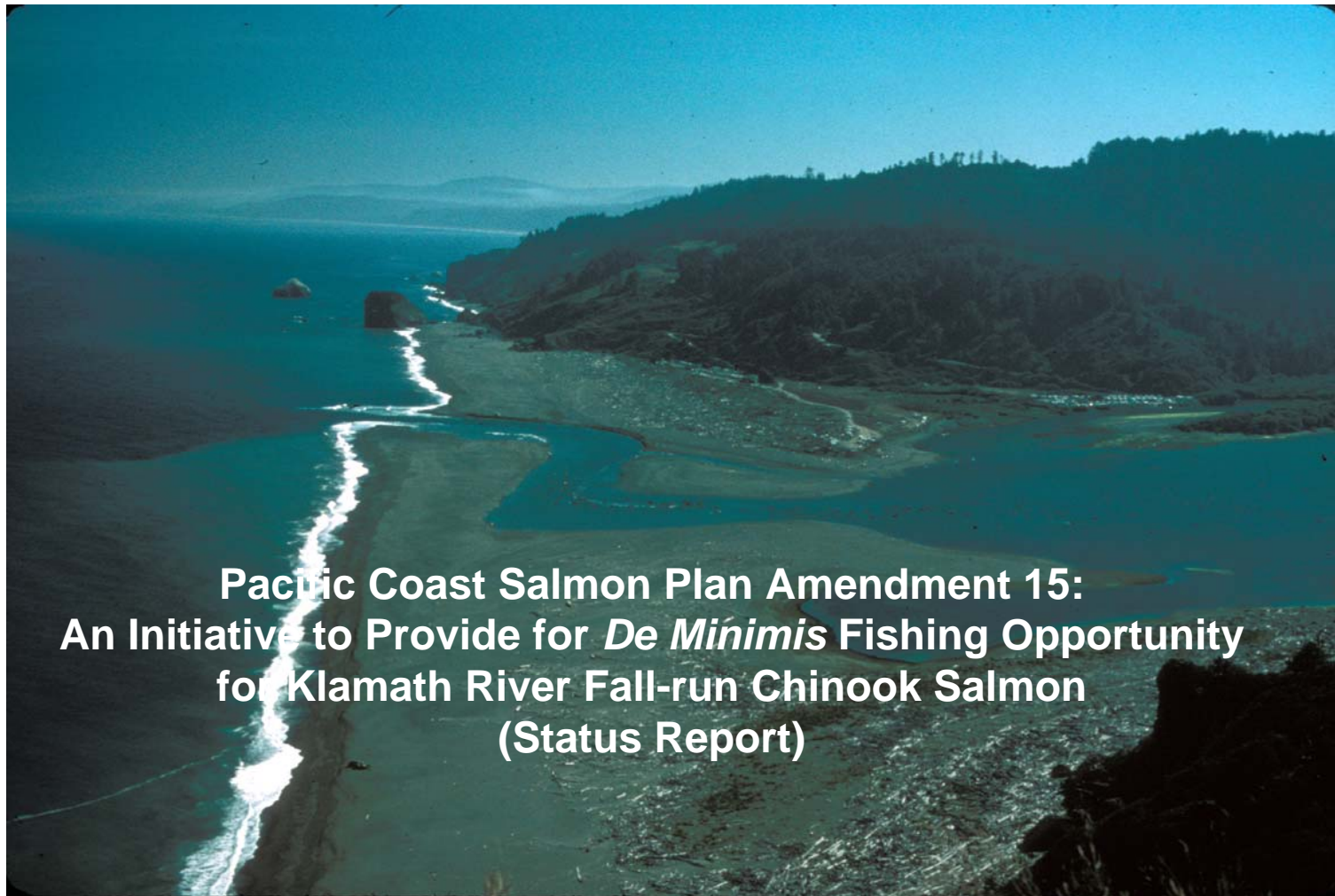


Plan Status Report



**Pacific Coast Salmon Plan Amendment 15:
An Initiative to Provide for *De Minimis* Fishing Opportunity
for Klamath River Fall-run Chinook Salmon
(Status Report)**

The Plan



Report outline and informational sections have been fairly well developed; additional clarification and context will be added to the Purpose and Needs section; further Council guidance is needed at this meeting on the alternatives, bio/economic analyses, and the Plan implementation schedule

Definition

(to be added to the Introduction)

- *De minimis* is Latin for "of minimum importance" or "trifling." Essentially it refers to something or a difference that is so little, small, minuscule, or tiny that effects need not be considered.

