

Subject: Salmon issues
From: Jan Z <blackorp@hotmail.com>
Date: Tue, 05 Feb 2008 02:48:58 +0000
To: Chuck.Tracy@noaa.gov

Dear Mr. Tracy,

As a recreational angler and former commercial fisherman, I would like to go on record with NOAA about the condition of the salmon and the necessary actions needed to help preserve the remaining stocks here on the west coast.

Provided the scientific evidence is dependable in regards to the overall condition of the west coast salmon population being in such terrible condition I am in favor of a 100% shutdown of all fishing for salmon until the biomass has recovered.

I realize that this is not a popular position to take in regards to fishing but I feel that if we do not take strong action now and stop fishing there will no longer be salmon in our rivers.

We need to stop fishing and start rebuilding, we need to put forth a massive effort to rebuild the habitat that have been lost, concentrate on hatchery production, and ensure that the water is there for the fish (I cite the water problems in California's Delta area as an example).

If proper action is not taken and political pressures are given in to you will be able to place the salmon right there next to the Atlantic Cod and Atlantic Blue fin tuna as they(We) have justified the continued harvest until there almost isn't a thing left to harvest.

Jan Zeiters
McKinleyville Ca.
707-840-0730

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Subject: Salmon season 08
From: Tracy Benetti <tracybenetti@yahoo.com>
Date: Tue, 05 Feb 2008 11:47:02 -0800 (PST)
To: Chuck.Tracy@noaa.gov

Dear Representative,

Please, do not close the 2008 Salmon season to recreational anglers in the Monterey Bay.

Change the limits from 2 fish to 1 and the size from 20" to 24".

The only reason I live in this over priced / over crowded State is to Salmon fish.

Just let me get out on the water and fish.

Thank you.
Tracy Benetti

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SEP 24 2007

PFMC

To: Dr. Donald O. McIsaac
Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384

Subject: MBSTP/EFM Proposal
Re: Recreational Catch of Hatchery Sea Pen Acclimated King Salmon
Date: May 23, 2007

Applicants:

Monterey Bay Salmon & Trout Project
Contact: Lawrence Wolf, Director
243 Ranchitos Del Sol, Aptos, CA 95003
(831) 688-4257

Bayside Marine
Contact: Todd Fraser
333-B Lake Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
(831) 475-2173

Purpose and goal of the experiment: The purpose of this project is to determine if a localized salmon fishery can be opened inside state waters in Monterey Bay in October without impacting Sacramento Winter Run salmon...

History: Since 1991, The Monterey Bay Salmon & Trout Project has been acclimating hatchery raised king salmon from the State hatcheries in harbors located in the Monterey Bay. This includes Monterey Harbor, Moss Landing Harbor and the Santa Cruz Harbor. This acclimation implants the local harbors as the returning point for these hatchery king salmon looking for fresh water to spawn in. By using this acclimation method we have increased the local fall run king salmon population in this area available to harvest by both recreational fishing and by local commercial fishermen. Because these fish do not return to their stream of origin, this leaves more area in the Sacramento River system for returning wild king salmon to spawn without having to compete with returning hatchery salmon for good spawning grounds. Because the smolts are trucked to the release sites directly from the hatcheries, they do not compete for food with wild salmon during the out-migration process.

Estimates from the Fish & Game Pit Tag Program from 1991 through 1997 showed our hatchery sea pen acclimated king salmon, had a harvest rate of over 20%. The remaining one to two percent of our released fish or approximately 4,000 pen acclimated king salmon survive their three or four year cycle at sea and return to the harbor area where they were released. **The problem to be solved** is our local king salmon season closes in September or early October before these fish return in the first two weeks of October. Because the season is already closed, the returning fish are consumed by seals and sea lions in the harbor areas. By opening king salmon season in state waters in the Monterey Bay during October, the general sport fishing public will be able to harvest many of these hatchery acclimated king salmon. This would provide an excellent food source to the general fishing public as well as many fishing opportunities for people fishing from shore or piers and jetties.

