

Meeting of the Governor's Salmon Workgroup

10-29-2019 – Twin Falls

See sign in sheet for Attendance

Presentations Available on Office of Species Conservation Website on Governor's Salmon Workgroup page

- Meeting was started late due to weather and road conditions
 - Agenda was revised

Introduction by Representative Fred Wood

Agenda Subgroup Presentation

- Katherine Himes
 - Subgroup has been meeting for couple months
 - Try to plan meeting and think about what would be useful at future meeting
 - Try to get topics they think they need to be covered deeper
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Where we left in Lewiston was questioning whether the subgroup is to be focused on process or just content of meeting
 - Where we landed is that we try to plan out future meeting
 - Procedurally we are in a holding pattern to mission and possibly goals subgroup
 - If there is anything to discuss is it's whether that group should plan around the goals that are possibly adopted by goals subgroup
 - If not maybe cover template for Boise meeting on how we get goals
- Katherine Himes – questions or comments for others on workgroup
- Scott Pugrud– Sounds like the process and content issue was raised as well in the mission statement subgroup – framework and structure discussed
 - Two groups should coordinate so we are not duplicating efforts.
- Aaron Lieberman – this meeting is first meeting where agenda subgroup has really had a hand in crafting content of meeting so will be good test case
- Richards Scully
 - Part of agenda committee
 - We've gone through several sections on habitat
 - We're not all the way done with habitat, at next meeting we'll have a presentation from Russ Thurow
 - Looking forward to that to complete habitat portion
 - In regards to agenda setting, I wonder when we should start thinking about taking the info we have and starting to developing policy recommendations
- Katherine Himes – there be a little bit of that today and an hour set aside tomorrow to begin that discussion

Sam Eaton – Governor’s Office – update from Governor’s office

- I am policy director and legal counsel for governor with a focus on natural resources
- Thank you all for being here because I know this is a large commitment
 - You have all taken it on graciously
- You were all chosen for a specific reason
 - Much of it is because of your background but another part is your ability to work collaboratively
 - Your ability to be open minded and work with others is a large reason why you were put on this group
- This is your 4th meeting and I’m feeling quite a bit of momentum
 - Lots of excitement surrounding this and there seems to be an eagerness to get something out but remember that these groups take time to be successful
- Statesman article talked about the Owyhee Initiative and its success, but importantly it noted that it took 8 years to be successful
 - Takes time to build relationships to where your comfortable to start having good discussions
 - I wish these things could go faster but they take time, but I think you’re on the right track
- There have been some questions on what recommendations may look like
 - You are architects of your own destiny
 - Governor is not interested in recommendations that are not consensus based
 - I’ll leave it to you to determine what consensus means
- Governor is really appreciative of your efforts on this
- The expectation should be to have recommendations to Governor by December of 2020

Sam open for questions

Brett Dumas

- I think that one of the challenges is the four lower snake dams
- There are members that see that as silver bullet to salmon and other as seeing it as ending their industry
- I think that issue is holding us back
- Do you have recommendations to get passed that?

Sam Eaton

- Governor has said that he doesn’t think taking dams out is silver bullet
- He’s not interested in receiving a recommendation that are not consensus based
- Don’t want this issue to swallow the entire conversation and prevent other options from being discussed
- We need to be realistic and know that this group is not going to agree on that issue

- That the group should discuss the issue but if the recommendation is that there's no consensus then I would prefer you not waste the time

Richard Scully

- Over the years there have been groups that have said that in order for Idaho's salmon to recover we need SAR 's between 4-6%
- Currently they're lower than that
- If our goal is to recover salmon in Idaho and we don't want to look down river I'm having a hard time figuring out what our options are in Idaho to recover them
- I would love to find solutions to issues in Idaho but I don't know what those are

Sam Eaton

- I agree and that is why I think you all are on this group
- It's important that this group exists to examine this issues, this group wasn't here a year ago and that's progress
- I do hope that you can come up with meaningful ideas and recommendation

Justin Hayes

- Would like to affirm what Richard just said
- Many of us have been involved in this issue for a long time
- I've been uncomfortable with the idea that sideboards being put on this project because it makes it difficult to have real discussions
- What if group makes recommendations that will help but don't address the hydro system and we don't think the recommendations will be successful without it?
 - Does the governor want us to give recommendations that we think won't work?

Sam Eaton

- No
- I think it's up to the group to decide what recommendations look like
- The governor knows that this group is not going to come to a consensus on dam breaching one way or another so he would prefer that the group spend time providing consensus-based recommendations that they can agree on
- The goal is to work on things that are achievable and not waste time on things that are not

Brian Brooks

- Don't really have a question but just want to say thank you and address a little of what Brett touched on
- From the presentations we've heard we know that there is no silver bullet
 - I don't think anyone thinks that dam breaching is solution
- As long as Governor Little recognizes that this is a bottom-up grass roots effort not a top-down, I think it will be fine

- Reporters are circling this issue and it speaks to the validity of the process
- I think the Governor is right that we need to be patient and work things out

Chad Colter

- Thank you for being here Sam
- I too have been struggling with where we're going and what kind of policy recommendations we can come up with that aren't already in place, especially considering sideboards
- I have been doing this for years and fish are very important to our culture
- This is place that we believed was a utopia before all the people were here
- In a short time it has all disappeared without much being given back to us
- I don't know where we can go with sideboards on it
- Time is ticking rapidly on the fish
- Anadromy throughout its historic range are our aspirations that we hope to get to some day
- At the end of the day I want to make sure that our participation in this group has some value
- I'm struggling to see the additional pieces that we can provide
- I truly believe that there are pieces already being decided without a lot of tribal input
- Traditional cultural processes that we knew are being lost
- Maybe I'll be pleasantly surprised that people will have ideas to add
- Not a question more of just a comment that tribes don't believe their perspective is being considered sufficiently in this issue in Idaho

Sam Eaton

- Thank you for your comments and its' a good point that there are several values to salmon
- Having this group of diverse groups together to get educated on the issues is positive progress

Mark Davidson

- I'm going to try to remain optimistic that a policy will get recommended
- The implication is that there will be some sort of action taken on policy recommendations provided
- How does the Governor see the process going for after the policy recommendations are provided in getting them enacted or implemented?

