SALMON MANAGEMENT OPTION HEARING SUMMARY

Date: April 1, 2002
Location: Red Lion Hotel
         Coos Bay, OR

Hearing Officer: Mr. Burnie Bohn
Other Council Members:
                Dr. Hans Radtke
                Mr. Ralph Brown
NMFS: Mr. Chris Wright
Coast Guard: CMDR Jeff Jackson, Mr. Jeff Close
Salmon Team Member: Mr. Mike Burner
Council Staff: Mr. Chuck Tracy

Organizations Represented:

Synopsis of Testimony

Of the 11 people testifying:
- One commented primarily on the commercial troll fishery.
- Eight commented primarily on the recreational fishery.
- Two commented on the beneficial economic aspects of both the troll and recreational fisheries.

Commercial Troll Comments

All those testifying preferred Option II for the Klamath Management Zone, and requested the following modifications:
- Increase the June quota from 1,500 to 3,000.
- Increase the July quota from 3,000 to 3,500.
- Change the landing limit from 30 per day to 30 per day or 60 per trip.

Recreational Comments

All those commenting on the central Oregon selective fishery requested the fishery remain open seven days per week, with no retention of coho on Friday and Saturday. The charter operators indicated this would keep pressure off depressed groundfish stocks, since they would be fishing for salmon on those two days instead. Some stated the wind effectively keeps the ocean closed at least two days a week anyway. Most requested the early chinook only recreational opening coincide with the commercial opening in 2003. There was no consensus on a preferred option.

Most people commenting on the Klamath Management Zone (KMZ) fishery did not support any of the three options and indicated they were not what the Klamath coalition presented to the Council in March. All requested a landing restriction of six fish in seven days. Most felt that 1,000 Klamath chinook were redistributed to river fisheries during modeling exercises that eliminated time in July and requested that they be returned to the KMZ fishery in the form of additional days in July.

Written Statements