

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON
KLAMATH RIVER FALL CHINOOK CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE

Based on a presentation by Dr. Scott Foott of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, fish diseases appear to be a significant mortality factor affecting both juvenile and adult salmonids in the Klamath Basin. Of overriding concern is the effect of disease on Klamath fall chinook fish populations, and subsequently on ocean fisheries. Accordingly, the Habitat Committee makes the following recommendations to the Council:

- Adequate funding is needed to understand the link between human activities and these diseases, as well as the impacts of these diseases on salmonid populations.
- Research into these diseases should be included in the Council's research and data needs document. Specifically, information is needed on smolt numbers, as well as disease mortality factors, for incorporation into stock recruitment models.
- Specific studies addressing these issues may be appropriate under the remand process.

PFMC
10/27/05