

Cowlitz 2020 Fisheries and Hatchery Management Plan and Annual Project Review Public Engagement

Virtual Public Meeting
Aug. 12, 2020



Welcome!

Introductions

Using GoToMeeting

Happy happenings at Cowlitz

FHMP/APR

Break?

Open Q&A



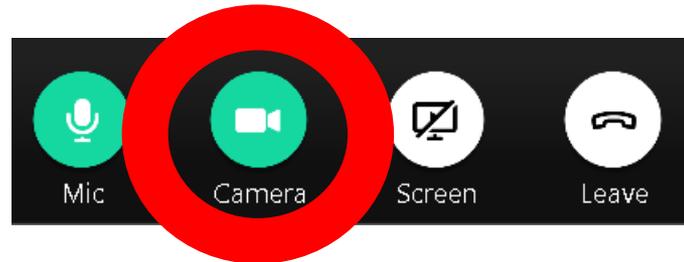
Coho collected at the Cowlitz Falls Fish Facility

Using GoToMeeting

- Audio/visual controls



- View everyone drop-down
- Can shut off your webcam to preserve bandwidth



- Enlarge presentation by pulling the top bar up

Using GoToMeeting

- Everyone on mute until open Q&A portion
- However, you can still ask questions or make comments by typing them into the chat box



- Who's joining us via phone?
- We will post the presentation and chat log at **MyTPU.org/Cowlitz**

Open Q&A

- On a webcam? Please raise your hand.
- Or, type a question into the chat box.
- Or, type your name into the chat box and we'll call on you.
- We will ask people on the phone if they have questions.

Happy happenings at Cowlitz

- Summer-run steelhead recycling program
- Barrier Dam survey: Aug. 24-28
- Rainbow trout donation
- New ozone plant at the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery
- New Tilton release site



Overview

- What we all want
- FHMP
 - Schedule
 - Next Steps
 - Transition Plans
 - M&E Plan
 - Public Review
 - Concerns we've heard so far
- 2020 APR
 - ... In the world of the pandemic
 - Initial thoughts/feedback



FHMP Schedule

Action Item	Date	Responsible Party
Public Comment Solicited	August 2019	Public
Document Preparation/Workshops completed	October 2019	Tacoma/FTC
Review Complete Draft FHMP (continuing solicitation of public comments)	11/18/19 – 5/30/20	FTC
Unresolved Topics Workshops	2/15/20 – 3/15/20	Tacoma/FTC
Unresolved Interim Plan Document	4/1/20 – 6/30/20	Tacoma/FTC
Edit Completed Draft FHMP	6/1/20 – 7/31/20	Tacoma/FTC
Public Review Draft Final FHMP	8/1/20 – 9/7/20	Public
Incorporate Comments and Finalize FHMP	9/7/20 – 10/7/20	Tacoma
File FHMP with FERC	10/18/20	Tacoma

What is in the FHMP

- **History of Cowlitz**
 - How did we get here
 - Why this work is important
- **Recent History of Each Population and Program**
 - Trends
 - Current programs and why
- **Interim Strategy**
 - Develop Transition Plans
 - Stepwise? All at once?
 - Mostly status quo until then
- **Concepts for Next Phase**
 - Recovery
 - Harvest

After FHMP is Submitted:

- **Transition Plans**
- **Public Input**
- 1 or 2 years (*Spp.* specific)
 - Program Sizes/Range
 - Integration Rate
 - Management Strategies
 - Bio Program
 - Transport/Disposition
 - Marking
 - Time/Size of Release
 - Broodstock Needs
 - Transition Approach
- **M&E Plan**
- **Annual Operating Plan**
- **Single Reporting and Analysis Database**
- 1 year then annually
 - Baseline Studies
 - Directed Studies
 - Focused on data gaps to inform stepwise progress
 - Interim (Appx J – 2011, up to 1 year or as described in work plan)

