

Bob Amrine Eric Delvin, Lonnie Crumley, Jim Hill, Lee Napier, Brian Peck, Chad Stussy and John Kliem were present.

Bob Amrine opened the meeting.

Strategy Update

John Kliem asked the group to share their issues with the current strategy:

- Fish miles for barriers corrections stated 3 miles for high priority action with some exceptions. That needs to be revised.
- Encourage work in the smaller tributaries which are often low priority areas.
- Hard to justify working in the smaller subbasin and/or smaller streams.
- Fill in the data gaps with recent assessments.
- Are we missing the projects that benefit multiple species and life history stages?
- Wetlands might need more focus/emphasis.
- Though not listed, depressed species need protection. Might consider using priority habitats for area without depressed stocks. Protection of tribal treaty rights.

Kliem presented an overview of the approach to update the strategy. The steps include:

Questions from the group:

- How will we prioritize our areas and actions?
- Salmonid Profile should maybe characterize the historical runs with a better analysis of fish distribution trends.

Kliem introduced the conceptual model which is based on work by Beechie and Bolton¹. The key points are:

- Focus on causes of habitat degradation rather than effects of degradation
- Recognize that salmon have adapted to freshwater systems that are naturally temporally dynamic
- Restore natural rates and magnitude of habitat-forming processes
- Use an ecosystem approach to assess the subbasin on a watershed and reach level
- Sequence locally prioritized restoration and protection actions.

Comments about the model:

- What about enhancement? Such as RSI to help restore the runs after the project corrects the problem.

Process for accomplishing the strategy update:

- Assess the article by Beechie and Bolton
- In November have a workshop to have a focused conversation on the conceptual model.
- Identify how we can best incorporate the model and improve subbasin chapters.

- Individual assignments to prepare subbasin chapters (assessment and restoration/protection actions)
- Workshop on identifying draft WRIA-wide priorities.
- Host an open house and workshop to identify community issues
- Workshop for integrating draft WRIA-wide priorities with community issues
- Prepare draft comment, and adopt revised strategy

What do you like about the draft approach to updating the strategy?

- Salmon profile addition and species based approach.
- We need to emphasize preventative measures to avoid a listing.
- The conservation action plan approach seems reasonable for this basin.
- Public outreach and could include CBP community issues.
- Inclusion of past projects in the subbasin descriptions.

What don't you like about the draft approach to updating the strategy?

- How do we get a large number of participants for the community issues identification workshop?
- We need to be clear about recovery and what we are addressing.
- Double check the salmonid profile descriptions.
- Use all available information for the subbasin descriptions and tables.
- Is there a step were we bring all the information we know to the table?

What challenges do we face in following this approach to updating the strategy and how do we overcome them?

- Do we have the people here to do the process? In particular subbasin assignments.
- Public participation

The next meeting is November is cancelled. The next meeting will December 9, 2005 at the Lewis Conservation District. The agenda will include an informational presentation from Mason Conservation District and continue working on the strategy update with John Kliem. Remember to bring your copy of the strategy.

ⁱ *An Approach to Restoring Salmonid Habitat-forming Processes in Pacific Watersheds* article from Volume 24, No 4. *Ecosystem Recovery Planning for Listed Salmon: An Integrated Assessment Approach for Salmon Habitat*, December 2003. For copies contact Lee Napier.