

## Salmon Methodology Review

The Tribes are concerned about mark-selective fisheries and the ability of FRAM to project the impacts of any mark-selective fisheries. Work on suitable methodologies of sensitivity analysis for key model parameters needs to continue. The Council must be confident that this tool is adequate for assessing fishery impacts from the suite of fisheries that we ultimately recommend for adoption.

The Tribes encourage the MEW, STT and SSC to continue working on the bias correction equations, provide the Council with their recommendations on what metric should be utilized to monitor the impact or intensity levels of mark-selective fisheries, and identify at what impact levels the bias resulting from mark-selective fisheries becomes a conservation concern.

The Tribes have requested a multi-year assessment report be prepared on the ocean mark-selective fishery for **coho** that is ongoing in Areas 1-4 for the last ten plus years. The State of Washington has said that these reports already exist. So why hasn't the Council or its advisory bodies seen them? The tribes have reviewed the Chinook Encounter Study progress reports recently submitted by WDFW and are disturbed by the information contained within them pertaining to the ocean mark-selective fishery for coho. The Tribes would like to think that the ocean fishery responsible for the largest source of impacts on coho under PFMC jurisdiction would be monitored a little bit closer than this. The reports for the fishery do not provide coverage of all years and all management areas. No variances were provided with the estimates to allow for the assessment of the precision of the sampling methodology to estimate key parameters. The reported mark rates show a consistent bias, for all years and all management areas, for overestimating hatchery contributions and, therefore, underestimating impacts on natural stocks. We believe the Council must establish a better reporting process for this style of fishing before consideration is given to further apply this approach to Chinook.

The Tribes request that the Salmon Technical Team look over the existing reports especially regarding the concerns mentioned above. The STT needs to review and evaluate all WDFW ocean mark selective fisheries reports developed and present their findings to Council and its Advisory Bodies prior to the preseason planning cycle for salmon.

The Tribes are committed to participate in any of the technical processes required to develop and evaluate the tools needed for any of the analyses.

Completion of this work is essential, if the Council is to continue to fulfill its obligation to constrain fishery impacts to sustainable levels on stocks of concern.