Alternatives

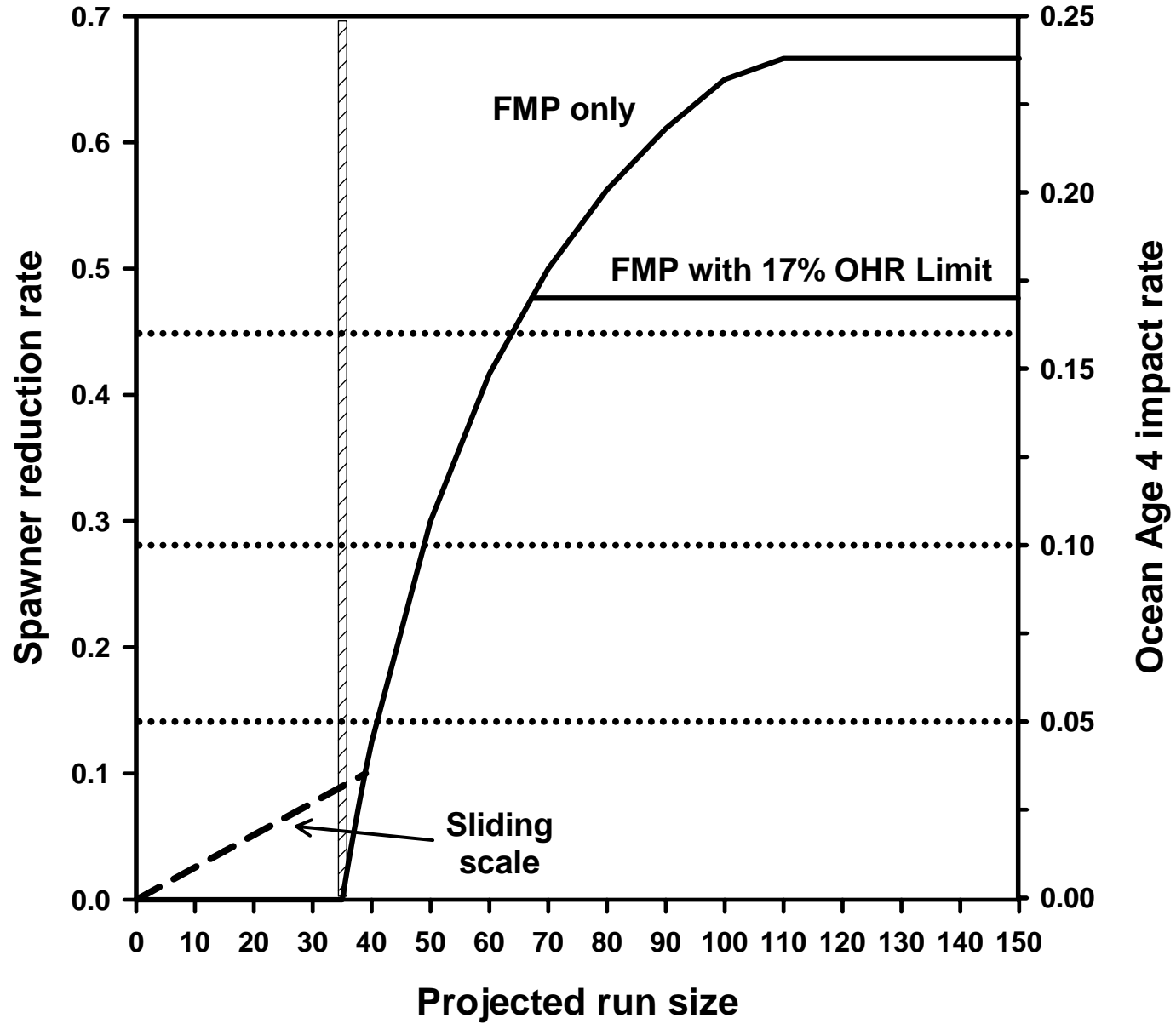
(briefing book clarifications in underline)

1. Status quo (no fishing in Conservation Alert Years).
2. A 4% to 0% age-4 ocean impact rate scaled linearly to the projected range of 39K to zero natural adult spawners absent fishing (sliding scale-equivalent to KFMC recommendation).
3. A 5% age-4 ocean impact rate cap.
4. A 16% age-4 ocean impact rate cap.
5. A rebuilding feature that would 1) prohibit *de minimis* fishing in the fourth year commencing March 15 following three consecutive years of *de minimis* fishing in which the escapement floor was not met, and 2) prohibit *de minimis* fishing thereafter until the escapement floor was met for three consecutive years.
6. The prohibition of any fall/winter fisheries (September 1 [current biological year start] through March 14) following spring/summer *de minimis* fisheries in the area between Cape Falcon, Oregon and Pt. Sur, California.

Alternatives 5 and/or 6 could be coupled with one of the *de minimis* fishery Alternatives (2, 3, or 4) above.

Graph of Alternatives

35,000
spawners



Discussion of Alternatives 5 & 6

Alternative 5: the rebuilding feature:

- may be inconsistent with the *de minimis* fishing concept (i.e., has minimal or trifling impact on KRFC, therefore should not require further restriction);
- is highly prescriptive and complicated because of the many possible combinations of *de minimis* and non-*de minimis* fishing events and whether the natural escapement floor is met in those same years; and
- specifies outcomes for future years that will superseded by recommendations from overfishing reviews. This a particular concern with the second clause of this alternative.

Alternative 6: the fall/winter fishing prohibition in *de minimis* fishing years should take into account the *significance* of fishery impacts in fall/winter fisheries by time and area. The STT has assessed relative impacts of Feb-November fisheries since the early 1980s on KRFC (STT March 2006 report, see table below). This information is important because some fall/winter fisheries have lower impact on KRFC and probably higher economic importance than some spring/summer fisheries. It will also be important to continually update and apply this data base in the event of future stock distribution or fishery effort shifts.

KRFC Feb-Aug Impacts

Sector	Area	Month											
		Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		
Commercial	NO		X	X									
	CO		X	X									
	KO		X	X									
	KC												
	FB		X	X									
	SF												
	MO												
Recreational	NO		X	X									
	CO		X	X									
	KO												
	KC												
	FB	X	X	X									
	SF												
	MO												

Sector	Area	Month											
		Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		
Commercial	NO		7320 (323)	8141 (516)					30103 (1053)	23969 (765)			
	CO		7470 (363)	17217(754)					18994 (618)	8500 (441)			
	KO		25 (3)	63 (8)					1211 (84)	554 (110)			
	KC		---	---					6399 (305)	0 (2)			
	FB		---	---					27219 (1029)	---			
	SF		---	---					11997 (1222)	1860 (284)			
	MO		---	---					488 (118)	---			
Recreational	NO		6 (39)	28 (112)					2627(1053)	1314 (765)			
	CO		1 (24)	19 (57)					1458 (618)	24 (441)			
	KO		---	---					1510 (84)	469 (110)			
	KC		---	---					1990 (2108)	---			
	FB		426 (878)	746 (1310)					396 (996)	28 (75)	0 (8)		
	SF		---	5536 (6248)					6266 (8790)	2207 (4057)	390 (1128)		
	MO		2235 (2948)	15947 (20473)					81 (320)	0 (0)			

X = fisheries authorized for 2006 (as of 2 Mar 2006)

impact
no impact
potential impact
no information

(open historical fisheries w / no impact but minimal effort)

Lower table is total Chinook catch (and effort) averages for 2001-2005.

