

**WDFW and Tribal 2004 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 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, management objectives for Puget Sound chinook and coho salmon. The attached tables provide the objectives for use during the 2004 regulation setting process. They are based on a similar approach to the objectives provided to the Council the past several years. The management objectives define the maximum impact levels allowed for 2004 fisheries.

For Puget Sound chinook salmon the management objectives are part of a revised and updated six year harvest plan (2004 through 2009) developed by WDFW and the Puget Sound Tribes. Specific details on interpretation and implementation of the objectives are provided in the plan document. NOAA-Fisheries is currently reviewing this six year plan to determine if it continues to meet the requirements of the ESA, under limit #6 of the 4(d) rule for the Puget Sound chinook ESU.

**2004 Puget Sound Primary Natural Coho Management Unit Exploitation Rate Ceilings**

Management Unit	Preseason Forecast of Abundance	Allowable Exploitation Rate
Strait of Juan de Fuca	35,700	60%
Hood Canal	98,700	65%
Skagit	155,800	60%
Stillaguamish	38,000	50%
Snohomish	192,100	60%

## 2004 Management Objectives for Puget Sound Chinook

### WDFW and Treaty Tribes

Management objectives are stated in the WDFW & Tribal Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Management Plan, which has been submitted to NMFS for evaluation under the Endangered Species Act.

Objectives are expressed as total, southern U.S. (SUS), or pre-terminal, southern U.S. exploitation rate (ER) ceilings, and / or escapement goals for natural spawners.

Southern U.S. fisheries will be planned to meet the objectives for the weakest management units. Exploitation rates will, therefore, be below the ceiling for most units.

Natural Management Unit	2004 Objective
Nooksack Early <sup>1</sup>	7% SUS ER ceiling <sup>2</sup>
Skagit Summer Fall	50% total ER ceiling
Skagit Spring	38% total ER ceiling
Stillaguamish	25% total ER ceiling
Snohomish	21% total ER ceiling <sup>3</sup>
Lake Washington (Cedar River)	15% Pre-terminal SUS ER ceiling
Green	15% Pre-terminal SUS ER ceiling
White	20% total ER ceiling
Puyallup	50% total ER ceiling
Nisqually	Escapement goal 1100 natural spawners
Skokomish	15% Pre-terminal SUS ER ceiling
Mid Hood Canal <sup>1</sup>	12% Pre-terminal SUS ER ceiling
Dungeness <sup>1</sup>	6% SUS ER ceiling
Elwha	10% SUS ER ceiling
Western Strait of Juan de Fuca (Hoko)	10% SUS ER ceiling

<sup>1</sup> These management units are projected to be in critical status. Their objectives may be lower, pursuant to the Chinook Harvest Management Plan, depending on model prediction of the SUS ER associated with 2003 fisheries and 2004 forecast abundance.

<sup>2</sup> The Chinook Harvest Management Plan allows an SUS ER ceiling of 9% once every five years for the Nooksack MU, if Fraser River sockeye fisheries are expected to incur unusual incidental mortality.

<sup>3</sup> A SUS ER objective (15% or less) may be adopted during the planning process, depending on the scale of intercepting northern fisheries, to maintain the Minimum Fisheries Regime in the SUS waters, as specified in the Chinook Harvest Management Plan.