Sam Eaton

- There has been discussion on this
- I would pull examples from other workgroups
 - Owyhee Initiative, Sage Grouse, Roadless Rule

- When a group like this puts forth recommendations it provides much more force to get things done
- Looking to the success of past groups to show what we can do
- Can't guarantee what legislators will do but having this group behind recommendations makes it stronger

Aaron Lieberman

- I think its good to have that clarification
- Question we had in Agenda Subgroup was what we were expected to do
- Good to know that the Governor is not screening the conversation
- I agree with Brian that there is not a silver bullet
- One thing that people have spoken to is that we are not just discussing the lower 4
- Identify the most limiting factors
- At least we can discuss and provide recommendations and state whether they will be sufficient
- At worst the group falls apart and we're no better off than we were

David Doeringsfeld

- I haven't felt constrained in conversation
- I'm looking forward to discussions downstream issues
- We may not have consensus on dam breaching but there are many things that we may have consensus on
- I don't think we should get caught up on sideboards because we do control our destiny and we shouldn't be afraid to have discussions with each other

Toby Wyatt (sitting in for Roy Akin)

- I'm a fishing guide and have been for years, fish all over several states
- Main part of my business is salmon and steelhead
- I am the only guide that fishes below each and every dam and I witness what goes on there
- I know that dam removal is not going to happen any time soon
 - Fish will probably go extinct before that happens
- We have had some good runs with the dams in the past
 - What were we doing different then that allowed for that?
 - Were we spilling more? Barging more?
 - And what are we not doing now?
- I know that ocean conditions have an effect
- I know that there's no quick fix
- It's been said that these groups take time, but these fish don't have time
- We're going to have to talk about dam removal, no way around it
- These aren't Idaho dams, they're in Washington
 - Why can't we talk about dams not even in Idaho?
- Most issues are not in Idaho, they're downriver

- I think we all need to have dam discussion and not have sideboards
- My livelihood is threatened
 - I'm going to have a hard winter because the permits I have are on Clearwater and I can't fish there now
- Happy to be here

John Simpson

- I look forward to the opportunity to address issues
- Whether they're recommendations or potential actions to be taken
 - I hope that's a possibility
- From our meetings and field trips my eyes have been opened to issues I was not familiar with
- I hope this group can provide realistic recommendations to the Governor
- I hope that we can bring actions and not just policy recommendations

Sam Eaton

- To your point, this group is a pretty autonomous group. We want the members to drive this group
- I understand the direness of the salmon status and I think everyone around the table does
- This is an extremely complex issue with all these different things going on that affects it
- This group could go for 5 years and probably not cover everything that affects Columbia basin
- Issue is balancing knowledge with action and providing recommendations
- Balancing time need with the need to produce something that's productive

Merrill Beyeler

- There have been some things mentioned and alluded to
- Talked about Idaho solution and sideboards
- As we look at scope going forward, do we have clear consent to look outside border of Idaho?
- Second question – do we have ability not just to give policy recommendations or recommend actions as well?

Sam Eaton

- Hadn't really considered the distinction and believed that what this group provides would inform and lead to actions
- If the group recommends an action that requires \$10 million then it may not lead to action
- If there are actions that this group can agree on then great, provide them
- As for the other question, it's up to the group whether you want to look out of state

Joe Oatman

- From the Tribes perspective we couldn't agree more that this is an urgent matter
- Don't have the time to spend years coming up with solutions
- There will be some things that we'll agree upon that are within the power of the Governor
- Should we get to point where we're recommending things that are in Governors power, how easily could that be implemented?

Sam Eaton

- Hard to tell when not knowing what the recommendation is
- Can say that things that require new funding are subject to appropriations and are affected by economic times which can change
- If the group makes recommendations it makes it stronger that the

Scott Pugrud

- I'll Speak to Joe's question because our office handles a lot of that
- We have a board (PCSRF Board) that most members are under the governor so if we get direction from him on a policy priority, we can implement that pretty quickly depending on what the policy is

Brian Brooks

- Legislative session starts in about 70 days; is there anything that the Governor's Office is looking to ask for from the legislature for these efforts

Sam Eaton

- No, not at this point
- We're going to make sure this group is funded through it's life but not looking to make specific requests this session

Kira Finkler

- Thank you, Sam, for being here
- Trout Unlimited has been involved in many collaboratives
- For us it's important for us to be able to discuss everything that's affecting the fish so thank you for clearing that up

Sam Eaton

- The governor does not take this groups effort for granted and does follow the progress the group is making
- There has been a lot of noise surrounding the group and it is what it is. It's a public process an that's the way it should be
- Thank you to the group for showing up monthly to try and reach solutions.
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Presentation on Columbia Basin Partnership by Paul Cline and Katherine Cheney

- Presentations available online on Office of Species Conservation (OSC) website on Governor's Salmon Workgroup page

Questions

Chad Colter

- Really appreciate the process and partnership
- Seems like there are goals that are actually accomplishing something
- We would like to see some metrics of success explored
 - Hope to see that addressed in Phase II
- Another issue is that Idaho did not address blocked areas other than to say we can't do that
 - Interested to see how that is addressed in Phase II
 - Think it should have been addressed at Phase I as aspirational
 - Not sufficient to not address it and just say it's a state law issue
 - State law does not allow reintroduction without state approval

Katherine Cheney

- CBP has talked quite a bit on blocked areas and groups agreed to continue the discussion
- Hope we can reach a consensus on blocked area goals
- If for any reason they can't reach consensus, we may have to do a majority or minority perspective
- But there is a commitment to address it

Brett Dumas

- Have a question on slide on rainbow chart
- My initial understanding of NOAA is that recovery is a goal
- When you talk about goals addressing healthy and harvestable what is NOAA's interests or authority to address issue beyond ESA listing

Katherine Cheney

- They have authority to have healthy fisheries and that would fit in there

Joe Oatman

- Thanks, Katherine, for presentation
- Want to comment on rainbow chart
- Among federal authorities there are treaty and trust obligations as well
- The healthy and harvestable is an area that the tribe would like to get to sooner than later
- Thinks we're more in the red zone which provides little to no harvest opportunity for tribe

- The concern the tribes have is that while this group recognizes sense of urgency is couched in the concept of “here we are today and we have these aspirational goals and hopefully one day we’ll get there”
 - Leaves little comfort to tribes when our social, cultural and economic needs are not being met
 - These are not just aspirations for tribe, our treaty rights need to be satisfied and I just want to make sure that aspect does not get overlooked

Katherine Cheyney

- Thank you for bringing that up and the tribal aspect is extremely important to the CBP group

Mark Davidson

- Been following this process and it’s exciting
- The goals that are outlined in the plan are great and I can see how we might get to minimum threshold
- Does the state view these as the state’s goals since the state is involved in this process

Paul Kline

- The Commission have adopted the Idaho portion of these goals as our goals for the state