Evaluation Criteria for Each Alternative

1. The probability of a natural spawning escapement lower than any historically observed (12,000).
2. The probability of any of the major mid-Klamath Basin substock (Shasta, Scott, or Salmon rivers) having a natural spawning escapement of less than 500 adults in any year (a first cut methodology was developed at this meeting).
3. The probability of a spawning escapement below the 35,000 natural spawner floor in any year.
4. The probability of three consecutive years of spawning escapement less than the 35,000 floor within a 40-year time period.
5. The probability that hatchery egg collection goals will be met every year.
6. The probability of meeting the terms of the NMFS consultation standard in any year for the California Coastal Chinook evolutionary significant unit, which is an ocean harvest rate of no more than 16.0% on age-4 KRFC.
7. Annual community and state level personal income impacts generated from Council-area commercial and recreational salmon fisheries, and river tribal and recreational salmon fisheries.

All criteria will be evaluated in relative terms compared to status quo.

NEPA



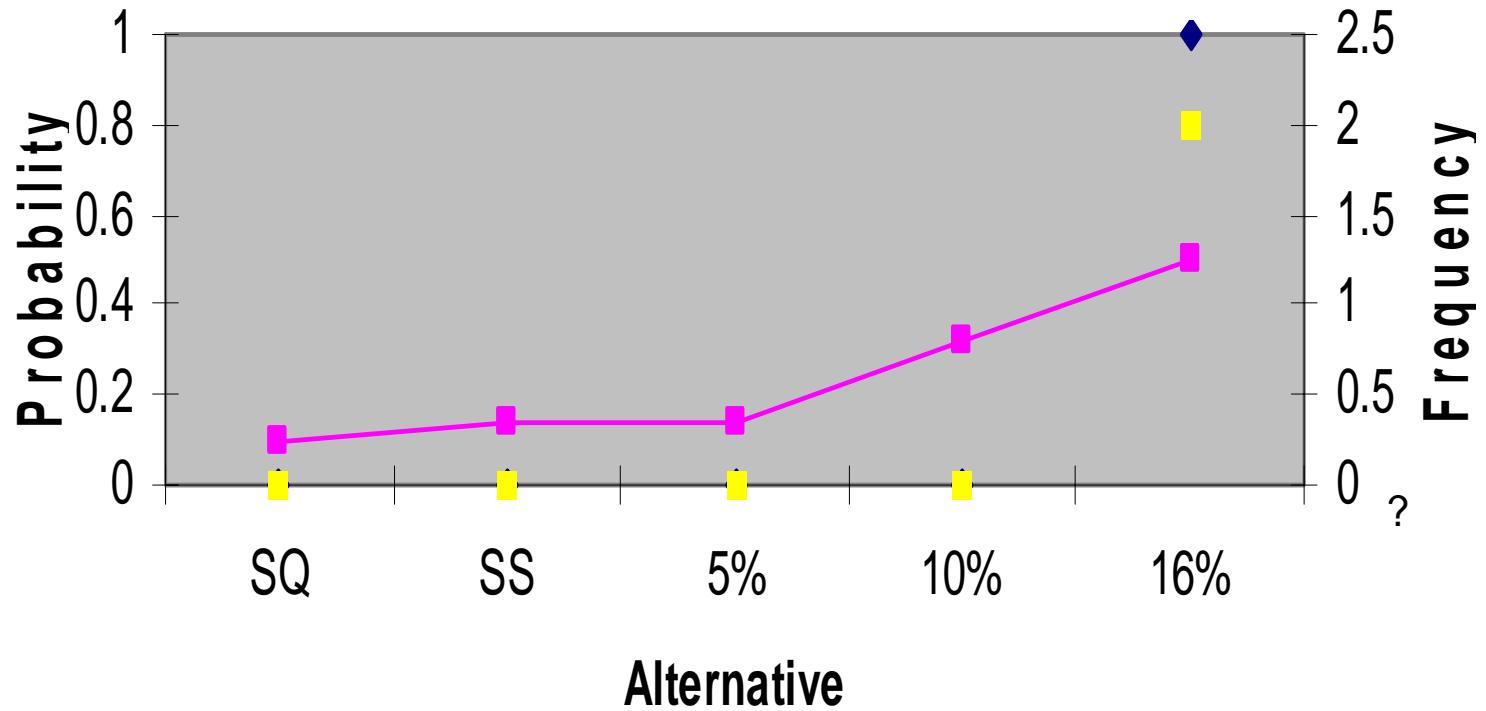
An Environmental Assessment appears to be appropriate at this point in the process

Biological Methods

- *Hindcast Analysis* using 1985-2006 pre-season age compositions
- *Stochastic Stock Recruitment Model (SSRM)* using S/R data, KOHM fishery parameters, and traditional allocations

