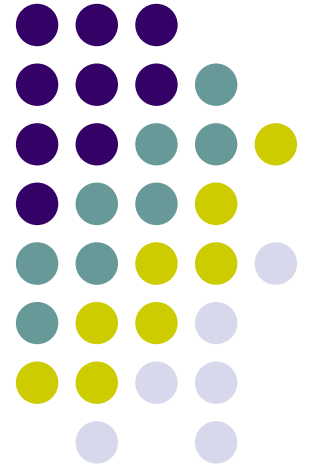


Overview of the Oregon Fish Consumption Rate Project

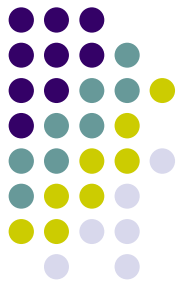
Jordan Palmeri
Oregon DEQ



What is the fish consumption rate?



The amount of freshwater and estuarine finfish and shellfish caught in Oregon waters



Why does DEQ need a fish consumption rate for Oregon?



Goals of Workshops



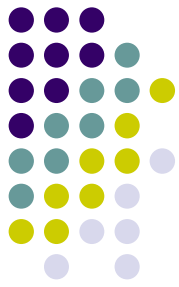
- Provide a forum for participants to identify critical issues, discuss implementation challenges and propose alternative actions.
- Develop recommendations and supporting documentation to present the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC), DEQ's rulemaking body, with:
 - (1) a range of options to increase the fish consumption rate and
 - (2) options for pollution control strategies that can help reduce the risks associated with consuming contaminated fish and decrease the toxics levels present in fish.

End Product



- An issue paper to the Environmental Quality Commission including:
 - workshop discussions and the opinions raised by participants
 - A series of recommendations and supporting documentation to raise the fish consumption rate and reduce the Human Health water quality criteria for toxics
 - DEQ, EPA, and CTUIR will seek consensus among each other in recommending one option for rulemaking
 - If consensus is not reached, DEQ will recommend an option and EPA and CTUIR can make individual recommendations if they choose.

Workshop vs. Rulemaking



- Workshop
 - A forum for information exchange, educating, learning, and brainstorming.
 - All information shared becomes a part of what the planning team (DEQ, EPA, CTUIR) considers for their recommendations to EQC.
 - Informs rulemaking decisions by EQC.
- Rulemaking
 - Begins only after the EQC chooses an option to move forward to rulemaking
 - Follows all state laws for public comment periods and public meetings.

Roles



- **Planning Team**

- Staff from DEQ, EPA and CTUIR that are the lead workers on this project
- Represent their respective gov'ts and collaboratively plan and implement a process that meets the needs of our policy makers
- Identify key policy questions that need to be answered and keep the policy makers informed
- Identify groups that can help gather information to inform policy decisions.
- Do technical legwork to inform the policy makers and keep workshops effective

Roles



- **Focus Groups**

- A small group of
 - 1) technical experts on a topic,
 - 2) who are able/willing to give time to the process and do background work,
 - 3) who can review and articulate data and uncertainties more broadly than their own interests, and
 - 4) are able to present information based on findings in the literature, not based on biased opinions
- Groups include
 - Human Health
 - NPDES Permitting Group
 - Implementation

Roles



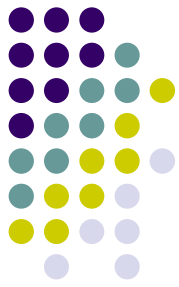
- **Core Group**

- Groups or individuals who are directly impacted by the fish consumption rate or have been engaged in this issue in the past
- Around 40 individuals currently on Core Group
- Provide nominations to Focus Groups
- Contacted by facilitator for feedback on process

- **Interested Parties**

- Individuals who have signed up to a DEQ listserve to receive reminders of upcoming workshops.
- Around 170 people signed up

Roles



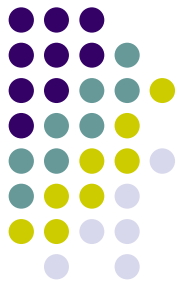
- **Public**

- Attend the workshops and provide input on the issues
- Ask questions
- Contact planning team members for more information

- **Facilitation Team**

- Impartial third party experienced with facilitating public dialogues about policy issues
- Help design discussions and workshops
- Facilitate fair and balanced discussions between the governments and the public

