

**HOOPA VALLEY TRIBAL COMMENTS ON
Final Action on 2009 Management Measures**

The Hoopa Valley Tribe (Tribe) acknowledges that the preferred 2009 management alternative provides 30,900 Klamath fall Chinook adults for combined tribal harvest while elevating the natural escapement target to 40,700 adult spawners. We also acknowledge the importance of this great resource to our coastal communities and believe there are opportunities where Klamath River fall Chinook could contribute to marine fisheries in 2009.

However, the Tribe takes exception to the marine fisheries identified for the spring of 2010. These fisheries are not supported by available science as they are sanctioned a year in advance when full stock strength information is not available. Further, fisheries in the spring have the potential of impacting Klamath Basin spring Chinook for which specific management strategies have yet to be developed. We invite the participation of co-managers to ensure a comprehensive approach to future management of this stock.

It is unfortunate that a precipitous decline in Sacramento River fall Chinook (SRFC) will again require significant closures of marine fisheries in 2009. We are hopeful that these fisheries are restored in the near future in response to coast-wide efforts in conservation and habitat restoration.

On Trinity River, the Tribe has worked tirelessly with its trustee and other co-managers to rehabilitate anadromous fish habitat. The objective of this decades long commitment is supported by the Congressional mandate to restore naturally reproducing salmon populations to levels which predated the construction of the Trinity Division of the Central Valley Project (Trinity Dam).

It is the will of Congress that restored populations of naturally reproducing Trinity Chinook benefit the Tribe's membership as well as dependent recreational and commercial fisheries.

We appreciate the report discussed earlier in the week addressing causes for the decline of the SRFC and find much similarity with the Trinity River relative to concerns over habitat simplification and hatchery practices that collectively affect the diversity of salmonid life histories.

To this end, we call upon our federal trustee to continue meaningful progress in harmonizing Trinity River Hatchery practices with the mandate to restore naturally reproducing salmonid populations in the Trinity River as initiated by the Tribe last summer.