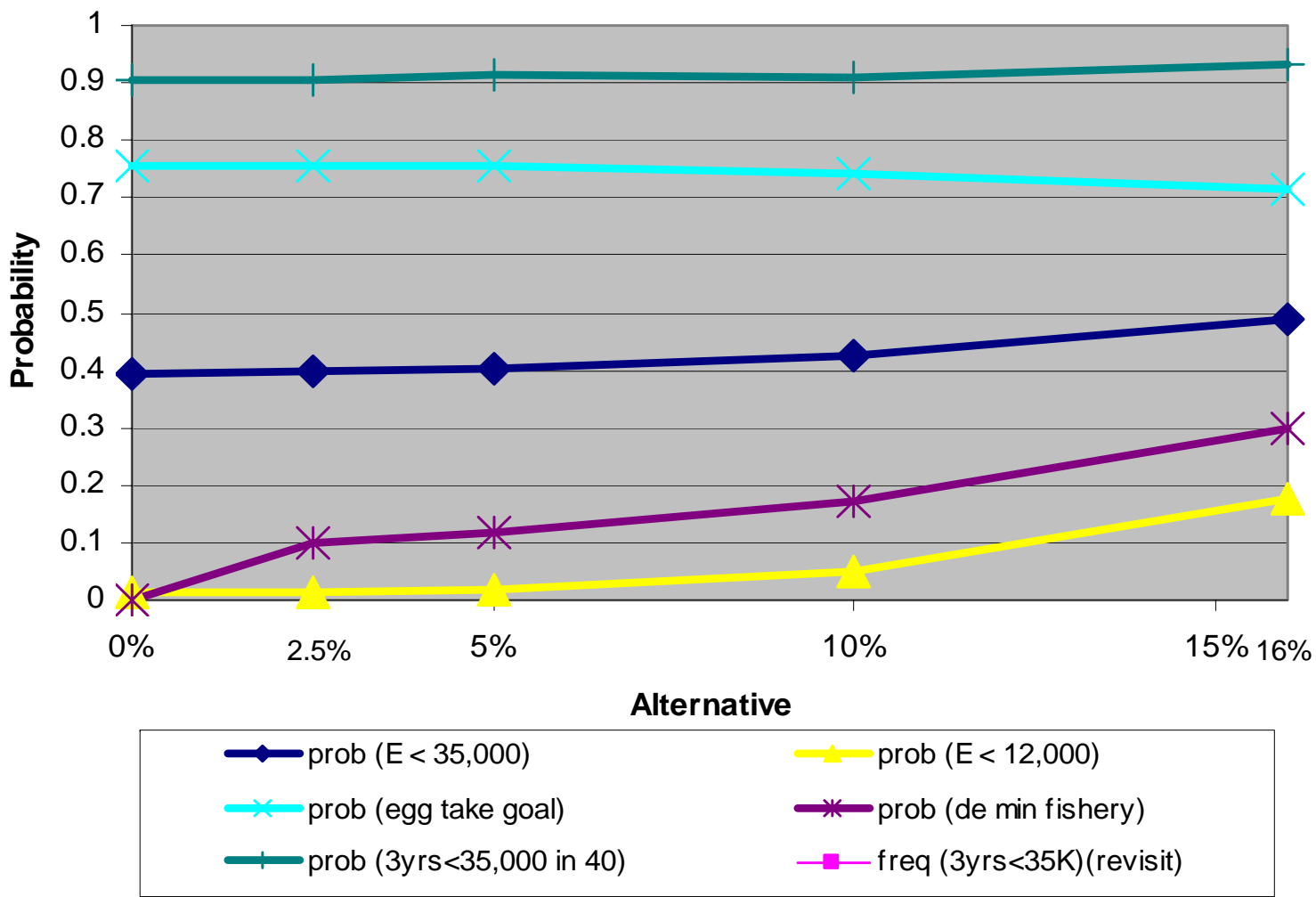


Hindcast Results

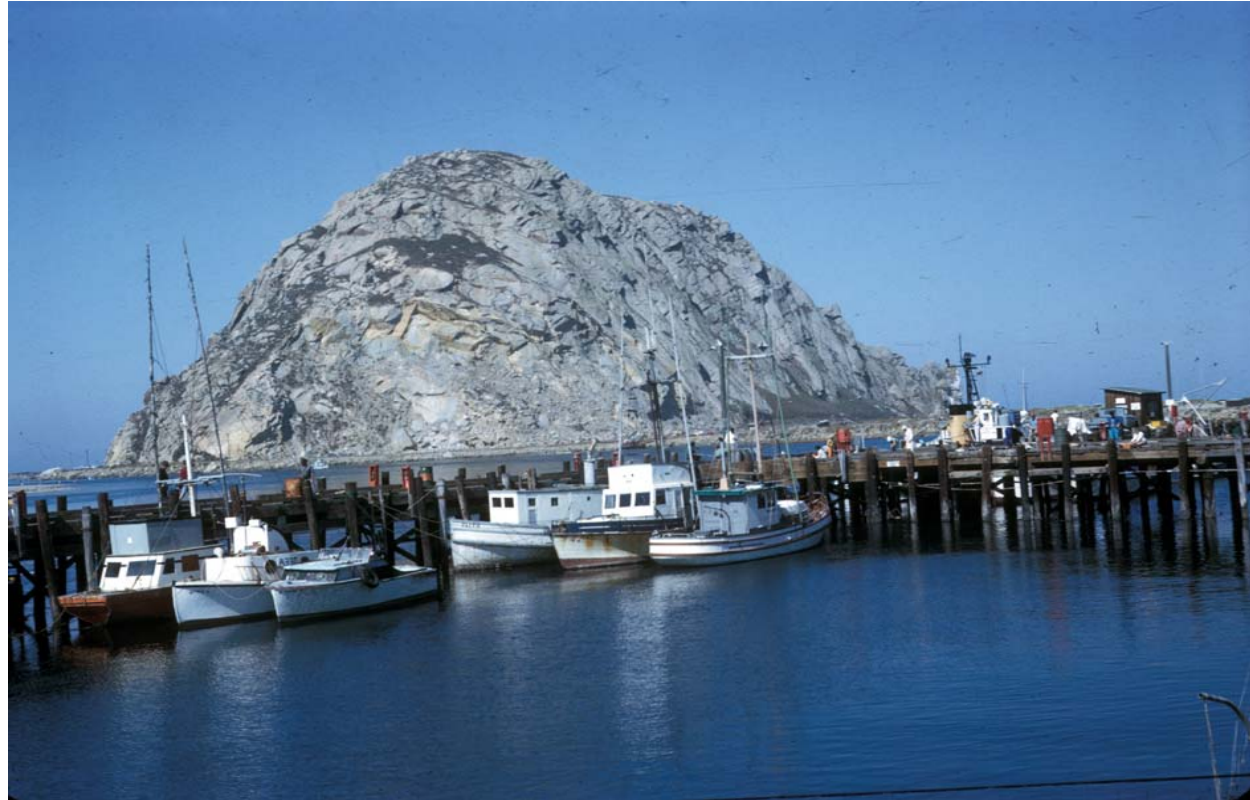


—■— prob <35,000 ◆ prob (overfished in 20 yrs) ■ freq (overfished in 20 yrs)