Project Flow Chart

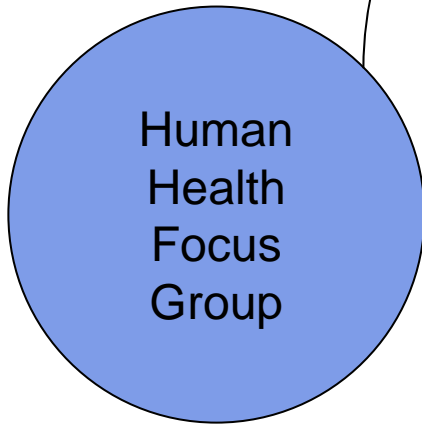
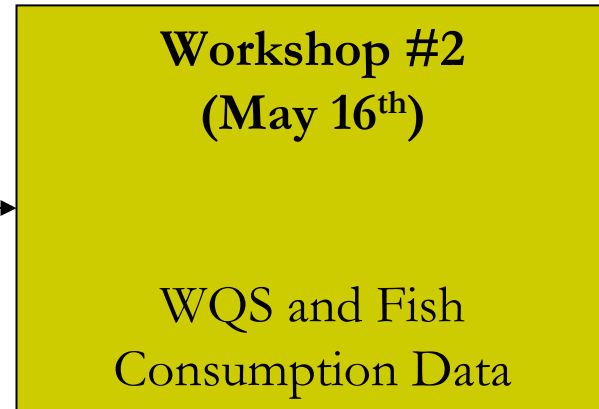
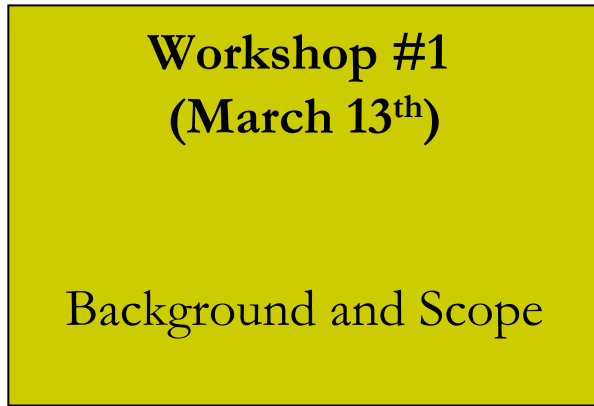


- Includes:
 - Workshops
 - Focus Groups
 - Decision Points
 - Products

Text version of the flow chart = “*DRAFT Future Workshop Outline*” on DEQ website:

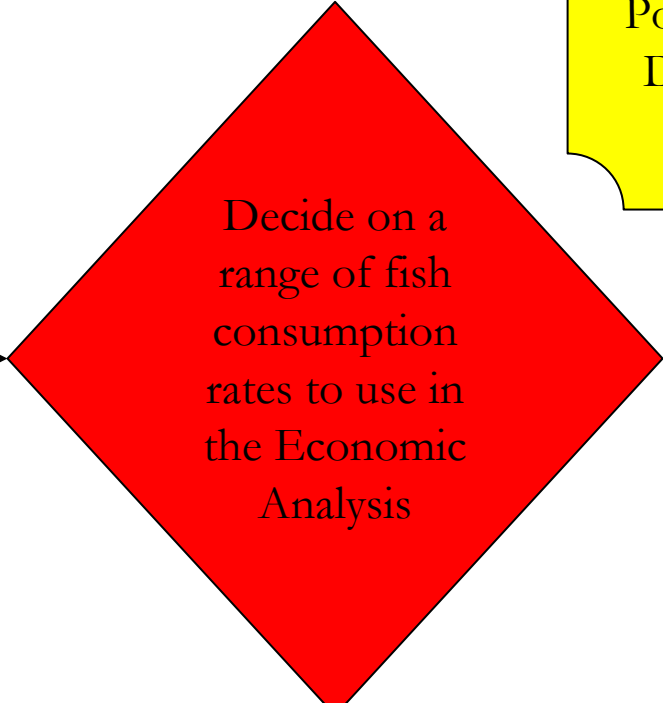
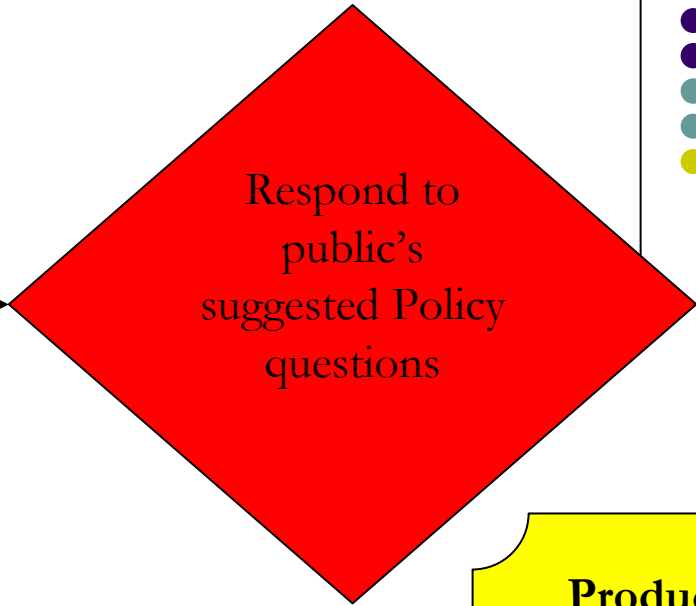
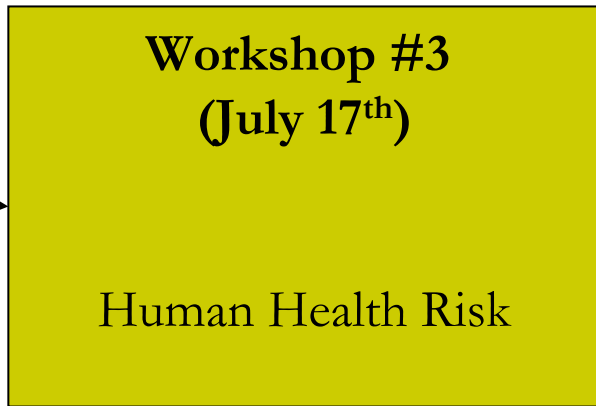
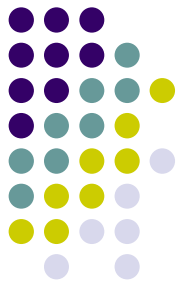
<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/standards/docs/toxics/fishworkshop.pdf>

