



ESA Petition to List Spring-Run Chinook Salmon

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7/6/23



ESA PETITION TO LIST SPRING-RUN CHINOOK SALMON

PURPOSE

- Ensure board awareness about recent petition to list spring-run Chinook salmon under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and describe next steps in the ESA process

AGENDA

- Overview of petition process
- Summarize next steps



Chehalis Spring-Run Chinook Salmon, Skookumchuck River
Photo credit: Center for Biological Diversity, Pacific Rivers

ESA PETITION RECEIVED

- Petition received from Center for Biological Diversity and Pacific Rivers (May 23, 2023)
- Washington Coast ESU of Spring-run Chinook
 - Washington Coast spring-run Chinook salmon are distributed broadly along the Washington Coast ESU in five major watersheds: the Chehalis, Quinault, Queets/Clearwater, Hoh, and Quillayute River basins

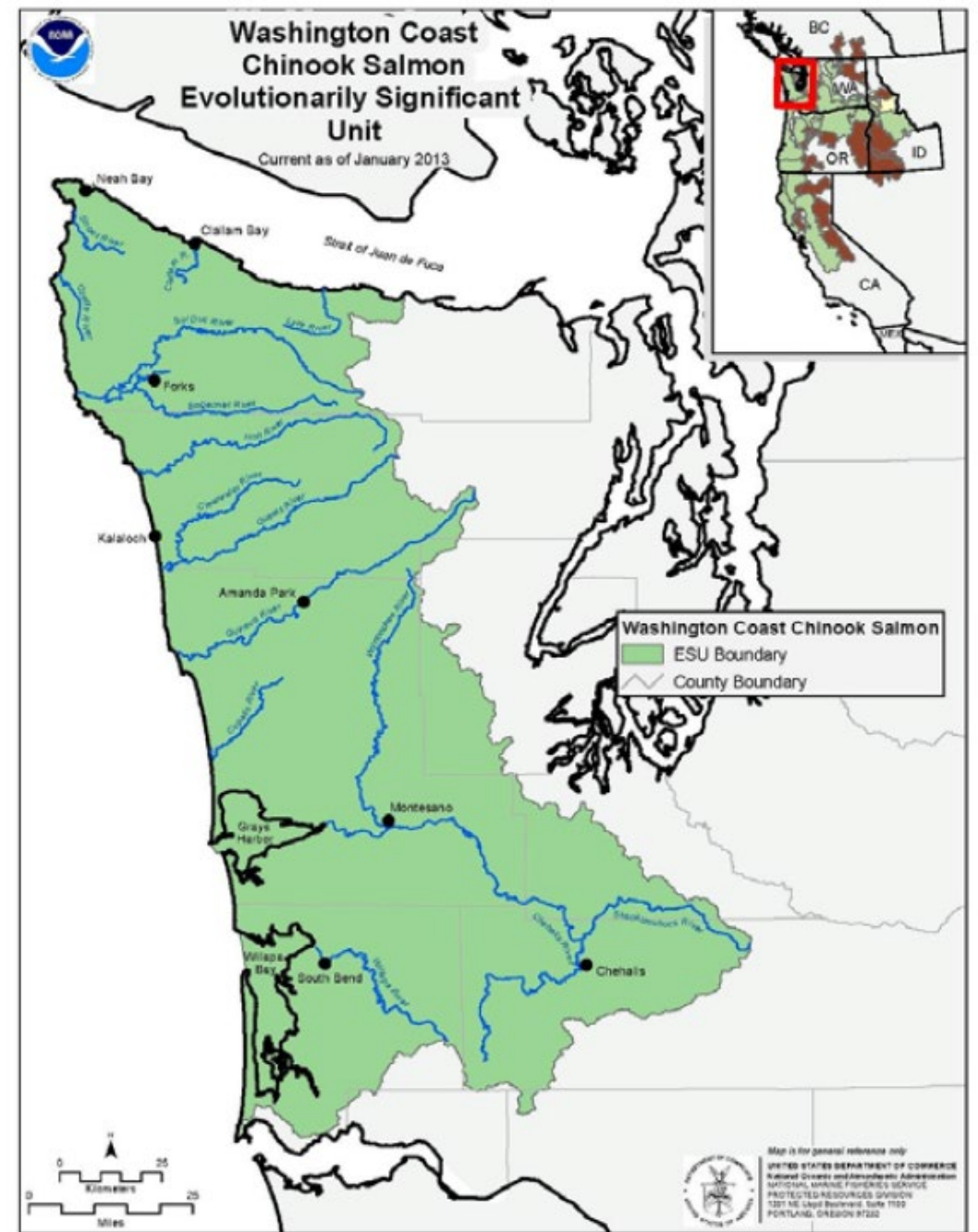
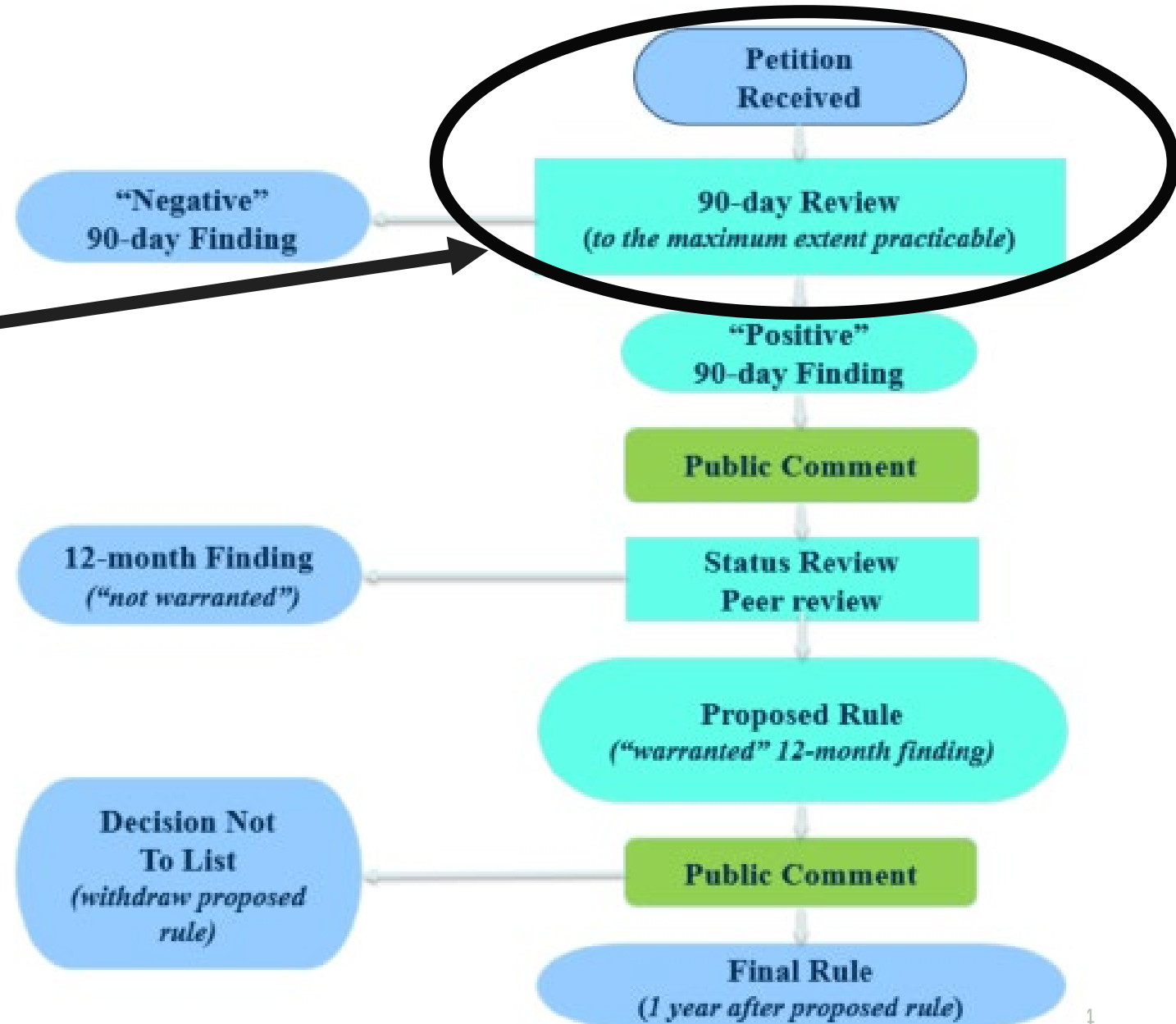