Presentation: Flow Augmentation by Michael Bogert, Attorney for Midas Gold and John Roache, Bureau of Reclamation

- Presentations available online on Office of Species Conservation (OSC) website on Governor’s Salmon Workgroup page

Questions for Michaels Bogert

- Chad Colter – do you believe that the 427,000 would be there if the lower 4 snake river dams were removed?
 - Upper snake is providing a lot of flow augmentation; does that go away if those dams are removed
- Michael – I’m not a scientist so I can’t speak to that
 - I don’t know how mother nature will behave in the upper snake if they’re removed
 - Read lines from term sheet about not recognizing flows as benefiting listed species
- Chad Colter
 - There are mentions that there are no species of anadromous fish above Hells Canyon, but there are other species reliant on flows
 - There’s need for water upriver
- Michael Bogert –

- I don't know how it works unless Hells Canyon is gone and I don't know what it does for water quality
- I do know that this 427 agreement is in effect for the next 15 years

John Roache, Bureau of Reclamation

- Presentation available online on Office of Species Conservation (OSC) website on Governor's Salmon Workgroup page

Questions

Aaron Lieberman

- Are grandfathered water rights considered contracted water?

John Roache

- No, I think what you're talking about is a natural flow water right and I'm talking about storage water that has been stored in our system that we contract out

Richards Scully

- When you augment flows at lower granite that flows released at Hells Canyon
- Who determines timing and amount of water released at Hells Canyon?

John Roache

- Essentially, they pass it through at the same flow rates
 - Obviously, we don't operate Hells Canyon so we rely on collaboration

Brian Brooks

- What is source of funds that pays willing sellers

John Roache

- I'm not sure the exact mechanism
 - Michael Bogert – I think it's a standard appropriation

Brett Dumas

- I think of interest to this group is how is flow augmentation is evaluated for its effectiveness

John Roache

- I don't have the answer for that, but the tech team probably makes that determination
 - We're always willing to modify if its consistent with Nez Perce settlement and BiOp
 - Also has to fit with operation restraints

Brett Dumas

- I think it's a question for the broader group to ask if we're using Idaho's water effectively or just pushing it down the stream and is it even being evaluated?
- If no one has an answer then I think it may be a good policy recommendation

Richards Scully

- It seems that if flow augmentation from upper system could be moved into Brownlee then it could be released when needed and possibly be used the most effectively

Kira Finkler

- What if Payette decided locally that they didn't want to participate? what would happen? Would you look to other places in state?

John Roache

- Yes, it's a voluntary seller system so if there are no willing sellers then we will look to powerheads

Kira Finkler

- Could you look at other water sheds in the state or are you limited to ones listed in presentation

John Roache

- Don't quote me, but I think we could

Kira Finkler

- Uncontracted space is water stored in reservoir that has not been sold so it could stay in reservoir, correct?

John Roache

- That is a correct
 - 427 is not a guarantee but it is something we work towards
 - We're running a pretty good track record of hitting it

Justin Hayes

- If that water stayed in Idaho for Idaho uses would it have a multiplier effect of economic benefit?

John Roache

- Some prices are dependent on water year and that may affect overall benefit
 - I'm not an economist to determine if that's the most benefit

Justin Hayes

- Is it safe to assume to say water that is used in Idaho is more valuable than water that leaves the state?

John Roache

- I don't know

Justin Hayes

- As water comes down snake it comes through power projects
- Is money made moving this water? If so what happens to that money?

John Roache

- Definition is that it is water that would not otherwise be there
- Flows are up and there may be a benefit there but it's ancillary
 - It's not released based on that benefit

Brett Dumas

- we don't get to shape this water, we have to pass it
 - If it exceeds the level we can fit through our turbines then we have to spill and there's no benefit
 - There could be ancillary benefit, but it usually comes down when we're at full capacity so likely no benefit except on low water years

Open Discussion

Katherine Himes

- Going to move into policy discussion
- The Agenda Subgroup really wants the workgroup to think about how to ask questions of technical experts to help get to recommendations
- Put on slide "Policy Ideas" that have been floated around at different meetings
 - Start to keep a list to see what we want to keep, or get rid of, or look into further
- These ideas came from the various previous meetings and a few I added today
- What's on your mind generally now for policy recommendation
- Remember we have an hour tomorrow this is just a starting point

Chad Colter

- Some I have on my mind over the last couple months:
 - The common thread of this forum and other forums is reference to CBP goals and it's getting woven through a lot of fish forums
 - My suggestion is that we make a policy recommendation that we have some conversation about these blocked areas
 - Didn't happen in CBP and need that conversation here
 - If CBP is getting woven into goals and objectives of other forums I want to make sure Tribes goals and objectives are met

- Another one is about funding
 - Equitable funding is being viewed as something to be spread across northwest
 - Should be recommendation that equitable funding be pushed to states that have all of their fish listed
 - Think this state deserves additional funds to deal with all the listed species we have here
 - Concern is that if you just leave definition as equitable funding does it mean it get spreads evenly across the 4 northwest states and want to make sure that it's clear that Idaho has many listed species and need additional mitigation

Justin Hayes

- An important thing is achieving SARs to reach goals, 2-6% with average of 4%
 - Need policies to reach that although not sure what that will look like
- Agree that there's not a silver bullet so we should be thinking about all 4 H's and P and O
- Policy recommendations should cover all things that we learn about that are causing mortality to Idaho fish
 - Want to make sure we cover scope properly

Brett Dumas

- This came to mind when Toby asked why 2001 returns were so good
- Most of us are not fish biologists
- To make it simple it would be good to understand each SAR class for each year and how each of the factors influenced those returns. How do experts see the interaction?
- Of those that have an effect, what can we influence?
 - If all bad years are because of Ocean conditions, do we just have to accept it's out of our control?
 - Could maybe look at successful factors and try to replicate the good ones
 - Could help to make the issue relatively simple to focus on

David Doeringsfeld

- Fish passage improvements in lower snake and Colombia river
 - How do we improve
- Decrease predation
- What is the effectiveness of flow augmentation?

