

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
REVIEW OF 2002 FISHERIES AND SUMMARY OF 2003 STOCK ABUNDANCE ESTIMATES

Mr. Dell Simmons, Chair of the Salmon Technical Team (STT), reviewed the 2002 ocean salmon fisheries and preliminary salmon stock abundance estimates for 2003 for the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). All natural coho and chinook stocks that are not "exceptions" met their conservation objective in 2002. Ocean abundance forecasts of chinook and coho salmon in 2003 are high enough that all conservation objectives should be met this year.

Tables I-1 and I-2 in Preseason Report I (Stock Abundance Analysis for 2003 Ocean Salmon Fisheries) present several years of preseason predictors for coho and chinook stocks under Council management. The SSC requests the STT add postseason estimates where available. The SSC also requests the preseason abundance estimates include a statistical measure of variability such as confidence intervals or coefficients of variation when possible. Without variance estimates it is difficult to assess the likelihood of meeting management objectives and the risks to sensitive stocks of the proposed fishing seasons.

PFMC
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