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Oregon

April 29, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Steve Crow

SUBJECT: Barbless hook discussion

Tom Karier points out that Washington and Oregon have different policies regarding the use of barbed hooks in the salmon and steelhead fishery on the Columbia River. Tom asked for some background from ODFW and WDFW that was sent to all Council Members on March 29. Attached is part of a power point presentation that was given at a recent Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting on the issue of barbless vs. barbed hooks.

There appears to be some interest in requesting that the ISAB review barbed hook policies in the Columbia River.

Enclosure

x:\jh\ww\packet\may10 barbless hooks.doc

2009 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulation Development

Rhine Messmer

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

August 8, 2008 Commission Meeting

Review of Hook/Gear Studies

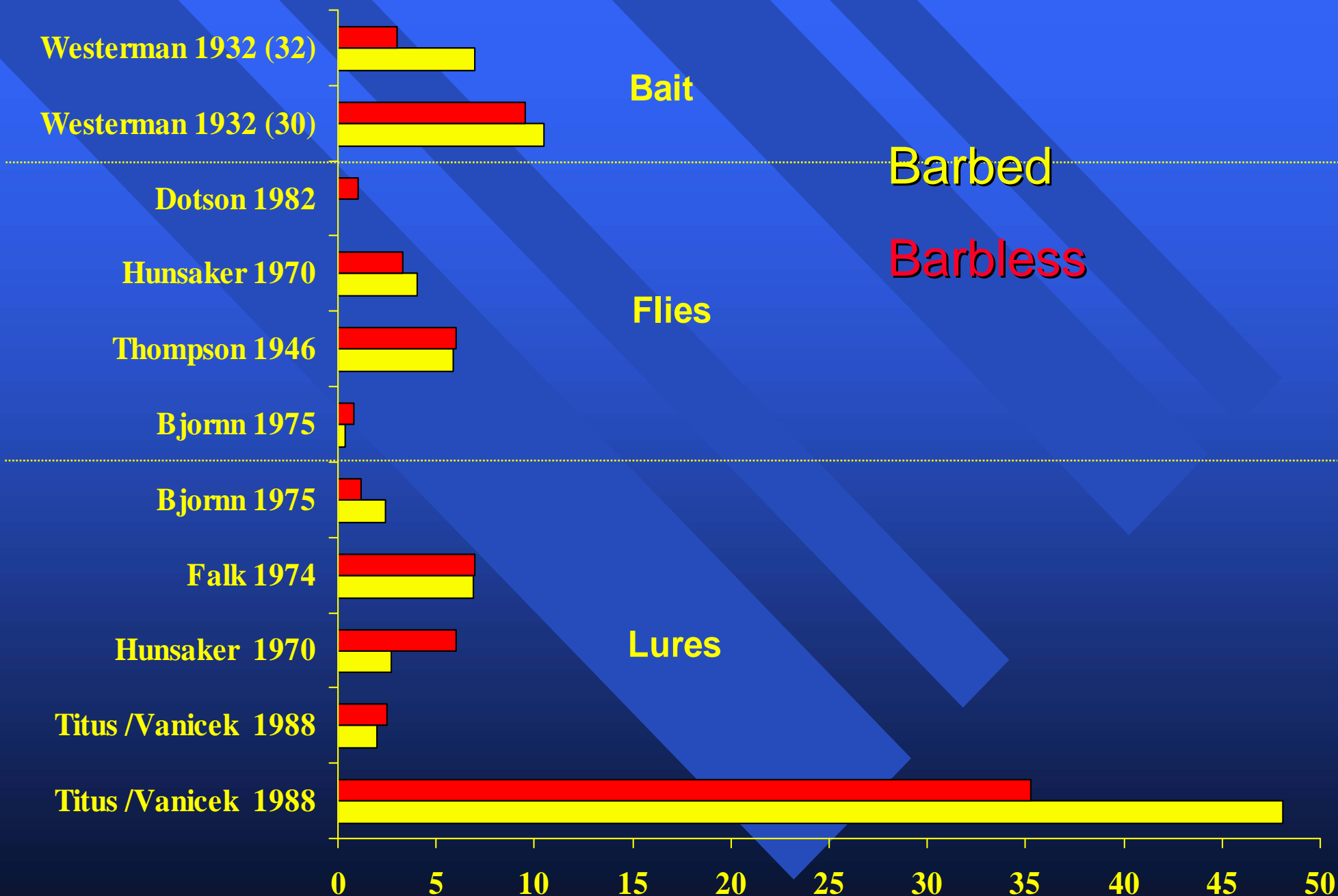
- **ODFW Review in 2001**
- **Updated Assessment in 2008**
 - **Barbed vs. Barbless Hooks**