Toby Wyatt

- I think predation is huge problem and I think that there are few studies on it
- Salmon and steelhead gone but walleye are thriving so there's probably a correlation there
- Also seen an increase in predators
- Need to be more studies

- In 2001 when we had good runs there were less predators

Richard Scully

- Predation by walleye is getting to be a bigger thing
- If there was not so much standing water, there would be less walleye predation
- Lot of nails in the coffin and we need to start taking some out or we'll lose salmon

Merrill Beyeler

- Protect the historic high water use of water in basins where it's existed and we have listed species

Fred Wood

- Would like to see data back 50 or more years
 - Would like to see multiple graphs associated with the various stocks
 - Would like to see graph of water years that may be associated
- Would like to analyze the good things we did and when we implemented them so we can replicate
 - There's a whole host of questions that may get us started towards getting policies put together

Justin Hayes

- One public comment was a letter signed by scientists that pointed to water temperature in reservoirs as significant issue
 - I think we should look at that issue

Brian Brooks

- Would like to add on Brett and Fred's idea
- Would like to look at SAR data for tributaries working up from Columbia to lower granite

Mark Davidson

- I think even if we get these recommendations it's not going to get us the urgent action we need
- I keep thinking about the CBP and they are big, and we are going to take this in chunks to get to the big goal which is recovery
- Maybe we could categorize recommendations to show items that we could get done sooner rather than later

John Simpson

- Comment to Chad
 - In the Partnership they are meeting in December and there is a discussion on the language you referenced in the report

- Scott Hauser should be in on that
 - Not to say that it shouldn't be included here but just wanted to give you and FYI
- Federal hatchery at Dworshak they had disease problem
 - Looking at substitute water supply for federal hatchery to help with disease issue
- Flow augmentation – should look at all benefit that has been provided
 - Can Dworshak be managed more effectively
 - In hot years do we have options to mitigate what we're seeing in the river

Joe Oatman

- Out of basin and out of state effects on salmon and steelhead
- Instream flow
 - Additionally, should look at water quality and how it affects survival
- Avian, mammal and invasive species predation

Merrill Beyeler

- Policy that coordinates all state agencies when taking actions like habitat improvements

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Twin Falls 10-30-2019

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Introduction

Katherine Himes

- Welcome everyone to the meeting
- Gave background on group
- Information on upcoming meetings will be posted as they are scheduled
 - Information and updates about meetings can be found on Office of Species Conservation website
- Next meeting is November 19th in Boise
- I have provided list of topics that have been covered and topics to still be covered
- There will be opportunity to provide comment later today
- Schedule change – at noon we will work through lunch and Mission Statement Subgroup will present at 12:30
 - Rest of schedule will remain the same
- Michael Bogert's remarks yesterday were his own personal remarks and not the views of Midas Gold

Workgroup members introduced themselves

Presentations on Hydro System Performance

- Presentation available online on Office of Species Conservation (OSC) website on Governor's Salmon Workgroup page
- **Presenter: Ritchie Graves, Branch Chief for Columbia Basin Hydropower Branch, Interior Columbia Basin Office, NOAA Fisheries**
 - Questions during presentation
 - Justin Hayes
 - We heard from last speaker we want 2-6% SAR so neither of these fish stocks are performing at that correct?
 - Ritchie Graves – That is correct
 - Justin Hayes
 - So is the 2-6% standard a reasonable standard for recovery?
 - Ritchie Graves:
 - That's a tricky question. Probably not necessary to reach recovery levels but getting there would likely get you past recovery levels

- If you want to ensure you're meeting recovery or go beyond it then the 2-6% is sufficient but not necessary for recovery population
 - 2-6% is pretty ambitious and would be difficult to achieve
- Brian Brooks
 - So, there is a difference between NOAAs definition of recovery and The Power Council and recovery for Idaho
- Ritchie Graves: Yes
- Justin Hayes
 - Is there a reason that sea lion predation was not factored into the baseline?
- Ritchie Graves:
 - Yes, not long ago this was not near as a significant problem as it is now
- Mark Davidson
 - So, predation is not an action not taken and habitat and supplementation were actions were taken and you have a 25 year timeframe that you look at in the model, correct?
- Ritchie Graves
 - Yes: but the model is designed to analyze any scope of years you want
- Toby Wyatt
 - the 15-30% predation on returning adults, does that include Harbor Seals?
- Ritchie Graves
 - Yes, it includes everything
- Toby Wyatt
 - Are there raised weirs on all dams?
- Ritchie Graves
 - There are surface passage mechanisms on all dams except the Dalles because of the way it is designed. The spillway at the Dalles is efficient at capturing fish so likely not needed
- Brett Dumas
 - Could you please explain further the relationship between spill and productivity
- Ritchie Graves
 - Increase in spill will send more fish over the spillway rather than having them go through the bypass which is generally a good thing
- Brett Dumas
 - How does that affect productivity?
- Ritchie Graves
 - We could explore whether going through bypass affects fish fitness and delayed mortality
 - If delayed mortality is reduced by going over spillway then it will increase productivity
- Chad Colter
 - What does this mean for Idaho fish where we have to use surrogates to see if our habitat work can even be utilized due to lack of anadromous fish?

- How do you get to productivity when there's no fish and you're working with little to no marine derived nutrients?
 - Ritchie Graves:
 - Unfortunately, our model is limited to when we have data
 - I think you ask good question on whether you have good fish and more marine derived nutrients if that would reach a tipping point to increase productivity
 - Right now, we don't know that and I think that's a fair criticism of the model
 - That may be something that we could add or adjust in the model potentially
- **Presenter: Steve Haeseker Ph.D., Fish Biologist, Biometrician, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**
 - Questions during presentation
 - Brett Dumas
 - I'm assuming doesn't include fall chinook in snake river?
 - Do you know how they would compare to spring/summer chinook?
 - Steve Haeseker It's not that different. It's generally a similar pattern
 - In terms of SARs, because fall chinook have large harvest in ocean we would need to account for that to get an accurate SAR measure
- **Presenter: Tim Copeland Ph.D., Program Coordinator for Wild Salmon and Steelhead, IDFG**
 - Questions during presentation
 - Richard Scully
 - With SARs of recent years is it accurate to say we're headed to extinction
 - Tim Copeland
 - The SARs have bounced around enough year to year to keep them from really circling the drain. The good years have been able to balance out the bad in terms of steering the populations away from extinction
 - Aaron Lieberman
 - Is there anything else you'd like us to take away rather than the relationship between SARs and productivity? Is the point to say that productivity is not otherwise influenced by other things?
 - Tim Copeland
 - This is not to say what affects SARs, just to show the relationship between the two
 - Brian Brooks
 - Are you familiar with the COMPASS model?
 - Tim Copeland
 - I have surface understanding but not in depth
 - Brian Brooks
 - From an Idaho perspective how long do you think the COMPASS model suggests it will take to get to SAR returns of 4%
 - Tim Copeland

