
From: James Dixon - NOAA Federal <james.dixon@noaa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 12:26 PM
To: Randy Harder
Cc: Scott Bass
Subject: Re: Language for this year's Council guidance letter

Sounds good. I'll give you a call at 2:30.

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 12:23 PM Randy Harder <rharter@pnptc.org> wrote:
2:30 works for Scott and I, have another mtg at 1:30 so having a little more time for that one helps me also.
Thanks
Randy

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 12:20 PM James Dixon - NOAA Federal <james.dixon@noaa.gov> wrote:
Be happy to Randy.

Would either 1:30 or 2:30 work for you? I have a 2:00 but can reschedule if necessary.

Let me know,

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 11:57 AM Randy Harder <rharter@pnptc.org> wrote:
Hi James,
Thanks for checking in with us on the guidance letter language re Mid-Canal Chinook. Could Scott and I have a call with you around 2pm today, or afterward if that is more convenient for you? Monday is a full day of meetings (w/ some mid-Canal issues actually) hence our short notice request for talking with you this afternoon if the guidance letter is to be out on the 23rd. We would like to make sure we have a common understanding of the language and your suggestion for the edit. If that works, here's call-in information: (877) 820-7831 w/ pass code 337352#.... just let me know if you can make it.
Thanks
Randy

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:01 AM James Dixon - NOAA Federal <james.dixon@noaa.gov> wrote:
Good morning,

I understand that there are still discussions going on with regard to the Mid-HC objective and we certainly don't want to impact and progress on that front. That said, we are needing to finalize our guidance language for the March Council meeting. We had discussed, on our call with you recently, that we could roll over the language from last year, if it would provide the room the co-managers needed to continue their discussions. Here is that language with some suggested updates:

1. For the Mid-Hood Canal Chinook population, the 2021 forecast is for very low abundance, as has been the case for recent years. The discontinuation of a small supplementation program for the population has resulted in a marked decrease in total terminal run size for this population. As part of the long-term RMP development, the co-managers are continuing to work toward agreement on a Mid-Hood Canal exploitation rate for SUS fisheries. Understanding that these discussions are ongoing between the co-managers, for the 2021 fishery, NMFS' guidance for the

Mid-Hood Canal Chinook population is that fisheries limit their impacts such that the reduction in preseason estimated escapement of natural-origin fish, as a result of Puget Sound fisheries, is similar to the **most recent two years** of preseason estimates. We anticipate that an objective that meets this escapement goal will meet the conservation needs of the population.

removed the specific year reference.

If you could confirm that this language would give the co-managers the necessary space to continue the discussion, we would appreciate it.

The letter is scheduled to go to the COuncil on Feb 23rd, so we would appreciate a prompt response if possible.

Thank you,

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