HOOPA VALLEY TRIBAL COMMENTS ON
G.4 Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2010 Salmon Management Options

The Hoopa Valley Tribe (HVT) will reserve more detailed comments on definition of 2010 Salmon Management Options later this week.

At this juncture, review of the Supplemental SAS Comments under Agenda Item G.4.c, reveal recommendations for some recreational and commercial fisheries during the fall period in areas likely to affect Klamath River Fall Chinook (KRFC).

The HVT repeats its objections over promulgation of these “credit card” fisheries as proposed for the post August 31 birth date for KRFC. Presently, the PFMC has no methodology for forecasting impacts of these fall fisheries. Moreover, during periods of stock depression, allowing fall fisheries may compromise management flexibility in planning spring/summer fisheries the following year.

Because the KRFC are now subject to provisions of a rebuilding plan, we would urge against fisheries in the fall period. Experience shows that fall fisheries may result in excessive and unplanned impacts that result in hardship to dependent communities the following spring/summer prompting need for emergency rule making and regressive conservation standards (e.g. 2005 fall fisheries and resulting 2006 spring/summer fisheries management.)

Lastly, we also observe limited fisheries proposed for portions of April in areas that could intercept Klamath-Trinity Spring Chinook. The HVT believes this stock represents a significant genetic legacy of the Basin that should receive focused attention by the PFMC. Presently, harvest of Klamath-Trinity Spring Chinook is indiscriminate and occurs in conjunction with fall Chinook marine fisheries occurring prior to May.