

OVERVIEW: WDFW's ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES IN SMP UPDATES

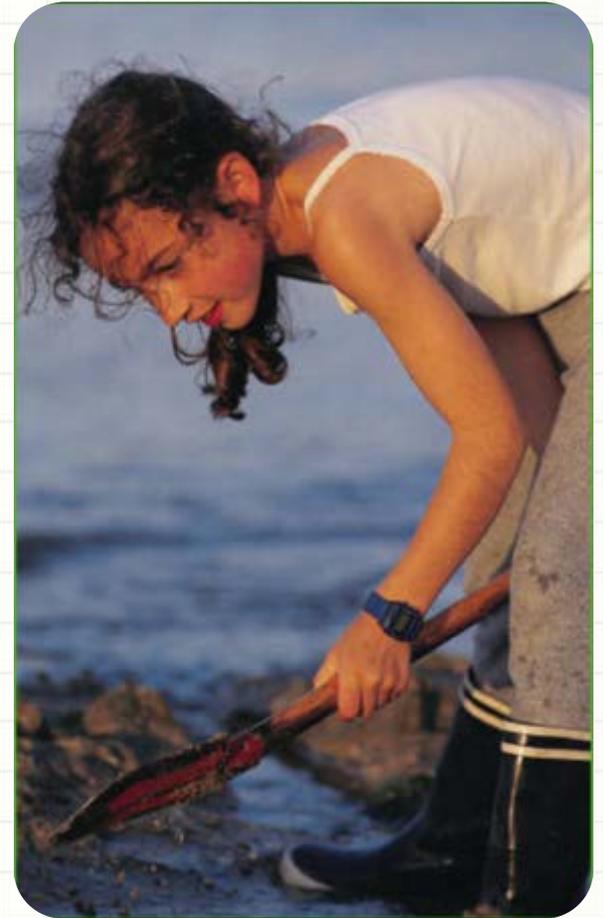
ECOLOGY WEST SIDE PLANNERS' FORUM

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WDFW Land Use Policy Lead
April 24, 2014



Discussion Points

1. WDFW's Commitments, Roles & responsibilities
2. WDFW's engagement in SMP Updates
3. Staff contacts



WDFW's COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT SMP UPDATES



What Can Local Governments Expect of WDFW in SMP Updates?*

1. That WDFW will maximize **collaboration and partnership** while fulfilling our mission to perpetuate fish, wildlife, and habitat.
2. That WDFW staff will establish and maintain professional **relationships** with local staff.
3. That WDFW will **share** what **strategic interests** WDFW has in your SMP Update.
4. That WDFW will provide timely, scientifically-sound **technical data** on fish, wildlife, and habitat.
5. That WDFW will provide **timely written comments**.



What Can Local Governments Expect of WDFW in SMP Updates?*

- * These expectations are what we are aspiring to; a work in progress. Factors at play:
 - Diversification
 - Funding/staffing levels
 - Training/expertise
- * If your experience is widely divergent from these expectation, let me know.



WDFW's SMP UPDATE ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES



Roles & Responsibilities

1. SMPs are owned jointly by the local jurisdiction and Ecology
 - Each approves the final plan
 - Local jurisdiction balances many interests
 - Ecology provides oversight and support
2. WDFW is a technical advisor for matters related to fish & wildlife
 - Provide science about PHS
 - Mission: Perpetuate fish & wildlife



WDFW Roles & Responsibilities: Regional Biologists

1. Establish & maintain **relationships** with key players
2. **Track/report progress**
3. Help **determine our strategic interests**, level of engagement
4. Provide identified level of **support to local government**
5. Provide **written comments**
6. **Elevate** issues as necessary



