

**Puget Sound Recovery Implementation Technical Team (RITT)**

**Agenda and Notes from Meeting (in italics)**

*Minutes by Mike Parton; accepted at November 16, 2010, RITT meeting*

**Thirtieth Meeting** - Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 10 am – 3:00 pm  
NWFSC Montlake Auditorium

*Attendance*

*Present:*

*RITT Members: Norma Sands, Krista Bartz, Mindy Rowse, Eric Beamer, Ken Currens, Kit Rawson, Kirk Lakey, and Mike Parton*

*Puget Sound Partnership: Rebecca Ponzio, John Meyer (2pm)*

*NMFS RO: none*

*Others: Mike Ford, NWFSC; Alan Chapman, Lumni Natural Resources*

*Absent:*

*RITT Members: none (Bill Graeber is no longer a member)*

10:00 am Approve minutes of last month's meetings and today's agenda

Choose notetaker *M.Parton*

*Minutes approved with KR adjustments.*

10:10am Updates

Liaisons

Ozette – Norma

*Norma attended the Lake Ozette Steering Committee in Sekiu, October 6. They are working on their "3-year project plan." M. Hagerty has been hired by NOAA to write the Adaptive Management Plan. The plan will not be using the Open Standards approach being used in Puget Sound. The Ozette sockeye ESU has only one population which is a simpler task than for an ESU with multiple populations. The Steering Committee would like the RITT to review the Adaptive Management Plan when a draft is completed; there is currently no talk of the RITT reviewing the 3-year work plan.*

*Others –*

*Mike Parton is meeting with NOBLE tomorrow (Oct 20). Kit, a previous liaison, and Mindy, the new liaison, will be meeting with the San Juan watershed group on Friday (Oct 22). Mindy and Krista met with Snohomish watershed group recently and learned about their monitoring and other progress. Krista hopes to be able to attend the upcoming South Sound meeting, Nov. 2; the focus is on data availability and work planning.*

*Krista and Kit attended the Watershed Leads meeting Oct 14 and presented information on the progress of our adaptive management template, food web section. This presentation was well received.*

*The Nooksack watershed is having a meeting Nov 2; Ken and Eric plan to attend. Alan reported that Nooksack is also holding a salmon summit Nov 3 and would like Eric B to be on the Discussion Panel along with David Dicks and Will Stelle.*

*Kit reported that Snohomish County is discussing restoration on agriculture lands, an issue there as, without including salmon habitat improvement on these lands, reaching recovery goals will be problematic. A meeting is scheduled for early November.*

Regional Office – Elizabeth (*not present, sent e-mail*)

*Elizabeth will set up a review schedule for the Skokomish Recovery Chapter when she returns from the east coast. The RITT should use the same template as for the other Puget Sound chapters. Ken provided us with a copy of the review for the Nooksack using this template.*

PSP – Rebecca

*Rebecca reported that PSP is working on defining projects of regional importance; John Meyers will talk about this when he arrives at 2pm. PSP is also finalizing the ecosystem components and threats for the Puget Sound wide ecosystem in next months; Ken is involved with this. Open standards are being used and pieces are being entered into Miradi.*

Dashboard Indicator Champion Role – Ken

*Ken is working on the PSP Dashboard Indicator program as part of his role in his new position with PSP. PSP has adopted indicators (20) to monitor and assess the health of Puget Sound; they were chosen to resonate with citizens in order to engage the general population in following the improvements to the Sound as a result of the Action Agenda program. Each indicator is assigned a “Champion” to define, monitor and assess the indicator. Salmon well-being, measured by wild Chinook abundance, and salmon commercial harvest, under human well-being, are of interest to us (RITT); RITT is the Champion for Salmon and Kit, for Harvest. There is a “getting started” meeting scheduled for October 20th; Ken and Norma will attend, Kit has a conflict for that day. The salmon abundance and harvest indicators were suggested to be measured using Chinook; RITT is interested in expanding this to more than just Chinook. We will discuss the role of the RITT more at our next RITT meeting after this first Champions meeting.*

10:30 am Adaptive Management

- 1) Watershed Leads meeting (10/14/10) review and next Watershed Leads meeting; also interaction with various watersheds already working on Adaptive Management Plans
- 2) State of the four Lists of KEAs (Chinook, Nearshore, Freshwater, Ecosystem) – are they complete so we can move on? Workgroup, please provide latest versions to RITT members prior to the meeting.

*Rebecca proposed we engage in a group discussion of the four KEA documents and then break into small groups to make progress. Norma asked when we would have a complete document that we can start sharing with the watersheds. Rebecca indicated the goal is the end of November.*

*Krista and Kit presented information on the ecosystem/food web component that we are working on at the watershed lead meeting October 14th. Watershed leads major questions were examined in some detail. From Hood Canal: Why are KEAs process-based? And how do you set goals (based on them)? Mindy has also received this same question from San Juan. Our response was that we need to deal with multiple spatial scales. Eric commented that we may not yet be communicating the processes of habitat formation and drivers and the way(s) we think they work. He also notes that not all indicators are process-based. Some are basic metrics. We need to give guidance on what is functioning to aid/template goals and approach. All logic ties back to a common standard that is process-based, otherwise viability analyses suffer from variation in standards and values thereof.*

*Alan remarked that the challenge is getting from process to measurable indicators. Eric gave an example of area, goal and linkage from the Skagit.*

