

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON ANNUAL MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE
CHANGES AMENDMENT SCOPING

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) discussed the proposed amendment to the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to change the salmon management year calendar. The SAS can appreciate the potential benefits of providing more time for the preseason process, but has the following concerns regarding delaying the start of the salmon regulatory calendar beyond May 1. Delaying the start of the regulatory season:

- Reduces the time available to charter operators for advanced advertising and bookings making it more challenging to schedule a successful summer fishing season.
- Complicates the development of management measures by requiring more of the spring fisheries to be set in regulation the previous year with less information available and a greater chance of inseason adjustment.
- Creates potential conflicts with other spring fisheries such as the recreational Pacific halibut fishery.
- Increases the challenges of SAS membership due to conflicts with late-April and May fishing opportunities potentially resulting in the loss of members or difficulties in recruiting new members.

Unless there are strong and compelling reasons to change the salmon management year calendar, the SAS does not support initiating an amendment process.

PFMC
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