- I don't think the model was suggested to do that at all but was more designed to address endangered species listing recovery standard and I don't know the timeline for that
- **Presenter: Dan Rawding, Columbia River Salmon Recovery Policy Lead, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**
 - Questions during presentation
 - Justin Hayes :
 - Your experience with Upper Columbia is pretty consistent with the Snake and is it correct to say more dams is harder on fish than less dams? More dams and reservoirs are consistent with lower SARs?
 - Dan Rawding
 - That would be my interpretation. Due to various environmental factors and changes in travel times, which is affected by dams, affects SARS
 - Justin Hayes
 - Do you have any thoughts on what should happen on lower Columbia River dams and any thoughts on Yakima announcement?
 - Dan Rawding
 - Increases in flow in the Snake helps upper Columbia fish as they migrate down so there are common benefits
 - Any actions taken that benefit Snake River fish benefit Columbia River fish
 - In regard to Yakima announcement, that is there position and I'm not going to get into a state position because we don't have one now
 - Bret Dumas
 - You had a slide with good Steelhead SARs but at end there are Columbia SARs that are lower than Snake River SARS. Could you explain?
 - Dan Rawding
 - The SARS that were looking good were the ones that we measured from McNairy down to Bonneville
 - For that portion, it looks good
 - When we try to extend it back all the way up the SARs get worse
 - Brett Dumas:
 - With SARs that low it makes you wonder why some fish are doing well what are your thoughts?
 - Dan Rawding
 - It was mentioned earlier about different life cycles
 - Spring chinook spawn late summer and usually rear one year before going to ocean and experience a higher mortality than fall chinook before going to ocean
 - Fall chinook in fall and hang out for few months before going to ocean so their survival to ocean is higher
 - Because their survival is better they need lower SARs sustain
 - Whereas Spring Chinook have higher mortality need higher SARs to maintain

- Brett Dumas
 - So, the Power Council goal may not be as appropriate for Fall Chinook?
- Dan Rawding
 - Correct,
- Richard Scully
 - I've heard in recent years that the snake river fall chinook life cycle has changed and they spend the first winter in lower granite dam. Does that have an effect?
- Dan Rawding
 - There are some that have adapted to reservoir life
 - A small percentage remains in reservoir and will go out the following spring
 - What my presentation focused on was salmon going out in summer which is the more traditional time
- **Presenter: Bob Lessard Ph.D., Quantitative Fisheries Scientist, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.**
 - Questions during presentation
 - Toby Wyatt
 - In regard to spilling, the Flex Spill as opposed to a consistent spill which do you think would be better?
 - Bob Lessard
 - The Flex spill is intended to target the patterns of the fish and what we'll find out is it will be successful or not
 - The measures we use for survival is an aggregate that isn't subject to those nuances
 - Following flex spill we will be able to measure success
 - Success will likely depend on timing of flow and fish arrival
 - It is designed to optimize that
 - As of now we don't know

Q and A with above presenters

- Brian Brooks : for Ritchie Graves
 - How long do COMPASS models estimate that it will take populations to get to extinction removal goals and, if you can, to Power Council goals?
- Ritchie Graves
 - I think what you're asking is what other things can we affect to get to targeted SARS
 - You can do that but that has not been done currently with the models we've put together
 - There is a slider tool that's being developed that is a simplified model that allows you to tweak different factors to see how it will affect SARs
- Brian Brooks
 - I'm wondering about the usefulness of the tool and whether we have the ability to recover fish?

- Ritchie Graves
 - It depends. The saying goes that all models are wrong in some regard and some are useful
 - You are really not going to really know until you test so even using a model you won't really know until you try
- Brian Brooks
 - What are the factors we can tweak to achieve abundance in say my lifetime?
- Ritchie Graves
 - We have not done an explicit modeling effort to assess what are the different combinations
- Bob Lessard
 - One of the important questions to ask about any tool is whether it has the ability to provide information that you're looking for
 - What we need to be doing with any recovery model evaluations is that we need to have models that have variables that can be tweaked to get us to the recovery levels that we need
- Brett Dumas
 - Building on what we've heard, we're talking a lot about SARs but they are just describing something that's happened and we need something to get us to where we need to be
 - For my simple mind I need to understand the fish life cycle and the different variables affect that and how that affects the SARS
 - Ex. What percent does predation have on SARS?
 - How much does ocean affect and how does that effect SARS?
 - Is there a way this can be explained to us to understand that relationship?
- Answer:
 - that hits on pretty much what all of us have been trying to do
 - We have this variability in SARs and know that something is causing that so we're examining different factors and looking at the relationship
 - Travel time, power house passes, ocean
 - Looking at the ones that have best correlation with SARs are probably the best information we have on that issue now
 - Once we have that info the next step is determining how much you can change those factors and how much control we actually have over them
 - We understand that there are going to be factors outside of control that we can't predict
 - Best we can do is look to past and the correlations and predict best we can
- Brett Dumas
 - Ritchie, you had a slide that said these factors are more prominent in influencing numbers than others, is that a correct interpretation?
 - Some things I hear from our science people is that timeframe is not really long enough to determine which factors are dominating the issue
 - This is kind of like driving with rearview mirror

- It seems like we're letting science stall policy. We need good answers to all these questions, but we need to take what we know now and form some policy
- Ritchie Graves
 - What I would leave you with is that productivity we're getting with more recent conditions it's pretty clear that those conditions are not going to achieve recovery
 - What's unclear is whether the changes being suggested is whether the suggestions being made will move us towards recovery and if so, how much?
 - We aren't actually going to know until we actually do some of these things
- Mark Davidson
 - I'm thinking more about the immediacy of actions we need to be taking. There are immediate actions we can take that will have an immediate benefit but from the presentations it seems like measuring those impacts take time to measure. What I think I saw in the presentation is that spill makes an immediate difference. If spill is good and we're looking to get immediate benefits how are we going to get it? This really piques my interest because it seems like it would have immediate benefits and is easier than breach.
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Ritchie, what is the main limiting factor on density dependence?
- Ritchie Graves
 - Set aside the populations that we know are damaged and look at those that are in pristine conditions
 - Looks like those areas have less ability to produce smolts than years ago, question is why that relationship exists?
 - It's clear that there's a difference and we should explore potential reasons why
 - I think the big fundamental question is why is the ability to generate smolts different and is there something we can do about them
- Aaron Lieberman
 - Is your concern based on robust data or is it just a general feeling on that
- Ritchie Graves
 - Broader scope issue is that it's a dark cloud
 - My belief is that there's something going on there and I believe not enough has been done to try and figure out why
- Joe Oatman
 - Seems pretty clear that out-basin survival needs to be between 2-6%. These out of basin SARs assume that we do have highly functional in-basin habitats
 - Think there are things we can do on brooding habitat
- Dave Doeringsfeld
 - My concern is spilling at 125%
 - Seems that presentation is that more spill is better
 - How did you figure out the 125%? We haven't done it before so how do we know if it will be beneficial?
- Answer:

