

February 16, 2009

Donald O. McIsaac  
Executive Director  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, Oregon 97220

Re: Comments on Salmon Fishing Decision

Dear Mr. McIsaac,

As the Coordinator for the Nature Tourism Coalition of Mendocino County, I am writing to comment on the upcoming decision concerning salmon fishing in 2009. The Coalition's mission is "to provide information and education about nature-based travel and recreational opportunities in Mendocino County [and] to promote a sustainable ecology for the responsible enjoyment of nature by fostering and supporting sound conservation practices."

Mendocino County economy is supported by tourism. Salmon fishing was once a significant part of our county's recreational opportunity base. That said, we recognize the need for restoration of salmon habitat and conservation of this treasured resource.

In the interest of recreation and conservation, we request that you consider, instead of a total ban on salmon fishing, a more flexible but nonetheless careful regulatory model. According to the North Coast Fishing Association, the Oregon model may be helpful to consider. The Association states that Oregon Fish & Game has allowed a few days of salmon fishing designated for weekends and holidays. This "season" is watched and adjusted according to available fish.

While the Oregon model may take considerable more work to implement, we hope that in these harsh economic times, the PFMC evaluate the circumstances and find that a more fine tuned approach would be reasonable.

Sincerely,  
Karen Bowers  
Coordinator, Mendocino County, Nature Tourism Coalition

cc: Mendocino County Promotional Alliance  
Mendocino County Lodging Association  
NTC Steering Committee  
North Coast Fishermen's Association

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FEB 04 2009

PFMC

DEAR SIR;

I AM A LOCAL RESIDENT OF FORT BRAGG AND ALSO ONE OF THE LOCAL GAR-BAGEMEN. I HAVE SEEN FIRST HAND THE DECLINE OF OUR COMMUNITIES ECONOMICS.

CLOSURE OF ANOTHER SALMON SEASON WILL ONLY BRING FURTHER DECLINE OF AN ALREADY STRUGGLING LOCAL ECONOMY.

CONSIDERATION OF A LIMITED SEASON OR MAYBE A PUNCH CARD, SIMILAR TO THAT USED FOR ABALONE, WOULD BRING MUCH NEEDED ECONOMIC RELIEF TO OUR TOWN

PLEASE CONSIDER AN OPENING OF A SALMON SEASON.

THANK YOU

STEVEN MALSON

February 15, 2009

Donald O. McIssac, Executive Director  
Pacifica Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, OR 97220-1384  
Fax# (503) 820-2299

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FEB 18 2009

PFMC

Re: Salmon Management

My name is Janet Carter. I along with my husband and son own and operate POMO CAMPGROUND in Fort Bragg, California. There are many fishermen that stay in our park. Many of them did not come and others chose to shorten their stay.

I would estimate that our income would have been down approximately \$28,800.00 had it not been for the wild fires in California. People escaping the smoke and fires helped to offset our losses in 2008.

We urge you to consider some kind of a fishing season for our area. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays or perhaps weekends and a day or two during the week so not all pressure would be concentrated on short period of time.

I know this "NO FISHING POLICY" is hurting our communities and with the present economy, many of us may not survive. It is devastating to Fort Bragg and Mendocino. Thank you for your consideration.

*Janet Carter*

Janet Carter  
Ray Carter  
Larry Carter

17999 Tregoning Lane  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Feb. 14, 2009

Mr. Donald K. Hansen  
Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

**RECEIVED**

FEB 17 2009

**PFMC**

Dear Mr. Hansen,

As the council takes up the question of what sort of salmon fishing season to allow on the West Coast for 2009, I hope you will take into consideration the economic impact complete closure has on small towns such as Ft. Bragg.

We depend very much on tourism, and sport fishing is a big part of the draw. Campgrounds, motels, restaurants, and stores all rely on fishing tourists for a big part of their business. Last year's closure was rough on them, and another year, particularly in these economic times, would be catastrophic.

Speaking selfishly, salmon fishing is a great activity that provides time on the water, attention to the elements, food on the table, and salve to the soul. I miss it very much.

While the health of the salmon runs themselves are of first importance, and you have my sincerest appreciation for what you trying to accomplish, I hope there might be some way to have a shortened or limited season this year, to keep up afloat as well.

