

Read by
Jim Harp

**Statement of Jim Harp
On the Tentative Adoption of 2003 Management Measures
By the Pacific Fishery Management Council
April 8, 2003**

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a brief statement regarding the tentative adoption of quotas for the ocean Treaty troll fishery.

- This year coho stocks are up somewhat from last year and there are specific conservation concerns for Hood Canal coho.
- For chinook we have a difficult task of meeting the very low exploitation rate objectives defined in our Comprehensive Chinook Harvest Plan for Puget Sound chinook. We are very close to meeting those objectives with the fisheries we are currently modeling and I am confident we will be able fully meet them with a few additional fishery adjustments.
- We also have to be aware of the impact from our fishery on Columbia River chinook. We fully intend to continue to live up to the commitment that we made in 1988 to not increase our impacts on Columbia River chinook stocks of concern.
- We have been in the process of establishing, cooperatively with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, a package of fisheries that will ensure acceptable levels of impact on natural stocks of concern as well as providing opportunity to harvest hatchery stocks. In many cases we have now reached agreement on specific 2003 management measures and terminal area fisheries agreements. Further, the tribes are continuing to work cooperatively with WDFW in hopes of finding successful outcomes for the remaining regions and terminal area fisheries.

For the ocean Treaty troll fishery, I would like to offer the following Treaty troll management measures for *tentative* adoption and for analysis by the Salmon Technical Team:

A coho quota of 90,000, and a chinook quota of 60,000. (Option I in Preason Report II)

This would consist of a May/June chinook only fishery and a July/August/September All Species fishery. The chinook will be split 50% into each fishery (30,000 in May/June and 30,000 in all species). Gear restrictions, size limits and other appropriate regulations would be as stated in previous Salmon Technical Team analysis.

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