- in mid 90s there were studies done on effects of Total Dissolved Gases (TDG) on fish survival rates
 - They sample fish and look for signs of TDG
 - We don't see strong effects of TDG on smolts until you get to 130% and at 125% the effect is low
 - In terms of monitoring I would expect that as soon as spill levels are reached, there is pretty immediate data from tag data on how it will affect travel time and survival
 - In terms of SAR's you are correct, it will take a few years before you can measure that
- Dave Doeringsfeld
 - My concern is that if you do this have you put them in a weakened condition where they won't survive in the ocean and just delaying mortality
- Answer
 - Part of presentation went through tried to address that
- Justin Hayes
 - I think I heard you say model was predicting an increased response from more spill which seems different from other models we've seen.
 - I think we know that fish are being affected by variety of factors
 - I think past few BiOps have been thrown out because they didn't adequately address the hydro system
 - There is need for additional habitat work but if that were the thing that were limiting factor, we'd have many hatchery fish
- Answer:
 - Didn't mean to say that everything is kept down by density dependence but there are populations that are being affected by that
 - There's more than just the hydro system going on
 - Believe it's a big factor, but questions are things like whether spill can affect juvenile survival to help reach higher productivity levels
 - Steve Haeseker
 - I understand that there is uncertainty about modeling and to some extent I look to summaries of data to answer questions
 - Like why are there differences between different populations from different areas?
 - There are things to look at different operations
 - Tim Copeland
 - When you're looking at models that are looking at same data in different ways it's going to shape what the output of that model is
 - There are some things though that are common
 - There is the risk of trying to go beyond the data because there are things, we don't understand
- Dave Doeringsfeld

- Does powerhouse passage mean going through the dam generally or actually through the turbine?
- Answer
 - The sum of the fish going through the turbine and screened bypass system areas
 - Basically, fish that did not go through spill way
 - How many go through each piece depends on each dam, they're all different
 - Just an index of how fish are routed at the dams

Mission Statement

- Coordinate with agenda group to make sure we don't duplicate
- Talked about subgroup going on to discuss goals

Public Comment

Pete Deluca

- Thank you for opportunity to address the Workgroup
- I moved with my family to Twin Falls in 1947
- I lived in various places in the West
- Was Assistant AG in Oregon
- I'm here representing Salmon like many of you
- My interest in this meeting is for salmon
- Salmon were here when here when Lewis and Clark and the first people came here
- Salmon have fed people, animals, birds, and forests
- One thing I've learned is that there is DNA in trees on mountains that contain salmon
- It's very important
- It's in our DNA also
- Right now, that salmon is in crisis
- One thing I didn't hear today is that the numbers are going down
- We need to do something about it
- I personally believe that we need to take out dams
- We saw evidence today that less dams means more fish
- There are options we can implement to take care of problem
- There is one thing that is not an option and that's extinction because it's irreversible
- Please move quickly on this. We have worked on this for 20 years and spent billions and we're still losing salmon

Thia Konig

- Pro photographer of Wood River Valley
- Keen examiner of human condition and relation to natural world
- Traveled to every continent
- Also, a river guide and remember getting to tell people about the salmon's miraculous journey

- It's truly amazing how they do it and we don't even understand the whole thing
- Can you imagine having to explain to grandkids that salmon went extinct under our watch
- I can't believe we're not in crisis on this
- We're playing Jenga with ecosystem
- What is value of salmon
 - I would say priceless
- The spiritual value far outweighs the economic cost of saving it
- Time is like a river
 - We have made some mistakes on salmon
 - the time is now, and we need to look downstream
- Salmon are close to extinction and we need to act now
- Extinction is forever

Molly Hanson

- Born in Sun Valley and live in Hailey and work and play in Wood River Valley
- One of my favorite memories is going to watch salmon in their lifecycle
 - This was 20 years ago, and my father told me then that the salmon were in trouble and we would have to do something about it
- Regardless, we have tried tinkering or adding hatcheries but the bottom line is that they are still going extinct
- We have prime opportunity to remove costly and inefficient dams for the benefit of salmon
- I want to take my kids to see salmon
- Unless bold action is taken this will not be possible
- It's time we work together to find way to save these iconic fish

Shawna Robinson

- I'm a native Idahoan and have lived and worked in Twin Falls for most of my life
- My love for central Idaho started in grade school
 - My parents would take us to Redfish Lake
 - Dad introduced me on those trips to Idaho salmon
 - I recall the excitement of watching them catch giant fish
 - The prospect of extinction never entered our minds then
- As an adult I have fished for and occasionally caught salmon
- Things are different now, numbers are far less
- Evidence points to dams being significant limiting factor
- Reports in 1910 of sun valley dam perhaps should have informed our decision
- Someone dynamited one side of the dam and numbers improved
- The lessons of history seem clear but subsequently more dams were built
 - What resulted was steady decline in Salmon
- Last time my husband and I visited hatchery the sockeye count was zero
- If we want to truly help compromise will have to be made

Mark Sugden

- I live in Jerome and am retired Biology professor from CSI
- I am not a fisherman or fish and I do not have the patience
- So why do I care about salmon,
 - It's because I am simply awestruck by their amazing journey
 - Going from Redfish Lake to the ocean and all the way back exactly to where they started
 - This journey to me is the most incredible ecological phenomenon I know
- If we rob future generations of knowing the salmon's story, I believe that we will have failed
- I hope that you can find way to prevent that and thank you for trying

Jeff Bitton

- Currently president of Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association
- Lack of salmon and steelhead are affecting our members now, not future
- Some are moving or looking for other jobs
- You cannot sit and listen to all of these presentations without considering impacts of dams
- You will have to discuss dams
- You have listed a few policy ideas and I would suggest that the state push BPA to invest a small nuclear facility to replace the need for the lower 4 dams for baseload
- Providing the baseload from Arco would eliminate transmission issue BPA currently has
- More importantly, it would open up possibilities for Snake River and the dams which could aid in recovery

Terry Patlerson

- My real job was teaching fishing and aquaculture and running CSI fish hatchery
- For as long as I can remember I was interested in fisheries
- First job at 13 was in fishery
- Salmon have always fascinated me because of their journey
- Anadromous fisheries can obviously be very political
- Unfortunately, our salmon fisheries are affected by things downstream out of our control
- That is why this group is so important
- The ability to make meaningful change is in your hands
- What I have observed fishing is that the impacts on salmon are definitely having an impact on communities
- It is a barometer of our health as a community and ecologically
- You right now have the ability to make the situation better than you find it now
- I encourage you to look at science whatever it may be and use it to make difference

