

INSEASON MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OPENINGS PRIOR TO MAY 1
NORTH OF CAPE FALCON

Situation: The 2002 ocean salmon fishing regulations specify the Council will make inseason recommendations to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) at the March Council meeting for certain fisheries which may open earlier than May 1, 2003. The fisheries under consideration are the commercial and recreational fisheries off Washington and Oregon, north of Cape Falcon.

At its November 2002 meeting, the Council indicated that sufficient troll opportunity is available with a May 1 opening to access the chinook allocation, and that no changes to the opening date for the 2003 non-Indian commercial salmon fishery north of Cape Falcon were contemplated. The Council did not request a Salmon Technical Team analysis of potential impacts, nor reinitiation of consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for impacts associated with listed species, including Columbia Basin spring chinook stocks.

Council Action:

1. **Consider recommendations to NMFS for inseason action to set opening dates for any all-salmon-except-coho commercial and recreational fisheries the Council wishes to open prior to May 1 north of Cape Falcon.**

Reference Materials:

1. None.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Recommendations
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Recommendations for Early Opening Dates for Fisheries North of Cape Falcon

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