*Rebecca reminded us that the Leads have not seen indicators, yet. Kit noted that we are following a three-step process to get to closure on process to indicators. We need to be certain we have all the important processes and elements in sequence.*

*Mike Ford asked if we have been coordinating with other domains on this. He stated that there is a common monitoring approach for the Columbia and Oregon coast that has been in place for some time and wonders if Puget Sound's approach is similar. We, RITT, have not started on the monitoring part of the plan yet. We are interacting with Bruce Crawford, NOAA, and following the NOAA 2009 monitoring guidance for our work. The big issue for Puget Sound is starting at the watershed level to allow unique requirements of each watershed while developing a template that will allow rolling information up over the watersheds for an entire Puget Sound ESU picture.*

#### *Chinook Component – Kit Rawson*

*Kit showed us the presentation he gave at the watershed leads meeting. Eric provided some input into the Ecosystem Crosswalk Table (Table 0); this dealt with linkage of sub components with major habitat types. This table is needed for mapping information into Miradi, but may not be needed for the KEA document. The table is currently missing ponds and lakes in the habitat types; we will discuss later where to add them. Ken would like to see the broader wetland classes included somewhere in the Freshwater Component as well.*

#### *Food Web Component – Krista Bartz*

*Krista reviewed the powerpoint presentation given at the watershed leads meeting. The information is integrated from and based on Levin et al.'s work on ecosystem indicators. Are the key attributes sufficient as KEA's or should we use the Chinook KEAs? Ecosystem subcomponents will change for each life stage of the salmon. Overall, species and food webs together provide a view of where we might go. Questions: Should detritus processing be moved from Nearshore and Freshwater to the Food Web component? Will the species table be expanded to include life stages? This might add too much complexity. Are humans to be included in our web depiction, those who have activities that are relevant to Chinook? PSP places "us" separate as "Human Well-being"; RITT consensus is to not include humans in our work. Comment: "Associated Habitats" needs to reflect habitat nomenclature of our other KEA documents.*

12:00 pm Lunch Break

12:30 pm Adaptive Management continued

#### *Nearshore Component – Eric Beamer*

*Eric gave a quick overview of the Nearshore component status.*

#### *Freshwater Component – Mike Parton and Mindy Rowse*

*Mike and Mindy went over updates of the Freshwater template from last 10/15/10. Comments from RITT on nutrients, stressors, and consistency of terms were addressed in the revised tables.*

*We worked for a short while in workgroups on the different components.*

- 3) Filling in the rest of the outline for the full report (who, when, how). What can we accomplish at this meeting?

*This was not addressed other than Rebecca plans to have a combined document of the four component sections by the end of November.*

*2 pm New Business – Update from PSP on Projects of Regional Significance – John Meyer*

*The PSP has developed a process to identify projects of regional significance; these are projects that either cross watersheds or are too big to be addressed in the 3-yr normal project planning. A list of projects has been submitted from the watersheds. PSP is asking if RITT will review this list for consistency as they do for the individual watershed 3-yrar project lists. Not all projects are on the 3-year lists, so it would not entirely be duplication of project review. This topic will be discussed further at our next RITT meeting.*

2:20 pm Skokomish Recovery Plan discussion – first discussion of contents and identification of clarifications we might need from comanagers. RITT members should look through it to see if you have any questions. We will schedule a separate meeting for the formal RITT review.

*This was an initial discussion to draw out over-arching comments from RITT. A separate meeting will be scheduled for early November (using doodle) to conduct the actual analysis. We want the review to follow the same format as we used for the other Puget Sound chapters. Ken provided the review for Nooksack for the new RITT members to see what questions were addressed.*

*There is some concern about the population structure in the Skokomish as the comanagers would like to introduce a new spring stock, stating that historically a spring stock did exist, and concentrate on restoring that segment of the population rather than the existing fall run which is heavily hatchery influenced. The Nooksack recovery plan evaluation is instructive because fall Chinook are listed in that system but are not part of the Recovery Plan. RITT would like some more input from the Regional Office on this review and would like Elizabeth Babcock to come to the beginning of our review meeting to give us some information and answer some of our questions.*

3:00 pm Adjourn

Next Meetings – TUESDAY, November 16, 2010 – location  
Planned for NWFSC Montlake, but will move it to Tacoma to accommodate  
Protection Panel speakers  
Meetings are held the third TUESDAY of each month.

**Outstanding Ideas/Task/Issues/Agenda Items**

RITT	TRT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adaptive Management Plans for each watershed (ongoing)</li> <li>Skokomish Recovery Plan review (November)</li> <li>Population ID and sequencing (November)</li> <li>Climate Change Guidance for recovery implementation (backburner)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chinook Viability document</li> <li>Flow document</li> </ul> <p><b>Back Burner – getting closer</b> Symposium for TRT products at AFS 2011 meeting in Seattle</p>

Watershed Liaisons - RITT and PSP			Last Amended 8/28/10		
<b>PUGET SOUND watersheds</b>					
San Juan	Mindy	Roma	Lake Wash.	Kirk	Jason
Island	Mindy	Morgan	Green	Kirk	Jason
Nooksack	Eric	Rebecca	Puyallup/White	Mike	Jason
Skagit	Eric	Rebecca	North Olympic	Mike	John C.
	& Kit		West Sound	Norma	John M.
Stillaguamish	Kit	Morgan	Hood Canal	Ken	John M
Snohomish	Krista	Morgan	Nisqually	Ken	Roma
South Sound	Krista	Roma			
			<b>OZETTE</b> Sockeye	Norma	