## STEP 2: GAIN A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF HOW SYSTEM WORKS

Consider if you have the following information available in your watershed. If it is available - how is it available? Is it incorporated into your plan or your three year workplan description? Is it in a written report but not yet mentioned in your plan? Is the data out there somewhere in somebody's office but hasn't yet been documented and shared with others in the watershed?

What is your current understanding of the biological status of the Chinook stock(s) in your watershed?

- Can you list the populations that occur in your watershed?
- Do you have estimates of the current abundance, productivity, life history diversity, and spatial distribution for each population?
- Are these estimates ones that have been discussed and all parties in your watershed are comfortable with them?

Do you have an understanding of the status of habitat and its effect on salmon in your watershed?

- Do you have an estimate of the historical status of key habitat attributes for each important spatial unit that salmon used in your watershed?
- Do you have an estimate of the current status of key habitat attributes for each important spatial unit that salmon use in your watershed?
- Do you have a hypothesis about how the historical vs. the current habitat affect salmon abundance, productivity, diversity and spatial structure?


Do you have an understanding of the status of harvest and its effect on salmon in your watershed?

- Do you have an estimate of the current total exploitation rate on each population including ocean, Puget Sound, and in-river fisheries?
- Do you have a hypothesis about how the harvest affects salmon abundance, productivity, diversity and spatial structure?

Do you have an understanding of the status of hatcheries and their effect on salmon in your watershed?

- Do you know the origin and quantity of broodstock each hatchery collects?
- Do you know how many fish each hatchery releases, when and where they release them, and how big they are when they are released?
- Do you know what the proportion of hatchery vs. natural origin fish are on the spawning grounds, in the harvest, returning to the hatchery?
- Do you have a hypothesis about how the hatcheries are affecting: salmon abundance, productivity, diversity and spatial structure?

If you can't answer some of the above questions yet, is it because of differences of opinion or because the information is unknown?

What can you do next to resolve differences of opinion or to get missing information?

If the information is available but hasn't all been considered together in your plan what could you do to document and make the information available in one place?

