

**WDFW and Tribal 2002 Management Objectives
for Puget Sound Chinook and Coho Salmon**

Amendment 14 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan recognizes and allows for annual management targets to be established for Puget Sound chinook and coho salmon pursuant to rules and procedures established under U.S. v. Washington. It further recognized that WDFW and the effected tribes were in the process of establishing new objectives for coho salmon based on stepped exploitation rates, which would replace the previously defined management objectives. It also recognized that for Puget Sound chinook salmon, which are listed as a threatened species under the ESA, additional conservation objectives would be provided by NMFS, WDFW and the tribes.

As provided for in Amendment 14, WDFW and the effected tribes have established, pursuant to their obligations and authorities under U.S. v. Washington, revised management objectives for Puget Sound chinook and coho salmon. These new management objectives were provided to the Council and the Salmon Technical Team last year. The attached tables provide the objectives for use during the 2002 regulation setting process. They are based on the same approach as in 2001, with only minor corrections.

For Puget Sound coho salmon these goals are based on stepped exploitation rates based on defined breakpoints in expected spawning escapement, and are designed to be implemented using the modeling tools that the PFMC currently uses for preseason planning.

For Puget Sound chinook salmon the new goals are based on exploitation rates that will facilitate recovery, and are part of a comprehensive chinook management plan being developed by WDFW and the tribes. The harvest components of the plan were developed under U.S. v. Washington, and were also developed in close coordination with NMFS to ensure adequate consideration of ESA requirements. Last May, NMFS found that the harvest components of the plan meet the requirements of the ESA, under limit #6 of their 4(d) rule for the Puget Sound chinook ESU.

2002 Puget Sound Primary Natural Coho Mangement Unit Exploitation Rate Ceilings

Management Unit	Preseason Forecast of Abundance	Allowable Exploitation Rate
Strait of Juan de Fuca	21,200	40%
Hood Canal	34,900	45%
Skagit	98,500	60%
Stillaguamish	19,700	35%
Snohomish	123,100	40%

2002 Harvest Management Objectives for Puget Sound Natural Chinook Management Units

Natural Chinook Management Units	Recovery Exploitation Rate Ceiling¹ or Escapement Objective	Low Abundance Threshold²
Western Strait – Hoko R.	10% SUS ER ³	500
Elwha River	10% SUS ER ³	1,000
Dungeness River	10% SUS ER ³	500
Mid-Hood Canal	15% pre-terminal SUS ER ³ - 750 spawners	400
Skokomish River	15% pre-terminal SUS ER; 3,150 spawners: 1,650 natural; 1500 hatchery.	1,300: 800 nat 500 hatch
Nooksack River Early - North Fk - South Fk	RER under development: interim management according to Appendix C.	1,000 (n) 1,000 (n)
Skagit River Spring	42% Total ER	576 (n)
Skagit River Summer/Fall	52% Total ER	4,800 (n)
Stillaguamish River	25% Total ER	500 (n)
Snohomish River	32% Total ER	2,000 (n)
Lake Washington -Cedar R Index	15% pre-terminal SUS ER - 1,200 spawners	200
Green River	15% pre-terminal SUS ER - 5,800 spawners	1,800
White River	17% Total ER	200
Puyallup River	50% Total ER	500
Nisqually River	1,100 spawners	500

¹ Interim harvest objective during recovery phase expressed in FRAM values.

² Level of forecasted spawning escapement that would trigger additional conservation measures. For some units this threshold is defined as natural-origin spawners (n).

³ Exploitation rate in southern U.S. fisheries.