Figure 1. Washington Coast Chinook Salmon ESU Range Map from NMFS

ESA PETITION PROCESS

- *Petition Received* and *90-day Review* begins
- Public Comment opportunities
- Multi-year process, especially if there is a Proposed and Final Rule to list the species



ESA PETITION PROCESS

- NOAA completes a 90-day Review (May – August 2023)
 - Determine whether the petition presents sufficient information to warrant consideration
 - If “yes” ➡ NOAA requests data from Tribes and WDFW for a Status Review
 - Abundance and Population Trends
 - Biology and Ecology
 - Threats to the species
- NOAA conducts a Status Review (approx. 12 months; TBD)
 - Determine whether to propose a listing or not to propose a listing
 - If “yes” ➡ NOAA publishes a Proposed Rule (12-month finding) and requests public comment

ESA LISTING — POTENTIAL IMPACT TO STRATEGY ELEMENTS

- Planning and coordination activities
 - Additional analysis required for proposed actions with a potential to affect the listed species and/or critical habitat that supports the species
 - Feasibility considerations for various investments
- In-water actions
 - More time and funding to analyze and permit (or not permit) proposed actions
 - Greater scrutiny on proposed actions that impact the species and habitat
 - Monitoring requirements may change
 - Ultimately, longer and more costly to implement projects



QUESTIONS

