Agenda

Columbia Basin White Sturgeon Workshop: Our Shared Legacy and Opportunities

November 15-16, 2017 – Coeur d'Alene Resort

Workshop Objectives & Desired Outcomes

- Bring together regional white sturgeon managers and experts to share information and ideas, identify priorities, and support efforts to restore and conserve white sturgeon populations.
- Learn with and from each other and have fun.

November 15, 2017 – 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM

1:00 PM	Check-in
1:30 PM	Welcome, Introductions & Workshop Overview ▪ Lynn Palensky (NPCC) and Alison Squier (Ziji Creative Resources)
1:50 PM	Columbia Basin & Beyond: White Sturgeon Programs Ignited ▪ Lower Columbia – Peter Stevens (ODFW) ▪ McNary to Bonneville Columbia – Blaine Parker (CRITFC) ▪ Hanford Reach & Lower Snake – Olaf Langness or Shaffryn Schade (WDFW) ▪ Mid-Columbia – Donella Miller (YN), Andrew Gingerich (Douglas Co. PUD) ▪ Upper Columbia – Jason McLellan (CCT) ▪ Snake River – Ken Lepla (Idaho Power) ▪ Kootenai/Kootenay – Ryan Hardy (IDFG), Shawn Young (KTOI) ▪ Fraser River – Sarah Schreier (FRSCS) ▪ Nechako – Steve McAdam (BCMOE) ▪ Sacramento & San Joaquin – Andrea Schreier (UC Davis)
3:15 PM	Break
3:30 PM	Failure is Always (Not?) an Option: Early Life Survival & Recruitment Failure ▪ Interactive session o What are the causes of recruitment failure? How can we better answer that question? What can we do to address recruitment failure?
5:30 PM	Adjourn Day 1
6:30 PM	*Optional Get Together for Dinner and Drinks* ▪ *Optional get together for dinner and drinks at Fire Artisan Pizza. They have wood fired pizza, great salads, signature chocolate chip cookie dessert, wine and local microbrews. We've reserved some large group tables so that folks can sit together.*

November 16, 2017 – 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM

8:00 AM	Welcome & Day 2 Workshop Overview ▪ Lynn Palensky & Alison Squier
8:15 AM	Taking Stock 1: Stock Assessments, Survival Estimates, and Maturation Rates in Hatchery-Reared White Sturgeon ▪ Presentations from Columbia Basin regions highlighting different approaches to stock assessment and survival estimates o Lower Columbia – Peter Stevens (ODFW) o Mid-Columbia – Dave Robichaud (LGL) o Snake River – Brandon Bentz (Idaho Power) o Upper Columbia – James Crossman (BC Hydro) o Kootenai – Kevin McDonnell (IDFG) ▪ Importance of assigning sex and stage of maturity in hatchery-origin white sturgeon – James Crossman (BC Hydro)
9:30 AM	Break
9:45 AM	Taking Stock 2: Panel Discussion (Lower Columbia, Mid-Columbia, Snake, Upper Columbia, and Kootenai presenters) ▪ How does the use of specific gear or methodologies influence results? What are the implications of those differences at a regional or basin-wide scale? ▪ How are stock assessments and survival estimates being used to inform regional white sturgeon programs? What level of confidence is there in regional population/survival estimates? ▪ What challenges and/or opportunities exist to standardize gear and/or methodologies? ▪ What are the challenges and opportunities for data sharing?
10:40 AM	Conservation Aquaculture 1 ▪ Genetic Diversity in Conservation Aquaculture Programs – Andrea Schreier (UC Davis) ▪ Spontaneous Autopolyploidy in White Sturgeon – Andrea Schreier (UC Davis) ▪ Larvae Collection and Rearing as Conservation Aquaculture Tool – Jason McLellan (CCT)
12:00 PM	Lunch (provided)
1:15 PM	Conservation Aquaculture 2: Fish Bowl Discussion ▪ What are the biggest challenges and how are those being addressed? o How are stocking targets being set by different programs? What are the implications of different approaches 6 or 8 generations down the road? o How are risks being identified and addressed (e.g., spontaneous autopolyploidy, genetic risks, overrepresented families)? Are risks being addressed? o Are programs being adaptively managed? How? What challenges and opportunities exist? ▪ What information sharing is occurring? How? What are the challenges and opportunities? ▪ Where are we going with our conservation aquaculture and supplementation programs in the Columbia Basin?

2:00 PM	Research Highlights ▪ Effects of Mercury in White Sturgeon – Collin Eagles-Smith (USGS) ▪ A Quick Way to Determine White Sturgeon Sex – Andrew Matala (CRITFC)
2:30 PM	Emerging Issues and Next Steps ▪ Group session o What Are the Most Pressing Emerging Issues? Why? o Future Basin-wide Sturgeon Workshops? ▪ White Sturgeon & the Council's Fish & Wildlife Program – Lynn Palensky (NPCC)
3:30 PM	Closing and Adjourn

Acronyms

BCMFLNRO	British Columbia Ministry of Forest, Land and Natural Resource Operations
BCMOE	British Columbia Ministry of Environment
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CRITFC	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
FRSCS	Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
KTOI	Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
NPCC	Northwest Power and Conservation Council
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
PUD	Public Utility District
UC Davis	University of California Davis
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
YN	Yakima Nation