

IDENTIFICATION OF MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND PRELIMINARY
DEFINITION OF 2015 SALMON MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Using the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) management recommendations as a base (Agenda Item F.3.c, Supplemental SAS Report), the Council should identify the range of management elements in the alternatives for public review (harvest ranges, special restrictions, and basic season structure). The Salmon Technical Team (STT) will attempt to collate the Council's identified management elements into coordinated coastwide alternatives. The collated alternatives will be returned to the Council for review and any further direction on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, followed by STT analysis and final adoption of the alternatives on Thursday, March 12, 2015. Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 1 provides guidance for developing and assessing the alternatives.

Any alternative considered for adoption that deviates from Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) objectives will require implementation by emergency rule. If an emergency rule appears to be necessary, the Council must clearly identify and justify the need for such an action consistent with emergency criteria established by the Council (Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 2) and National Marine Fisheries Service (Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 3).

Before defining the alternatives, the Council should be briefed on any pertinent management constraints resulting from: actions by the Pacific Salmon Commission; action by the California Fish and Game Commission to set the allocation of Klamath River fall Chinook or Sacramento River fall Chinook for the inside recreational fisheries; and National Marine Fisheries Service constraints for stocks listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The Council may also want to consider recommendations for inseason action to modify fisheries that may open prior to May 1, 2015, as impacts accrued in these fisheries may affect opportunity in summer fisheries. Currently, the Oregon commercial fishery from Cape Falcon to the Oregon/California border and the Oregon recreational fishery from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. are scheduled to open March 15, 2015. The California commercial fishery from Horse Mountain to Point Arena is scheduled to open April 16-30, 2015, and the California recreational fisheries from Horse Mt. to the U.S./Mexico border are scheduled to open April 4, 2015.

Additionally, under the Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut, incidental halibut retention in commercial salmon troll fisheries will begin April 1. The Council may discuss changes to incidental Pacific halibut retention when considering 2015 regulations for fisheries opening prior to May 1, 2015.

Council Action:

- 1. Using the SAS proposals and other agency and public input, define basic management elements and alternatives for STT collation into coastwide management alternatives.**
- 2. Consider the need for inseason action to address salmon fisheries opening prior to May 1, 2015.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 1: Guidance for Alternative Development and Assessment.
2. Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 2: Emergency Changes to the Salmon FMP.
3. Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 3: FR 97-22094: Policy Guidelines for the Use of Emergency Rules.
4. Agenda Item F.3.c, Supplemental SAS Report: SAS Proposed Initial Salmon Management Alternatives for 2015 Non-Indian Ocean Fisheries.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
- b. Report of the Pacific Salmon Commission Bob Turner
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Council Recommendations for Initial Alternatives for Salmon Technical Team Collation and Description

PFMC
02/11/15