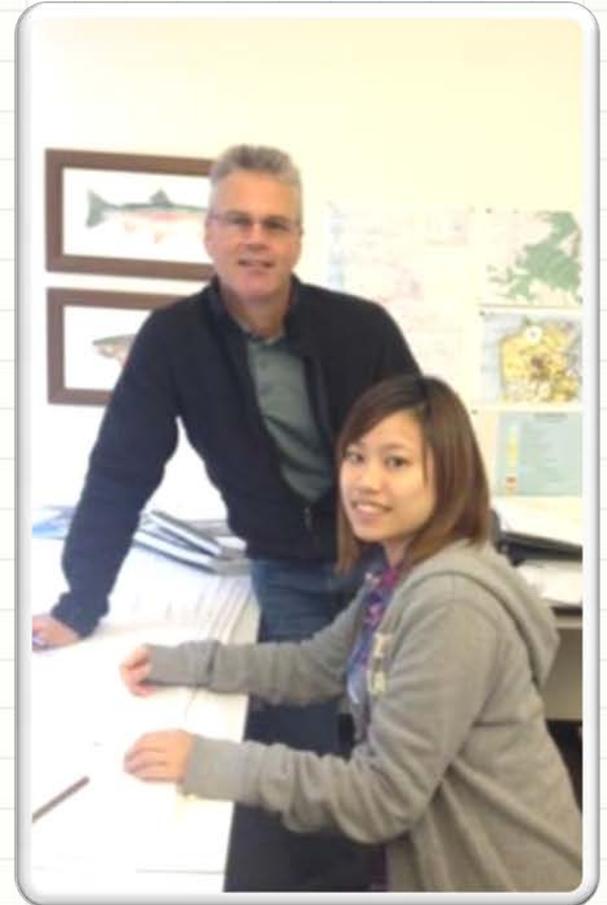
WDFW Roles & Responsibilities

Regional Habitat Program Managers

- Establish/maintain key relationships
- Guide Biologists
- Preview written comment
- Elevate issues to HQ staff

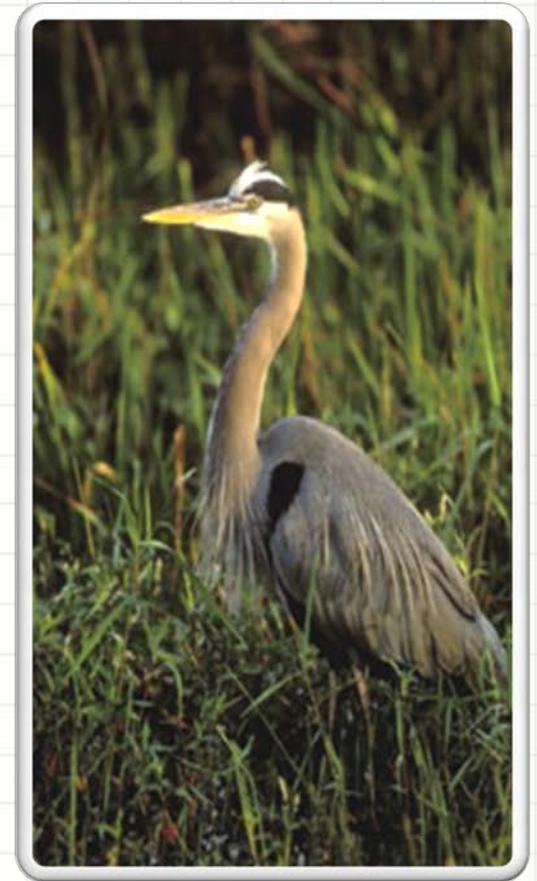
Headquarters Staff

- Support regions
- Elevate to issues to Director



Roles & Responsibilities: Final Thought

- Cooperation and collaboration are necessary.
- Counties and cities are key fish & wildlife managers.
- Win-wins
 - Avoid species listings
 - Enhanced certainty for developers
 - More hunting, fishing, wildlife watching

