

## **Proposed April 1 Opener for Oregon Troll and Recreational Chinook Fisheries**

Beginning in 1997, chinook directed fisheries from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain opening date was April 1. Chinook catches during these April fisheries have been highly variable due to weather and fish distribution patterns. Starting dates and approximate commercial effort and catches in April for years 1997-2001 were as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Opening Date</u>	<u>Effort (Boat Days)</u>	<u>Catch</u>
1997	15 April	400	4,500
1998	15 April	900	20,000
1999	1 April	200	800
2000	1 April	300	1,200
2001	1 April	900	18,200

Recreational catch and effort during April fisheries have been extremely low with combined 1997-2001 landings of less than 100 fish.

An opening date of April 1 is again proposed for 2002 for the recreational fisheries from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain. An opening date of March 20 is proposed for commercial troll fisheries from Cape Falcon to the Oregon / California border. All gear and bag limits would remain the same as 2002. Additionally, the control zone at the mouth of Tillamook Bay shall be subject to closure under state regulations.