Project Flow Chart

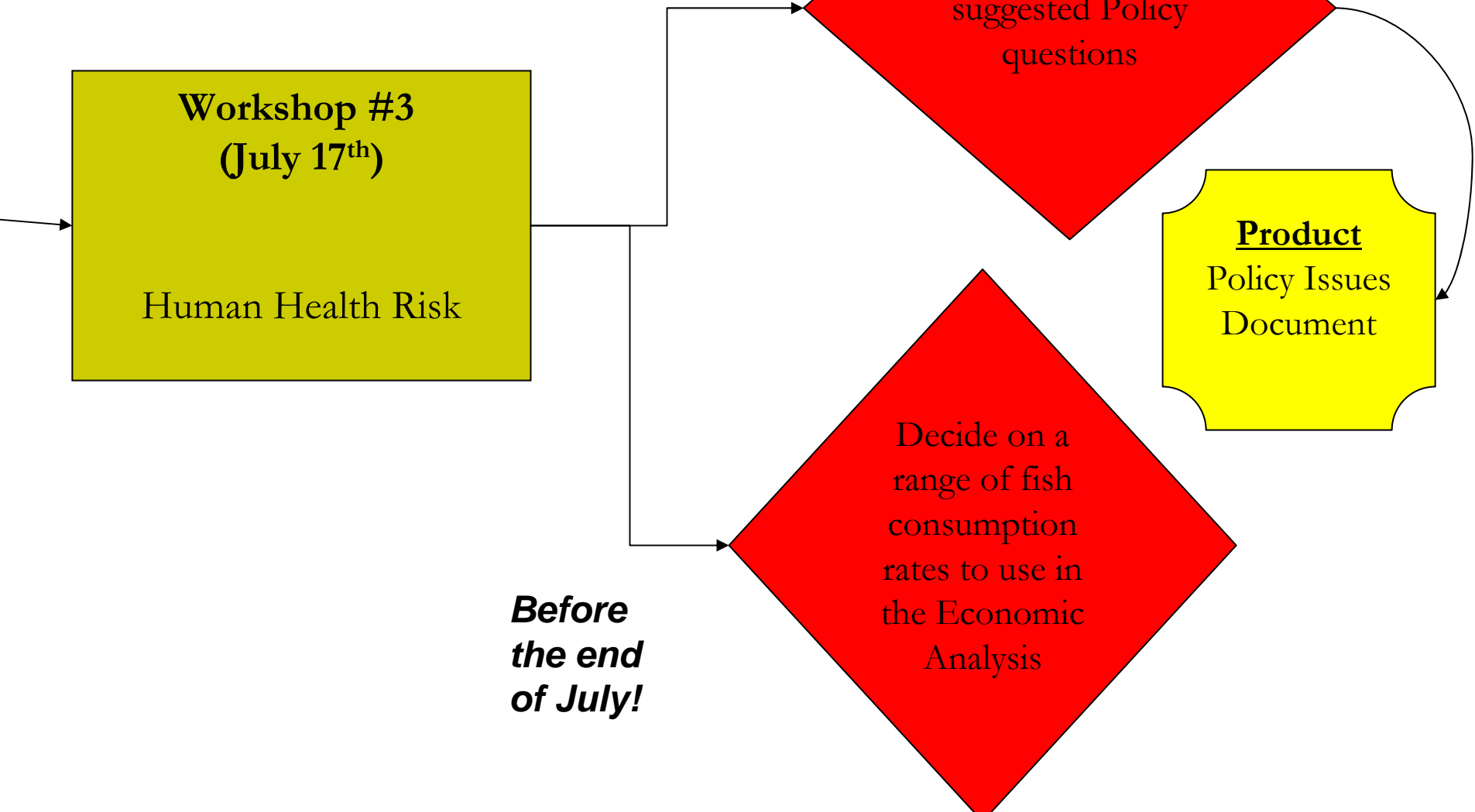


1. What is the scientific evidence Oregon should rely on for Fish Consumption Rates?
2. How should anadromous fish be treated? (discussing RSC)
3. What risk do people face if they eat more than 17.5 grams/day?

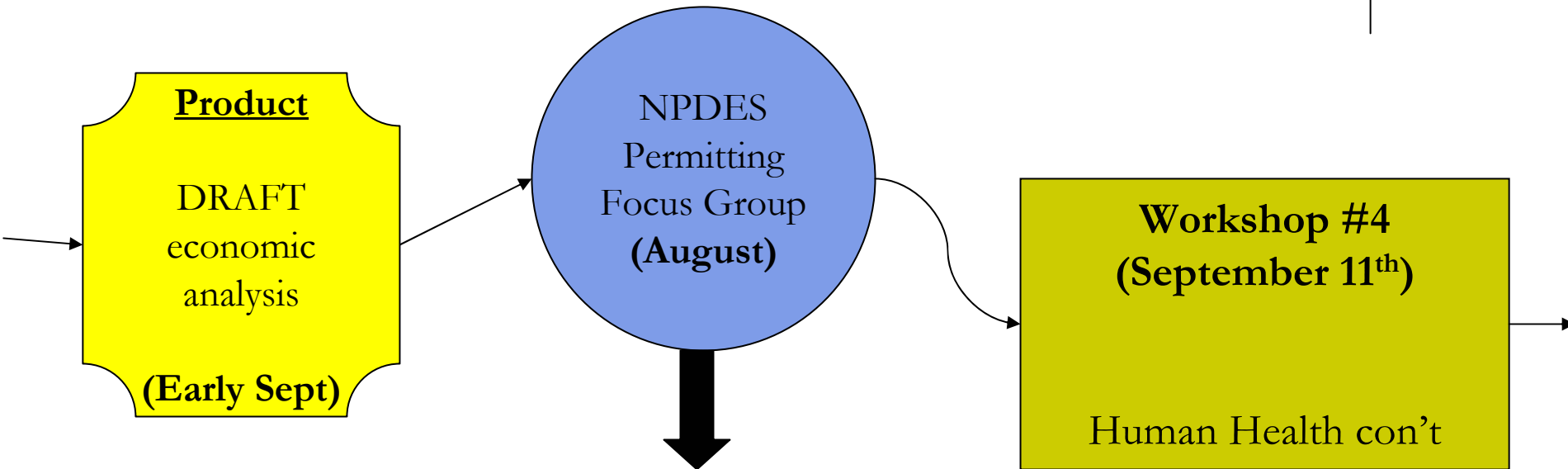
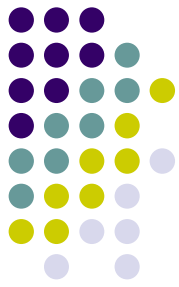
Project Flow Chart



