

SRKW Task Force – Meeting #5



Oct. 17-18, 2018

Task Force charge – Executive Order

- **Identify, prioritize, and support the implementation of a longer term action plan** needed for the recovery of Southern Residents.
- **Monitor and evaluate the immediate actions** undertaken by state agencies and build upon the progress and effectiveness of that work.
- Where available and applicable, **build upon existing state, regional, and federal plans.**



Reports

2018

Final due Nov. 16, 2018

Content will include:

- Overview of the issues
- Task Force recommendations for addressing all major threats and recovering Southern Residents
- Status report on immediate actions required by the EO
- Any minority views submitted by TF members
- Issues and actions still on the table to discuss in 2019

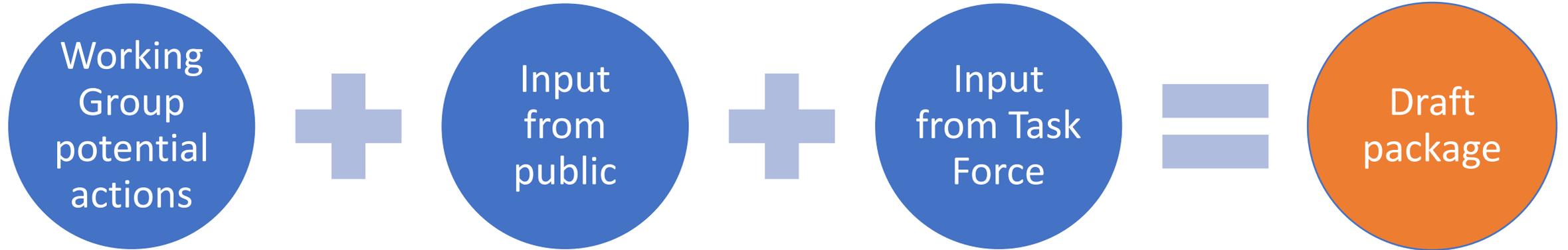
2019

Due Oct. 1, 2019

Content will include:

- Progress made
- Lessons learned
- Additional recommendations
- Outstanding needs

How did we get to this package?

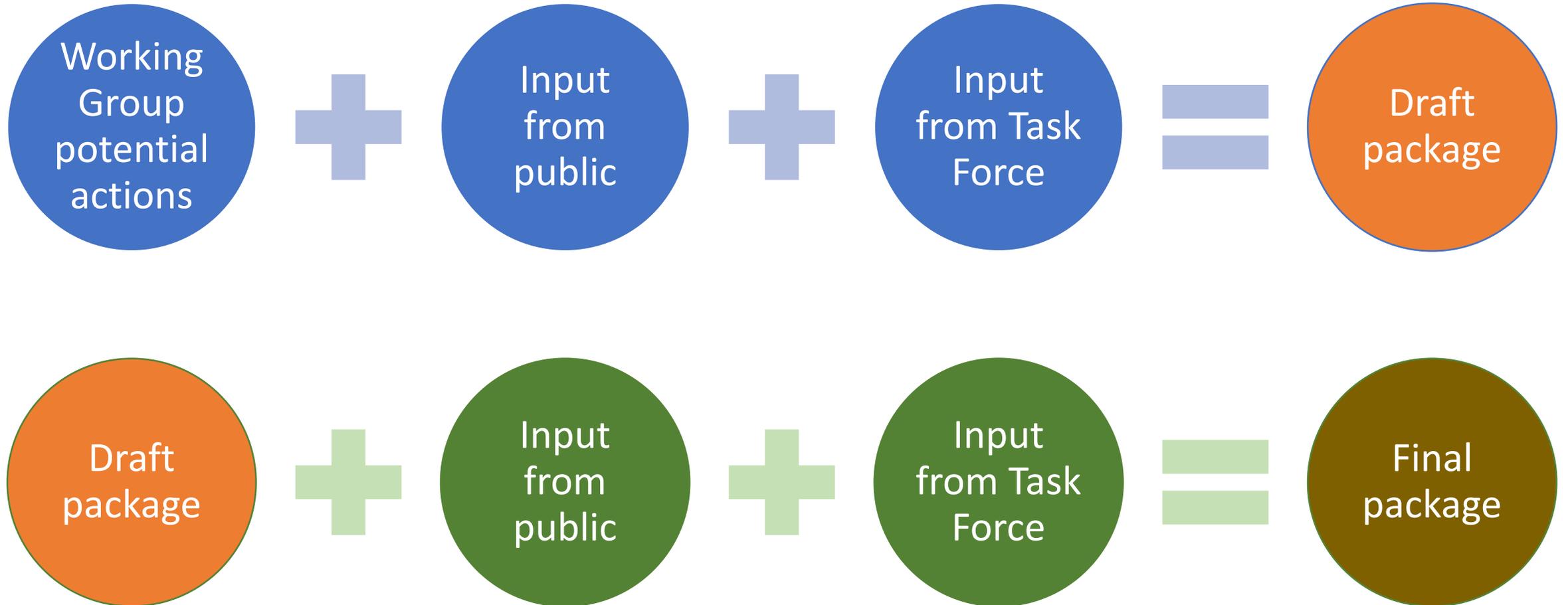


Task Force Next Steps

(S = Staff responsible for action, W = Working Group responsible for action; T = Task Force responsible for action)

