

SALMON MANAGEMENT OPTION HEARING SUMMARY

Date:	March 26, 2001	Hearing Officer:	Dr. Hans Radtke
Location:	Red Lion Hotel Coos Bay, OR	Other Council Members:	Mr. Burnie Bohn
Attendance:	18	NMFS:	Mr. Chris Wright
Testifying:	6	Coast Guard:	Present
		Salmon Team Member:	Mr. Mike Burner
		Council Staff:	Mr. Chuck Tracy
<u>Organizations Represented:</u> Klamath Fishery Management Council Klamath Management Zone Fisheries Coalition (KMZFC) Salmon Advisory Subpanel Port of Coos Bay			

Synopsis of Testimony

Of the six people testifying:

- Three commented primarily on the commercial troll fishery.
- Two commented primarily on the recreational fishery.
- One commented on both the recreational and commercial troll fishery.

Commercial Troll Comments

Commercial trollers generally supported the quota numbers in Option I. Two trollers suggested additional time in June for the KMZ, particularly for the Oregon ports (see attached statements from Ralph Dairy and John Wilson, KMZFC). They felt that the May time frame was too early to ensure significant catch. They recommended that the additional impacts associated with the June KMZ fishery be balanced by less time in the Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. troll fishery. One troller also recommended an additional 500 fish be added to the August KMZ fishery at the expense of the Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. troll fishery, and moving the norther boundary from House Rock to Humbug Mt. in the September fishery to reduce impacts on Central California Coastal chinook stocks and take advantage of abundant Rogue River chinook stocks.

Recreational Comments

The recreational fishers generally supported Option I. One angler wanted the April gear restrictions for the area between Cape Falcon and Humbug Mt. continued for the entire season, except for during the selective coho fishery (Anglers are limited to artificial lures and plugs of any size, or bait no less than 6 inches long [excluding hooks and swivels]. All gear must have no more than 2 single point, single shank barbless hooks. Divers are prohibited and flashers may be used only with downriggers). One angler wanted to extend the KMZ season by opening on May 12 and closing on Sept. 10, and balance impacts by taking days out in July and August. One angler did not like the 6 fish in 7 days regulation for the KMZ in the latter half of the season for economic reasons. One angler liked it for reasons associated with catch equability with California.

Written Statements (Attached)

1. Letter from Ralph and Lynn Dairy to the Council dated March 26, 2001.
2. Comments of John Wilson representing the KMZFC dated March 26, 2001.

PFMC
03/29/01

Ralph & lynn

From: Ralph & lynn [troller@wave.net]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2001 1:29 PM
To: PFMC
Cc: senator Messerle; Representative Krieger
Subject: pfmc, Discrimination amended

This letter is to illustrate the Outlines of the Economic Discrimination we feel is being pushed upon us.

This summer from Humbug Mountain to Cape Falcon there will be a season of 208 days from Apl.1 to Oct.31. We believe this scenario is not equitable between all the communities and fishers in the southern ports as the Magnuson-Stevens Act states. As we in the southern ports will only have 30 days of fishing for 2500 fish at 30 fish a day from Ca-Oregon Border to Humbug Mtn in August. Then 30 days for 2000 fish at 30 a day during Sept. in a tiny area from Ca.-Or. Border to House rock not allowing us to access to the Robust Rogue stocks that are returning at that time. We ask that you adopt the additional 14 days in June 1-15, for 1500 fish at 30 fish a day for the southern ports of Brooking, Gold Beach to be more equitable to the southern ports in the KMZ. At the cost of 3 Day closure to the north of Humbug Mountain to Falcon. Also add an additional 500 fish to the August 1-31 for 3000 fish at 30 fish a day for a cost of one more day closure above Humbug Mountain for a total of 4 days which still allow 204 Days of fishing to the north and we would gain an addition\14 Days in the southern ports of Brooking, Gold Beach and ~~port Orford~~.

Communities and fisherman have been discriminated since the conception of the KMZ zone. Historically 12 millions dollars of landings were landed in the KMZ zone. Southern ports of Brooking, Gold Beach bring in amounts barely measurable when compared to historic levels. The season was zeroed out in the KMZ, from 1990 to 1996 with seasons occurring from Humbug Mountain north in those time periods.

I feel we do not have representation for the southern Ore. Commercial fisherman and their communities. There is no teamwork from Oregon Representative's. NO communication of any sort for season setting scenarios.

Ralph Dairy, F/V Tammy B.
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Comments on the 2001 Commercial Salmon Season options to Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and Pacific Fisheries Management Council. March 23, 2001(Amended March 26 2001)

The Communities of Gold Beach, Brookings and Harbor will not see an abundance of local king salmon over the docks, to the markets and to the consumer this year. As a matter of fact the three options offer little hope for increased harvest for commercial salmon fishermen in these ports. There is a huge demand for fresh local salmon that will not be available this year of abundance. These people want fresh chinook in their local fish markets and local fishermen want to participate in this abundance cycle, these options have left them out. This is economic discrimination directed at this already depressed area and segment of the economy. As the seafood processing representative on the State Restoration and Enhancement Board which manages the monies collected from commercial poundage and sport license fees, I am not happy with the present three options. There needs to be meaningful numbers of fish into southern ports.

The troll fishing representatives from Brookings and Harbor came away from the ODFW sponsored user group meeting believing there was support from ODFW for additional fish into south coast communities. When the options came out, the options did not include any additional fishing and in some cases offered less than years of less abundance.

Biologically, the commercial catch % made up of Klamath fish for the month of August is not much different from the area north of Humbug Mt. to Florence, so 3,000 fish landed in Coos Bay where the season goes almost all year would have just about the same number of Klamath fish as 3,000 landed in Brookings in August. The allowed 74,000 Klamath ocean harvest can accommodate additional fishing in southern Oregon and still meet harvest criteria. The catch in May has not materialized over the last five years but fish do begin to become available in June. August should be a strong month for Rogue fall Chinook, robust stocks with help from STEP and Watershed council projects. The increase in populations in the Rogue, Pistol, Winchuck, Chetco and the 1,000 3 year old Chinook that showed up at Indian Creek Fish Hatchery on the Rogue last fall, all indicate strong 2001 adult returns. There are no weak stock concerns here to preempt local fisheries into September.

In the future there should be retention of fin clipped Coho throughout the state in conjunction with Chinook harvest. The surplus hatchery Coho should be harvested. We made investments in those fish three years ago, and there will be waste. I realize this requires an amendment change with PFMC but selective hatchery stock fisheries are the future.

We are requesting that option 1 also include

June 1- 15 1,500 fish quota, Cal. Or. Border to Humbug Mountain 30 fish day. 750 added Klamath impact (50% Klamath fish)

August 1-30 500 additional fish: 3000 quota Cal. Or. border to Humbug Mountain 30 fish day. Less than 200 additional Klamath impact. (31 % Klamath fish)

September 1-30 Same as option one except, move the northern boundary from House Rock to Humbug Mtn. 2,000 cap for Oregon. Reduces potential impacts on Eel River, Mad River stocks. Klamath impact ? This troll option is the preferred option of the Klamath Management Zone Fisheries Coalition.

Thank you for reviewing this option.

John Wilson
Seafood Processor

