

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN
AMENDMENT 18 – UPDATE OF ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (EFH) FOR SALMON

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) met via teleconference on September 3, 2013 and heard a report from Mr. Kerry Griffin and discussed the matter of essential fish habitat (EFH) for salmon. The SAS is supportive of the proposed revisions to salmon EFH

Specifically the SAS recommends adding all of the proposed habitat areas of particular concern (HAPCs) under Alternative 9 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (Agenda Item E.2.a, Attachment 1); channels and floodplains, thermal refugia, spawning habitat, estuaries, and marine and estuarine submerged aquatic vegetation.

The SAS supports revising the criteria for designating a dam as the upstream extent of EFH and updating the list based on the new criteria and new information (i.e. Alternative 6C of section 2.3.1). More specifically, the SAS thinks that EFH in the Klamath Basin should be expanded to include habitat above Iron Gate Dam. We also concur that Keno Dam would be the appropriate upstream extent of EFH until fish passage improvements occur at Keno Dam or a new FERC license for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project is resolved.

The SAS is also supportive of the process for revising salmon EFH without a Fishery Management Plan amendment under Alternative 13B.

PFMC
09/11/13