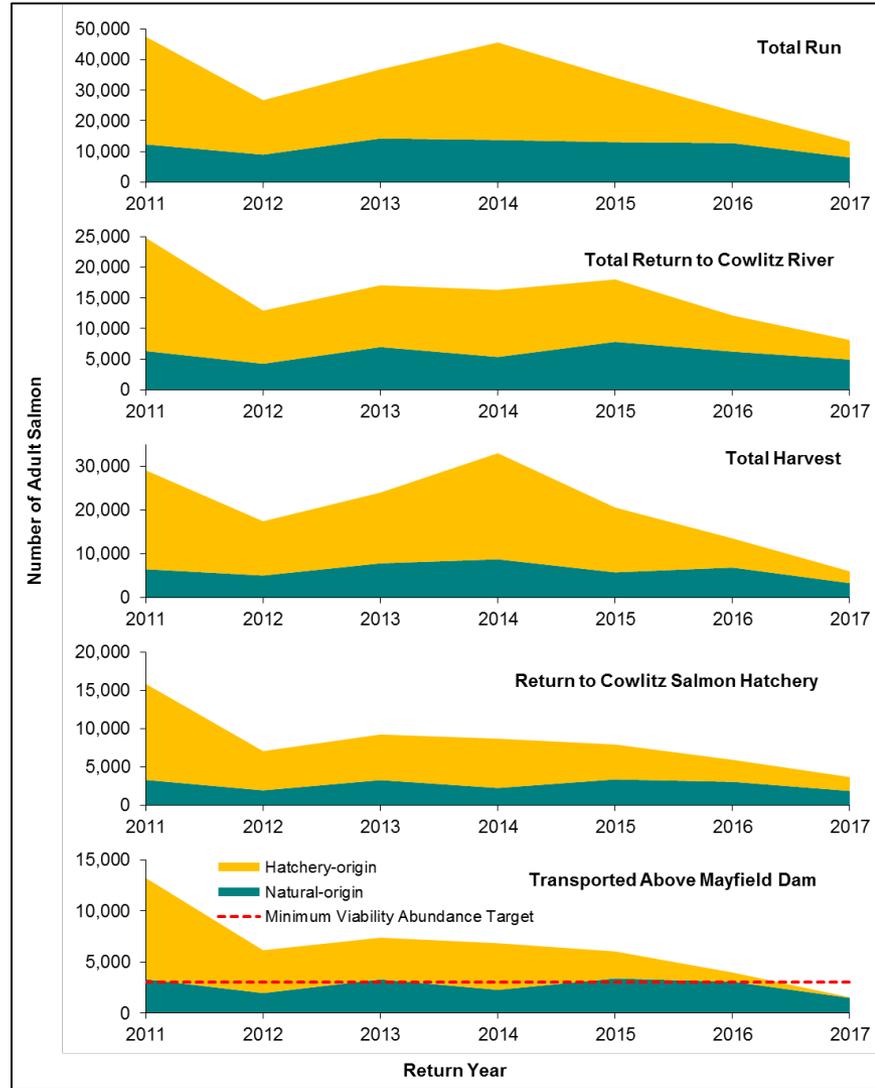
Transition Plan - Public

- **What you can expect**
 - Options for public to weigh in on
 - Options considered by FTC
 - Pros and cons



