

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
AMENDMENT 16 – ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) received a briefing from Dr. Peter Dygert on the Salmon Amendment Committee (SAC) Report on Amendment 16 to the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The SAS recommends the Council adopt the following topics, at a minimum, for consideration in the FMP amendment process:

- Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Accountability Measures (AMs)
- *De minimis* fishing provisions

The SAS recognizes the potential benefits to stock status and fisheries of improving the probability that conservation objectives are met, and believe that the ACL/AM provisions can accomplish that goal. However, it is also important that provisions for *de minimis* fishing be accommodated in the process so that fisheries can persist under more conservative management scenarios.

As the SAC moves forward with these topics, the SAS recommends alternatives be developed that include separate stock complexes for areas north and south of Cape Falcon. It is important that the carefully crafted management framework north of Falcon be preserved in the analysis of alternatives.

The SAS recognizes there are multiple ways to address uncertainty in salmon management, and recommends a range of alternatives be considered. However, it is a high priority for that at least one alternative south of Cape Falcon to include strategies that permit traditional time/area fisheries management as constrained by stock conservation objectives. Given the additional workload and financial costs associated with quota management and inseason monitoring, the potential burden to the states would make implementing quota management very difficult. If alternatives for quota management south of Cape Falcon are considered or other alternatives that incur additional costs, it will be important to describe how funds will be made available to address costs for complying with these Federal mandates.

PFMC  
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