

SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM REPORT ON
IDENTIFICATION OF STOCKS NOT MEETING CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) is responsible for identifying natural salmon stocks that have failed to achieve their escapement objectives for the past three years. Amendment 14 identifies three exceptions to the application of the overfishing criteria, (1) hatchery stocks; (2) natural stocks with low impacts from Council fisheries; and (3) Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed stocks. Hatchery stocks are excepted, because they generally do not need the protection of overfishing criteria and special Council rebuilding programs. Natural stocks with minimal Council impacts are excepted, because the Council's ability to directly affect the escapements of these stocks through harvest restrictions is virtually nil. ESA-listed stocks are exempted, because the Council considers the jeopardy standards and recovery plans developed by NMFS to be interim rebuilding plans. Attachment 1, Table C-2, (reproduced from Table I-3 from Preseason Report I) shows that no chinook stocks meet the criteria for overfishing in 2005. The Klamath River fall chinook stock, however, failed to meet the conservation objective in 2004. For 2005, the Klamath stock is not classified as a conservation alert because all options being considered by the Council are projected to meet the escapement floor in 2005.

Queets River spring/summer chinook have not met their conservation objectives in the most recent two years assessed, and Quillayute spring/summer chinook have not met their conservation objective in the most recent year assessed (2004). However, these two stocks are exceptions under the Overfishing Concern criteria since historic harvest impacts are estimated to be less than 5% in Council-area fisheries.

PFMC
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