

PRESEASON PLANNING FOR 2004 MANAGEMENT

Situation: To plan, announce, and meet *Federal Register* deadlines for public hearing sites and the entire preseason salmon management process, staff needs to confirm details of the process prior to the end of November. The proposed 2004 process and schedule is contained in Exhibit E.3, Attachment 1. It follows the same format as in previous years.

For 2004, Council staff recommends one salmon management option hearing per coastal state, the same schedule as in 2003. The hearings would be:

- March 29 Westport, Washington and Coos Bay, Oregon
- March 30 Eureka, California

In 2004, the March Council meeting will occur in Tacoma, Washington and the April Council meeting in Sacramento, California. Therefore, the public comment period on Tuesday of the April meeting in Sacramento also serves as a public comment opportunity. If the states desire to have additional hearings, we suggest they organize and staff them as was done in past years. The table below provides the public attendance at the hearing sites since 1995 for Council reference.

Hearing Site Location ^{1/}	Public Attendance								
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Westport	49	30	22	4	18	24	30	11	16
Astoria	28	23	16	-	14	-	-	-	-
Tillamook	-	-	-	28	-	13	16 ^{2/}	18 ^{2/}	-
North Bend/Coos Bay	22	30	27	15	31	36	18	40	26
Eureka	30	45	27	16	18	37	12	25	46
Sacramento	16	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
Santa Rosa	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Moss Landing ^{2/}	-	-	-	100	51	50	33	14	-

1/ Sites in bold are proposed for Council staffing in 2004.
 2/ Hearing staffed by state personnel.

Council Action:

1. Confirm Council-staffed hearing sites and state intentions for additional hearings.
2. Approve staff's overall proposed schedule and process for developing 2004 ocean salmon management measures (Exhibit E.3, Attachment 1).

References:

1. Exhibit E.3, Attachment 1: Pacific Fishery Management Council Schedule and Process for Developing 2004 Ocean Salmon Fishery Management Measures.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Approve 2004 Hearing Sites and Management Schedule
- Chuck Tracy

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PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND PROCESS FOR
DEVELOPING 2004 OCEAN SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- Nov. 3-7, 2003 The Council and advisory entities meet at the Hilton Del Mar, Del Mar, California to, (1) consider any changes to methodologies used in the development of abundance projections or regulatory options and (2) adopt the management process and schedule for 2004 ocean salmon fisheries.
- Jan. 20-23, 2004 The Salmon Technical Team (STT) and Council staff economist meet in Portland, Oregon to draft *Review of 2003 Ocean Salmon Fisheries*. This report summarizes seasons, quotas, harvest, escapement, socioeconomic statistics, achievement of management goals, and impacts on species listed under the Endangered Species Act. (February 6 print date, mailed to the Council February 26, and available to the public March 2.)
- Feb. 17-20 STT meets in Portland, Oregon to complete *Preseason Report I Stock Abundance Analysis for 2004 Ocean Salmon Fisheries*. This report provides key salmon stock abundance estimates and precision, harvest and escapement estimates, when recent regulatory regimes are projected on 2003 abundance, and other pertinent information to aid development of management options. (February 24 print date, mailed to the Council February 26, and available to the public March 2.)
- Feb. 26 through March 7 State and tribal agencies hold constituent meetings to review preseason abundance projections and range of probable fishery options. The Klamath Fishery Management Council completes recommendations for ocean management options affecting Klamath River fall chinook.
- March 2 Council reports summarizing the 2003 salmon season and salmon stock abundance projections for 2004 are available to the public from the Council office.
- March 8-12 Council and advisory entities meet at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel, Tacoma, Washington to adopt 2004 regulatory options for public review. The Council adopts preliminary options on March 9, tentative options for STT analysis on March 10, and final options for public review on March 12.
- March 15 through April 4 Management agencies, tribes, and public develop their final recommendations for the regulatory options. North of Cape Falcon Forum meetings are tentatively scheduled for March 18-19 (Portland area) and April 1-2 (Seattle area). Council staff completes a preliminary draft *Environmental Assessment for the Proposed 2004 Management Measures for the Ocean Salmon Fishery Managed under the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan*.
- March 23 Council staff distributes *Preseason Report II: Analysis of Proposed Regulatory Options for 2004 Ocean Salmon Fisheries* to the public. The report includes the public hearing schedule, comment instructions, option highlights, and tables summarizing the biological and economic impacts of the proposed management options.

- March 29 and 30 Sites and dates of public hearings to review the Council's proposed regulatory options are: Westport, Washington (March 29); North Bend, Oregon (March 29); and Eureka, California (March 30). Comments on the options will also be taken during the Council meeting on April 6 in Sacramento, California.
- April 5-9 Council and advisory entities meet to adopt final regulatory measures at the Red Lion Hotel Sacramento, Sacramento, California. The *Preseason Report II: Analysis of Proposed Regulatory Options for 2004 Ocean Salmon Fisheries*, the preliminary *Environmental Assessment for the Proposed 2004 Management Measures for the Ocean Salmon Fishery Managed under the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan*, and information developed at the Council meeting is considered during the course of the week. The Council will tentatively adopt final regulatory measures for analysis by the STT on April 6. Final adoption of recommendations to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are scheduled to be completed on April 8.
- April 10-14 The STT completes *Preseason Report III Analysis of Council-Adopted Regulatory Measures for 2004 Ocean Salmon Fisheries*.
- April 15-23 Council staff completes final *Environmental Assessment for the Proposed 2004 Management Measures for the Ocean Salmon Fishery Managed under the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan* for submission to NMFS.
Council staff distributes adopted ocean salmon fishing management recommendations.
- May 1 NMFS implements federal ocean salmon fishing regulations, and *Preseason Report III* is made available to the public.

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