

What is needed	What NOAA is Doing or Planning to Do	Timeline	Plans for Coordination Outside Federal Agencies	Comments
Court ordered status reports	Provide quarterly status reports and a revised biological opinion to court.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Oct 1, 2003 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Jan 1, 2004 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Apr 1, 2004 4 <sup>th</sup> - Jun 2, 2004 final	Documents will be provided to all attorneys	POC = Disheroon
Update status information	1. Updates for 2001, 2002 and (to the extent possible) 2003 adult returns. Each iteration will incorporate available adult info and refinements as developed in tasks described below.	1 <sup>st</sup> - Aug 2003 <del>2<sup>nd</sup> - Jan 2004</del> <sup>1</sup> <del>3<sup>rd</sup> - Apr 2004</del>	Will be presented in a variety of fora, including CBFWA and NPCC.	POC = Brown  Comments welcomed.
	2. Refinements to potential analytical tools (i.e., CRI, lambda) developed through scientific workshop.	Workshop took place Dec 5, 2003  Report from independent reviewers expected in January	NOAA distributed a draft tech memo on Nov 21, 2003, which reviewed potential tools. Co-manager, as well as nationally recognized experts selected by NWC, participated the Dec 5, 2003, workshop. The independent reviewers are preparing a report to NOAA Fisheries that summarizes the workshop presentations and comments, reviews the draft technical memo, and makes recommendations for further revisions and future work.	No plans for a formal collaborative team process.  A new SimSalmon model developed for running CRI alternatives will be made available for general use.
	3. Refinements to ESU/ population definition, recovery targets, mean generation time, and viability criteria based on TRT work.	Incorporated as available	Through TRT process	

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<sup>1</sup>NOAA has not received all requested 2002 adult return data from the comanagers, nor has it completely analyzed the information received to date. Thus, the updated analysis expected in January will not be available. NOAA Fisheries is continuing to evaluate the use of metrics in the jeopardy analysis. Given the uncertainties revealed in the analysis presented with the Oct 1 status report and the difficulty of projecting trends into the future under current law, the metrics and analysis in the March 24 draft are expected to be considerably different.

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	4. Refinement to risk assessment to reflect new listing status, including any change in the relevance of hatchery fish	New proposed listing status expected by March 2004 (final action anticipated by end of 2004).	The draft Biological Review Team report has been reviewed by co-managers, who also met directly with the BRT. The final report will be released with proposed listing determinations which will then be subject to formal review and comment (up to 90 days)	
	5. Update direct and indirect survival effects of hydro actions.	Dec 2003 update in draft tech memos (see below)	NWC scientists will consult with external scientists as needed during draft development and response to comments.	
	6. Prepare ESU summaries reflecting most recent information available on current and target abundance, population growth rate, and other measures of population status and viability. This text will be coordinated with the Salmon Recovery Coordinators and their Domain Teams and the NWC's TRT/BRT staff.	NOAA Fisheries will not have significant new information to present before the March 24 <sup>th</sup> draft opinion	Text will be updated with new and corrected information the NWC is developing for the status reviews. These data are received from comanagers who are on the TRTs and who also reviewed the Feb 2003 draft BRT report.	
Update 2000 tech memos on basic science	Update 2000 "white papers" on (1) Flow/survival, (2) Project passage (incl. spill), and (3) Juvenile fish transportation. Produce new papers on (4) Relative effectiveness of hatchery fish spawning in the wild, and (5) Potential for survival improvements through offsite mitigation actions in the estuary and plume. Final reports will be published as NOAA Technical Memos.  (Note: the 2004 tech memos will combine information from two of the 2000 white papers (i.e., Transportation and Flow/survival).	Drafts were released for review Dec 23, 2003  Comment are requested by Feb 1, 2004  Final papers and response to comments released Apr 2004	NWC scientists are consulting with external scientists while they develop drafts, and will respond to comments on the drafts.	POC = Brown

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<p>Refine what to count for environmental baseline and cumulative effects sections</p>	<p>For Federal habitat actions on Federal land: NOAA is generating an initial inventory of completed consultations from the existing Public Consultation tracking System database as well as requesting a list of Sec. 7 consultations likely to be completed by June 2004 from the Federal Caucus agencies. This includes federal and federally-funded or -permitted actions that have either positive or negative effects on limiting factors.</p> <p>From BPA, NOAA is requesting a list of projects which will be implemented by June, 2004, that will require no further consultation (i.e., are covered under the Habitat Improvement Program programmatic BiOp).</p> <p>For non-Federal actions: NOAA asked for information about beneficial and adverse actions on salmon habitat in the Columbia basin from states, Tribes, and state subbasin planning coordinators. NOAA is also reviewing projects inventoried by the Pacific Coast Salmon Restoration Fund (PCSRF).</p> <p>NOAA Fisheries is summarizing information from the subbasin summaries (non-Federal actions that address limiting factors).</p>	<p>Complete initial list by Jan 2004</p>	<p>September 24, 2003 letter to States and Tribes requested their help develop the list of actions, starting with their designation of a point of contact. NOAA will work with the co-managers to identify actions that count. In keeping with the high importance that the Federal agencies' place on subbasin planning, NOAA will minimize disruption of that process by collaborating with the Regional Coordination Group.</p> <p>On November 24, 2003 NOAA sent a letter to the technical contacts from the States, Tribes and subbasin planning groups requesting information on non-federal salmon habitat actions that have not already been reported as part of the Pacific Coast Salmon Restoration Funds (PCSRF) Report to Congress.</p>	<p>POC = Walton</p>

