Klawock Lake Sockeye Salmon Stakeholder Meeting

Fisheries Rehabilitation and Enhancement Opportunities Workgroup Meeting notes

Meeting #2: 09/29/2017

Participants: Steve Heinl, ADFG Commercial Fisheries Division; Sam Rabung/Mark Stopha, ADFG State Enhancement Program; Sheila Jacobson/Jeff Reeves, USFS

Facilitator: Deborah Hart

Others interested in working group but unable to attend call: Christine Woll, TNC Southeast Alaska Program Director; Jeff Lundberg, Klawock River Hatchery Manager; /Scott Walker, ADFG; Quinn Aboudara/Lawrence Armour, Klawock Cooperative Association; Mary Edenshaw, Klawock Heenya Corporation; Millie Schoonover, Shaan Seet, Inc.; Dennis Nickerson, local harvester; Bob Christensen, Sustainable Southeast Partnership; Danielle Peele, POW School District/concerned citizen; Steven SueWing, fall meeting facilitator

Suggested presentations for fall meeting including speakers/presentations:

* **Sam Rabung (or designee)/ADFG: Aquaculture enhancement operation and practices in Alaska**
  + What is and is not possible in Alaska, including history of sockeye enhancement in SE/strengths and weaknesses/potiential benefits and draw backs (to include success rates, examples specific to SE and for sockeye, importance of monitoring)
  + Define and detail: Restoration (happens when a wild run has been decimated), Rehabilitation (wild run is depressed but still there), Enhancement (allows for above and beyond what nature produces) – What happens depends what the stakeholders want and if it can be successfully permitted and implemented
  + Describe the two processes/permits available that allow propagative activities in Alaska – hatchery permit; research permit
  + Share information on new emerging technologies, help to clarify all that is required if any form of rehabilitation or enhancement were to take place on Klawock Lake (Mist incubation, Wrangell)
  + Discuss considerations for restoration (need for adequate escapement and habitat carrying capacity, funding sources) and enhancement (harvest needs/goals, funding sources)
* **Jeff Lundberg/Klawock River Hatchery (SSRRA): History of hatchery in Klawock Lake and response to general community concerns and interests regarding future activities at the hatchery**
  + Brief overview of production/returns to the Klawock Lake Hatchery (sockeye and coho release strategies, numbers of release, escapement, etc…)
  + What the hatchery has done to minimize impacts of coho enhancement, future plans (movement of releases/weir management)
  + What are the opportunities and challenges for sockeye enhancement (FTP required, sockeye “issues”, ……)
  + Are there any barrier lakes near Klawock? Comprehensive Area Management Plan for input? (May look for input from Steve Heinl and Sam Rabung on this topic)
  + Suggestion by workgroup participants to reach out to SSRRA staff for their input

Needed input from other workgroups/session presentations:

* Lead in information from either Christine’s Retrospective Analysis overview or other general input from community members regarding general summary of concerns regarding Klawock Lake Hatchery and interest in opportunities in using the hatchery for sockeye rehabilitation or enhancement; this could also be shared as part of session moderator introduction to presentation theme/overview of workgroup (report out)
* Support from the Lake Ecology Workgroup: Fisheries ecosystem in Klawock Lake
  + General sockeye behavior (lake residence/rearing issues – eating, predation, temperature thresholds/migration)
  + Natural coho in Klawock Lake
  + Other fish species (cuts/dollys)
  + Lake fertilization options/previously determined Klawock Lake not a good candidate (see 1979 ADFG Lake Fertilization Policy and Guidelines Document)
  + What are the temperatures in the lake? Jeff has some temperature and dissolved oxygen data will update through 2016
* Support from the Habitat Restoration Workgroup: Condition of the habitat and how that impacts possible rehab/enhancement opportunities
  + What kind of habitat standards exit? Kodiak example? to justify moving to rehabilitation

Ideas shared for “next steps” portion of fall meeting regarding Klawock Lake hatchery and restoration/enhancement of sockeye

* Group suggested time be allotted on the agenda for open discussion regarding topics of interest regarding the hatchery and general rehabilitation options; such as:
  + Current and future hatchery practices
    - May include targeted discussion on monitoring – are there opportunities for community participation in monitoring to help broaden awareness among community members for hatchery practices/perceived impacts
  + Restoration and enhancement opportunities for Klawock Lake
    - May include brief presentation on how other communities approach this (Hydaburg, Yukon)

Debbie offered to reach out to community participants for engagement in last call of workgroup to help with dialog on “next steps”– next meeting to be scheduled tentatively during the last week of October.