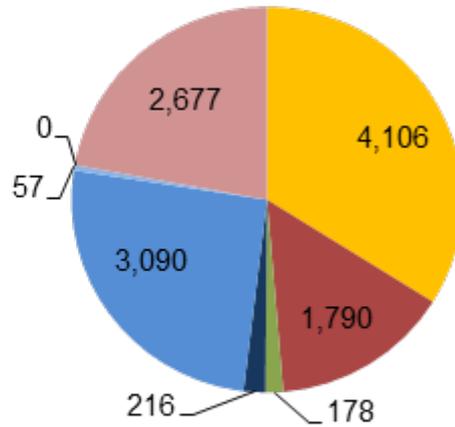
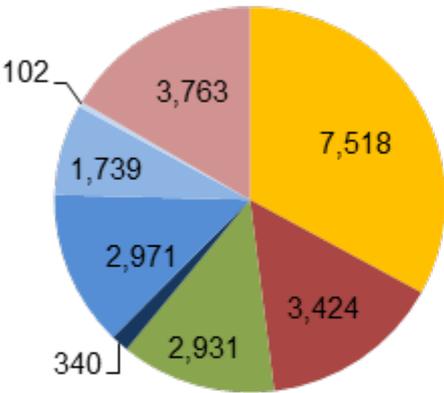
Fall Chinook Summary

Current Hatchery Program(s):	Lower Cowlitz Subbasin - Integrated; 1.1 million sub-yearling smolts
	Lower Cowlitz Subbasin - Segregated; 2.4 million sub-yearling smolts
