

2008 REGIONAL MARK COMMITTEE MEETING

Hosted by CDFG

April 2-3, 2008

Lighthouse Lodge, Pacific Grove, California

Final Agenda

28-Mar-2008

APRIL 2: WEDNESDAY: 9:00 AM

1. General business items (George Nandor, PSMFC)

- Welcome and introductions
- Discuss changes in agency personnel
There have been many changes in personnel involved in tagging and data reporting over the past couple of years. We would like to welcome the new representatives (tag coordinators, etc.) as well as clarify who will be involved in data reporting for each agency on an ongoing basis.
- 2009 meeting to be in Alaska: Site and date to be determined. 2010 meeting is scheduled to be hosted by IDFG in Idaho.

2. Regional Mark Processing Center operations and announcements

A. RMPC web site (Dan Webb, PSMFC)

A number of changes on the RMPC website

- Program Overview was rewritten
- Image Gallery is all new
- More publications relevant to CWT's now available
- Guidelines document for citing RMPC data on the Publications page
- Data Status buttons now change colors to indicate they are clickable
- Converted all the documents to PDF files
- Added some more historical Mark Meeting Minutes (2000 – 2007)

B. Status of CWT data files (Dan Webb)

C. Discussion of data errors found during validation. (Dan Webb)

There will be a presentation of the most common types of problems encountered by our validation process. This presentation and discussion could be of help to agencies in their efforts to pre-validate datasets before submitting them for validation.

D. RMPC Updates (George Nandor)

- PSMFC is switching internet connection from 2 T-1 lines to a single fiber optic line
- Budgeted for a new data server to house the Oracle database
- PSMFC has been working on improvement and documentation of data back-up and recovery procedures. This is for all PSMFC programs including the RMPC.
- Developed a guidelines document for citing RMPC data – posted on the Publications page
- Participated in the regional Genetic Stock Identification workshops in Portland and Vancouver
 - PSMFC would house and maintain the database
 - GSI data would be used in conjunction with CWT data
 - Final report available on the PSC and RMPC web site
- Participated as a member of the Columbia River Hatchery Scientific Review Group (HSRG)

- Major recommendations so far have to do with brood-stock management, identification of hatchery origin fish, increased selectivity in fisheries, using locally adapted stocks and smolt release locations.
- Status Reports for Lower Columbia Chinook and coho completed
- Lower Columbia steelhead report will be available soon
- For more info see the HSRG document library at: <http://hatcheryreform.us>

E. Update on RMIS spatial data enhancement project (Jim Longwill, PSMFC)

There will be an update on current progress with the PSC Domain/Region/Basin analysis project -- including RMPC efforts to verify the geographic integrity of CWT data elements. Example maps and spreadsheets will be shown.

3. Status of 2008-9 funding for the Regional Mark Processing Center (George Nandor)

Three funding sources for the RMPC:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – full funding has been returned to the base budget
- NOAA Fisheries funding is in place
- BPA funding is in place, questions regarding “In lieu” funding for 2009 not yet resolved

4. Update on mass marking, selective fisheries, & agency tagging levels for 2008 (George Nandor)

Agency Updates:

- CDFO
- ADFG
- WDFW
- ODFW
- CDFG
- NWIFC
- CRITFC
- USFWS
- NMFS
- Other Agencies?

5. Problem with reporting when tag groups are transferred from one Release Agency to another (George Nandor)

We have encountered situations which evolve generally as follows:

1. The tag code is acquired from vendor (NMT) by agency #1 and the new brood tagged by agency #1;
2. The tagged group (perhaps along with other, untagged fish) is transferred to agency #2 sometime during the rearing process;
3. The rearing process is continued by agency #2 for a certain period;
4. The tagged group is released by agency #2 (and perhaps divided up and also released by an agency #3);
5. Recoveries begin to appear for the tag group;
6. No data for the release group has been reported.

*This situation has resulted in tag codes getting "dropped from the system." I.e. **no one** has reported the tag code to the RMPC. As a result, we are prevented from validating multiple agencies' recovery data for the given tag code as it arrives. The RMPC ends up trying to track down nebulous tag code information in a short time frame in order to expedite data validation.*

A protocol is needed for reporting for these tag groups. We propose introducing the requirement that a reporting agency report a preliminary release for tag groups transferred to another agency so the transfers can be tracked until the final release record is submitted. It would at least show where the fish went in the event the releasing agency does not report the release. Then we could contact the Releasing agency for the final release record. Is this a reasonable approach? Is there a better approach? Let us define and document the protocol.

6. Update on PSC CWT Workgroup: Implementation of Expert Panel Recommendations (George Nandor)

Discussion of the finalized report: "[Action Plan in Response to CWT Expert Panel Recommendations](#)" published March, 2008).

7. Update on Selective Fisheries Evaluation Committee activities (Ron Olson, NWIFC)

8. Update on status of PSC Data Sharing Committee meetings (Norma Sands, NOAA Fisheries)

Adjourn: ~ 5:00 PM

Around 6:15pm: a dinner hosted by NMT is planned at Captain Bullwacker's Restaurant, 653 Cannery Row.

APRIL 3: THURSDAY: Reconvene at 8:00 AM; Meeting Rm: "---"

9. Any special marking requests? (George Nandor)

- Marking variance requests from agencies for adipose-only marking studies
- Agency marking requests involving use of blank wire
- Other requests?

10. High-seas sampling program (Adrian Celewycz, NMFS-AK)

Annual presentation of high-seas fisheries and interceptions of CWTs.

11. Presentation regarding updates to ADFG CWT online interactive system (Ron Josephson, ADFG)

12. Presentation: "The California Constant Fractional Marking Program, Year 2" (Stan Allen, PSMFC)

13. Northwest Marine Technology (Geraldine Vander Haegen, Ken Molitor, NMT)

- Product update:
- Question and Answer session

Adjourn: ~ 12:00 Noon