

March 21, 2006

Mr. Donald K. Hansen, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

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PFMC

Dear Mr. Hansen,

I would like to request an evening session at our June meeting to explain the benefits of hatchery identification (mass marking) in relationship to Hatchery Reform. This is valuable information most Council members have not been fully briefed upon and there needs to be an understanding that mass marking is more than a harvest management tool.

Recently, I attended an informational session on the Hatchery Science Review Group (HSRG) that included Hatchery Reform (HR) as a tool for stock recovery. The ability to identify hatchery fish from wild fish is vital to implementing a sound scientific approach to hatchery management and wild stock recovery. In summary the goal is to get the right fish on the spawning ground while continuing to culture and harvest hatchery fish. Mass marking is necessary to accomplish this goal.

We have all heard how mass marking and selective fisheries are potentially an additional harvest management tool especially in a weak stock management environment. The new information to me was that, under HR, hatchery fish need to be harvested at relatively higher harvest rates than wild fish in order to reduce the genetic impact of hatchery fish to wild fish from straying. This gave me a new perspective on how selective fisheries could benefit wild stock recovery from a hatchery and harvest perspective.

The Council is being forced to make some tough management decisions this year. The Klamath situation is unfortunate and there are many sources in which the blame could be assigned. Hatchery Reform could be a major tool in the toolbox that could help to avoid this situation in the future.

I have had a discussion with Tim Roth (USFWS) and he is in agreement with having an evening informational session. If you could add this to our June calendar I will contact Lars Mobernd (HSRG Chair) and make the necessary arrangements for a presentation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Cedergreen

cc: Donald McIsaac
Chuck Tracy
Tim Roth
Darrell Ticehurst
Roger Thomas