

Agenda Item H.3.g
Public Comment
April 2009

Subject: 2009 salmon options
From: Andrew Smith <andrewjacobsmith@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, 13 Mar 2009 11:25:16 -0700
To: Chuck.Tracy@noaa.gov

Mr. Tracy

I am writing you as an avid fisherman, CCA member, that spends 75% of my time enjoying the ocean while fishing. I was reading the newly released option for the 2009 ocean salmon season. My two concerns that I would like to be known are as follows:

1. Please do not limit the ocean Chinook season north of Cape Falcon be strictly a hatchery season. I do not think this is needed measure for the area due to the estimated 500,000 Chinook predicted to return to the Columbia River system. Additionally I feel that it is likely due to the great numbers and projected extended season with Coho that the pressure will be lighter than usual and more fish will be able to return to the river systems.
2. Please set the Coho season to open on 7/1/2009. I feel the longer we wait, it will allow for the fish to get larger and extend the season into September.

I would like to commend everyone for exploring the opportunity for a 3 fish limit. I know everybody was saying that last year was not going to be a good year, but we had great success. All year long we were shrugging our shoulders wondering why everybody was so glum. There are a lot of fish out there and I think people blow things way out of proportions. Thanks for taking the time to read my letter and I trust everybody will do the right thing.

Andrew Smith
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