SSRM Results



Economics



Time frames for analysis were: 1) a Conservation Alert Year and 2) a 40-year projection average. Additional information on community and vessel dependence on the salmon fishery presented at this meeting is proposed to be added to the economic section.

Regulation Scenarios

Klamath Fall Chinook Harvest Management Areas

NO – Cape Falcon to Heceta Head

CO – Heceta Head to Humbug Mt.

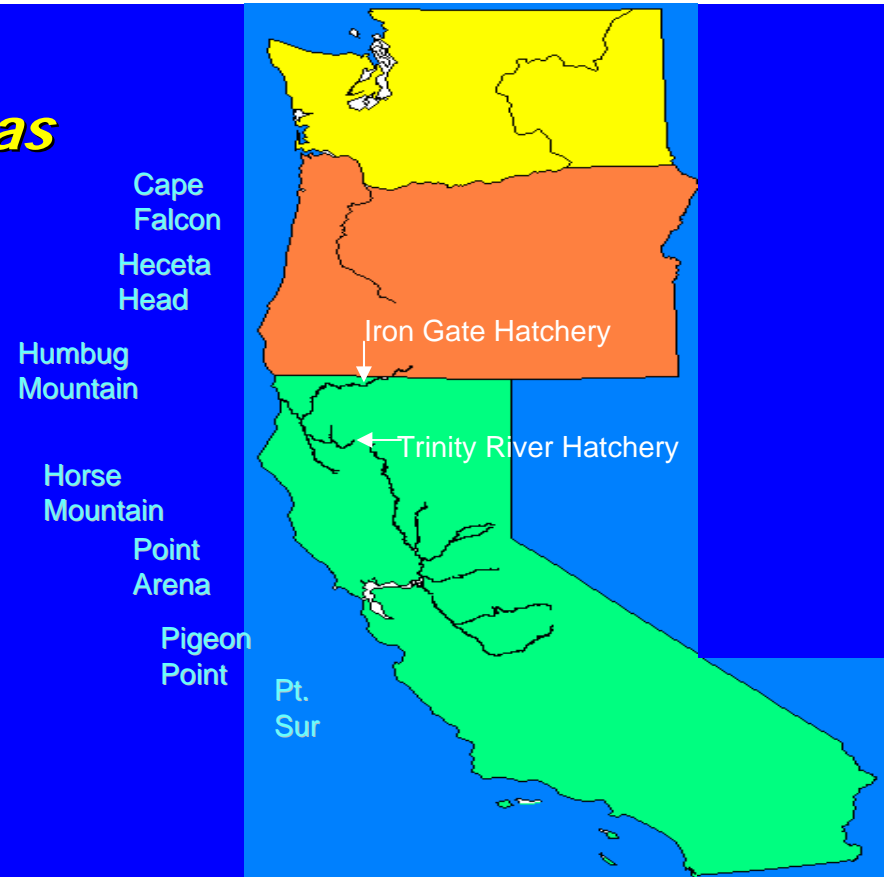
KO – Humbug Mt. to CA/OR Border

KC – CA/OR Border to Horse Mt.

FB – Horse Mt. To Pt. Arena

SF – Pt. Arena to Pigeon Point

MO – Pigeon Point to Pt. Sur



Regulation scenarios are needed to assess economic impacts of the alternatives.

