

Date: August 6, 2018

Place: Conference Call

Format: Special Meeting Called by Chairman Roland Schirman started at 1:00 p.m.

Board Members Present (on phone): Roland Schirman (CC), Justin Dixon (GC), Billy Bowles (GC), Jack Peasley (GC), Brad Johnson (AC), Brian Shinn (AC), Jon Jones (WC), Todd Kimball (WWC), and Yancey Reser (WWC),

Others Present (on phone); Chris Hyland (WWWMP), Joanna Cowles (WWCCD), Kris Fischer (CTUIR), Ali Fitzgerald (SRSRB), and John Foltz (SRSRB)

Verify Quorum

SRSRB Chair, Roland Schirman called the meeting to order at 1:02pm and verified a quorum (9 present), asked if there were any modifications to the agenda (none) and asked for introductions.

Approve Agenda

Action 1: A motion was made by Brian Shinn to approve the special meeting agenda, it was seconded by Bill Bowles and the Board approved the motion.

Discussion and Action: Forming a SE WA Columbia River Spring Chinook Policy Stakeholder subcommittee with the goal of formulating a recommendation letter.

John provided background on the issue, which is a follow up item from the invited stakeholder meeting held in Kennewick on July 18th regarding the Columbia River Spring Chinook allocation. Steve Pozzanghera spoke to John and inquired if the SRSRB would be willing to serve as the “clearing house” for a common voice and stance to provide a recommendation on the allocation formula for SE WA. We would need to have some sort of recommendation to present in early September for the Commission to make a determination on how they would like to proceed. There will then be a November meeting with the Oregon Commission where they would also be required to support a change, if the Washington Commission were to propose something. This special meeting was called given the short timeline for putting together a recommendation

Roland felt that the subject matter is a departure from habitat to harvest I feel that even though we have had ongoing discussion of this topic for several years, some documentation of this shift should be recorded before staff time is given to such an effort. The Board was strongly supportive of engaging on the subject.

The Board discussed the issue and posed the following questions:

- Would recommendations be limited to the Snake Region, or on the Columbia River Policy? The Board felt that they would need to weigh in on the Columbia River Policy as it relates to the Snake Region spring Chinook allocation and also has impacts on Snake River spring Chinook. It is understood that we have limitations in working with Oregon, but we can have an impact on what is done above Bonneville within Washington.
- Who is fighting a shift in the spring Chinook allocation? Lower river fisherman, Oregon, and in part the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission and WDFW staff.

The Board felt that the recommendations need to be concise and specific in what we are asking for. These additional thoughts were conveyed:

- Harvest should be set up where anglers are, 37% of license sales are in Eastern Washington Counties.



- Catch balancing need to be borne below Bonneville.
- 70% of spring Chinook entering the Columbia River are destined up-river.
- What are spring Chinook hatchery releases in the lower and upper river since the 75/25% allocation went into effect? Lower river hatchery production has decreased.
- A continuous fishery can occur in the lower river if you include Columbia River tributaries rather than main stem.

Action 2: Todd Kimball moved to form a committee to draft a letter making recommendations to the Columbia River spring Chinook allocation policy, Brian Shinn seconded the motion which passed by consensus.

Brad, Chris, Bill, John, and Justin will serve on the committee. John will invite the other stakeholders who participated in the Kennewick meeting to join if interested and will send out a doodle poll to find a meeting time for the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. by SRSRB Chair, Roland Schirman.

Signed By:  Date: 8/28/2018
Roland Schirman, Chair, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board