

Agenda Item F.3.c
Supplemental Tribal Comments of Hoopa Valley Tribe
March 2015

HOOPA VALLEY TRIBAL COMMENTS ON
F.3.c Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2015
Salmon Management Alternatives

The Hoopa Valley Tribe (HVT) thanks the Pacific Fishery Management Council for this opportunity to comment on prospective management alternatives for 2015 salmon fisheries. Abundance of Klamath River fall Chinook is forecast to be moderately high this year and we anticipate good harvest opportunities for Tribal and non-Tribal fisheries.

NOAA's guidance indicates a maximum marine exploitation of 0.13 on Rogue-Klamath Coho, the 1999 consultation standard for ocean fisheries affecting SONCC Coho. Coincidentally, the HVT has adopted a harvest management plan for the selective harvest of Trinity River Hatchery (TRH) origin Coho. The objective of this harvest plan is to reduce the presence of hatchery origin Coho spawners in natural areas while maximizing exploitation of surplus mitigation fish.

The HVT plans to install and operate a resistance board weir on Trinity River within the Hoopa Valley Reservation in fall of 2015. TRH origin Coho will be retained while "natural" origin Coho will be passed upstream unharmed.

The HVT shall seek consultation with NOAA regarding this pending management action in the very near future. We also look forward to discussing constructive alternatives for full utilization of surplus mitigation Coho with state and Tribal co-managers.