SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON SALMON METHODOLOGY REVIEW

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) recommends that Council instruct the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Salmon Technical Team (STT) to review the following topics, in priority order, for the 2006 Salmon Methodology Review.

1. The Klamath Ocean Harvest Model (KOHM) contact rate and harvest estimates. The changes to the model during the 2006 preseason process were made without review, and should be subject to review and approval prior to continued implementation in 2007.

2. Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) base period update. The Council should maintain concurrence with the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) coho model and update the base period for the Coho FRAM used by the Council.

3. Genetic Stock Identification (GSI) study proposal. GSI technology has the potential to improve fishery management and provide additional opportunity, which is critical to survival of salmon fisheries during years like 2006. The SAS requests that industry representatives be included in development of an appropriate study design.

The SAS also requests an update on the status of the following topics, and to include them as high priorities for future reviews.

1. Lower Columbia River Natural coho index stock and allowable impact rate. This is a critical issue for all sectors of ocean and in-river fisheries in Oregon and Washington.

2. Oregon Production Index hatchery coho forecast. This predictor has been consistently low recently and it also affects the impact rate for Lower Columbia River Natural coho.

3. Oregon Coast Natural coho forecast. Any improvement in the accuracy would help forecast impacts, particularly in selective fisheries off the Oregon coast.

4. September 1 maturity date for Klamath River fall Chinook. Fall fishery impacts need to be accurately attributed to the correct brood year, and appropriate tag codes used to represent the natural portion of the run. This could help reduce the uncertainty associated with setting fall fisheries.

5. Sea lion predation at the mouth of the Klamath River. This mortality source has the potential to significantly impact spawning escapement and should be accounted for in predictions.

6. A comparison of impacts using the current and historical management lines in the KOHM.

PFMC
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