



## REGIONAL TECHNICAL TEAM ENTIAT PRIORITIZATION WORKSHOP Draft MEETING SUMMARY

**Date:** Friday, October 2, 2020

**Time:** 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

**Location:** Remote

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**Present:** Ryan Niemeyer/UCSRB, Greer Maier/UCSRB, Sarah Walker/UCSRB, Tom DeGrosillier/WDFW, Mariah Mayfield/OWNF, Greg Fraser/USFWS, Hans Smith/Yakima Nation, Graham Simon/WDFW, Tracy Hillman/BioAnalysts

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### Major Action and Decision Items:

#### Decisions/Recommendations to PWG:

- Update LS use for Entiat Lake AU to all 7 life stages
- PWG- what to do about “at-risk” flow issues – assign action broadly? Makes for a lot of actions without specific solutions
- PWG- should we use side channels and floodplain separately in the HQ
- Upgraded LSP of fry to High in Preston AU and High in Lake AU- due to amount of spawning and habitat impairments associated with Fry for SPCHN
- Upgraded LSP of summer rearing to High in all Tier 1 AUs for SPSCH
- Downgrade LSP of STL spawning in Preston to Moderate
- Upgrade LSP of summer rearing to High in Preston, Potato, and Lower Mad Tier 1 AUs
- Upgraded LSP of winter rearing to High in Preston
- PWG- Upgraded Predation- Juveniles to “1” in Mills 01, do the same for all lower reach?
- Adopt the two Tier 1 barriers as a recommendation to the PWG- discuss the mainstem Entiat barrier before moving forward

#### Action Items:

- Look into DOE temperature and flow listings for what should be used

### Meeting Summary

Greer Maier/UCSRB convened the meeting at 9 am. She overviewed the prioritization the process and described how the prioritization process has generated priority actions for reaches based on reach assessment data. This included having multiple pathways to generate priority reaches.

## HABITAT QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Data for this part of the tool only pulls REI-based ratings from Reach Assessments.

### Spring Chinook

Potato Creek runs dry in the summer once it hits the forest (Mariah Mayfield said)

**Action Items:**

- **Greer:** Review the 303d analysis
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**Steelhead**

Mariah Mayfield said in Tyee Creek – there is no documented fish use.

## LIMITING FACTORS PATHWAY

Pulls from multipole data sources, chooses one.

**Spring Chinook**

**Fry**

AU priority: Preston to High Priority and Lake AU to Medium

**Action Items:**

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**Steelhead**

**Summer Rearing:**

Habitat conditions are fairly poor in Potato Creek.

The participants discussed how the Steelhead are already doing fairly well in Lower Mad, despite a lot of summer rearing habitat attributes being unacceptable (1).

**Winter Rearing:**

Tom mentioned for winter rearing, his group do not have access to the small tribs in Entiat – Potato Creek (Potato Creek, Stormy Creek, Tyee Creek). They have found omykiss in those tributaries, Tom said you would assume Steelhead would access.

Greer brought up the idea of dropping some of these small tributaries since they are small for being rated “high priority”. Tracy said you would want to retain the creeks if they are a source of cold water refugia, but if they are intermittent, you would not want to keep them. We decided as a group to remove these small tributaries. Greer and Ryan discussed how to filter out for small tributaries. Greer looked into using stream width, but based on the data in the master spreadsheet, that did not appear to correlate well with tributary size.

The group discussed the issue of predators in the Entiat River Mills 01 (mouth of the Methow). Tracy mentioned if it is an issue in the Entiat, it would occur in all three. Tom mentioned in addition to predation from bass and pike minnow, there is a local avian colony that preys on the fish. The group decided that we will discuss this with the PWG on Monday.

In Preston, Cover is an issue. Entiat river Preston 01, 03, and 04 were deemed impaired (below 80% function for winter rearing life stage). Tom knows steelhead use these reaches in the winter, but was undecided on whether to include as a high priority.

**Action Items:**

- **Ryan/Greer:** look into using stream order as a filter to remove small tributaries (this came up in the context of Potato Creek, Storymy Creek, and Tyee Creek).
- **Greer:** Discuss the issues of predators in the lower portion of the Methow, Entiat, and Wenatchee.

**The Python Script Tool**

Greer overviewed the python script, that it used the filters for the first two pathways (LF and HQ) and generated Action categories based on the pathways. Each row in the output tables is linked to a specific action category. The output tables also list which of the two pathways or two species produced the action category.

**Action Items:**

- **Ryan:** look into why there are “NAN”s in the “Action Categories” column for the final output
- **Ryan:** output the life stages next to the habitat attributes for the “final” output (the final output is where it’s an action category PER row, and it has 0 or 1 depending on the pathway that made it prioritized).

**Barriers**

The group discussed the bridge abutment barrier on the mainstem in the Entiat – in the Entiat Mills AU. It was not clear the purpose of the barrier listing, potentially a bridge that might catch wood. The group decided to discuss this further. The group also decided to adopt the Tier 1 priority barriers.

**Action Items:**

**Next Steps**