Trout Hooking Mortality Studies

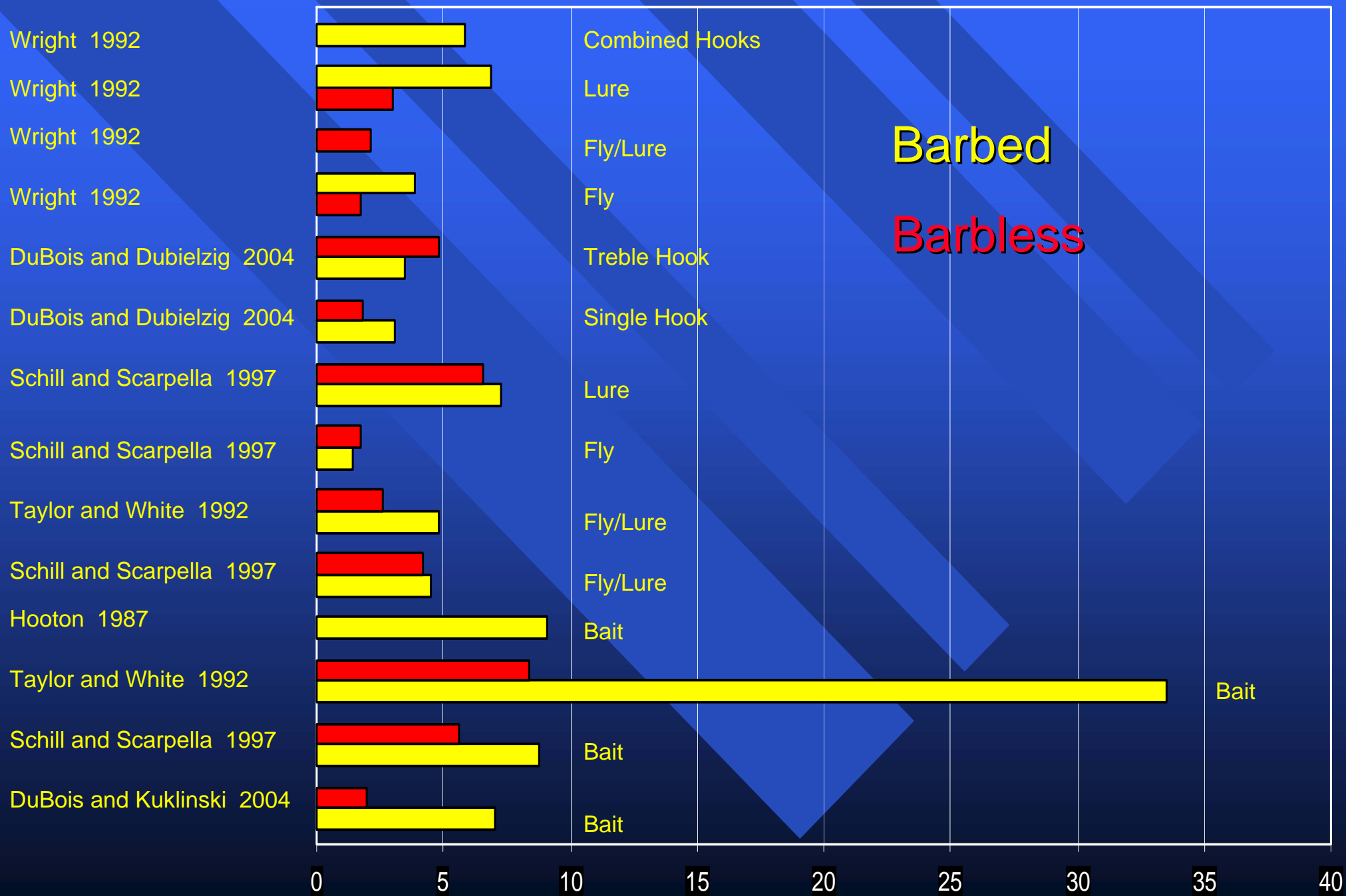
General Conclusions 2001 Review

- **Individual fish mortality with bait is 5-10 times greater than flies and lures**
- **No difference between single and treble hooks**
- **No difference between barbed and barbless flies and lures**
- **No survival difference between trout played to varying levels of exhaustion**

Hooking Mortality Studies, part 1.



Hooking Mortality Studies, part 2.



2001 and 2008

Staff Recommendation

- **Freedom of choice, barbless advisory**
- **Continue barbless in ocean salmon, consistent with PFMC, sturgeon**
- **Consider bait ban where reduced hooking mortality a management priority**
- **Improve angler education materials on proper handling of fish**

Barbed vs. Barbless

- **“Based on existing mortality studies, there is no biological basis for barbed hook restrictions in artificial fly and lure fisheries for resident trout.”**

Schill and Scarpella 1997

IDFG Fishery Research

Barbed vs. Barbless

- **“Most important factor in hooking mortality of stream caught trout is hook placement, which is independent of barb presence.”**

Dubois and Dubielzig 2004

Barbed vs. Barbless

- **“Although the use of barbless flies connotes a proper respect and reverence for trout, the use of barbless hooks should be voluntary and not mandated by law.”**

Robert Behnke

Thoughts on Barbless Hooks, Trout