

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL
REPORT ON THE KLAMATH RIVER FALL CHINOOK
OVERFISHING ASSESSMENT PROGRESS REPORT

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) believes the assessment requires additional analyses to adequately characterize the circumstances and effects of the spawning escapement shortfalls of 2004-2006, and recommends the following:

- Include a review of recommendations and results from the 1994 Klamath River Fall Chinook Review Team Report.
- Include information on effects of 2002 adult fish kill with regard to: 1) potential substock issues, particularly in the Trinity Basin; 2) egg viability in hatcheries, and; 3) decreased carcass deposition in natural spawning areas.
- The assessment should address effects of non-directed fisheries, such as the whiting trawl fishery, on spawning escapement and model performance.
- Hatchery mitigation goals should be reviewed and changes recommended to include the effects of degraded habitat downstream of the projects, not just lost habitat upstream. This policy should be applied to all projects on the West Coast, not just the Klamath/Trinity projects.
- The assessment should describe changes in hatchery release strategies that have occurred subsequent to the broods affected in the overfishing assessment period.
- The various sections of the report need to be better integrated; perhaps this would be best accomplished when conclusions and recommendations are developed.
- The assessment needs to recognize the 2006 emergency regulations process and the needs of the fishing communities identified as part of the management system.
- The assessment should recognize that the management system is stressed when abundance of Klamath stocks are low.

PFMC
09/10/07