Coho. Type N 12% south of Heceta, 39% of type S SE Alaska coho and spring Chinook similar

W cast Van Is-fall Chinook wide spread, coho closer to home

Columbia River Chinook are quite widespread for all categories

They all entered at the same place but have very different distribution

Rogue River Chinook released on the Columbia and they moved south

The 2008 closure contains 94% of the Chinook recoveries

Chinook recoveries: Far from home, mostly north of home, widely dispersed Recovery patterns are very similar year to year

Ocean age=recovery year-release year shows the distribution percent recovered by area, when they are young they are caught close to home, as they get older they are caught in Alaska and farther from home

Summary: Coho distributions are region specific with little transition between adjacent regions, Chinook are more variable. A large genetic component is evident Unexpected diversity in marine realm for salmon. They know where they are going. CWT data base unique opportunity to explore changes in recovery patterns with global warming, life history diversity in FW and marine realms, salmon in ecosystems where are they? Hatchery fish don't stray much 5%.

1995 fishery closure began-west coast Van Island so it is difficult to continue the study as there aren't many fishing effort happening.

Have the movement patterns changed? Are the fish moving north due to global warming? They are trying to listen for salmon going by through a listening system. This is expensive though. The juvenile fish have a group that heads way north at incredible speeds because they make it to AK in 2 months-Coho and Chinook

Break

Technical Team report: Fran gave report, wetland conservation project was completed in December of this year in the Yaquina. Esther Lev from the Wetlands Conservancy who will be owning the property came to the tech team to meet people. The land was purchased primarily from Green Diamond Timber. The conservation area consists of 270 acres of undisturbed high tidal marsh habitat and 150 acres of forested upland primarily in McCaffery Slough, on the south side of Yaquina Bay, as well as in

the upper Yaquina, upriver of Toledo, with additional holdings in Poole Slough and Johnson Slough. A handout was provided summarizing the project, its supporters, and the funding sources—primarily from National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants matched with OWEB dollars;

Uplands linkages with estuary was talked about-Gray Foundation;

Beaver management proposal dropping off Five Rivers portions, leaving in Upper Yaquina project-- Plant willow and alder in canary reed grass areas--will beavers return as part of legacy species grant due July 28th-Upper Yaquina listed habitat as limiting factor; Action plan discussion for 2002 --26 fields at the start, 15 completed--what's next Basin treatment ? what do we want to do next? Hire a project manager?;

DEQ has a clean water website comment time--Timeline for discussion is not decided at this point; Jeff Light Plum Creek reported that the fish log bank got first deposit-- Capital Partners diverted 50 feet and longer logs, storage area at Salmon River. Logging companies need to know about this so that they don't cut them so short, \$54 a ton.

Basin Planning Team Report:

Siletz next meeting is Aug 19th at the Library or maybe a picnic

We will be having a Monthly business meeting, 2nd Wednesday of the month

Valsetz reservoir discussion, hope is it will die down, some like Rocky Creek plan

Blue water task force Surfrider plan was the presentation for in stream

DHS drinking water grants for \$20,000 each from the cities, drinking water protection grants, hoping that we'll work together and pool the money for \$60,000 to use.

More forms of water quality testing is of interest to the groups.

They wrote a letter to the Marine Board and delivered it to Salem. Schools working with the watershed council. 80 hours a month is needed. Mill Park Program waiting for permits backed up by slopes. \$400 cleanup money for hauling waste out of the creek.

Yaquina Basin Team: having a meeting to work on a plan and collaborate with HMSC.

Salmon Drift Watershed Council: Corinna sent it to Wayne H, will distribute electronically

Admin Committee Report: financial report was approved, admin budget approved--see handout. There have been some problems with vendor charges to LSWCD instead of MCWC. We need to know the account number and MCWC is working on protocols to address.

Education Report: 5706 Highway 20 Olalla Creek Festival

Announcements: MCWC meeting is at Ernie Brown's house 6:30

Refreshments voted yes, most wanted coffee; Fran announced that the Port of Newport stabilizing boat, public should look at the revised plans carefully, check out the permit application—potential concerns filling in estuary, inside the ship has not been emptied of toxic waste. Check the DSL website. July the 12th is highway cleanup 9am.

Adjourn: 8:41 pm