



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE
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April 24, 2007

TOPIC # 10a: Monitoring Workshop Update

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Approved by the Director: 

Proposed Action: Update

Summary:

In April 2005 the Governor’s Forum on Monitoring Watershed Health and Salmon Recovery (Forum) put on a workshop titled “*Monitoring for the Future*,” a workshop on implementing statewide status/trend monitoring. This workshop was a great success, bringing together all the different players involved in statewide monitoring efforts. Through this workshop several subcommittees were established: Fish, Barriers, Effectiveness Monitoring, Nearshore, Habitat and Water Quality. As a result of this workshop and subcommittee work, the Forum has been able to justify increased funding for statewide monitoring efforts and begin establishment of policies to guide and direct the monitoring efforts.

The work of the Forum and subcommittees has also identified a missing link in the data gathering and reporting side of monitoring. State agencies, local government, tribes and others have obtained data and stored it in a variety of ways ranging from file drawer hard copies to sophisticated computer databases. The State of Salmon Report in Watersheds compiles and reports on numerous indicators of watershed health, but there is no organized associated database that can compile these data and provide it to the Governor’s office in a timely manner.

The Forum is now ready to take the next step in working to identify data needs, standards, and priorities. To begin this work, it has scheduled a workshop titled “*From Dirt Roads to a Data Highway*,” a workshop to develop an efficient and coordinated way of reporting accurate and timely watershed health and salmon recovery information. It is intended to give executives an opportunity to find out how to improve their access to vital information they need to respond to the Governor, legislature and the public.

This workshop will be held on June 20, 2007, the day before the regularly scheduled Forum meeting on June 21. Both events will be held at the Seattle Marriott in SeaTac.



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The workshop is intended to mix agency executives with data experts so that free discussion can occur about the political and economic issues and information needs executives deal with. Federal, state, county, municipal, tribal government leaders, non-profit organizations, and private sector database providers, are also invited to attend this groundbreaking workshop.

More details will be provided once the workshop agenda is finalized.

Independent Economic Analysis Board

The Independent Economic Analysis Board (IEAB) was established in November 1996 by the Council to assist with difficult economic issues associated with the Council's fish and wildlife program.

The Board is a panel of eight economists whose expertise helps improve the cost-effectiveness analysis of fish and wildlife recovery measures. The panel also provides economic advice on analysis of other fish, wildlife and energy issues at the Council's request.

IEAB members represent a variety of natural resource economics specialties and are required to be independent and free of conflicts of interest.

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