

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
REVIEW OF 2015 FISHERIES AND SUMMARY OF 2016 STOCK ABUNDANCE
FORECASTS

2015 Review of Ocean Salmon Fisheries

Dr. Robert Kope discussed the *Review of 2015 Ocean Salmon Fisheries* report with the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). The report includes sections on status determination criteria in Chapters II and III for Chinook and coho salmon stocks, respectively. Though the escapement goals were not met or the maximum fishing mortality threshold was exceeded for some Chinook and coho salmon stocks, none of the stocks are approaching an overfished condition. Table II-5 contains the performance of Chinook stocks relative to 2015 preseason conservation objectives while Table II-6 contains Chinook stock status relative to overfished and overfishing criteria. There were no Chinook stocks classified as overfished. Tables III-6 and III-7 contains this same information for coho. There were no coho stocks classified as overfished.

2016 Stock Abundance Forecasts

Dr. Kope discussed Chinook and coho stock abundance forecasts for 2016 in *Preseason Report I*. The SSC endorses the 2016 forecasts, acceptable biological catches, and overfishing limits in *Preseason Report I*, as the best available science for use in 2016 salmon management.

Considerations Regarding Recent Environmental Conditions in 2015-2016

The California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment team described severe ocean conditions unfavorable to salmon. Environmental conditions were incorporated into forecasts for some stocks, but not all. While mechanisms are not in place to quantitatively incorporate such considerations into the forecasts for all stocks in 2016, caution is warranted in setting harvest levels and management measures.

PFMC
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