Proposed Hatchery Program(s):	Tilton River (Upper Cowlitz Subbasin) - Integrated; 3.5 million sub-yearling smolts



Hatchery-Origin

Natural-Origin

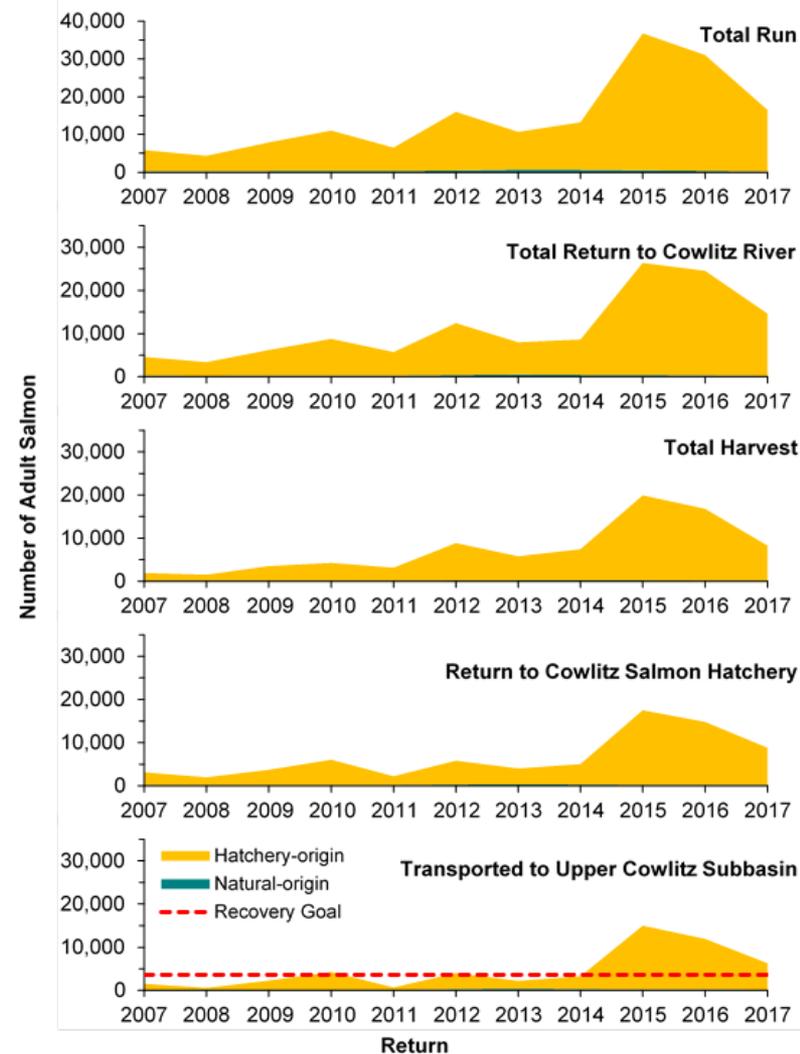
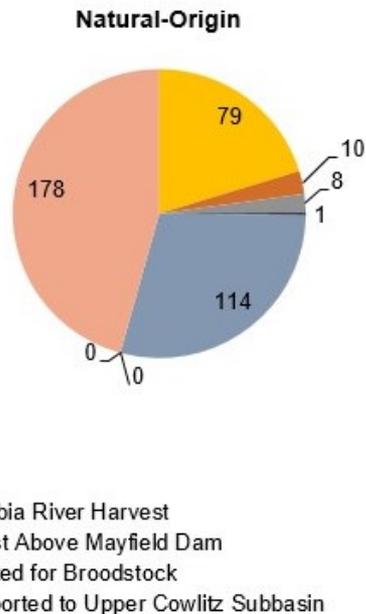
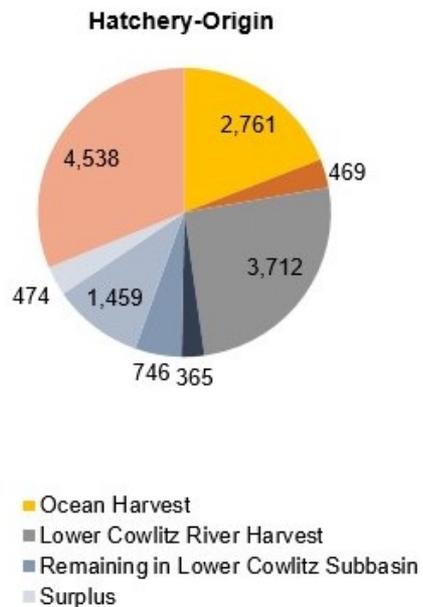