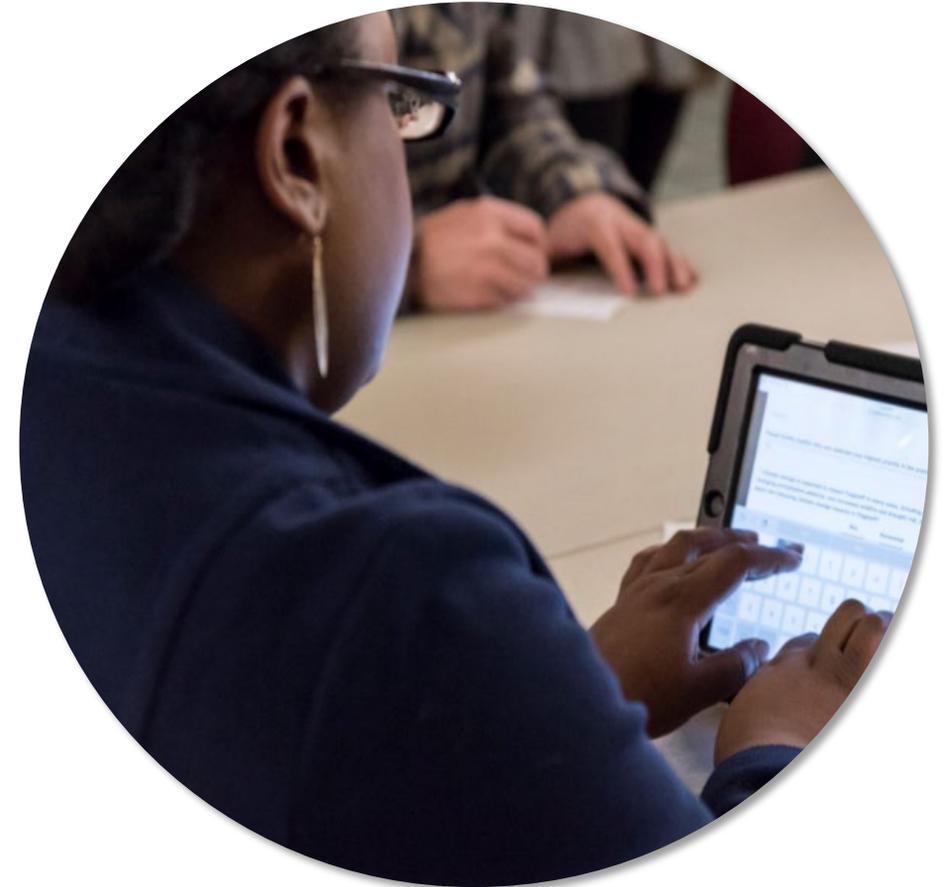
Date	S	W	T	Action
Oct. 17-18			X	Task Force meeting to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review public comments on draft report. • Finalize proposed actions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Year 1 actions remaining to be discussed. • Actions discussed in webinars.
Oct. 24	X			Staff will distribute revised list of draft recommendations, based on discussion at today's meeting, for Task Force review and public comment.
Oct. 24-29			X	Task Force review of revised list of draft recommendations and public comment.
Nov. 6			X	Final Year 1 Task Force meeting to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize package of recommendations for Year 1 report.
Nov. 16	X		X	Final Year 1 Report is released, including a list of potential recommendations that will be considered and refined during Year 2.

How did we get to this package?



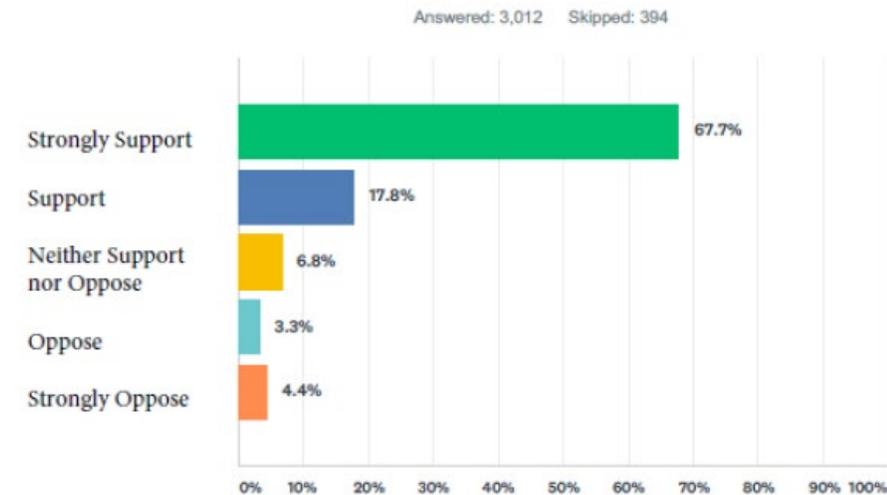
Public comment

- 2,000+ comments received by end of August
- Additional 3,400+ comments and 35+ letters from organizations and coalitions received on draft report/recommendations by Oct. 7
- Welcomed on an ongoing basis at www.governor.wa.gov/issues/issues/energy-environment/southern-resident-killer-whale-recovery-and-task-force and at all meetings



