

KLAMATH FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
REPORT and RECOMMENDATIONS
to the
PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

ACCEPTANCE OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM REPORT

The Council received and endorsed the TAT report of March 9, 2003. Since predicted Klamath fall Chinook abundance is less than was predicted for 2002, the spawning escapement objective will again be the floor of 35,000 natural spawners.

2003 REGULATION OPTIONS

The KFMC forwards the Klamath Coalition's recommended three options, reached by consensus, for the KMZ recreational fishery (Coalition options and modeling attached). The KFMC does not have a recommendation for troll options. Troll representatives on the KFMC are working with the SAS to assist in the development of options.

RIVER RECREATIONAL ALLOCATION

The KFMC recommends a 15% share for the river recreational fishery. In the event the ocean fisheries are not able to harvest their full allotments (on a pre-season basis), any additional adult fish returning to the river should be allocated to the river recreational fishery.

RESOURCE UTILIZATION

The KFMC recommends full utilization of the harvestable surplus of Klamath River fall Chinook. However, other FMP conservation objectives and ESA requirements may constrain seasons more than the objective for Klamath River fall Chinook. If, as a result, the set-aside for ocean fisheries outside the KMZ sport fishery cannot be met, the fish should be utilized in the following order: (1) fisheries within the KMZ, (2) a full Klamath River sport fishery, and if additional harvestable fish remain, (3) Klamath River Tribal fisheries. Any such transfer has no effect on any party's share, entitlement, or allocation in any future year.

ESA EFFECTS ON TRIBAL HARVEST

The KFMC reviewed its previous recommendations with respect to full utilization of fishery resources and the effects of ESA restrictions on the determination of the total available harvest of Klamath River fall Chinook. In 2003, absent ESA constraints, the expected Tribal harvest would be approximately 41,900 fish. However, any shift in harvest of Klamath fall Chinook from ocean to river fisheries results in a reduction in overall available harvests, and therefore reduces the tribal allocation. (Modeling results attached)

DFG TO MONITOR SPORT FISHERY

The California Department of Fish and Game has agreed to monitor the 2003 lower river sport fishery and project season catch in real time. The KFMC is concerned that budgetary constraints may preclude monitoring of the upper river fishery. The KFMC urges the Department to monitor all components of the river recreational harvest.

SPRING CHINOOK MANAGEMENT

The KFMC intends to develop management recommendations for the PFMC aimed at the conservation of Klamath spring Chinook while preserving meaningful harvest opportunities for both ocean and river fisheries. This unique stock has contributed significantly to both ocean and river fisheries without the benefits of management. Concerns have been raised to the KFMC that the status of spring Chinook, once believed to be the dominant race among Klamath Chinook, is presently depressed and largely sustained by hatchery production. In order to ensure the viability of this stock, the KFMC, working with its Technical Advisory Team and member agencies, is developing information useful for identifying management objectives for Klamath spring Chinook.

KMZFC

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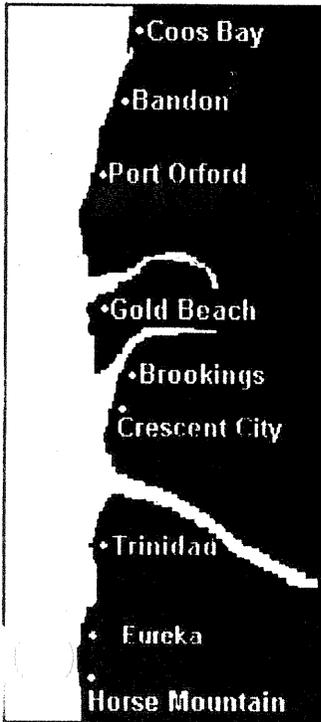
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Klamath Management Zone Fisheries Coalition

2003 Salmon Season Options

Option 1

Open – May 17

Close – Sept. 14

Limit - Two fish per day. All salmon, except coho.

Option 2

Open – May 17 – July 10 (10-day closure).

Reopen – July 21 – Sept. 14.

Limit – Two fish per day. All salmon, except coho.

Option 3

Open – May 17 – July 5 (20-day closure).

Reopen – July 26 – Sept. 14.

Limit – Two fish per day, 6 fish in 7 days. All salmon, except coho.

Bridging the Gap



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KMZFC 2003 Season Options

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2002 Regulations except:

		KMZFC			
		Option I	Option II	Option III	2002
KMZ Sport:	May	15	15	15	17
	Jul	31	21	11	2
Results:					
	KMZ share	0.152	0.135	0.118	
	age-4 h.rate	0.154	0.152	0.150	
	River Sport	0.276	0.288	0.300	
	Tribal Harvest	41,449	41,354	41,260	
	Nat. Spawners	35,000	35,000	35,000	

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Maximum Tribal Harvest

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2002 Regulations except:

		Max Harvest	2002
River Sport		0.15	0.406
Ocean Troll			
NO, CO, KO	Mar	11 days	12 days
NO, CO	Jul	22 days	15 days
	FB May	31 days	0 days
	FB Jun	30 days	0 days
	FB Jul	31 days	10K quota
	FB Aug	31 days	30 days

Results:

age-4 h.rate	0.186
Tribal Harvest	41,900
Nat. Spawners	35,000

* similar exercise in 2002 resulted in

an age-4 ocean harvest rate of 0.195.