

SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM COMMENTS ON THE  
PACIFIC SALMON COMMISSION REGIONAL COHO PLANNING MODEL

In 2002, the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) reached agreement on a management regime that constrains total fishery exploitation rates on key management units of naturally spawning coho salmon originating in Southern British Columbia, Puget Sound, and the Washington Coast. The agreement calls for the PSC Coho Technical Committee (CoTC) to develop a regional coho fishery planning model for application beginning in 2004. The CoTC has agreed to use Coho Fishery Regulatory Assessment Model (FRAM) as the core for an initial version of the regional coho fishery planning model to provide a consistent basis for fishery planning for domestic planning processes in the United States and Canada. In January 2004, the CoTC reached agreement on a new 1986-1991 base period input file for use with Coho FRAM. The new base period file reflects recoveries from an expanded list of coded-wire tag (CWT) releases to represent production for Canadian management units, fishery strata configured to better fit Canada's needs, and corrections to errors discovered in the 1986-1991 base period input file employed by the Council in 2003. The CWT recovery data covers the period from 1986-1991 recovery years for all U.S. and Canadian coho management units, with the exception of Interior Fraser. The recovery period for the Interior Fraser management unit was limited to 1987-1991 because CWT marking and recovery programs were inadequate to provide reliable data for 1986. The data and methods for generating the new base period file have been reviewed by the Council's Model Evaluation Workgroup, Scientific and Statistical Committee, and Salmon Technical Team (STT). The STT believes the new base period file is appropriate for use in modeling Council area fisheries for 2004 and has used it for evaluation of 2003 regulations given 2004 abundance projections in Preseason Report I.

PFMC  
02/24/04