***Before
the end
of July!***



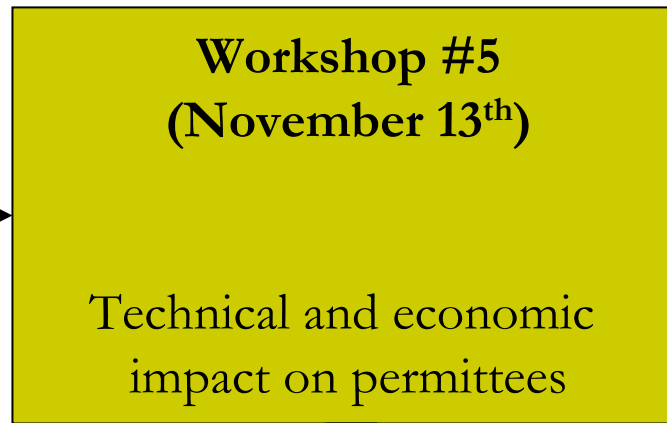
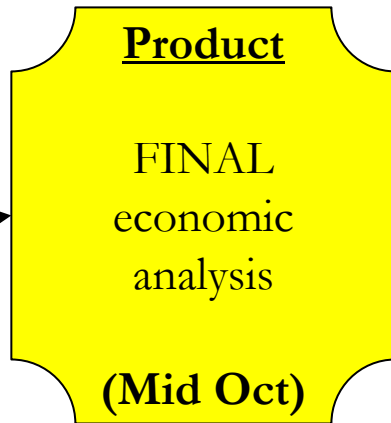
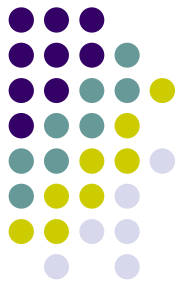
Project Flow Chart



- Role:

- Review economic analysis
- Run hypothetical RPA scenario
- Discuss contaminants of concern
- Method reporting limits
- Method detection limits
- Cost of analysis

