Lake Washington Sockeye Salmon Program – Opportunities and Challenges



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Lake Washington Sockeye Returns

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Sockeye Program Partners

National Marine Fisheries Service US Fish & Wildlife Service

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

King County

Public – Wild Fish Conservancy

Public – Puget Sound Anglers

Public – At Large



Mitigation for Landsburg Diversion Dam, Seattle Public Utilities

- Landsburg Mitigation Agreement (LMA)
- 50 year term
- Funding capped in 1996 dollars
- Hatchery program
- Adaptive Management
- Monitoring and Evaluation



Integrating Science

- The public challenged the EIS
- Via SEPA a public, agency and independent scientific review strategy was developed to reduce risk & eliminate litigation.
- An Adaptive Management Plan was developed & is now followed.
- Goals
 - Operate hatchery program to assist in developing a well-adapted, genetically diverse, healthy & harvestable population.



LMA - oversight

- Mayor of Seattle
- SPU Board of Directors
- Policy and co-signers committee
- AMWG
- TWG



Adaptive Management

- Focus on limiting impacts of the hatchery
- Use of local stock, limit numbers, limit hatchery rearing time, timing matches
- Fund and implement monitoring and evaluation projects







Why a sockeye hatchery?









Hatchery Controversies

- Competition
- Predation
- Domestication
- Reduced fitness
- Disease
- Natural selection
- Hatchery footprint and impacts











Hatchery survival is higher than what occurs naturally







Hatchery Releases







Cedar River Sockeye Percent HORs in Brood stock (By Brood Year)



Cedar River sockeye run timing & weir operational dates (Unpublished data PhD dissertation, Mike Tillotson, UW)

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Sockeye Program Costs





What's next?



- Continue to operate the hatchery different standards?
- Continued research into freshwater production issues
- Continued stakeholder and co-manager involvement

For More Information - contact

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