SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM REPORT ON TENTATIVE ADOPTION OF 2002 OCEAN SALMON MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR ANALYSIS

UPDATE ON ESTIMATED IMPACTS OF MARCH OPTIONS

There was a reporting error in the Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) the Salmon Technical Team (STT) used during the March meeting. The error was in the reporting of stock specific total mortality outputs. Dropoff mortality, a part of non landed catch mortality, was not included in the total mortality computations. This error was discovered too late too late to make corrections to Preseason report II, but was documented and corrected in a memo from the Team that accompanied the Pre II mailout. The tables in Pre II effected by this error are table 4 (page 24) and table 6 (page 27).

Under Council direction, the STT reviewed the Fort Bragg effort predictor for 2002. The predictor used for this area in evaluating the March Options was based on 1986—1990 observed levels of effort, and was in addition to the effort expected in the San Francisco and Monterey areas. The STT believes that in 2002 the boats that would participate in a Fort Bragg fishery would come out of the fleet currently operating off San Francisco and Monterey, and the question is what proportion of the fleet will transfer to Fort Bragg. If all three areas are open, we will assume that the current fleet will distribute itself as it did in the 1986—1990 period, the most recent five-year period when all three areas were simultaneously open. We believe this approach may overestimate effort off Fort Bragg due to the loss of fleet infrastructure in that port, and if so there will be a corresponding underestimate of effort off San Francisco. If the Fort Bragg effort predictor is biased high it will result in a conservative estimate of both OCN coho and Klamath Fall chinook impacts, and an overestimate of Sacramento Fall chinook escapement but this is not a concern for 2002 where Sacramento Fall chinook escapement is expected to be far above the escapement goal range. For 2003, the STT and SSC will review the Fort Bragg predictor.