- Ocean Harvest
- Lower Cowlitz River Harvest
- Remaining in Lower Cowlitz Subbasin
- Surplus

- Columbia River Harvest
- Harvest Above Mayfield Dam
- Collected for Broodstock
- Transported Above Mayfield Dam

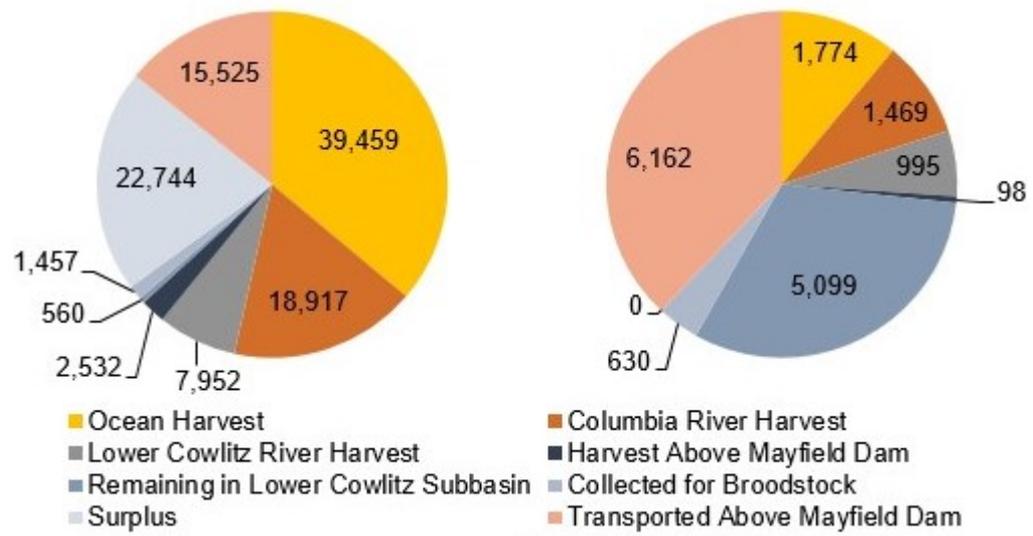
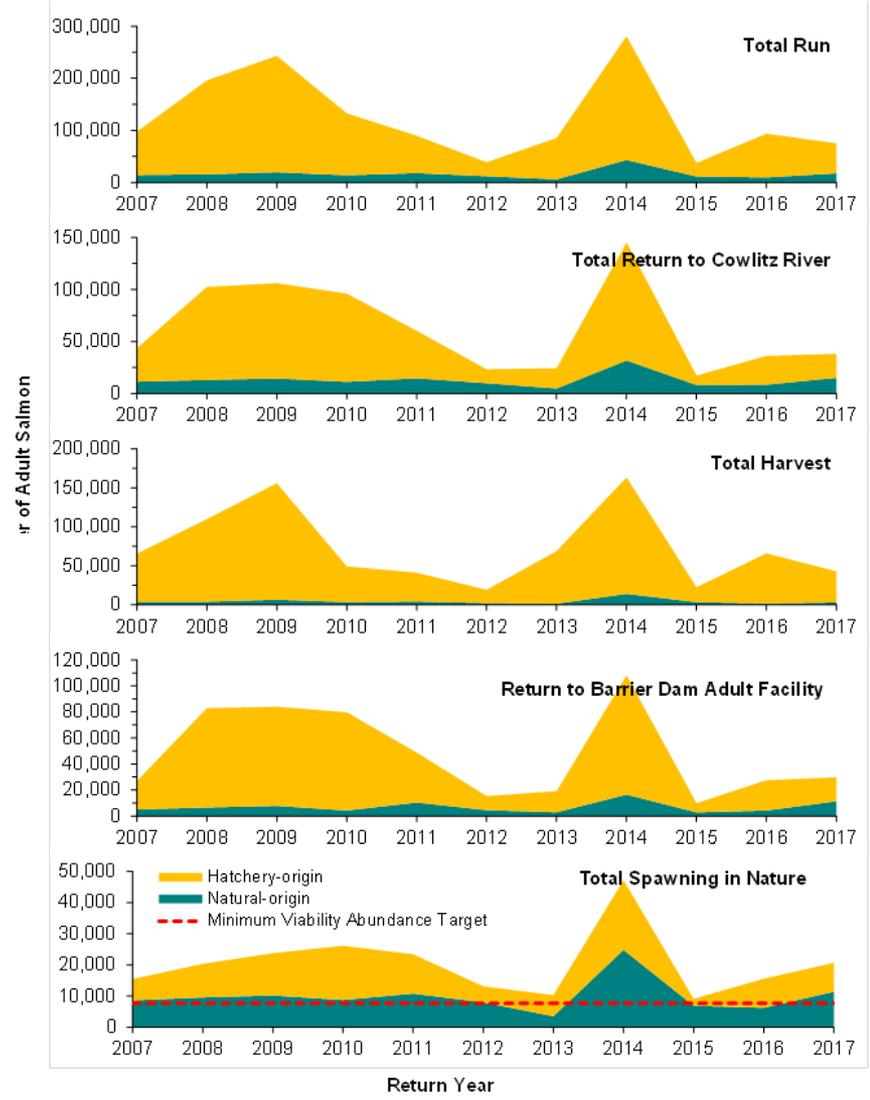
Spring Chinook Summary

Current Hatchery Program(s):	Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery Segregated Hatchery Program, approximately 1.8 million smolts
Proposed Hatchery Program(s):	Continue Segregated Hatchery Program while developing a Transition Plan for integrating a portion of the hatchery production, and eventually moving to a fully Integrated Hatchery Program; targets will be set during the period covered by this FHMP in coordination with the FTC.



