

SALMON MANAGEMENT OPTION HEARING SUMMARY

Date:	March 28, 2005	Hearing Officer:	Mr. Mark Cedergreen
Location:	Chateau Westport Westport, WA	Other Council Members:	Phil Anderson Jim Harp
Attendance:	25	NMFS:	Peter Dygert
Testifying:	8	Coast Guard:	Darren Wallace
		Salmon Team Member:	Doug Milward
		Council Staff:	Kit Dahl
Organizations Represented: Washington Trollers Association, Oregon Trollers Association, Westport Charterboat Association, Willapa Bay Gillnetters Association			

Synopsis of Testimony

Of the 8 people testifying:

- 2 commented primarily on the commercial troll fishery.
- 2 commented primarily on the recreational (charterboat) fishery.
- 3 commented primarily on the gillnet fishery.
- 1 commented primarily on the private recreational fisheries.

Special Opening Remarks

Mr. Doug Milward reviewed options for the commercial and sport salmon seasons.

Commercial Troll Comments

- Emphasize opportunity for all Washington trollers.
- Support for landing in area requirements in Option II, noting that efforts being made on measures to enforce at sea.
- Presentation of preferences for Westport trollers (see attached).
- Notes that South of Cape Falcon, Klamath River issue charges ocean harvesters with an impossible task in terms of reducing impacts to compensate for in-river impacts. Recommends exceeding limits for one year and then rebuilding fish stocks.

Recreational Comments

- Treaty tribes are taking too many fish.
- Many unmarked hatchery fish end up classified as wild fish, overstating impacts.
- Support for Option I, especially the June 26th opening, 5-day week, bag limit and 24" size limit for Chinook.
- There is enough quota under Option II to make a June 26th opening feasible.

Commercial Gillnet Comments

- North of Falcon and PFMC processes allocating too many fish to ocean fisheries, with severe impacts to gillnetters.
- Lower the Chinook harvest by ocean fisheries.
- Ocean fisheries having severe impacts on local stocks.
- Provide for summer (dip-in) fishery (two commenters).

Written Statements (Attached)

Washington Trollers Association–Westport Chapter
Willapa Bay Gillnetters Association

PFMC
3/31/05

Washington Trollers Association
Westport Chapter
Agenda – March 27, 2005

2005 Season

- Review winter activities
- Proposed coastal zoning
- Proposed spring harvest dampeners
- All gear coho
- Review options
- Outlined preferred opening requirements
- PFMC Hearing – March 28, 7PM Chateau Westport

Season outline work sheet:

May 1 – days open- 3 -100 fish landing limit. Reopen May 6 Landing limit per opener
125- Days of the week open, Fri thru Mon(4days) Zoning- Yes

Possible end of June opener – days open-4days, Min. landing limit 30 salmon, Days of
the week – June 26 thru June 29

Summer opener – Opening date- July 8, Landing limit per opener- 125 (first opening may
be 75 depending on predicted effort) Days open per week- Friday through Mon. Reduce
to minimum landing limit of 30 if necessary in August. Coho opening in Area
one(Columbia River) starts on ?, Gear for coho Opener- no restriction, Landing limits
for coho ? Prefer 6" plugs or larger prior to Coho opener and 6" plugs or larger North of
Leadbetter Point after Area 1 Coho all gear opener.

WILLAPA BAY GILLNETTERS ASSOCIATION

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FISHING SCHEDULE PREPOSAL FOR 2005 WILLAPA BAY SUMMER/ DIP- IN GILLNET SEASON.

July 5, 2005 – August 15, 2005

This season is for the harvest of local and non-local Chinook salmon with a quota of 3,000 and the opportunity to harvest white sturgeon.