Water Quality Standards Human Health Criteria

Technical Workgroup Meeting #12

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Water- Water Quality Standards
October 17, 2018

Webinar instructions:

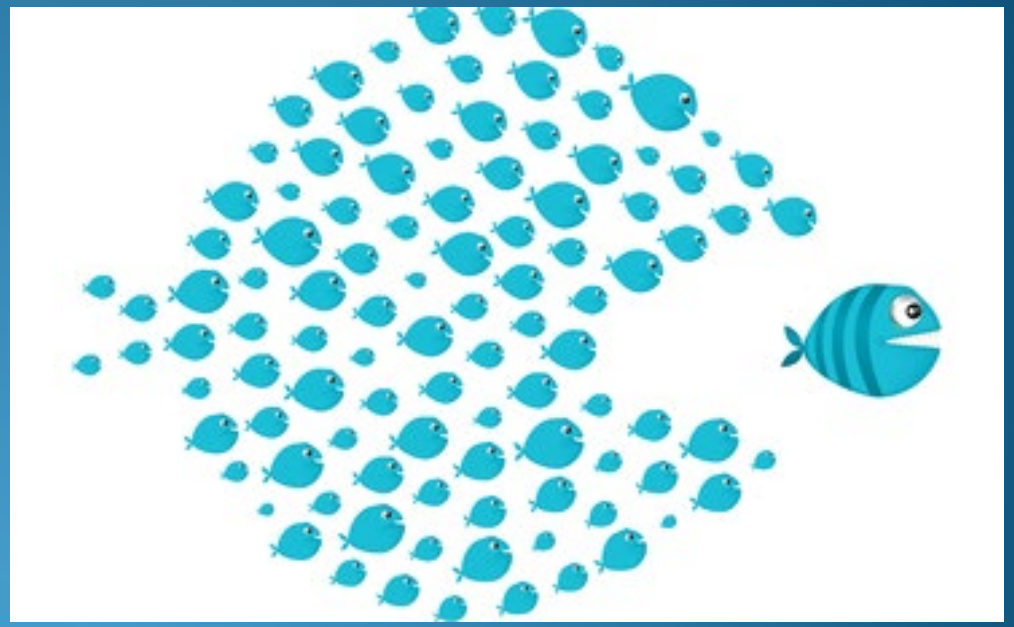
- For audio please dial: **1-800-315-6338**
- Access code: **51851**
- Note that all lines will be muted during the presentations

- Public testimony will be taken at the end of the webinar.

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF ALL PARTICIPANTS

Purpose of Technical Workgroup

- Provide technical feedback on issues associated with development of human health criteria (HHC) in state water quality standards
  - **Develop a Summary Report**
- Identify key sources of information that may be applicable to the process
- Ensure a variety of stakeholder voices are heard



Meeting Outline

- Discuss ADF&G updated FCR
- Discuss *draft* HHC Technical Workgroup Report
- Next steps

ADF&G Report

- Provides regional and statewide FCR percentiles
- Identifies and quantifies consumption by species on a regional basis
- Considered 110 communities

EPA-Mountain Whisper Light

- Provided an “expert” opinion of methodology and results
- Significant interaction between MWL and ADF&G staff
  - Worked out some data issues to develop a better baseline
- Reviewed ADF&G Methodology and re-analyzed the data using weighting
  - Different number of communities sampled in each region (high in SC/low in SE)
  - Different number of sampled households in each community that participated
  - Different number of sampled respondents in each household that participated

MWL Results

- Sampled and non-sampled communities were generally similar except when it comes to the number of communities ADF&G sampled in each region
- Pretty large *regional* differences between percentiles
- MWL-derived FCR percentiles were lower than ADF&G when weighting factors were included
- MWL stated that their approach may underestimate consumption due to assumption that each member of a household consumes fish equally.

ADF&G Updated FCR Percentiles

Target Population-Statewide	Summary FCR values	Species Included.
Rural- Consumer Only - Mean	165.7 g/day (Table 4) 232.8 (Seldovia Study)	Salmon, non-marine fish, halibut, herring, marine inverts
Rural – Consumer Only -90th	336.1 g/day (Table 4) 528.3 (Seldovia Study)	Salmon, non-marine fish, halibut, herring, marine inverts
Rural- Consumer Only - Mean	181.2 (Table 5)	Salmon, non-marine fish, halibut, herring, marine inverts, **seal, sea lion**
Rural – Consumer Only -90th	364.8 (Table 5)	Salmon, non-marine fish, halibut, herring, marine invertebrates, **seal, sea lion**
Rural – Consumer Only – Mean/90th	66.0/160.6 g/day	Non-marine fish and marine invertebrates

Draft HHC TWG Report

- Report- General
  - Spent some time trying to make sure there's consistency in terms and concepts
  - Tried to incorporate all suggestions made by participants
  - Did our best to make sure the tone was neutral- no DEC biases or policy preferences

Draft HHC TWG Report

- The report includes updated language pertaining to cancer risk levels; salmon and marine mammals; relative source contribution.

- New Appendix (G) with Alternate Viewpoints.
  - Incorporated “alternate viewpoints” in the findings and appendix so people have a way of cross referencing specific concerns.

- Updated Appendix E: ADF&G Preliminary FCR Percentiles

Discussion

Next steps

- DEC will post the three reports on our webpage and accept **informal** public comments
  - DEC will not issue a formal response to comments
  - Will use this information as we conduct outreach prior to draft rulemaking

- DEC will conduct outreach to key stakeholders/interested parties in Fall 2018-Spring 2019

- Draft rulemaking in Fall 2019

Next steps

- At this time DEC does not anticipate holding another HHC TWG meeting
  - Fulfilled its purpose of vetting the different issues and providing DEC you your unique technical perspectives
  - 13 is bad luck

- Feedback for us is welcome
  - How did the process work for you? Pros/Cons

Thank you!!

Public Comment