Public comment

- Strong support for vision & goals statements.
 - Would like greater emphasis on urgency/speed.
 - Want Task Force to make sure that the recommendations are enough to achieve the vision & goals.
- Use the best available science.
- Make recommendation wording clearer.
- **ALL recommendations** received substantially more support than opposition (see handout).



Example: Habitat 1

Public comment

Habitat comment box

Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments	% of total
Restore/acquire habitat	239	21.9%
Protect habitat with regulations	167	15.3%

Public comment

Hatcheries comment box

Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments	% of total
Prioritize wild salmon recovery actions over hatchery fish	211	25.1%
Support increased hatchery production	164	19.5%
Hatcheries can negatively impact wild salmon, take precautions and monitor increased hatchery production	120	14.3%
Do not support increased hatchery production	102	12.1%

Public comment

Hydropower comment box

Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments	% of total
Breach the lower Snake River dams	365	36.7%
Do not breach the lower Snake River dams	118	11.9%
Prioritize and remove dams in general	103	10.4%

Public comment

Harvest comment box

Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments	% of total
Support closing fishing for one, multiple years or moratorium	115	21.7%
Support harvest reductions	113	21.3%

Public comment

Predation comment box

Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments	% of total
Do not support lethal removal of pinnipeds	198	23.2%
Predation of salmon by pinnipeds is not the primary issue for orcas	159	18.6%
Support lethal removal of pinnipeds	148	17.3%

Public comment

Forage fish & marine productivity comment box

Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments	% of total
Restore forage fish habitat	100	27.3%

Public comment

Vessels comments: Themes with >100 comments:

Themes	Comments
Need to further evaluate and engage with US Navy (and other military and Canada) on training and tests related to sonar and other exercises	>300
Improve oil transportation safety, response and accountability	>200
Need for vessel noise reduction is urgent	>150
Support for a moratorium or marked restriction on commercial (and recreational) whale watching	>110

Public comment

Contaminants

- 600 total comments; no theme had >100 comments. Themes included human health benefits and urgency of action.
- There was significant general support for all of the contaminants recommendations (as with all recommendations in the report).

Public comment

Organization/coalition letters

- Council of Regions
- Stand Up to Oil Coalition
- Toxics-Free Future
- Oceana
- Bonneville Power Association
- The Lands Council
- Center for Biological Diversity
- Senate Republican Caucus
- Earthjustice
- The American Waterways Operators
- Washington State Association of Counties' Coastal Caucus
- Washington Environmental Council
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
- Washington Association of Wheat Growers
- Orca Salmon Alliance
- Recreational Boating Association of Washington
- Association of Washington Cities
- American Rivers
- Regional Fisheries Coalition
- Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association
- Environment Washington
- Skagit Watershed Council
- Marine Mammal Commission
- Save our Wild Salmon
- Roza Irrigation District
- Friends of the Earth
- Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
- Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board
- Okanogan Public Utility District
- Washington State Academy of Sciences
- Sound Action
- Northwest Straits Commission
- Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Palouse Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- Columbia County Commissioners
- The Nature Conservancy
- Western States Petroleum Association
- Puget Sound Anglers
- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
- 6 scientists

Many others, all available at
<https://pspwa.box.com/s/0xt6ruk2mi1otygoty9frz4iieriw399>

Public comment

Most supported in organization/coalition letters

- **Habitat 1** – funding for habitat acquisition and restoration (12 letters)
- **Habitat 2** – funding for large-scale estuary restoration (10 letters)
- **Hydro 2** – compile and prioritize a list of barriers (10 letters)
- **Habitat 3** – fully enforce Fishway, Flow, and Screening statute (9 letters)
- **Hydro 5B** – neutral third party on lower Snake River dams (7 letters)
- **Hydro 4** – spill (7 letters)

Public comment

Most opposed in organization/coalition letters

- Removing the lower Snake River dams (6 letters)
- Vessels 13 – oil spill prevention (3 letters opposing it, 4 supporting it)

Public comment

Most frequent new suggestions in organization/coalition letters

- Additional Habitat recommendation replacing the “no-net-loss” policy in the Growth Management Act and Shoreline Management Act with an “ecological-net-gain” policy (6 letters)
- Additional Hydro recommendation directing state agencies to use SEPA to evaluate the potential impacts of new dam projects on salmon availability for the Southern Residents (4 letters)
- Many specific suggestions for edits/amendments