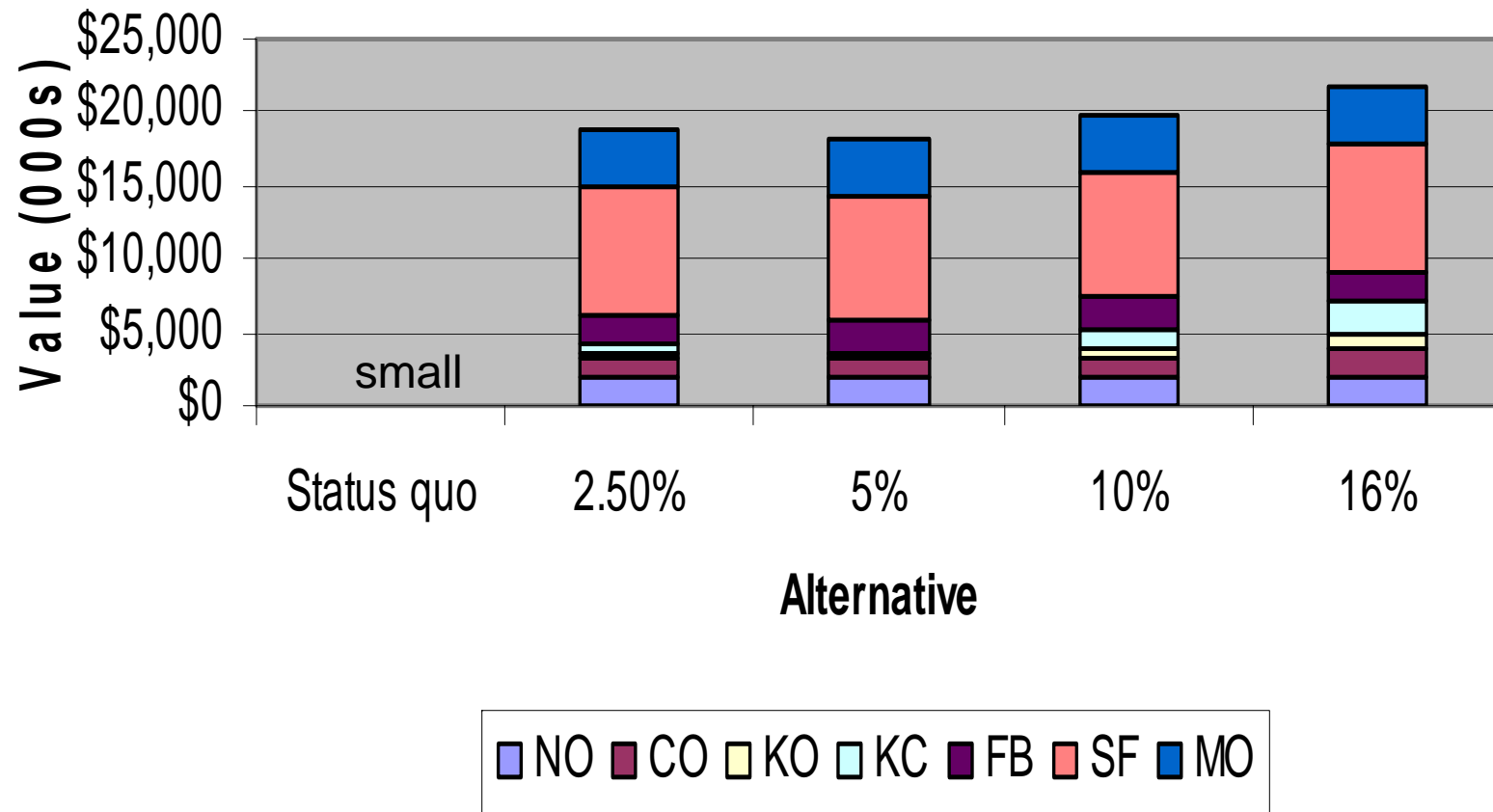
Troll Fishery Alternatives

See SAC report. This table is too large to display on the screen.

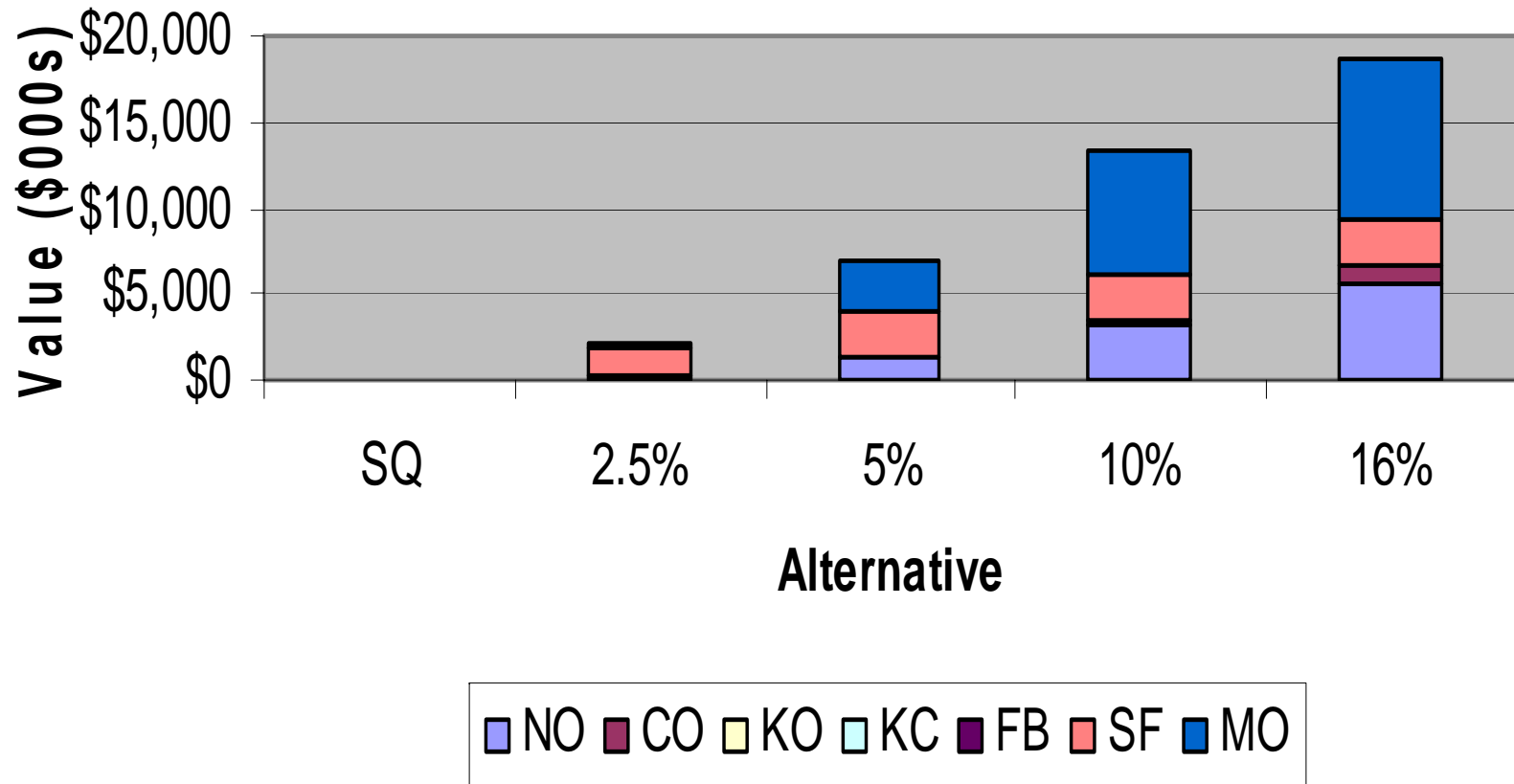
The table shows fishing effort concentrated in the NO and MO cells where KRFC stock composition is lowest in the KOHM. The regulations are similar to recent years' actual troll fishing regulations.

