AB 2121

Framework for Joint Recommendations to Chair Doduc (November 24, 2008)

Briefing for Vicky Whitney

By Brian Johnson & Peter Kiel November 13, 2008

Form and Status of Recommendations

Ground Rules

- Neither agrees to flow elements without inclusion of other essential elements
- Reserve right to disagree on topics not covered

Form:

- Principles for inclusion in policy
- Rationale and supporting analyses
- Recommendations for further study

Confidence Level:

- Framework is protective of fish and viable for water users
- Some numbers explicitly "discussion draft"
- Scheduling meetings with other stakeholders

Scope of Policy Recommendations

- Flow recommendations
- Procedural reform
- Guidance for watershed approach
- Incentives for stewardship
- Monitoring/Reporting
- Policy Effectiveness Review
- Enforcement

Approach to Flow Recommendations

Areas of Special Focus:

- Small projects above UPA
- Cumulative impacts to salmonids

Approach:

- Defines management objectives that can be evaluated using standard calculations, site-specific studies, watershed approach
- Protects "sweet spot" for spawning between QWB and QS
- Other elements of policy protect other life history stages and geomorphic processes
- Not all impacts evaluated at POD
- Conditions for water users not necessarily proportionate

Flow Related Principles

- Defines QS, QWB
 - Maximizes "sweet spot" between QS and QWB
 - Includes curves for standard terms
 - Includes guidance for site specific studies
- Above UPA
 - No Bypass if pass CET, DA <64 acres (if Class III)
 - Bypass QWB if pass CET, DA >64 acres (if Class II)
 - Bypass QS if fail CET
- Form of CET
 - Percentage reduction in average annual volume determined at approx. 1 sq. mile DA or known spawning limit (volumetric range likely similar to Draft Guidelines)
 - Or site-specific studies demonstrating no impact to spawning success
- Below UPA
 - Bypass QS
 - Evaluate MCD