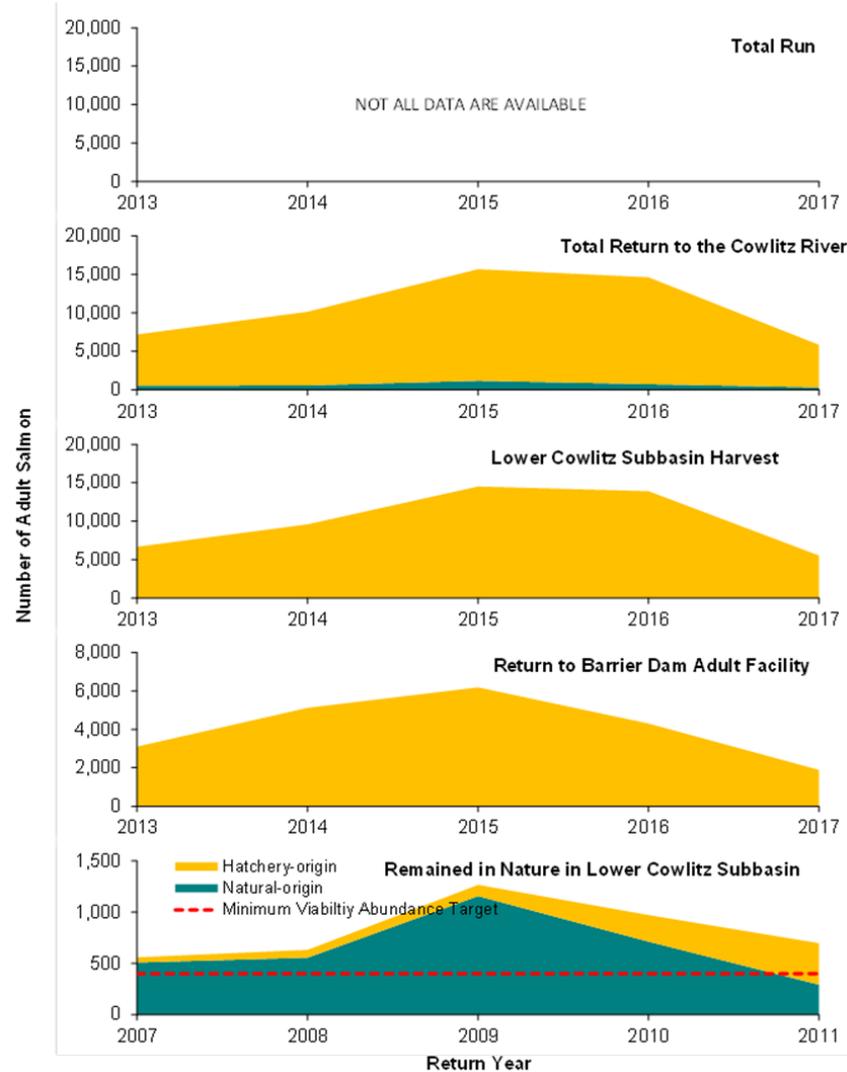
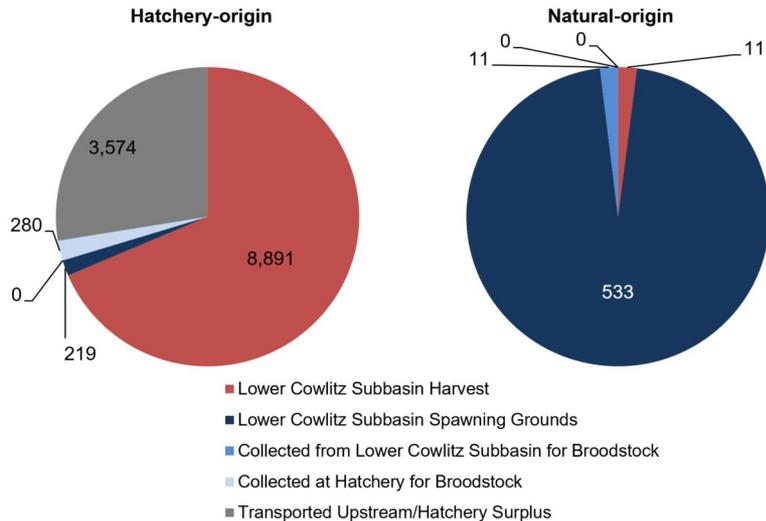
Coho Summary

