

Sequence of events in ocean salmon fishery management, January through June 15.^{1/} (page 1 of 2)

GENERAL MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AND INSEASON CONFERENCES

- Jan. 11 Council distributes Draft Amendment 14 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan for public review. This amendment updates the environmental impact statement, responds to directives in the Sustainable Fisheries Act (e.g., essential fish habitat, optimum yield, overfishing criteria, and bycatch data), clarifies stock management objectives, makes minor modifications to recreational harvest allocation north of Cape Falcon, provides for selective fisheries for marked hatchery fish, and makes other editorial improvements.
- Jan. 13 Council submits Amendment 13 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan (management of Oregon coastal natural coho) to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for implementation.
- Feb. 1-4 Council holds four public hearings for Amendment 14, one in each of the three Pacific Coast states and one in Idaho.
- Mar. 1 NMFS provides the Council with a letter outlining the 1999 management guidance for stocks listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
- Mar. 12 Council adopts Amendment 14 for implementation by NMFS and three troll and three recreational ocean salmon fishery management options for public review.
- NMFS inseason conference number one (at the Council meeting) results in two Council recommendations which are implemented by NMFS: (1) open the commercial and recreational fisheries off Oregon from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. on April 15 for all salmon except coho and (2) open three commercial test fisheries off California in Apr. south of Pillar Pt. for all salmon except coho to gather fishery impact data on Sacramento River winter and spring chinook. Each fishery is under a separate quota and the season opens Apr. 14-16, 21-23, and 28, unless closed earlier upon achievement of the quota.
- Mar. 17-18 North of Cape Falcon Salmon Forum meets in Portland, Oregon to initiate consideration of recommendations for treaty Indian and non-Indian salmon management options.
- Mar. 23 NMFS announces new listings under the ESA of four evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) of chinook salmon. The chinook ESUs are Puget Sound (threatened), lower Columbia River (threatened), upper Willamette River (threatened), and upper Columbia River spring (endangered). The effective date of the listings is delayed by two months. Since Council fisheries have little impact on these ESUs, no new requirements are proposed for Council fisheries as a result of the listings. NMFS deferred, for six months, its decision on listing chinook ESUs for Central Valley spring and fall runs, southern Oregon-California coastal, and Snake River fall (considering inclusion of Deschutes River fall chinook salmon within the Snake River fall chinook ESU).
- Mar. 29-30 Council holds public hearings on proposed 1999 management options in four locations within the three Pacific coast states. In addition, the state of California holds an additional hearing in Moss Landing.
- Mar. 31-Apr. 1 North of Cape Falcon Salmon Forum meets in Olympia, Washington to further consider recommendations for treaty Indian and non-Indian salmon management options.
- Apr. 9 Council adopts final ocean salmon fishery management recommendations for approval and implementation by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. The proposed measures include an expanded use of selective fisheries and comply with the salmon FMP and the current biological opinions for listed species. An emergency rule is not required for implementation.
- Apr. 19 NMFS inseason conference number two deals with the April commercial test fisheries off California and results in the following modifications: (1) a final closure on Apr. 16 of the test fishery from Pillar Pt. to Pigeon Pt. to avoid exceeding the 3,000 chinook quota and (2) for the remaining two test fisheries: rescind the daily landing requirement, allow up to 90 chinook per open period (3 days), and open the fisheries continuously from Apr. 26-28.
- May 1 Ocean salmon seasons implemented as recommended by the Council and published in the *Federal Register* on May 5 (64 FR 24078).

GENERAL MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AND INSEASON CONFERENCES (continued)

May 14 NMFS issues a final rule (64 FR 26328) to implement Amendment 13 (management of Oregon coastal natural coho).

NON-INDIAN COMMERCIAL TROLL SEASONS

Apr. 1-July 17 Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt., Oregon, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens. The fishery will reopen Aug. 1.

Apr. 14-16 First opening of three, all-salmon-except-coho test fisheries off California: (1) Pillar Pt. to Pigeon Pt. under a quota of 3,000 chinook, (2) Pt. Piedras Blancas to Pt. Conception under a 2,500 chinook quota, and (3) Pt. Conception to Pt. Pitas under a 2,500 chinook quota.

Apr. 16 Pillar Pt. to Pigeon Pt., all-salmon-except-coho test fishery closes for the season to avoid exceeding its 3,000 chinook quota.

Apr. 21-23 Second opening of two all-salmon-except-coho test fisheries from Pt. Piedras Blancas to Pt. Conception and Pt. Conception to Pt. Pitas under modified landing limits (see inseason conference number 2).

Apr. 26-28 Final opening of the all-salmon-except-coho test fisheries from Pt. Piedras Blancas to Pt. Conception and Pt. Conception to Pt. Pitas (see inseason conference number 2).

May 1 U.S.-Canada border to Cape Falcon, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens through the earlier of June 15 or a 24,000 chinook guideline

May 1-31 Humbug Mt. to Oregon-California border, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens.

May 1-Aug. 21 Pt. San Pedro to U.S.-Mexico border, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens. The fishery will reopen on Sept. 1.

May 31 Humbug Mt. to Oregon-California border all-salmon-except-coho fishery closes.

Jun. 15 U.S.-Canada border to Cape Falcon, all-salmon-except-coho fishery closes as scheduled.

TREATY INDIAN TROLL SEASONS

May 1 All-salmon-except-coho fisheries open through the earlier of June 30 or an overall 20,000 chinook quota for the May-June season (any remainder of the quota is not transferable to the Aug.-Sept. season).

RECREATIONAL SEASONS

Feb. 13-July 4 Horse Mt. to Pt. Arena, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens. The fishery reopens July 25.

Mar. 13-Sept. 6 Pigeon Point to the U.S.-Mexico border, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens.

Mar. 27-Oct. 31 Point Arena to Pigeon Point, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens.

Apr. 1-July 9 Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain, all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens. The fishery becomes selective for marked hatchery coho beginning July 10.

May 29-July 4 Humbug Mt. to Horse Mt., all-salmon-except-coho fishery opens for 37 days with a daily bag limit of one fish. The fishery will reopen July 29.

i/ Unless stated otherwise, season openings or modifications of restrictions are effective at 0001 hours of the listed date. Closures are effective at midnight.