

**Addressing the Potential Effects of Hatchery Interactions  
on the ESA Listed Species, Hood Canal Summer Chum Salmon**

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Using currently available information, an approach was developed by state and tribal co-managers to identify and address risks of hatchery interactions to Hood Canal summer chum, an ESA listed “threatened” species. Criteria for low, moderate and high levels of risk were described in four risk categories: hatchery operations, predation, competition and behavior modification, and fish disease transfer. Specific risk aversion and monitoring/evaluation measures were developed for the purpose of reducing a program’s rating of moderate or high risk to low risk.

Activities associated with each State, tribal, Federal, and local citizen hatchery program within the geographical boundary of the Hood Canal summer chum evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) were rated for risk of hazards to summer chum. Activities receiving moderate or high risk ratings were assigned appropriate risk aversion and monitoring/evaluation measures to address the risks where they occurred. Implementation of the assigned measures began in 1999 consistent with the Hood Canal summer chum ESA 4(d) rule requirements for hatcheries (that incorporated these hatchery interactions measures). The great majority of the hatchery programs have been successful in implementing the measures and most hatchery programs have adapted to the measures with little trouble. Some hatchery programs have been discontinued, partially in response to concerns about hatchery interactions.