North-Central California Coast Technical Recovery Team
Notes for meeting of 11 December 2001

Eric Bjorkstedt, David Fuller, Carlos Garza, David Hankin, Weldon "Wendy" Jones, Rob Leidy, Rick Macedo, Jerry Smith, Brian Spence, and Miles Croom (Coordinator)

Guest: Greg Bryant (Coordinator of Southern Oregon-Northern California TRT)

1. Eric Bjorkstedt provided quick updates on
    a. Docushare (still not up and running, but seeking external hosting to speed up implementation)
    b. TRT support staff (interviews conducted, offers being made to strong candidates—expected to be on board early in 2002)
    c. GIS capacity of the Lab (software in house, but not fully operational due to lack of inhouse expertise—but support staff are coming!).

2. Eric Bjorkstedt provided a general overview of analytical approaches to population viability analysis (PVA). Methods for single populations and for metapopulations were presented, along with the data requirements for each. This review was intended to set the stage for considering what data to pursue and how data that were available might be brought to bear.

3. Brian Spence reviewed ongoing efforts to collect and collate existing data on population abundance and other characteristics, and provided a review of what datasets are currently available or are expected to be so in short order.
    a. Datasets available from the status review efforts contributed either to ESU delineation or to risk assessment. Tables of summary descriptions of datasets for chinook, coho and steelhead in relevant ESUs were reviewed.
    b. Ongoing data collection efforts have encountered issues of how data provided by different groups will be handled. There are some political issues regarding the availability of privately collected data to the TRT and the public that need to be hammered out.
    c. Ongoing data collection efforts have also run into the issue of how to coordinate requests for data so that individual groups or field biologists are not receiving redundant requests from multiple agencies. Efforts to coordinate data holdings between CDGF and NMFS are being pursued.
    d. Greg Bryant noted that an Endnote bibliography of status review documents and documents not included in the status reviews is nearly complete and will be made available to the TRT.
    e. Demographic information was sparse; may need to rely on hatchery data to some degree.

4. Rob Leidy reviewed the efforts of CERSP to collate historical and present information on the distribution of anadromous salmonids in tributaries to the San Francisco Bay.

a. Reviewed example table for a single drainage, that included a broad array of information for each tributary.
b. Data include a "reliability" rating, which provides an indication of how rigorous a given report is considered to be.
c. Data summary efforts still in progress; CERSP is seeking funding to finish product.

5. Wendy Jones reviewed his summaries of historical data for Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma, and Marin counties, and some regions drained by the Eel River in Trinity and Lake Counties.
    a. Data are summarized from CDFG files and timber industry files.
    b. Data include information on stream, coordinates/river miles, stock (including resident fish)
    c. Data summary tables and bibliography were provided on CD
    d. Ongoing work by Sari Sommerstrom was also presented.

6. Carlos Garza provided review and prognosis for genetic data that might be useful to the TRT.
    a. Past genetic studies focused on ESU delineation questions, and thus often lack the resolution and coverage to address population ID questions.
    b. The study design and outlook for the NMFS Santa Cruz Lab's effort to collect population genetic data for steelhead was presented. Collection of samples from 2001 YOY (and other year classes) steelhead from 60 sites has been completed (coordinated by Brian Spence); sites were selected to span much of the California coast, in some cases represent multiple sites within a basin, and are prioritized for analysis to provide data initially for the NCCC Recovery Domain. Samples will be analyzed using microsatellite DNA (to provide as high a resolution as possible). Results from this study are expected to be available for TRT use in the first quarter of 2002, and should help address questions of population structure among and within basins throughout the Recovery Domain.
    c. Genetic data for coho salmon from Bodega Marine Lab may also become available for TRT use, although this is still being worked out.
    d. Numerous other sources of samples, and potentially of analysis/data were mentioned by various TRT members, including samples collected by/for Jennifer Nielson in a number of streams (Wendy Jones), tissue repositories at BML or NWFSC.
    e. Other studies, focusing on intrabasin structure are ongoing:
        i. Navarro (UCDavis)
        ii. Russian (Sonoma State)
        iii. Middle Fork Eel (Humboldt State)
        iv. Noyo (SRAMP-CDFG)
        v. Russian (Kate Bucklin BML ?!?)
        vi. West side SF Bay (Jerry Smith's Student)

7. Eric Bjorkstedt provided a review of GIS data currently available, or soon to be obtained. These data include 1:24K stream data from the National Hydrologic Dataset (NHD), 30 m (10 m?) digital elevation models for gradient/catchment analysis, various land use, vegetation, etc. coverages from the California Geospatial Data Library. Also discussed briefly were efforts to develop more detailed regional GIS resources for planning purposes.

8. Discussion of how to move forward focused on how to collate information on demographic parameters (including environmental covariates) and habitat-population relationships for use in population identification and population viability analyses.
    a. Dave Hankin agreed to peruse the collection of HSU theses for relevant titles.
    b. Dave Fuller and Rick Macedo agreed to assemble/augment a bibliography for habitat-population relationships.
    c. Greg Bryant will be providing his data/reference bibiliography to Brian Spence ASAP for augmentation; Greg Bryant also noted existence in the Administrative Record of a data questionairre used for status reviews that might include useful information.
    d. Ongoing efforts to collect population data should concentrate on data more recent than 1994, the cut-off time for efforts to assemble data for the status reviews.
    e. Eric Bjorkstedt will continue to assemble relevant GIS data and metadata.

North-Central California Coast Technical Recovery Team Meeting

11 December 2001

Arcata, CA

Agenda

9:45 COFFEE

10:00 Status Report on TRT support staff, Docushare and GIS

10:15 Overview of population viability analysis and extinction modeling (Bjorkstedt)

10:45 Review of existing, readily available datasets

- NMFS Population Data – Brian Spence
- Genetic Data – Carlos Garza
- SF Bay Data – Rob Leidy
- GIS data – Eric Bjorkstedt

12:15 Lunch

1:30 Discuss establishment of working groups

- Areas/Subjects: Demographics? Habitat-Population relationships?
- Early tasks: Literature review? Synthesis of parameter estimates?

2:30 Discuss (and plan?) meetings to garner local data and wisdom

- Maps & Tributary Lists
- Criteria for inclusion of information
- Meshing with ongoing data collection surveys
  - NMFS Survey
  - CDFG Survey

4:00 Adjourn