

## Klamath Fishery Management Council

*Working to Restore Anadromous Fish in the Klamath River Basin*

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California Commercial  
Salmon Fishing Industry

California Department  
of Fish and Game

California Offshore Sport Fishery

Hoopla Valley Indian Tribe

Klamath In-River Sport Fishery

National Marine Fisheries Service

Non-Hoopla Indian Representative

Oregon Commercial  
Salmon Fishing Industry

Oregon Department  
of Fish and Wildlife

Pacific Fishery Management  
Council

U.S. Department of the Interior

Mr. Jim Lone, Chair  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224  
Portland, Oregon 97201

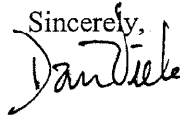
Dear Jim,

As you know, members of the Klamath Fishery Management Council's Technical Advisory Team and the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Salmon Technical Team have been working for several years on a revision of the Klamath Ocean Harvest Model (KOHM) and the data sets and analyses which support it. At the October 17-18, 2001 meeting of the Klamath Council, Michael Mohr, the project leader, presented an overview of the model revisions and discussed the prospects for its use by the Pacific Fishery Management Council in developing the 2002 salmon seasons.

The proposed revisions to the KOHM introduce over 20 significant improvements to the existing model. Among the major achievements is the explicit modeling of contact rate as a function of fishing effort and the extension of the base period from 1986-1990 to 1986-present. The authors have developed methodologies which allow the inclusion of all fisheries data accrued since 1986, and also provide the flexibility to select subsets of the data that best represent current fleet conditions. Other important changes include the explicit formulation of contact, harvest, and impact rates; explicit accounting of minimum size limits via a size-at-age submodel; explicit accounting of hook-and-release mortality and drop-off mortality; partitioning of the Klamath Management Zone data and forecasts into two management areas (CA-OR border to Humbug Mountain and Horse Mountain to the CA-OR border); partitioning of the Southern California data and forecasts into two management areas (Pt. Arena to Pigeon Pt. and Pigeon Pt. to Pt. Sur); implementation of the KOHM in the form of a programming language rather than a spreadsheet; and review, correction and implementation of the data set of releases and recoveries of coded wire tags in a relational database rather than a spreadsheet. At least as significant as the methodological advances is

the documentation of the KOHM produced by the team. The documentation clearly sets out the objective criteria used to develop the model and provides the formulas used to estimate and forecast quantities. The importance of this cannot be stressed enough: it will allow future implementation and modification of the KOHM to proceed in an open and orderly fashion.

The Klamath Fishery Management Council endorses the KOHM revision and forwards it to the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee and Salmon Technical Team for review, with the expectation that it will be used as a management tool in development of the 2002 salmon seasons. We understand that prior to the March 2002 meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, additional evaluation of the KOHM, in the form of hindcasting, will occur and that further adjustments may be recommended. Finally, the Klamath Fishery Management Council wishes to express its appreciation to Michael Mohr of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Allen Grover and Melodie Palmer-Zwahlen of the California Department of Fish and Game, and Michael Burner of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for their effort and diligence.

Sincerely,  


Dan Viele  
Chair