Current Hatchery Program(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery Segregated Hatchery Program (Lower Cowlitz Subbasin); 1.2 million smolts Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery Integrated Hatchery Program (Upper Cowlitz Subbasin); 978,000 smolts
Proposed Hatchery Program(s):	<p><u>Short-Term Goal:</u> Upper Cowlitz Subbasin Integrated Hatchery Program; 2.2 million yearling smolts</p> <p><u>Long-Term Goal:</u> Upper Cowlitz Subbasin and Tilton Subbasin Integrated Hatchery Programs; combined production of 2.2 million yearling smolts</p>



Lower Winter Steelhead Summary

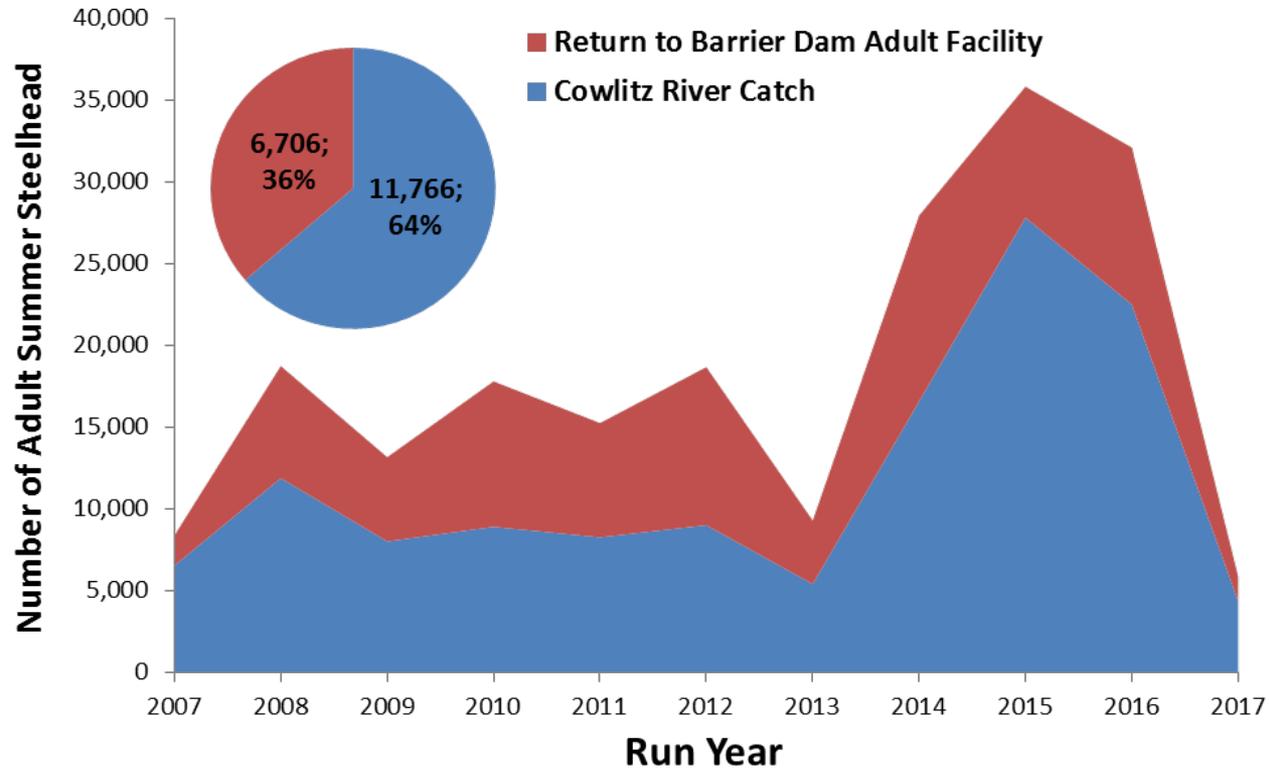
Current Hatchery Program(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Cowlitz Subbasin Late-Winter Steelhead Integrated Hatchery Program • Upper Cowlitz Subbasin Late-Winter Steelhead Integrated Hatchery Program • Tilton Subbasin Late-Winter Steelhead Integrated Hatchery Program
Proposed Hatchery Program(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Cowlitz Subbasin Winter Steelhead Integrated or Segregated Hatchery Program • Upper Cowlitz Subbasin Winter Steelhead Integrated Hatchery Program • Tilton Subbasin Winter Steelhead Integrated Hatchery Program



