



**Colville Confederated Tribes**  
**Fish & Wildlife Program**  
**Chief Joseph Hatchery**  
38 Half Sun Way  
Bridgeport, WA 98813



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February 21, 2013

***Welcome to the Chief Joseph Hatchery's - 2013 Annual Program Review (APR)!***

I would like to thank each of you personally for your attendance at this year's meeting in support of the Chief Joseph Hatchery program. The technical and management expertise you bring is fundamental to the project and is a key component for success. The Colville Tribes Anadromous Fish Division and the Hatchery's Science Program are pleased to host this year's APR and are eager to work with you on the shared goals and objectives it represents.

The Hatchery Program's chief goal is to provide for long absent ceremonial and subsistence needs for our members while increasing recreational and commercial harvest opportunities for all. Our objective is to do this through a conservation-based approach to increase the abundance, fitness and health of natural and hatchery-origin fish populations. Furthermore, we commit to continued leadership and advocacy for the recovery and protection of listed and non-listed fish, and their habitat, throughout the Upper Columbia.

As we follow through with our commitment to share information at these annual meetings, our staff looks forward to your questions and ideas. The APR's agenda and workshops are structured to provide a opportunity to examine the key analytical assumptions and biological rules which guide our decisions, plans and activities. While there will always be some level of uncertainty in the underlying program assumptions, we have labored to account for this in a robust manner. We constantly review our monitoring and evaluation designs and our fish culture and production operations to increase overall rigor and effectiveness. Our experience is that previous APR's have helped in this regard, and we expect this year to be no different.

Thus, and on behalf of the members of the Colville Tribes and our staff, please accept this note of appreciation for your involvement and support.

Sincerely,

Randall Friedlander, Interim Director  
Fish and Wildlife Department  
Colville Confederated Tribes

# The Chief Joseph Hatchery Program –Principles<sup>1</sup>

The Colville Tribes assert that hatchery production is an indispensable part of a multifaceted strategy to improve destabilized fish abundance and diminished system-wide survival. Unsustainable harvest regimes, migratory impediments, habitat degradation and other environmental factors have contributed to historic declines that require substantive action.

Put simply, we cannot replace lost habitat or overcome multiple human-caused limitations to sustainability, or maintain viable natural fish populations, unless hatchery programs are part of the overall approach. Therefore, individual program components must be viewed as tools that can be managed as a comprehensive policy to meet conservation and resource goals.

The actions being implemented by the Colville Tribes' Fish and Wildlife Department represent an extraordinary effort to recover Okanogan and Columbia River natural salmon and steelhead populations. The Tribes have embraced hatchery reform efforts that seek to find a balance between artificial and natural production and address the often conflicting goals of increased harvest and conservation.

Hence, the purpose of this document is to confirm that sound principles, and an adaptive framework, are incorporated into the Chief Joseph Hatchery Program. This insures that production plans and activities are guided by science-based standards and that rigorous monitoring and evaluation designs are applied. These principles are:

1. *Manage hatchery broodstock to achieve proper genetic integration with, or segregation from, natural populations;*
2. *Promote local adaptation of natural and hatchery populations;*
3. *Minimize adverse ecological interactions between hatchery- and natural-origin fish;*
4. *Minimize effects of hatchery facilities on the ecosystem;*
5. *Maximize survival of hatchery fish in integrated and segregated programs;*
6. *Develop clear, specific, quantifiable harvest and conservation goals for natural and hatchery populations within an "All H" (Hatcheries, Habitat, Harvest, Hydro) context;*
7. *Design and operate hatchery programs in a scientifically defensible manner;*
8. *Monitor, evaluate and adaptively manage hatchery programs;*
9. *Institutionalize and apply a common implementation framework;*
10. *Use the framework to set priorities, guide project review, and determine return on investments;*
11. *Provide training for all program staff;*
12. *Host the Chief Joseph Annual Program Review as part of the adaptive management principle, and*
13. *Develop and maintain a state-of-the-art CJHP database and a highly functional web-presence.*

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from the Hatchery Reform Act, the CJHP 2012 Implementation Plan and other key program documents developed under the CJHP Master Plan (4-Step Process), Hatchery Science Review Group reports and independent science review.