Daniel Loper

- I'm the father of 3 boys

- This is a passion and spiritual thing for me
- Didn't grow up in Idaho but Dad was a rancher out here for long time so I spent time here
- Lived in England but moved back to the states
- Not a lot of outdoor stuff to do in England, they've ruined their resources
- Saw advertisement in magazine and found that fishing helps me deal with stress of my job
- I let all my fish go
- I put probably 10,000 miles on my car hunting these things and finally got one
- I don't want to go the way other places have gone
- If I lose this, it's going to devastate me personally
- Me and my family LOVE these fish
- We have to do something now and get out of their way
 - You can't transport fish
 - We need to make tough choice
 - Get rid of some dams and get out of their way
- Thank you

Sarah Harris

- I work here on CSI campus so thank you for location
- Live here in Twin Falls raised in Hailey
- Born into family that was not very good at hunting and fishing
- We ate a lot of trout
- We caught many fish at Redfish Lake
- We once drove over to watch the Sockeye make their way up the river
- Regardless it was an amazing sight to see thought the numbers were low
- Visited the Sawtooth hatchery several times and were led to believe that hatcheries would help salmon
- Learned to tie steelhead flies
- I did a literature review on salmon recovery in 2000
 - Dams were identified as main limiting factors
- Billions have been spent to try to get around doing things with the dams
 - Fish have still declined
- We have tried many things and still there are no fish
- It is time to breach the lower snake dams and increase flows over the Columbia dams to save salmon and possibly the Southern Resident Orcas

Open Discussion

Katherine Himes

- Workgroup now is just trying to get some policy ideas written down
- We may add or we made remove but we are trying to begin the discussion
- Put up slide with policy ideas
- I think there were a lot of consistent guiding principles

- Group recognizes there isn't a silver bullet to this issue
- Open floor for discussion and for adding things to list

Scott Pugrud

- In our mission statement group earlier, we talked about CBP partnership and I think we came to some agreement about it

Richard Scully

- The first one on there is that if we prioritize the list up there I would prioritize the first one (SARs)
- Not sure how we want to build on that
- As Mike Simpson said, if that is a possibility then we should be talking about what ifs
- Will we as a workgroup discuss what ifs? I think the scary part is that there are livelihoods based on dams but also have to consider the "what if" of if fish are gone
- Back in the 60s we caught a lot of fish and none were hatchery, is that going to be a goal?

Mark Davidson

- The Flow idea and the flow augmentation program
- Michael Bogert talked about possible tweaking to that program
- I don't understand it well enough, but I think it should be explored
- Also, something to deal with spill

Joe Oatman

- Based on what we've heard on hydro system about performance I assume it's covered under fish passage
 - Key thing I heard from presentations is that the travel time could be affected
 - Increasing spill up to a certain level
 - Dam breaching

Chad Colter

- Today's presentations things that ran through my mind are cost
- We talked about spill vs breaching but there was never really a cost associated
 - Not a complete conversation until we talk about cost
 - Would be a benefit to know the cost so we can talk about whether we can keep people whole if we take actions
 - What is the cost of spill?
 - What is the human effect here? Could use additional knowledge
- If we do discuss breaching, we need to understand what's needed to keep people whole
- Maybe look into Hydro Passage recommendations like Joe talked about
 - Was shown today that it can affect SARs so possibly a recommendation to decrease travel time and powerhouse encounters

Aaron Lieberman

- I'd be interested to know whether workgroup is willing to discuss 125 spill or endorse it?
 - Heard in presentations today that it's less than breach, this is likely the most impactful thing we could do in short timeframe
- Also, are we willing to have conversation about breaching? How does workgroup feel?

Merrill Beyeler

- A couple things that stuck out to me today was
 - 1. Was the 130 miles of travel
 - They seemed to say surface passage was most effective so I think we should explore how to increase surface passage
 - 2. Addressing early returning stocks
 - Seems they face most predation issue from sea lions
 - Also face harvest
 - So, we should look at policy in those arenas

Kira Finkler

- I agree that fish passage improvements are important, and I think we should have dam breaching on there to ensure that we have the conversation
- In my organization science has led us to believe that dam breaching is salmon's best chance at avoiding extinction but I am open to look at other ways other workgroup members have in mind

Justin Hayes

- Need to spend more time on habitat restoration piece and consider all different life cycles and stocks
 - There's more to be fleshed out there
- I think we all took from today a hopefulness around spill as a way to more safely move fish downstream
 - Some discussion was had on how we know 125 spill is adequate
 - Flex Spill was designed to be revenue neutral for BPA and not necessarily the best for fish
 - Could maybe look at more robust spill regime optimized for fish
- Seasonal drawdowns
 - Heard a lot about transit times and flow
 - Breach is at one end and full pool is on the other
 - Need to think of whether we can look at specific windows that work for flow
- Need to have discussion on curtailing of harvest
 - Hard to admit because for myself, sportsmen, and tribes is big part
 - Need to consider the mortality we are affecting and how it affects recovery

Paul Arrington

- The bullet that jumps at me is “prioritize actionable/immediate”
- I think we all remember the last testimony in Lewiston that heard about the fishing closure and wanted immediate results
- What I’m trying to figure out is say what we can do and what we like
- Not sure how much authority or influence Idaho has to change some of these things
- We can talk about things like spill and breaching but my thought is what does it matter if Idaho comes out and says these things
- I think focusing on things we can accomplish in short term to move needle is good idea

Jason

- Would it be appropriate for this group to have a policy recommendation on an alternative for the Columbia Basin EIS?
- Larger questions is whether CRSO EIS going to become policy?

