

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON  
SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT 15

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) supports continuation of the amendment process with the objective of taking final action at the November 2006 Council meeting in order to implement Amendment 15 by the start of the 2007 salmon management season. However, the status of the analyses will ultimately determine whether the SAS can recommend a preferred alternative. At this time there are analyses that are not available, and those that are available have not been adequately described. The SAS requests two additional analyses be included in the Environmental Assessment:

1. The geographical extent of the Precautionary Alternative. This alternative restricts fall/winter fisheries following a *de minimis* fishery, but does not indicate if it applies to all fisheries between Cape Falcon and Point Sur, or if it could be less restrictive to fisheries near the margins of the area. In addition, implementation of this alternative would require an analysis of fall fishery impacts in the preseason planning process.
2. Potential for spawning escapement of less than 500 for the independent populations within the Klamath Basin (Shasta, Scott, and Salmon rivers). This was identified as an evaluation criterion, but the analysis was not included in the executive summary. This issue is a high priority for assessing the impacts of the alternatives on future productivity of the aggregate Klamath River Fall Chinook stock.

The SAS also requests the Council consider substituting a public hearing in Newport, Oregon for the Westport, Washington hearing that was originally proposed.

PFMC  
09/12/06