The recreational fisheries have full seasons, except for the KMZ (KO and KC), which are structured to meet the traditional fishery allocation.

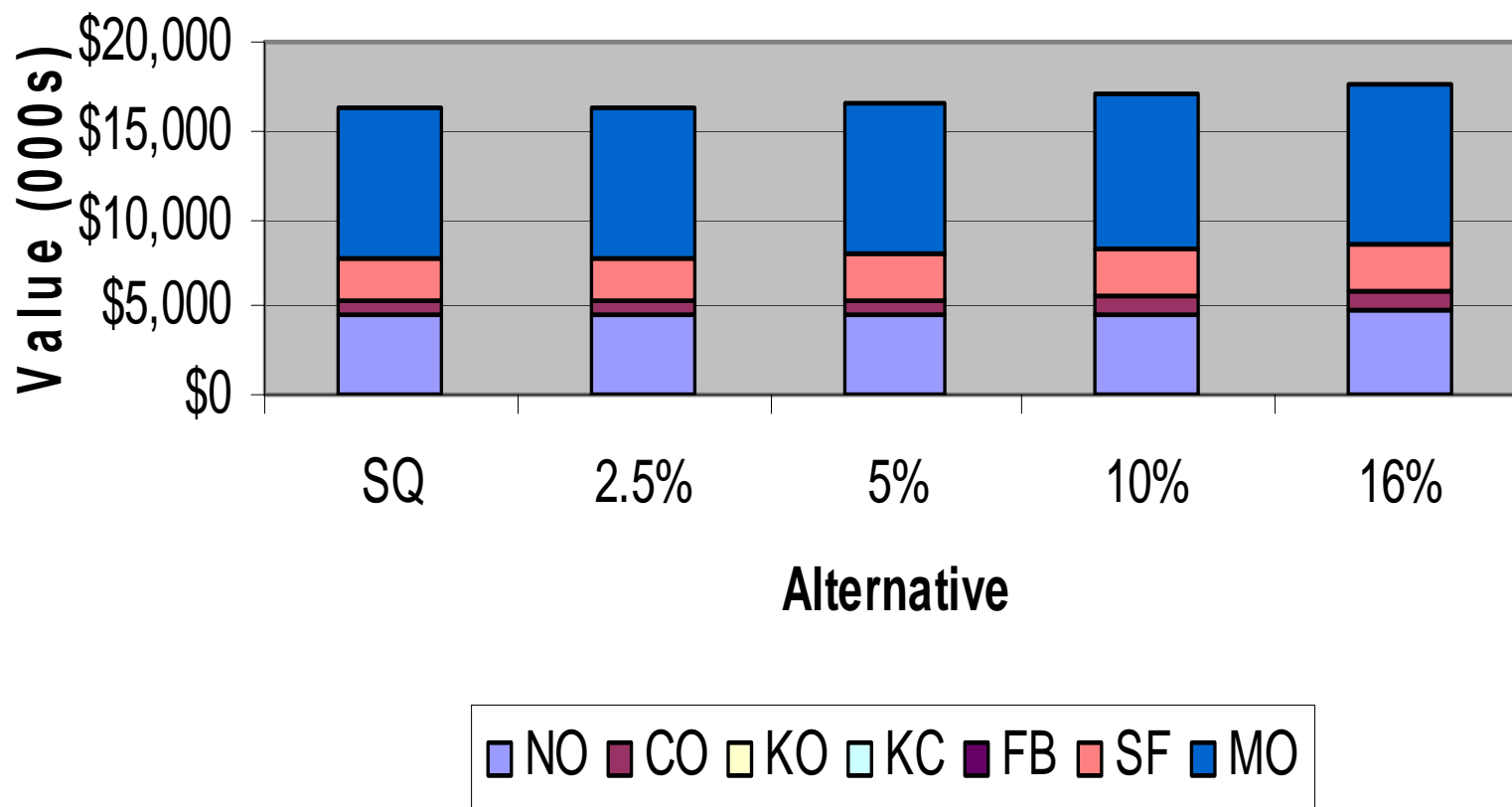
Ocean recreational salmon fishery local area income impacts in a KRFC Conservation Alert Year



Troll fishery local area economic impacts for a KRFC Conservation Alert Year (medium success rate)



Troll fishery local area economic impacts, 40-yr annual average (medium success rate)



To Do List

1. Incorporate sub-stock analysis in the report.
2. Confirm KOHM regulation scenarios and effort level outputs.
3. Complete tribal/river sport economic analyses (tribes and CDFG are working on SAC request).
4. Modify/check SSRM.
5. Modify/expand A-15 alternatives and analyses as directed by Council.

Recommendations

1. Add 10% age-4 ocean impact rate cap to alternatives.
2. Remove the second clause from Alternative 5: “, and 2) prohibit *de minimis* fishing thereafter until the escapement floor was met for three consecutive years.”
3. Add “significant” to Alternative 6 re: fall/winter fisheries in *de minimis* years and associated data analysis, Council action, and future data management and input needs.
4. Limit public hearings to Oregon and California.
5. Consider delaying decision meeting until March 2007.