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Refine how to count offsite habitat mitigation	<p>1. <u>Identify intrinsic potential</u>: Characterize <i>tributary</i> areas within a population with respect to their ability to support salmon populations based on their natural characteristics. (i.e. areas with gradient, geology, climate and other features that would inherently be areas of high, medium or low productivity)</p>	<p>NWC to complete work product by Feb 2004. NWC used Yakima and Grand Ronde subbasins to test methods of analysis.<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>NWC presented a technical overview of their method for estimating the intrinsic potential of tributary habitat (i.e., under both historical and current conditions), as applied to the Yakima and the Grand Ronde subbasins, to a group of Northwest watershed experts (Robert Bilby, Peter Bisson, and Bruce Reiman), Peter Paquet of the NPCC, and Chip McConnaha and Bruce Marcot of Mobrاند Biometrics on December 11, 2003.</p> <p>NOAA is working with regional subbasin planners and state staff from the Northwest Power and Conservation Council to ensure that work products developed for the remand opinion are as beneficial to subbasin planning as possible.</p>	<p>POC = Kratz</p> <p>NOAA will rank candidate limiting factors on a population specific basis and will describe the potential to improve population status through change in current habitat conditions.</p>
	<p>2. <u>Characterize divergence from natural conditions</u>: Determine the degree of alteration in current tributary habitat processes and instream conditions (candidate limiting factors), using spatially explicit analyses.</p>	<p>NWC to complete work product in Jan 2004</p>	<p>see above</p>	<p>This is an area of scheduling concern.</p>

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<sup>2</sup> NWC determined that the pilot analyses for the Yakima and Grande Ronde subbasins were adequate for testing methods and therefore did not include the data from the Wenatchee in Dec. 11, 2003, presentation (see “Plans for Coordination Outside Federal Agencies”).

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	3. <u>Describe proportion of population affected</u> : Map currently occupied habitat by salmonid life stage <sup>3</sup>	unknown	see above	
	4. <u>Linkage</u> : Link changes in <i>tributary</i> habitat processes/instream conditions to potential changes in population status (all four VSP parameters). NOAA is currently working with the NWC to develop a rule set for relating projects to intrinsic potential and limiting factors at the population level. This rule set will help to ensure a focus on projects with the greatest potential.	NWC to complete work product in Feb 2004	see above	
	5. <u>Integration</u> (compilation of steps 1-4): Develop population-specific lists of limiting factors <i>in tributaries</i> , ranked by order of potential impact on population status. (i.e. Rank of each limiting factor in a population = degree of alteration from historic conditions + intrinsic potential of affected areas + proportion of the population affected + the potential result of improving the affected area on each VSP parameter)	NWC to complete work product in Feb 2004	see above	

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<sup>3</sup> This statement more accurately describes the task than the description given in the workplan accompanying the Oct. 2003 status report.

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	6. <u>Estuary and Plume</u> : Develop population-specific lists of limiting factors in the estuary (including LCR below Bonneville) and plume ranked by order of potential impact on population status.	Feb 2004	see above	
	7. <u>Rank areas</u> : Determine the relative potential for changes in population status that would be expected from changes in estuary, mainstem and tributary habitat.	Feb 2004	see above	
Refine how to count offsite hatchery mitigation	NOAA Fisheries will develop and release a hatchery policy  Depending on the policy, there may be further technical questions in need of development and staffing to incorporate this information into the analysis	Will be available (though not likely final) at least by March 2004 since it will be an integral part of the listing proposals due at that time.	NOAA Fisheries has committed to provide an opportunity for another co-manager review prior to finalizing this policy.	POC = Darm
Validate or refine jeopardy standard as described in 2000 FCRPS opinion	Ensure jeopardy standard is consistent with current judicial and administrative requirements.	Jan 2004	None	POC = Eames

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<p>Refine approach to use of risk metrics in jeopardy analysis</p>	<p>Recognizing that many analytical tools may not reflect 7(a)(2) standards regarding obligations of the FCRPS agencies, the Federal parties will step down from broad analyses such as CRI in the jeopardy analysis. As before, NOAA anticipates a largely qualitative decision, informed by the analysis and review of quantitative information. NOAA expects to provide a more complete display of the uncertainties surrounding the estimates of population growth rate and other indicator metrics.</p>	<p>Ongoing with each new iteration of the risk assessment</p>	<p>Continued informal presentations and discussion with co-managers as on July 30, 2003.</p>	<p>POC = Toole  The Federal agencies are interested in a more structured discussion with co-managers on alternative quantitative analyses that could inform the decision.</p>
<p>Revised opinion</p>	<p>Revise biological opinion to update analysis and bring it into conformance with judicial and administrative requirements.</p>	<p>Provide draft for comment by late March (prior to April 2 report to Court). Comments needed by May 1 to meet June 2 date for final remand opinion</p>	<p>Circulate draft for comment and provide written response to key comments as with July 2000 draft FCRPS BiOp.</p>	<p>POC = Brown/Walton</p>