

SALMON MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES HEARING SUMMARY

Date: March 30, 2015	Hearing Officer: Mr. Jeff Feldner
Location: Red Lion Coos Bay, Coos Bay OR	NMFS: Ms. Peggy Mundy
Attendance: 13	Coast Guard: LCDR Chris Culpepper
Testifying: 5	Salmon Team Member: Mr. Craig Foster
	Council Staff: Mr. Mike Burner
Organizations Represented: Klamath Management Zone Fisheries Coalition, Coastal Conservation Association, Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program.	

Special Opening Remarks

Mr. Jeff Feldner provided opening remarks for the hearing. Mr. Craig Foster reviewed Alternatives for the commercial and sport salmon seasons, and Alternatives for incidental halibut retention in the salmon troll fishery.

Synopsis of Testimony

Of the five people testifying:

- Three commented primarily on the commercial troll fishery.
- Two commented on both the commercial and the recreational fishery.

Commercial Troll Comments

- All three were in support of Alternative I.
- One supported Alternative I for the Oregon Klamath Management Zone (KMZ) fishery and asked that the July and August quotas in this alternative each be increased by 500 fish. There are boats from California that are in Oregon now in anticipation of a potential repeat of the 2014 early season success and participating in the summer fishery and small quotas may not last long.
- One supported Alternative I and expressed interest in extending the Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain troll season through August 29th and putting additional fish in the Oregon KMZ troll fishery.
- One supported Alternative I for the Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain and the Oregon KMZ troll fisheries.
- Two of the three people that testified on the commercial fishery expressed concern about fishing in September due to concerns about the strength of future salmon broods given the ongoing drought conditions and warming ocean trends. Both suggested proceeding with caution because impacts in September fisheries are counted against 2016 fisheries. One

suggested implementing smaller trip limits as a way of slowing the catch and diminishing effort. One spoke to the benefits of avoiding Klamath fall Chinook in September by starting later in the month as in Alternative III, but expressed concerns about maintaining markets and infrastructure over the break between late-August and mid-September.

Recreational Comments

- Two people testified on the recreational options, one was representing the Coastal Conservation Association of Winchester Bay and the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program. Both were in favor of Alternative I, particularly if more time were made available to attain the selective coho quota in the fishery from Cape Falcon to the OR/CA border rather than closing the selective coho fishery in early-August and rolling the remaining quota into the September, non-mark-selective coho fishery from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain.

Other Comments

- One supported incidental halibut retention Alternative I.
- One requested broader notification of the meetings via the media.

Written Statements (Attached)

None submitted at the hearing.

PFMC
04/03/15