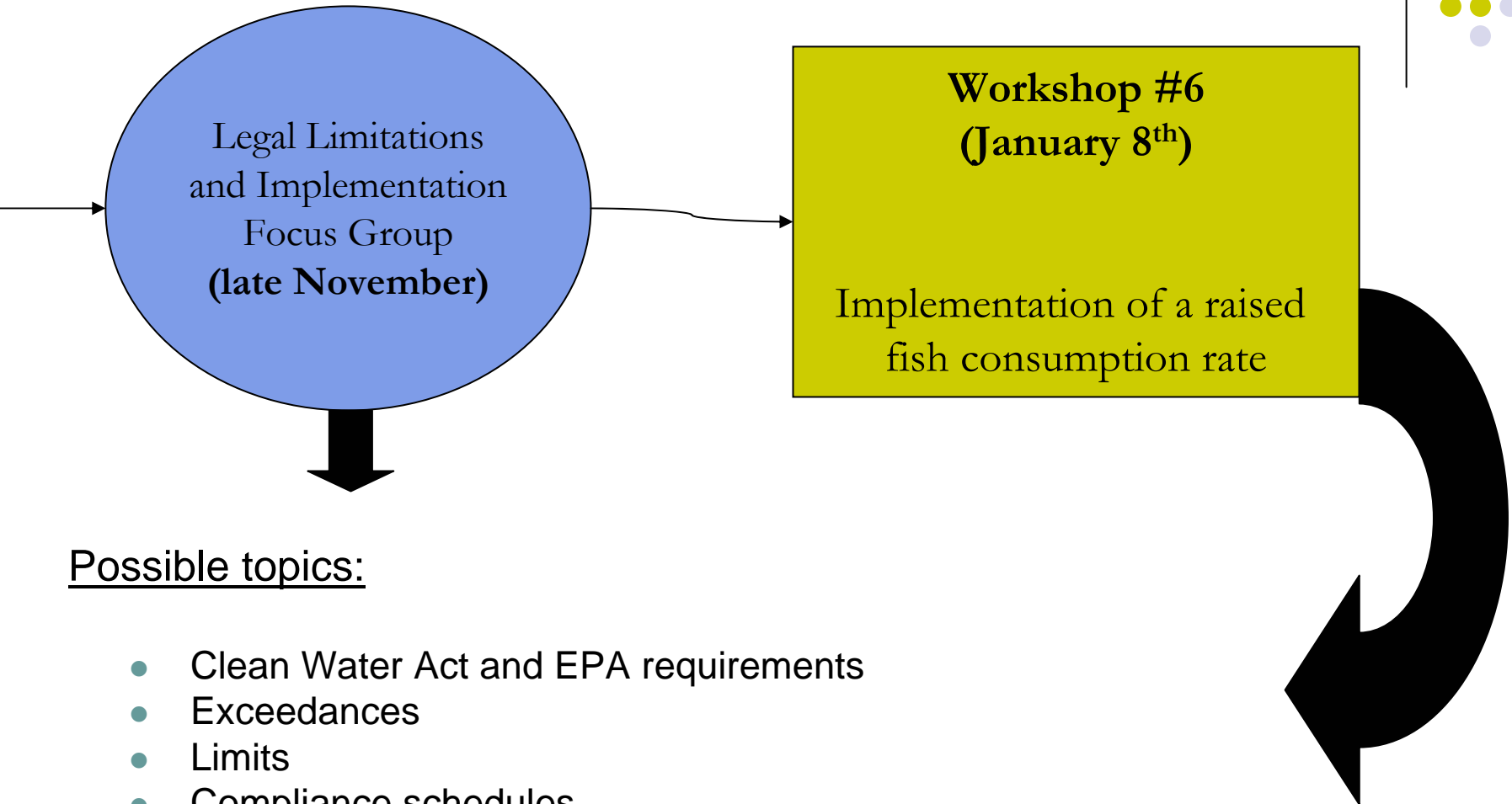
Project Flow Chart



Potential topics:

- Explain how permitting works at DEQ
- Describe affected facilities
- Present and discuss the economic analysis results
- Discuss detection limits
- Discuss background contamination
- Other issues the NPDES Focus Group addresses

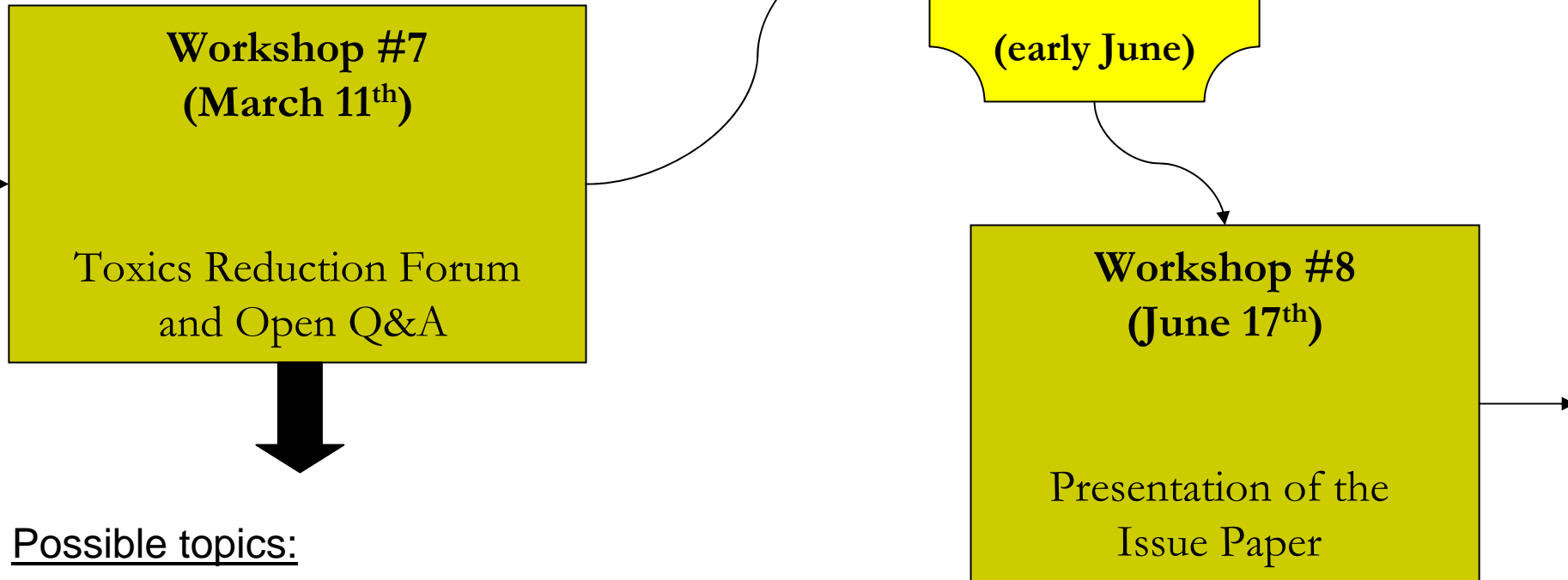
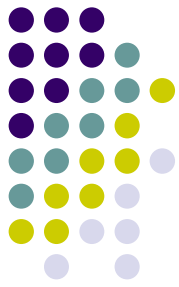
Project Flow Chart