Katherine Himes

- Group hasn’t gotten around to discussing that at this point

Brian Brooks

- I was really surprised how much 125 spill could increase SARs but was wondering how big the political appetite is for that?
 - Remember resistance from past
 - What’s the actual chance of likelihood?
 - Want to know if it’s politically feasible to know if I want to recommend it
- I believe the topic of dam breaching deserves discussion
 - I believe it’s a long-term thing but I don’t think not talking about it is not good route
 - I need to be convinced why the dams should not be breached

Brett Dumas

- I don’t think we’re really ready to talk dam breaching yet
- I’m a hydro guy, I support it
- I think we need to have a big Hydro bullet and we need to talk about all aspects, spill, passage, breach
 - I think we should talk about it but don’t think it’s there yet
- One element I don’t think I know enough about is what’s going on with Fall Chinook in ocean
 - We heard today that we can’t do SARs because there’s so much harvest in ocean
 - Possibly should have harvest in ocean identifying those fish that are caught with tags and reporting it

Toby Wyatt

- Pretty obvious we need to do something quickly and I think the 125 spill is something we can do quickly to prevent extinction
- Barging is also an option
- More spill and more barging
- On Spilling, when the flow stops the fish stop and it's like a dinner bell for predators
 - As far as Flex spill goes, I would have to think that a consistent flow would be better for fish to keep them out of harms way
- Currently no fishing on Clearwater which affects my business
 - One big cause is water at Dworshak hatchery
 - One year had a big water year and had to release fish early because nitrogen levels were getting too high
 - If they could get their water from the lake and not from the river it would prevent that from happening in the future
 - Would prevent similar situation because we lost thousands of fish
- Long term
 - Have to have conversation about dam breaching
 - Seems that we've settled that we'll talk about it

Mark Davidson

- When we talk about immediate actions, I'm not sure how quick these immediate actions will be
- I think we should approach this list like we approached agenda and mission statement
- I think organizing a list around categories and timing is a good idea
 - Which ones could have effect the soonest?
 - Would be helpful to know

Dave Doeringsfeld

- One thing we all agree on is that extinction is not an option
- Given that agreement, we have to have the discussion
 - Dams kill fish, we know that, so it needs to be part of discussion
- That said, it would take decades to accomplish breach. Would get tied up in court and congress would have to appropriate funds so it's not an immediate action
- Maybe we can look at this list and identify things that are more immediate because we need some that are
- So, I would caution that while we look at dam breaching we also need to recognize it's not immediate

John Simpson

- Agree with what Brett said in that Sam Eaton has opened the door to us having the discussion on dam breaching
- I also think about the immediate vs long term solutions
- I also think about cost aspect Chad mentioned

- Need to also talk about the cost of not taking action
- Also talk about cost of each dam
 - What are those impacts?
 - Impacts can be broader than cost?
- It will be really important to define what we're looking at
- If we're talking about spill, what do we mean about spill?
 - Likely means sacrificing hydro power for spill
 - Could mean something else to someone else
 - Important we define
- Perhaps Subgroup could help define
- I think it is helpful to talk about all 4 Hs
- Should define what we mean by breaching
 - Lower 4 snake dams get mentioned
 - Are we discussing others?
 - If not, why aren't we?
- Just think it's important to define what we're discussing

Chad Colter

- Want to remind folks that while we've talked about breaching is not a silver bullet and spill is also not a silver bullet
 - As we've discussed earlier there are going to be many factors to this issue
 - It's also about timing
 - Some of these things are going to have decisions made on them before we have a chance to make a decision about them
 - Big example is CRSO EIS
 - We can choose to try to affect the Governor's position on those, but I don't know that we can accomplish that
- I have some concern that to be effective we'd have to make recommendations relatively soon
- I also think there's this idea in the group that dam breaching is something that will take a long time
 - Perhaps politically it would
 - There are some studies that it would take a couple of years to implement
 - Probably not on political side
 - May be beneficial for group to understand how implementation of dam breaching may look. Would help address some of the conceptions

Justin Hayes

- Hatcheries is another area that we could flesh out more
 - It's one of the 4 H's
 - I'm not the one to say what should be changed in hatchery management
 - It has provided some benefit

- There are some perceptions among some that hatcheries are not being run to promote wild salmon recovery
 - More could be said to that and we could probably bring in folks we could hear from to help us understand
- I would like very much to talk about dam breaching, but we need to understand things like the Grain Growers interest and how it would affect them and potential alternatives
 - I do like the idea to talk about dam breaching, but I don't think it would be fair without having input of communities that are connected to those dams
 - If we go that route, then we need to think about "what if" questions
- In regard to timing on things like CRSO EIS
 - It's really not going to solve recovery of Idaho fish
 - It'll get immediately tied up in court and possibly ruled invalid
 - I don't think we need to worry about getting in front of a document that isn't going to address recovery issue

Merrill Beyeler

- Let's say the group has an ideas for policy, how do we bring it to group and present that?
- As we go through this process, say we have a time sensitive recommendation, is there a possibility to make recommendation to governor in a short manner?

Scott Pugrud

- I think we have to do it in organized and methodic method
- I don't think we get the impact or same vetting if we bring up single policies individually and make recommendations
- I do think there is possibility to address time sensitive issues where opportunity will pass
- I think we can do it but that we'll need to be careful about it
- In regard to your first question, I believe we're beginning to do that now
- Right now, we're putting together a list of ideas put forth by workgroup

Aaron Lieberman

- I agree with John about defining terms of the words we use
- I think we all make assumptions when we use words that may not all be the same
- I think it may be appropriate to have Mission Subgroup come up with some definitions
- We were talking about timing issues and was thinking of being able to measure success of actions we take
 - Sometimes don't see benefit until years after the action
 - Largely these are not immediate things
- It may be beneficial to know what timelines we are talking about
- To use the excuse of something being long term or further away as an excuse not to talk about isn't sufficient because then it then it never gets any closer
 - Appreciate everyone is willing to address those conversations
 - I would like to be part of a group that has those hard questions

Richards Scully

- I'd like to bring up short term issue; predation
- A lot of predation factors have been identified
- Some actions have been taken to try to reduce predation by Army Corps
- With sea lions it's pretty frustrating that the state tried to remove 1000 sea lions they were actually only able to remove less than 100 because of all the hoops they have to jump through
 - A short-term recommendation with immediate effect could be for Idaho to support and recommend that the process for removing predators be streamlined
 - Could have beneficial effects in short term

Katherine Himes

- Thank you to whole Workgroup for participation, there was good discussion
- I will update this policy idea slide

Scott Pugrud

- Thank you to workgroup and members of public and everyone that's interested in this issue
- We've been to 4 parts of the state so far and it's clear that the citizens of Idaho are passionate about this issue
- Next meeting is November 19th in Boise
- Check OSC website for updates and agenda
- November meeting will be last one for the year, will take December off
 - Agenda Subgroup is identifying dates in early 2020 for us to reconvene

Justin Hayes

- With meetings during legislative session it may be beneficial to give presentations to members of the Idaho legislature
- May be a good idea but if we want to do it, we may want to start planning because schedules fill up fast

Scott Pugrud

- I will reach out to various chairman to see if there is interest and I think that would be good to discuss at November meeting

Meeting Adjourned