

TESTIMONY OF HOOPA VALLEY TRIBE  
PFMC, SACRAMENTO  
15 MARCH 2002

- (1) The Hoopa Valley Tribe (Tribe) expresses concern that ESA constraints to ocean fisheries are adversely affecting total allocation of Klamath chinook to tribal harvest. The Tribe is committed to exploring a solution to this issue within the Klamath Fishery Management Council (KFMC). The solution would be consistent with several principals previously developed by the KFMC. These include (1) the concept of full-utilization of the harvestable surplus and, (2) that limitations to harvest resulting from ESA constraints on other stocks should not compromise the ability to fully utilize Klamath fish by fisheries which are not constrained. Absent ESA constraints to ocean fisheries, the allocation to the Yurok and Hoopa Valley tribes would have approximated 52,000 adult chinook in the 2002 management year. In developing its management alternatives, the Tribe shall compare the conditional allocation of 52,000 adult fish to the alternatives developed by the PFMC today.
- (2) The Hoopa Valley Tribe reserves the option to develop full utilization strategies for Klamath Basin spring chinook. The Tribe has repeatedly called for the KFMC to develop spring chinook management strategies, has noted instances of unregulated impacts to spring chinook in other fisheries, and recognizes an opportunity to exploit this stock. In 2001 the Tribe shared with the KFMC its proposed harvest management plan for a commercial fishery for spring chinook. This plan recognized a strong hatchery component in the annual return of spring chinook to the Trinity River Hatchery. Further, the Tribe addressed a method for minimizing impacts to the non-hatchery component of the run to provide protection to these sub-stocks.