Possible topics:

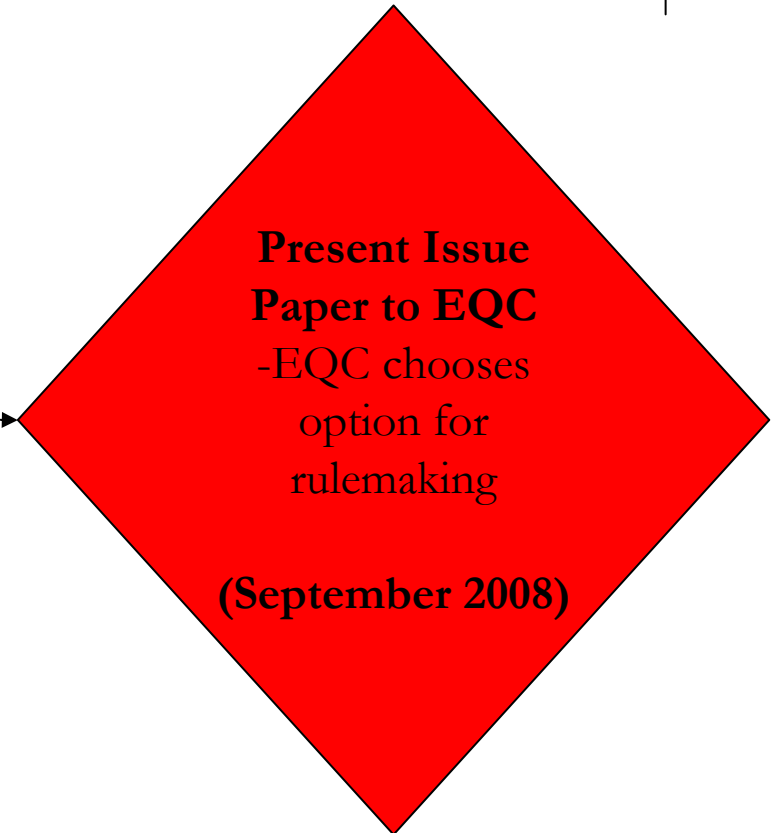
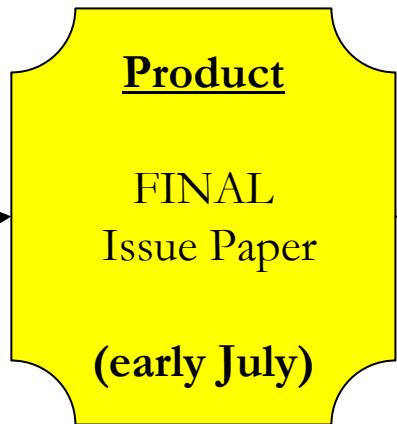
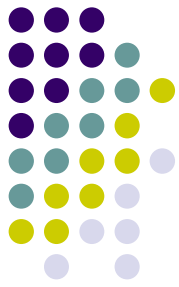
- Clean Water Act and EPA requirements
- Exceedances
- Limits
- Compliance schedules
- Source control or alternative pollutions control strategies.
- Multiple rates relating to equity issues

Project Flow Chart



- How are the leading risk drivers in fish tissue being addressed
- Creative toxic use reduction strategies?
- Open forum for toxics reduction discussion
- Provide an open forum for questions and answers.

Project Flow Chart



Questions?