Summer Steelhead Summary

Current Hatchery Program(s):	Cowlitz Trout Hatchery Segregated Hatchery Program - 650,000 yearling smolts
Proposed Hatchery Program(s):	Cowlitz Trout Hatchery Segregated Hatchery Program - 650,000 yearling smolts

Release Year	Total Number Released	Mean Weight	
		Grams	Fish Per Pound
2011	477,098	73	6.2
2012	471,529	69	6.6
2013	673,578	78	5.8
2014	618,681	84	5.4
2015	478,395	84	5.4
2016	183,626	73	6.2
2017	600,000	83	5.5
2018	598,000	83	5.5
2019	592,000	57	7.91



Public Review – Concerns We’ve Heard So Far

1. Low Spring Chinook Smolt-to-Adult Returns (SARs)
2. Fall Chinook NOR harvest opportunity
3. Winter steelhead early program
4. Chum



1. Low Spring Chinook Smolt-to-Adult Returns (SARs)

- Priority topic for FTC
- Monitoring & Evaluation subgroup building estimate
- Limiting Factors for SAR within Transition Plan (Year 1)

2. Fall Chinook NOR Harvest Opportunity

– Proposed Plan Considers:

- Collection at Barrier Dam Adult Facility for single integrated program during this recovery phase
- Marking strategy to describe effectiveness
- Opportunity to be maintained for increasing HOR returns

3. Winter Steelhead Early Program

- Transition Plan to (within 1 year) that considers:
 - Maximize recreational/harvest opportunity by adjusting summer-run Segregated Hatchery Program production in conjunction with winter steelhead programs.
 - Expanding existing hatchery program run-timing to increase fishing opportunities by developing a winter-run steelhead program to more closely emulate historic run-timing.
 - Determine possible sources and timing of implementation

4. Chum

- No plans to release hatchery-origin chum salmon in the Cowlitz Basin during this FHMP period.
- Does not preclude any entity from artificially propagating chum within the Cowlitz Basin:
 - Consistent with a recovery strategy
 - Coordinated with WDFW the Artificial Propagation Strategy for Chum Salmon

APR

- Purpose - Plan for operating fisheries in 2021
- Process this year
 - One virtual meeting on Aug. 12, 2020
 - No changes recommended at this time by Tacoma

2020 Hatchery Production Plan

Species	Before 2011 FHMP Update	2017 APR Goal	2018 APR Goal	2019 APR Goal	2020 APR Goal
Fall Chinook	4,800,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000
Spring Chinook	959,800	1,738,529	1,738,529	1,738,529	1,738,529
Coho	2,835,000	2,178,000	2,178,000	2,178,000	2,178,000
Winter Steelhead	690,000	647,000	647,000	647,000	647,000
Summer Steelhead	550,000	625,000	650,000	650,000	650,000
Cutthroat	160,000	100,599	100,599	100,599	100,599

Public Comment (Break?)



Open Q&A

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Wrap Up

- All comments are due to Matt Bleich or Travis Nelson by 4 p.m. (PST) on Sept. 7, 2020
- Get Comment Form, documents, and email addresses at **MyTPU.org/Cowlitz** (under Public Meetings)

