PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE OREGON COASTAL NATURAL COHO WORK GROUP

Situation: Under Amendment 13 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan and by the terms of the Oregon Salmon Plan, the management of Oregon coastal natural (OCN) coho salmon is subject to a comprehensive, adaptive review this year. The purpose of the review is to ensure the rebuilding program adopted in Amendment 13 in 1997 still reflects the best science and approach to rebuilding the OCN coho stock.

In November 1999, the Council approved an Amendment 13 review process and work group to be headed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Mr. Sam Sharr heads the work group and will provide its preliminary recommendations to the Council at the September 2000 meeting (Supplemental Exhibit E.2.b). After reviewing comments and guidance from the Council, its advisors, and the public, the work group is scheduled to submit its final recommendations at the October/November 2000 meeting. In addition to providing guidance to the work group, the Council should begin to consider how and when any proposed changes might be implemented in future salmon seasons.

Council Guidance:

1. Provide guidance to the work group for completing recommendations for technical changes to OCN coho management as currently established by Amendment 13.

Reference Materials:

2. Letter to Don McIisaac from Paul Engelmeyer (Exhibit E.2.d, Public Comment).

PFMC
08/29/00