Aquatic Species Restoration Plan Update

Introduction November 5, 2020

Previous Work

Phase 1 Draft ASRP published November 2019

 Subsequent public comment period & symposium event



Aquatic Species Restoration Plan Steering Committee Phase I: November 2019

Publication #19-06-009

2020 Work

• Refine the Plan

Add critical details to increase effectiveness, feasibility of implementation
 Incorporate public comment feedback

Transition to implementation

Develop sequencing plans to strategically focus project execution
Build the infrastructure needed to successfully implement the Plan



Shifts in ASRP Program



2020 ASRP Work Plan: Major Elements

- Scenario Refinement
- Sequencing Recommendations
- Implementation Planning
- Monitoring & Adaptive Management Plan
- Community Planning Strategy Development



2020 ASRP Work Plan: Major Elements

• Scenario Refinement

What is the scope of this program?

Sequencing Recommendations

Where is the program focusing implementation?

Implementation Planning

How can we successfully ramp up program implementation?

Aquatic Species Restoration Plan Update

Scenario Refinement November 5, 2020

Scenario Refinement

- Phase 1 ASRP included 3 Scenarios for potential scope of the ASRP
- Phase 2 includes the refinement and selection of one scenario as scope of the program

Scenario Refinement

• Phase 1 Analyses:

 Even Scenario 3 indicated potential losses to some significant stocks, with climate change predictions



ASRP Phase 1 Restoration Scenario Results: Fall Chinook

Scenario Refinement

Questions informing Phase 2 work:

What changes can we make to the program to be more successful in supporting native aquatic species & habitats?

What can we do to get the most potential benefits while setting realistic goals?

How can we build upon the Phase 1 work to increase benefits, while still adhering to strict prioritization approach of the ASRP?



How can we truly build the rooms back into our hotel?



Focused on Scenario 3

- o Public comments
- Board guidance January-March 2020
- Scientific need to do more than protect and restore core habitats in order to support resiliency of the watershed and viable species populations

Actions taken

- Optimized areas and actions to have most potential benefit to native aquatic species and habitats
- Incorporated the estuary
- Completed an ecosystem resiliency analysis

- Optimized areas and actions to have most potential benefit to native aquatic species and habitats
 - Evaluated and modified actions per priority area

 e.g. decrease emphasis on barrier corrections; increase of beaver ponds and
 floodplain connectivity in Shafer Creek, a tributary to the Wynoochee
 - Increased intensities of actions in areas where spring Chinook and other at risk species could benefit

 o.e.g. Newaukum, lower SF Chehalis



 Incorporated the estuary

 Plan and restore for sea-level rise above the tidal surge plain
 Restore shoreline and marsh habitats critical for Chinook rearing



- Completed an ecosystem resiliency analysis
 - Target priority headwater areas in smaller streams to cool and increase water flow downstream
 - East Fork Satsop and its tributaries are unique, spring-fed, highly productive habitats that support multiple species. It has no duplicate in the basin.



Upper East Fork Satsop wetland complex

Draft Recommendations

- Modification of intensities and actions throughout priority geographic areas

 Tailored actions for
 - suitable locations
- Revisions to priority areas
- Increase in overall miles (450 to 555)



Recommended Scope of ASRP

- 555 miles of prioritized habitat restoration and protection
- 16,500 acres of floodplain reconnection or restoration



Draft Program Costs

- Capital costs for full scope of restoration program
 Range of potential costs from \$610 million to \$1.3 billion
 - Average potential costs approximately \$940 million
 - Costs were updated based on actual costs for Early Action Reach projects and recent grant rounds
 - This averages to a cost of \$60-65 million per biennium, if evenly distributed



The revised scope of the ASRP:

- Increases predicted benefits to native aquatic species and habitats beyond phase 1 analyses
- Focuses on reducing the worst effects of climate change that are predicted to have the most impact on native aquatic species
- Reduces uncertainty on whether our actions will have lasting benefit by strategic prioritization based on known limiting factors for species and habitats

We've developed a robust plan, and now we are shifting to implementation.

Questions & Steering Committee Discussion

 Colleen Suter, Chehalis Tribe to further discuss scope of program