

MASS MARKING AND CODED-WIRE TAGGING

Concerned about the ability of the coastwide coded-wire tag (CWT) program to continue to provide statistically reliable data to support fishery management decisions and salmon stock assessment programs, the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) in 2004 convened an eight member panel of scientists to examine the CWT program, consider new and emerging technologies, and provide recommendations to the PSC. The Panel completed its report, including peer review, and released it in November, 2005. The executive summary is included as Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1. The full report and comments on the report from various agencies and tribes are available at the following website:

http://www.psc.org/info_codedwiretagreview_finalreportintro.htm.

Dr. David Hankin, Fisheries Biology Department Chairman at Humboldt State University, chaired the Panel, and will provide a summary of the Panel's findings, including the potential effects of mass marking and mark selective fisheries on the integrity of the CWT database.

Council Task:

1. Receive information and discuss implications.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1: Report of the Expert Panel on the Future of the Coded-Wire Tag Recovery Program for Pacific Salmon – Part II. Executive Summary.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Pacific Salmon Commission Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion

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PFMC
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