Potential Positive Impacts: The harvest of 4,000 additional king salmon each year by the general public. This would open additional recreational fishing opportunities to the land fishing public due to the close proximity to land the returning fish follow. The jetties at Monterey, Moss Landing and Santa Cruz or the piers in Monterey, Santa Cruz and Capitola would also provide additional fishing opportunities for schooling king salmon. With over 2,000 potential fish to be harvested at Santa Cruz harbor and an additional 2,000 fish to be harvested in Moss Landing, a lot of new business to the harbor areas would follow benefiting restaurants, hotels, tackle stores and the harbor districts. This would help alleviate some of the economic hardship befalling many businesses who depend on visiting fishermen for their income including the public harbors.

Potential Negative Impacts: Historically, the salmon season is closed in October inside Monterey Bay in order to protect Sacramento winter Run King Salmon. By limiting our area open to fishing to the area inside state waters we have limited possible Winter Run impacts. Should winter run impacts occur in the study area, in subsequent years the EFP could restrict the open areas to be closer to the actual release sites.

Methods used for the experiment: To use selective recreational fishing gear, hook and line, to access underutilized returning hatchery king salmon for human consumption. The data provided by the harvested DNA samples taken at collection points would provide the data needed to determine if there is any impact of winter run wild king salmon. Fishing would be allowed from boats or the shore during the month of October in State waters only. The area included would be from Pigeon Point to Point Pinos in Monterey. Anglers will donate tissue samples at local harbor areas in return for prizes and awards. Anglers will retain the rights to all fish caught after contributing DNA samples. The EFP would be limited to the general public fishing within State waters. The data collected would be sampled by the National Marine Fishery Service at the Long Marine Lab in Santa Cruz.

Broader Significance: The data collected should prove that a recreational fishery can be conducted on the hatchery salt water acclimated fall run king salmon without impact on the wild winter run king salmon.

Duration of the EFP: One year, followed by two more years(2008-2010). This should show what impact if any on the migrating winter run king salmon that may visit our area. By limiting the area open to fishing we can narrow the areas of any possible conflict.

Description of Target Species: Fall run hatchery king salmon. Zero winter run wild king salmon.

Harvest Control: Anglers will be subjected to slightly modified regulations, requiring them to take the first two Chinook caught, regardless of size: Max of 2 per day. No coho salmon may be taken.

Since we cannot distinguish by looks fall run king salmon and winter run king salmon, only after the DNA samples collected are reviewed, will we be able to determine if any conflict exists. We expect most of the fish caught will be in shallow water near the harbor entrances. This currently leads us to believe these are acclimated king salmon hatchery fish.

To protect the potential over-harvest of Sacramento Winter Run Chinook, the DNA analysis of the fish caught in the EFP will be analyzed in a timely manner by NMFS at the Long Marine Lab in Santa Cruz. NMFS currently has a large data base of Winter Run Chinook Salmon DNA to compare all King Salmon caught during the EFP. NMFS also has the funding to complete this project. If it appears that changing the boundaries will alleviate the Winter Run impacts should they occur, the EFP can be adjusted in future years with new boundaries that are more highly localized..

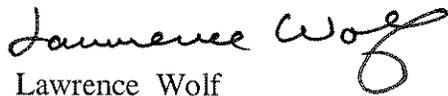
Proposed Data Collection and Analysis Methodology: This EFP will provide DNA data to existing NMFS data collection and analysis system of fall hatchery run king salmon and wild winter run king salmon. We expect over 200 fish this first year to be turned in for data collection. Bayside Marine in Santa Cruz located in the harbor launch area and Woodard Marine located in Moss Landing harbor area will be local collection points. Other members of The Monterey Bay Salmon & Trout Project will also be on hand for data collection as well as other volunteers from the general public. Currently we are releasing acclimated fish from the Moss Landing harbor and the Santa Cruz harbor.

Participation: The general public will be encouraged to participate. In order to identify those fishermen actually participating in the EFP, they will be required to sign up at one of several registration sites (Bayside Marine, Woodward Marine and other local tackle shops) where they will be issued EFP identification. As a condition of signing up for the EFP, these fishermen will be required to agree to return ALL Chinook salmon caught to

the registration or weigh in site, for collection of DNA sample material, and to submit records of capture location (lat/long). This could be an annual event that would bring the general fishing public to our local harbors to fish from shore and from small boats outside the harbor areas including Kayaks. These salmon are still in excellent shape and a very good food source.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence Wolf". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Lawrence Wolf
Director