Thank you,

Mark Taylor  
512 South Main Street  
Ft. Bragg, CA 95437

To Mr. Donald K. Hansen

I moved to Fort Bragg some 27 years ago. My brother in law took me out sport fishing for salmon. First time I was ever out in the ocean.

I caught a 30 pounder. Then I was hooked. Went out as many times as I could and always got my limit. To me salmon fishing is very relaxing.

It takes me away from every day stress. I would like to have a limited salmon season so that at least we can go out and get a few salmon.

Even if it were only two salmon a year, that would be better than nothing. There are several other kinds of a restricted season we could have.

Please try and implicate something.

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 17 2009**

**PFMC**

Dan Woodward  
Animal Care and Control  
Mendocino County  
Fort Bragg Shelter

Mr. Donald Hansen  
Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 17 2009**

**PFMC**

Dear Mr. Hansen

I am asking the Pacific Fisheries Management Council to allow some type of salmon sport fishing season this year. A modified season would be beneficial because other than helping the economy here, it would provide valuable information to DFG fish counters with location, depth, size, and quantity.

My suggestion is for a limited season to weekends and holidays which would have a positive ripple effect for our small town economy which is dependent on tourism. With at least this amount, our local businesses could manage to move positively until conditions have recovered. Our community is working hard to save the environment and care for our fishing industry.

Thank you for your efforts towards this important matter. I urge you to give this proposal serious consideration.

Sincerely, 

Arthur Figueiredo

**RECEIVED**

FEB 18 2009

**PFMC**

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

February 17, 2009

Dear Mr. McIsaac,

Hello, my name is Randall Marler, and I am with The Recreational Fishing Alliance. I would like to voice my opinion about the economic disaster that would occur on the west coast if there was a closure of the salmon season for the year 2009. I know the letters that we have sent the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) is just something to laugh at when you make your decision. I and everyone else knows your minds are already made up, however if I did not comment about this up coming season I would have to settle for whatever you decide on. At least this way I can say I tried.

We feel that if you close this season on the north coast everyone who relies on the sale of fishing equipment, restaurant owners, lodging owners, party boat owners and anyone else who has a business will lose everything. I have talked to the business owners and just about all of them have lost thousands of dollars in revenue on the north coast.

First off we feel that if you close the north coast to fishing, you should close the whole coast. Every time I talk to someone from California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG) all I hear is that "the fishermen have caught too many fish". The large fish kill that happened on the Klamath River wasn't the fishermen's fault. Nor was the 85,000 or so fingerlings salmon that died for lack of oxygen in the delivery truck.

Also, I understand that there was 2 million or so fertile eggs that were dumped into the Sacramento River. Why if this is true you could not put them somewhere else? I know you cannot put fish eggs in just any streams, but it seems to me they may have been better utilized by hatcheries or in other locations rather than dumped.

In addition, the water that is pumped from the Sacramento River catches so many different species of fish that are sucked on the screens at the pumps and die. It seems to me this situation also needs to be corrected.

It appears that when the season is closed completely on the coast you open the season on the Upper Sacramento River for fishing to the river guides? Especially just when the salmon are ready to spawn. I am not sure I understand this if you are trying to protect the fishery. I've talked with some of the guides on the upper Sacramento River who said they would be broke if they could not run their businesses. I would like to know how they manage to get special favoritism to so we could pursue this as well.


Mr. Donald O. McIsaac

February 17, 2009

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I do not care what kind of salmon fishing season we have but feel we should be entitled to some sort of fishing season. A punch card or a couple of months of salmon fishing would be fine. But I do know your minds are made up already, so whatever you decide just be fair with the whole situation. And if you choose to close one area close it all.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts on behalf of The Recreational Fishing Alliance. Feel free to contact me should you have questions or need further information in regards to this letter.

Sincerely,  


Randall Marler  
30581 Jacobson Lane  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437  
(707) 964-3542



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FEB 20 2009

PFMC

Donald Hansen  
Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

Dear Mr. Hansen,

I am glad you are trying to manage our fish responsibly. I appreciate our Wild Salmon so much! Please please please...I hope you have the power to help us get at least one Salmon on our plate. Responsible limits are fine...everything in moderation! I could be greedy about my need for Salmon...Just a little bit, please! It's the very best food for us in the whole world and it's my favorite by far (not to mention the cranky guys around here who can't fish and the effects on the economy). But do what you have to do to get our Salmon back, I never took it for granted and I never will. Wouldn't strict limits on Sport be enough to get the results we want started?

