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Bilateral Workshops on the Effects of Salmon Fisheries on Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW)

**Workshop 1: September 21-23, 2011
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Seattle, WA**

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WELCOME!

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

- **Why are we here?**
- **What are we going to do here?**
- **What will happen next?**



- **Why are we here?**
- SRKW are listed as Endangered under Canada's Species at Risk Act (SARA) and the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- DFO and NOAA have developed markedly similar recovery plans for SRKW
- Prey availability, pollution and contaminants, vessel disturbances and sound are identified threats
- DFO and NOAA must consider effects on prey for SRKW as they manage and/or approve fisheries

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Why are we here?

In 2008, NOAA considered effects of fishing under new regimes proposed by the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC), per section 7 of the ESA

Applying best science then available, NOAA concluded that fishery regimes recommended by the PSC did not jeopardize SRKW nor adversely modify critical habitat

New scientific studies and analyses continue to emerge in Canada and the United States with regard to prey requirements of SRKW

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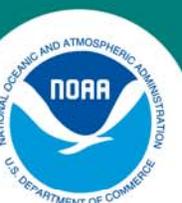
Why are we here?

In early 2011, NOAA considered effects of a new fishing plan for Puget Sound Chinook Salmon fisheries proposed by WDFW and the treaty tribes

Applying best available science, including some not available in 2008, NOAA identified significant concerns regarding potential effects on SRKW of salmon fisheries that reduce available prey, particularly large Chinook

Concerns are not limited to effects of local fisheries, but extend to salmon fisheries coast-wide that may affect prey available to SRKW

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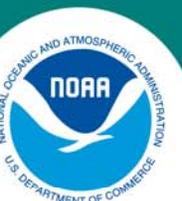
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Why are we here?

Due to the serious potential implications of these concerns to a broad range of fisheries and the recovery of the SRKWs, NOAA Fisheries and DFO convened these bilateral workshops to evaluate in an open forum the relevant science relating the potential effects of salmon fisheries to the recovery of SRKW

Our goal is to ensure that future management decisions are based on the best scientific information available.



Why are we here?

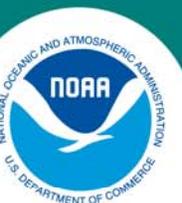
Think of this process as a peer review in real time...

There are many uncertainties – we already know that – but decisions still must be made

We seek a robust discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the available science, and expert advice on:

- what information is most relevant to understanding the interaction between fisheries and SRKW health
- weight of the evidence regarding key aspects of the available science

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What are we going to do here?

Invited experts have prepared and will present abbreviated summaries of their research and analysis (you all read their original papers, right?)

Our independent science panel and invited experts (yes, this means you!) will probe and critique the available science

We will seek to identify improved and/or additional analyses that would further elucidate the relevant issues

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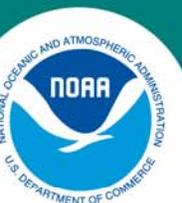
What will happen next?

We will gather comments on the presentations and the available science from you and present to the Panel. Informed by these discussions, your feedback and its own expertise, the Panel will recommend additional analyses to be completed for Workshop 2 (March 2012).

Presenters and others will prepare these analyses.

Other scientists, informed by this workshop and the Panel's recommendations, are invited to prepare additional analyses for consideration at Workshop 2.

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What will happen next?

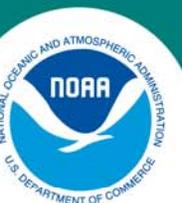
After Workshop 2, the Panel will issue a draft report detailing its preliminary findings

Comments will be solicited from workshop participants and the public for consideration at Workshop 3 (Sept. 2012)

NOAA may prepare contrasting fishery scenarios for analysis and discussion at Workshop 3

Following Workshop 3, the Panel will issue its final report on the status of the science pertinent to the effects of salmon fisheries on SRKW recovery and means for

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Thank you!

**Larry Rutter
NOAA Fisheries**