

KLAMATH RIVER FALL CHINOOK OVERFISHING CONCERN

The action under this agenda item is intended to determine the criteria and rebuilding measures necessary to end the Overfishing Concern (OC) for Klamath River fall Chinook (KRFC), which was triggered by failing to achieve 35,000 adult natural area spawners in 2004-2006. This action will comprise the Council's initial rebuilding plan for KRFC as specified in the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) (Agenda Items E.1.a, Attachments 1 and 2). The FMP requires that each OC be assessed individually, and that the specific circumstances leading to the OC be considered in determining if a rebuilding plan is required to end the OC. Therefore, each stock and OC event should be evaluated independent of other stocks or OC events, and no particular precedence should be assumed for any past or future decisions.

At its March 2008 meeting, the Council adopted a set of recommendations comprising a rebuilding plan for KRFC for public review, including criteria for determining the end of the OC. The criteria and one of the recommendations adopted by the Council for public review differed slightly from those recommended by the Salmon Technical Team (STT) led Workgroup that developed the Assessment of Factors Affecting Natural Area Escapement Shortfall of Klamath River Fall Chinook Salmon in 2004-2006 (see Agenda Item D.3.b, KRFC Stock Assessment, March 2008). The two rebuilding plans are presented with the Workgroup criteria as the original and the Council adopted criteria displayed in ~~strikeout~~underline format (Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 3).

At its April 2008 meeting, the Council requested additional analyses of the alternative criteria (Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 3) and further review by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). The analysis of the relative risks is presented in Agenda Item E.1.b, STT Report.

The Hoopa Valley Tribe, the Yurok Tribe, and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) presented comments at the April 2008 Council meeting relative to the rebuilding plan for KRFC (Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 4).

The Council should adopt a final rebuilding plan at this time, which will be implemented through the annual management measures and rulemaking procedures for a regulatory amendment. The rebuilding plan will be incorporated in the 2008 ocean salmon management measures, and in future management measures, as appropriate.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt a final rebuilding plan, including criteria to identify the end of the Overfishing Concern, for Klamath River fall Chinook.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 1: Summary and Background for the Salmon Fishery Management Plan and Overfishing Concerns.
2. Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 2: Excerpt from the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan.
3. Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 3: Alternative Rebuilding Plans for Klamath River Fall Chinook.
4. Agenda Item E.1.a, Attachment 4: Tribal and Advisory Body Statements from the April 2008 Council Meeting Concerning the Klamath River Fall Chinook Overfishing Concern.
5. Agenda Item E.1.b, Hoopa Valley Tribal Comments: Hoopa Valley Tribal Comments on Klamath River Fall Chinook Overfishing Concern.
6. Agenda Item E.1.c, STT Report: Salmon Technical Team Analysis of Risks and Benefits of Alternative Rebuilding Criteria for Klamath River Fall Chinook

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Agency and Tribal Comments
 - c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
 - d. Public Comment
 - e. **Council Action:** Confirm or Establish Criteria for Determining the End of the Overfishing Concern
- Chuck Tracy

PFMC
05/22/08