Respectfully,



Karen Todd  
22500 Ridgeway Hwy.  
Potter Valley, Ca. 95469

RECEIVED

FEB 19 2009

PFMC

I am writing as a member of the Mendocino Democratic Central Committee as a concerned citizen. We really need a Salmon season this year to help our local economy. This area is very tourist dependent there is currently high rate of unemployment. I feel that a Salmon season would bring in much needed fishing dollars to this area fishermen do more than just fish. They stay in our motels & Campgrounds shop in our local stores eat in our restaurants, ride the Skunk Train. So please let us have a much needed Salmon season This Year

Thank You  
Eric B. Martin  
Fort Bragg, Ca

RECEIVED

FEB 19 2009

PFMC

Sir -

It would sure be nice to have some part of Dalmon Reason this year. A punch card - at \$10 would generate more revenue for Dalmon studies and fisheries. I have been fishing with the same captain out of Fort Bragg for over 20 years and have seen his job dwindle down to nothing. There is no life on the docks that pertain to fishing or the sell of fishing equipment. There needs to be some sort of salmon reason too give these people back their jobs and life.

Thank you

Dennis Laurum

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FEB 19 2009

2-1-09

PFMC

Sir.

Enclosed you will find a few examples of why the Salmon season should not be closed again this last year we could see Fort Bragg just closing up.

We as a family have gone to Fort Bragg twenty years plus for the fishing, walone, diving, shopping and enjoy all the special events Fort Bragg has to offer Paul Bunyan Days, Skunk Hair are just a few things to mention.

And also let alone the wonderful life long friends we have made

Now our children take their families to Fort Bragg on vacations

To close Salmon season again will not only hurt the fishermen and their family it will hurt everyone and anyone so many jobs lost will be so many jobless and homeless we need to work together to keep roofs over peoples heads.

Sincerely

Annie Laurence

PO Box 492

Kelseyville, Ca 95451

707 928-4028

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FEB 25 2009

2 /22/09

PFMC March Council Meeting

Dear Sir:

PFMC

In considering the ocean salmon season in the Klamath Zone I wish you would take into consideration the following facts.

- 1) In the Sacramento River during Nov. and Dec. 2008 Chinook fishing was allowed. The spin is that these represent winter and late fall run fish. Certainly an honest Calif. F&G biologist would agree that there is a peripheral group of Chinook that appear and mix with the delineated groups based on known and unknown factors throughout the fall on different dates. I saw many pictures of large Chinook taken during the Nov. and Dec. 2008 on the Sac. River.
- 2) We were not allowed to fish in the Ocean Klamath Zone in 2008 with the reason being given that we might catch a Sac. Chinook.  
I have heard that there may be 1 in 50, if that, that are Chinook Sac. River fish. in the salmon group in the ocean Klamath zone. I also have heard that the threatened fish in the Sac. River are mainly through with their run by late Sept. or early Oct. If this is true and considering the distance the few salmon destined for the Sac. River have to run to get to the Sac. River would not a season for Klamath Zone Chinooks in August and Sept. be available out in the ocean without threatening the concerned stock?
- 3) The Klamath River Quota in 2008 was the largest I have heard of in the years past when there have been heavy restrictions both in the ocean and the river. And yet despite salmon in the Klamath River tributary spawning beds competing for room to spawn after the Iron Gate small hatchery quota is reached we in the ocean are not allowed to access these fish that have their eggs lost.
- 4) There is a perception by my contacts that a strong influence is exerted by the River Guides on both the PFMC and the Cal. F&G.  
Whether this is true or not we do know that this group has a strong lobby while the individual fishermen has little if any impact on the options. We have all heard, "if we can just save one fish" and "the stock in the ocean is overfished"
- 5) The salmon fisherman effort in the Klamath Zone during a season is minuscule compared to those zones further South. Weather also plays a significant factor in the small amount of time allowed on the water. An entire Holiday weekend can be wiped out by weather in far No. Cal.

I have not touched on the other factors involved i.e. economic impact, water use, destruction of habitat, etc. as you are aware of these. I do urge you to offer a season in the ocean this year, particularly in the Klamath Zone. I am 77 and would like to have a couple of more years on the Pacific along with my elderly friends and family.

Respectfully, Hugh D. Washburn, Trinidad, Cal.

