



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Dorothy M. Lowman, Chair | Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director

December 23, 2014

Mr. Phil Anderson, Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way N
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Mr. Paul Lumley, Executive Director
Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission
700 NE Multnomah St., Suite. 1200
Portland, Oregon 97232

Mr. Mike Grayum, Executive Director
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
6730 Martin Way E.
Olympia, WA 98516

Mr. Curt Melcher, Interim Director
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Re: Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Request on the Use of a Standardized Method to Calculate Chinook Age-2 Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) Stock Recruit Scalars

Dear Mr. Anderson, Mr. Grayum, Mr. Lumley, and Mr. Melcher:

At their November 12-19, 2014 meeting, the Council concluded the annual Salmon Methodology Review process by adopting several new methods for use beginning with the 2015 salmon management process. Included in the Council recommendations was an approval of a standardized method to calculate Chinook age-2 FRAM stock recruit scalars.

This new method for calculating Chinook age-2 scalars is intended to replace previously inconsistent methods and to improve Chinook FRAM results. This new method was reviewed and approved by the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Salmon Technical Team (STT), and the Model Evaluation Workgroup for use beginning in 2015. However, the SSC, the STT, and the Council supported the use of this new method for many, but not all, Chinook FRAM stocks. Rather, the intent is to implement this new method only for stocks lacking a "true" or formal age-2 forecast (i.e. based on full life cycle models or information specific to the cohort).

The Council did not have a comprehensive list of Chinook FRAM stocks for which this method would be applied at the time of final Council action in November 2014. Therefore, the Council requests that the appropriate affected Tribe(s) and State(s) provide the Council written notification of support regarding the Chinook FRAM age-2 stock recruit scalar methods intended for use in the 2015 salmon fishery management process. Please consult with the appropriate co-managers and submit your intentions to me no later than January 31, 2015. This timing will allow for inclusion of intended methods in the annual Preseason Report I as a key step in the development of regulations for the 2015 salmon fishery seasons.

The supporting analytical documents, Council advisory body statements, and Council decision summaries from the November 2014 Council meeting are available on the Council's web page. Should your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please have them contact Mr. Mike Burner at the Council office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. O. McIsaac", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

D. O. McIsaac, Ph.D.
Executive Director

MDB:rdd

C: Council Members
Scientific and Statistical Committee
Salmon Technical Team
Model Evaluation Workgroup
Mr. Chuck Tracy
Mr. Mike Burner