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GOVERNOR



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Co-Chairs Carl Schreck and Nancy Molina:

The State of Oregon has completed the *Draft Upper Willamette River Conservation and Recovery Plan (Plan) for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead* (February 23, 2010). As you know, the draft Plan was prepared by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) with input and guidance from Planning and Stakeholder teams (composed of local interest and conservation groups, state and federal agencies) as well as input from NOAA Fisheries. This plan serves as the federal recovery plan for ESA-listed species in the Upper Willamette River and has been developed consistent with federal recovery plan requirements. The Plan also serves as the State's Conservation Plan under the Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP).

The State respectfully requests the review of this Plan by the IMST. Independent peer review of all conservation and recovery plans is required by the NFCP. The IMST review would be helpful in assessing the scientific and technical underpinnings of this document to substantiate its credibility and support its content. The approach IMST has used in previous reviews of other conservation and recovery plans should be helpful to your review of this Plan. The IMST review comments will be addressed in the final Plan, expected to be released in December 2010.

Three hard-copies of the Plan are each being distributed to Carl Schreck, Vic Kaczynski, and Kathy Mass-Hebner. All team members plus Kathy are receiving CDs. A completed IMST review is respectfully requested within approximately six months, concluding in September.

As you would expect, the recovery plan is a voluminous document, and includes the following completed chapters, and associated appendices:

- (Title Page)
- Table of Contents
- List of Tables (not completed in this draft)
- List of Figures (not completed in this draft)
- Acronym and Abbreviation List
- Executive Summary (not completed in this draft)
- Chapter 1 - Introduction
- Chapter 2 - Environmental and Biological Background
- Chapter 3 - Conservation and Recovery Goals, Criteria, and Analyses
- Chapter 4 - Population Status and Conservation Gaps
- Chapter 5 - Limiting Factors and Threats
- Chapter 6 - Desired Status and Scenarios to Achieve Desired Status
- Chapter 7 - Strategies and Actions
- Chapter 8 - Measurable Criteria and Associated Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation.
- Chapter 9 - Implementation
- Chapter 10 - Broad Sense Recovery
- References
- Appendices

The Plan is a true draft at this stage and has a few elements that need additional work. Chapter 8 thresholds need to be established, and the time and cost estimates for Chapter 9 are incomplete. We provide a framework from the Lower Columbia River Recovery Plan to develop cost estimates. Appendices are also missing some background material.

Thank you for your commitment to providing independent science review of this document. Please contact me ([Suzanne.Knapp@state.or.us](mailto:Suzanne.Knapp@state.or.us); 503-986-6527) or Dave Jepsen with ODFW ([david.jepsen@oregonstate.edu](mailto:david.jepsen@oregonstate.edu); 541-757-4263, ext .235) if you have questions or concerns during this review process.

Best regards,



Suzanne Knapp  
Natural Resources Policy Advisor  
Governor's Natural Resources Office

SK:jb

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Tom Stahl, ODFW  
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