Proposed Schedule

Wk of September 11	SAC meets in conjunction with Council in Foster City, CA. Council reviews Preliminary Draft Amendment 15 and adopts preliminary preferred alternative for Public Review at meeting. (If schedule cannot be met, a new schedule is identified at this point). <u>The SAC does not recommend selection of a preferred alternative until the sub-stock analysis can be completed. However, a range of alternatives might be considered based on the available information.</u>
Wk of September 18	DS meets in Portland to review Council action and assign work tasks to complete Draft Amendment 15 for hearings and presentation at November Council meeting.
Wk of October 16	Hearings on Amendment 15 in Santa Rosa, Coos Bay, and Westport <u>This will be very difficult to do; the SAC suggests having hearings after the briefing book deadline of October 25, 2006..</u>
October 25	Draft Amendment due for inclusion in November Council meeting briefing book. <u>It is problematic that all of the analyses can be completed and the document updated by this date. The To Do List is just too long and labor intensive to ensure meeting an October 25 mailing date.</u>
Wk of November 13	Council reviews Draft Amendment 15 at meeting in Del Mar, California and adopts preferred alternative for implementation by NMFS. <u>See previous comments. A March 2007 decision date would better ensure a defensible document.</u>
December ?	DS completes Amendment 15 and EA and submits to NMFS. <u>A March decision date would delay the document submittal date to May 2007.</u>
Not later than May 1, 2007	Amendment 15 implemented by Final Rule. <u>A March decision date would require an emergency rule in 2007 if the KRFC natural spawning escapement absent fishing is projected to be <35,000 adult fish. However, a decision framework would have been established in the draft document that the Council and NMFS could use in developing fishing regulations effective May 1, 2007.</u>



Peter Dygert will discuss NMFS schedule

Current Schedule for MSA/APA Process for Salmon FMP Amendment 15, *De Minimis* Fisheries
assuming November 2006 Council decision

24-Nov-06 (Friday)	NWR sends draft proposed rule package to regional GC.
4-5 Dec-06 (Monday-Tuesday)	Regional GC returns draft proposed rule package to NWR and sends Issues Advisory to HQ.
11-Dec-06 (Monday)	PFMC transmits Amendment. NWR transmits proposed rule with draft EA
18-Dec-06 (Monday)	NOA for Amendment publishes unless OMB review occurs (90 days max).
16-Jan-07 (Tuesday)	Proposed rule is published; 30-day public comment period begins.
15-Feb-07 (Thursday)	60-day public comment period on NOA for Amendment; 30-day public comment period on proposed rule ends.
26-Feb-07 (Monday)	NWR sends final rule package to regional GC.
6-Mar-07 (Tuesday)	Regional GC returns final rule package to NWR.
16-Mar-07 (Friday)*	NWR transmits final EA, FONSI, final rule package, and amendment approval to HQ.
March 4-9	March Council meeting
19-Mar-07 (Monday)	HQ signs FONSI, approves Amendment 15.
30-Mar-07 (Friday)*	Final rule published; APA 30 day cooling-off period begins unless OMB review occurs (60 days max)
April 1-7	April Council meeting
30-April-07 (Monday)*	Cooling-off period ends
1-May-07 (Tuesday)	Salmon fishery begins under adopted de minimis fishery regulations

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Table 4-9. 2006 KOHM Ocean Fishery Contribution Rates

Klamath Contribution Rates: Troll												
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
NO	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	NA	<i>0.09</i>	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.05
CO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	0.04	0.04	<i>0.07</i>	<i>0.07</i>	<i>0.12</i>	0.20
KO	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.25	0.23	0.29	0.19
KC	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.48	0.31	0.15	0.13
FB	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.14	0.13	0.15	0.05
SF	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.01
MO	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.00
Klamath Contribution Rates: Sport												
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
NO	0.03	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.07	0.02	0.02	0.04
CO	0.01	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.32	0.04	0.03	0.02
KO	0.11	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.07	0.07	<i>0.10</i>	<i>0.16</i>
KC	0.14	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.09	0.07	<i>0.08</i>	<i>0.14</i>
FB	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.05
SF	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00
MO	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04

Bold = primary; *italics = secondary*

Table 4-10. Season structure scenarios (January-August only) for individual *de minimis* fishing alternatives and California Coastal Chinook salmon consultation standard. The Status Quo Alternative is for a Conservation Alert Year. Alternatives are expressed as ocean impact rates. **(Need to revisit for CO and NO troll) 1/**

Season	Status	Alternative				CCC standard (16% OHR)
		2.5% ^{2/}	5% ^{3/}	10%	16%	
Sport Season Outside KMZ	43 days, FB, Feb-March; 47 days NO/CO, March-April	full	full	full	full	full
KMZ Sport:	closed	45 days, May-June ^{4/} else closed	22 days, May-June	82 days, May-July	Full season (123 days): May-August plus previous fall fishery	Full season (123 days): May-August plus previous fall fishery
OR Troll	closed	10 days, NO, March	45 days, NO, March-April	98 days, NO, March-June; 30 days, CO, April	61 days, NO and CO, March-April; 92 days NO, May-July	92 days, NO and CO, March-May; 63 days, NO, June-August
CA Troll	closed	17 days, SF & MO, August	7 days, MO, May: 31 days, SF & MO, August	38 days, MO, May-June; 31 days, SF & MO, August	53 days, MO, May-June; 31 days, SF & MO, August	58 days, MO, May-June; 31 days, SF & MO, August

1/ KMZ = Horse Mtn, California to Humbug Mtn, Oregon
 OR = Oregon; CA = California
 NO (Northern Oregon) = Florence south Jetty to Cape Falcon, Oregon
 CO (Coos Bay) = Florence south Jetty to Humbug Mtn, Oregon
 SF (San Francisco) = Point Arena to Pigeon Pt., California
 MO (Monterey) = Pigeon Pt. to Mexico Border, California

2/ The 2.5% ocean impact rate is a mid-range point for the Sliding Scale Alternative.

3/ This scenario is somewhat less restrictive than the maximum age-4 impact on the Sliding Scale Alternative.

4/ The extra days, compared to the 5% Cap Alternative, are due to elimination of previous fall KMZ sport catches.