

**WDFW and Tribal 2008 Management Objectives for  
Puget Sound Chinook and Coho Salmon**

Amendment 14 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan recognizes and allows for annual management targets to be established for Puget Sound Chinook and coho salmon pursuant to rules and procedures established under U.S. v. Washington. It further recognized that WDFW and the effected tribes were establishing new objectives for coho salmon based on stepped exploitation rates, which would replace the previously defined management objectives. It also recognized that for Puget Sound Chinook salmon, which are listed as a threatened species under the ESA, additional conservation objectives would be provided by NMFS, WDFW and the Tribes.

As provided for in Amendment 14, WDFW and the effected tribes have established, pursuant to their obligations and authorities under U.S. v. Washington, management objectives for Puget Sound Chinook and coho salmon. The attached tables provide the objectives for use during the 2008 regulation setting process. They are based on a similar approach to the objectives provided to the Council the past several years. The management objectives define the maximum impact levels allowed for 2008 fisheries.

For Puget Sound Chinook salmon the management objectives are part of a six-year harvest plan (2004 through 2009) developed by WDFW and the Puget Sound Tribes. Specific details on interpretation and implementation of the objectives are provided in the plan document. NOAA-Fisheries have made a determination that this plan meets the requirements of the ESA, under limit #6 of the 4(d) rule for the Puget Sound Chinook ESU.

## 2008 Puget Sound Primary Natural Coho Management Unit Exploitation Rate Ceilings

| <u>Management Unit</u> | <u>Preseason Forecast<br/>Of Abundance</u><br>(Ocean Age Three) | <u>Management<br/>Status</u> | <u>Allowable<br/>Exploitation Rate</u> |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| Strait of Juan de Fuca | 24,100  | low                          | 40%                                    |
| Hood Canal             | 30,350  | low                          | 45%                                    |
| Skagit                 | 61,450  | low                          | 35%                                    |
| Stillaguamish          | 31,000  | normal                       | 50%                                    |
| Snohomish              | 92,000  | low                          | 40%                                    |

Table 3. Rebuilding exploitation rates, low abundance thresholds and critical exploitation rate ceilings for Puget Sound chinook management units.

| Management Unit   | Rebuilding Exploitation Rate                               | Low Abundance Threshold                                      | Critical Exploitation Rate Ceiling      |
|---|--|--|---|
| Nooksack<br>North Fork<br>South Fork  | Under development  | 1,000 <sup>1</sup><br>1,000 <sup>1</sup>                     | 7% / 9% SUS <sup>3</sup>                |
| Skagit summer / fall<br>Upper Skagit summer<br>Sauk summer<br>Lower Skagit fall | 50%  | 4,800<br>2,200<br>400<br>900                                 | 15% SUS even-years 17%<br>SUS odd-years |
| Skagit spring<br>Upper Sauk<br>Upper Cascade<br>Suiattle                        | 38%  | 576<br>130<br>170<br>170                                     | 18% SUS                                 |
| Stillaguamish<br>North Fork Summer<br>South Fk & MS Fall                        | 25%  | 650 <sup>1</sup><br>500 <sup>1</sup><br>N/A                  | 15% SUS                                 |
| Snohomish<br>Skykomish<br>Snoqualmie  | 21%  | 2,800 <sup>1</sup><br>521 <sup>1</sup><br>1,745 <sup>1</sup> | 15% SUS                                 |
| Lake Washington<br>Cedar River  | 15% PT SUS   | 200 <sup>1</sup>   | 12% PT SUS                              |
| Green   | 15% PT SUS   | 1,800  | 12% PT SUS                              |
| White River spring  | 20%  | 200  | 15% SUS                                 |
| Puyallup fall   | 50%  | 500  | 12% PT SUS                              |
| Nisqually   | Terminal fishery managed to achieve 1,200 natural spawners |  |   |
| Skokomish   | 15% PT SUS   | 1,300 <sup>2</sup>   | 12% PT SUS                              |
| Mid-Hood Canal  | 15% PT SUS   | 400  | 12% PT SUS                              |
| Dungeness   | 10% SUS  | 500  | 6% SUS                                  |
| Elwha   | 10% SUS  | 1,000  | 6% SUS                                  |
| Western JDF   | 10% SUS  | 500  | 6% SUS                                  |

<sup>1</sup> natural-origin spawners.

<sup>2</sup> The threshold is escapement of 800 natural and/or 500 hatchery (see Appendix A).

<sup>3</sup> Expected SUS rate will not exceed 7% in 4 out of 5 years (see Appendix A)