

Motion adopted by KFMC 3/6/06

Klamath Fishery Management Council Recommendations to the Pacific Fishery Management
Council Regarding Modeling Options for the 2006 Fishing Season
March 6, 2006

For Options 1 and 2, the KFMC recommends the standard 50/50 tribal/non-tribal, 15% in-river, and 17% recreation, and 50/50 north south sharing of ocean KMZ commercial fisheries.

Option 1 – 2005 regulations.

Option 2 – No March or April fishery. The Oregon fishing season will be in May, June, September, and October. For the Oregon perspective, offering tools to accommodate: 1) consider vessel limits in Humbug to Cape Arago, 50 fish per week; Cape Arago to Florence, 75 fish per week; and north of Florence to Cape Falcon, 100 fish per week, 2) 28" size limit, and 3) additional weeks closed to meet management objectives to meet a de minimis fisheries. In California, the commercial fishing season will take place south of Point Arena and will be constrained by vessel limits and additional weeks closed to meet management objectives.

Option 3 – No fishing, with the exception of 50/50 tribal share.

Per the Klamath River Technical Advisory Team's Report titled *Ocean Abundance Projections and Prospective Harvest Levels for Klamath River Fall Chinook, 2006 Season*, we have an indication that if 2005 fishing regulations were implemented during the coming season then only 18,700 adult natural Chinook would be projected to return to the basin. Such a low level of natural escapement is not acceptable to the KFMC, so we clearly would not recommend this level of fishing during 2006.

In light of the KFMC's concern regarding fall fishery impacts and their subsequent impact on conservation objectives and fisheries during the following year, we request that post-season fall ocean harvest rates be summarized for 2003-2005, and that PFMC explore a technically sound method for projecting impacts to Klamath fall Chinook during development of the 2006 season. This analysis should include an estimate of the potential impacts to the 2007 ocean abundance.