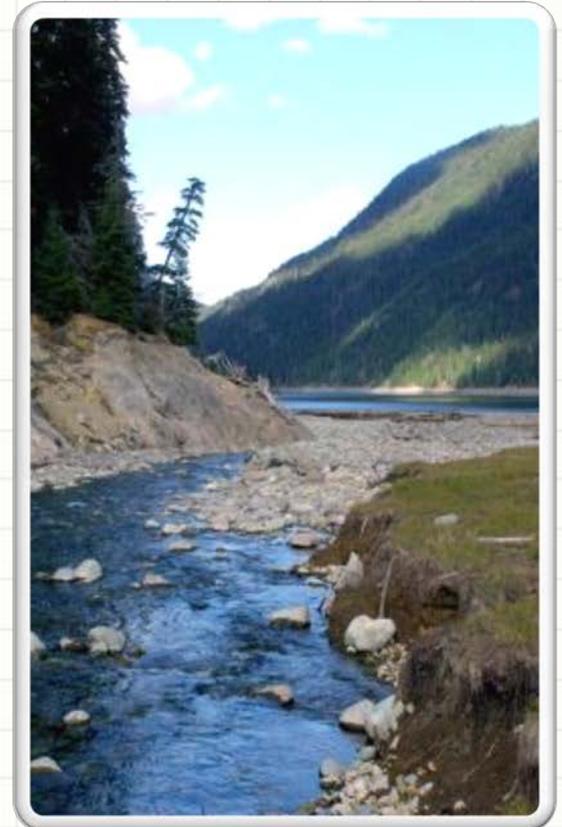


WDFW ENGAGEMENT IN SMP UPDATES



Strategic Investment of WDFW Staff

- Not all SMP Updates are created equal
- WDFW needs to focus on Updates with a higher potential payoff for fish & wildlife
 - What's the difference between expected results if we are engaged vs. not?



What are WDFW's Strategic Interests?

1. PHS use

- PHS List
- PHS maps
- PHS Management Recommendations
- WDFW technical expertise

2. Designation of ecological hotspots

- Natural or Conservancy

3. Functional adequacy of buffers

- *Especially* in Natural and Conservancy areas



Varying Levels of Engagement

Action	L	M	H
Develop relationship with local planner, Ecology planner; check in at major milestones	X	X	X
Engage discussion of SMP Jurisdiction delineation			X
Provide PHS data for Shoreline Characterization	X	X	X
Provide other data for Shoreline Characterization		•	X
Participate in Technical Advisory Committee for Enviro Designations, Policies, Regs, Restoration priorities		•	X
Analyze Draft provided to PC; provide written comment		•	X
Analyze Draft provided to BCC; provide written comment		•	X
Est. hours for this Update (to be determined w/mgmt)	<40	<100	>100



WDFW'S LEGAL BASIS FOR ENGAGING IN SMPs



Legal Basis: The Law

- RCW 77.04.012: WDFW to “preserve, protect, perpetuate” fish & wildlife
- RCW 90.58: Local gov’ts & Ecology to:
 - “**obtain the comments** of any...state... agency having any special expertise [about environmental impacts]” (§100)
 - **Consider state agency input** when updating SMP (§340) and receive formal comments from agencies on plans (§090)



Legal Basis: Rules

- WAC 173-26:
 - .201 Local governments *should* **contact** relevant state agencies... for available [scientific and technical] **information**.
 - .201 Before undertaking substantial work, local governments **shall notify** applicable state agencies to identify state interests, ... information, and methods for coordination and input



Legal Basis: Rules (con't)

WAC 173-26:

- .221(5) (b) In **establishing vegetation conservation regulations**, local governments must use available scientific and technical information...At a minimum, local governments *should* consult...*Management Recommendations for Washington's Priority Habitats...*



RESOURCES



WDFW Area Habitat Biologists

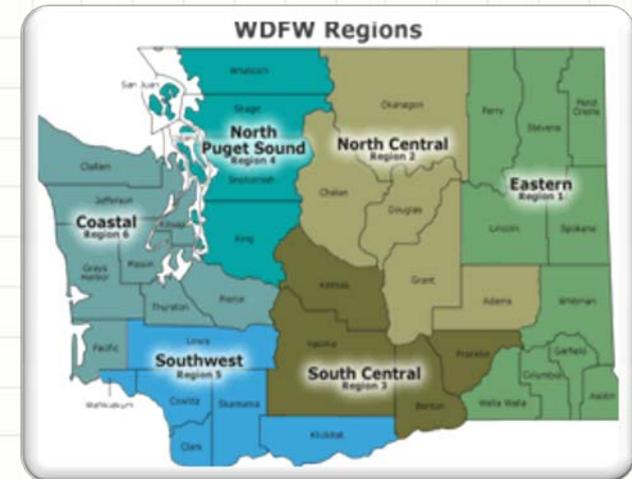
- Your single point of contact
 - Current county/city assignments at

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/habitat/ahb/>



WDFW Resources

- Regional Habitat Program Manager
- HQ staff
 - Keith Folkerts, (360) 902-2390, keith.folkerts@dfw.wa.gov
 - Land Use Policy Lead/
PHS Section Manager



QUESTIONS?

