

**Tribal and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 2015
Management Objectives for
Puget Sound Chinook and Coho Salmon**

As provided for in Amendment 14, and pursuant to rules and procedures established under U.S. v. Washington, WDFW and the affected Tribes have established management objectives for Puget Sound Chinook and coho salmon. The management objectives applicable to the 2015 regulation setting process are presented in the following tables. They are based on a similar management approach and methodologies as the objectives provided to the Council the past several years. The management objectives define the maximum impact levels allowed for 2015-16 salmon fisheries.

For Puget Sound Chinook salmon, the management objectives in Table 1 are part of the current harvest management plan developed by the Puget Sound Tribes and WDFW. The state and tribal co-managers expect that fishing considered by the Council for the 2015-16 seasons will be consistent with these objectives. The Puget Sound Harvest Management plan is in the process of being approved by NOAA Fisheries and is consistent with the NOAA Guidance Letter presented in Agenda item F.3.c.

Table 1

2015 Puget Sound Primary Natural Coho Management Unit Exploitation Rate Ceilings

<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Preseason Forecast Of Abundance</u> (Ocean Age Three)	<u>Management Status</u>	<u>Total Exploitation Rate Ceiling</u>
Strait of Juan de Fuca *	11,130	critical	20%
Hood Canal	61,450	normal	65%
Skagit	121,430	normal	60%
Stillaguamish	31,260	normal	50%
Snohomish	151,550	normal	60%

* For 2015 the exploitation rate split between U.S. and Canada is 7% and 13% respectively.

The Pacific Salmon Treaty states that if the intercepting party does not require their full exploitation rate cap to harvest its own stocks, the producing party may plan fisheries to use the unused portion of the cap, provided that the cumulative exploitation rate limit established is not exceeded.

Table 2. Exploitation rate ceilings, low abundance thresholds and critical exploitation rate ceilings for Puget Sound Chinook management units for the 2015-2016 season.

Management Unit	Exploitation Rate	Upper Management Threshold	Low Abundance Threshold	Critical Exploitation Rate Ceiling
Nooksack		4,000		
North Fork		2,000	1,000 ^{1/}	7% / 9% SUS ^{3/}
South Fork		2,000	1,000 ^{1/}	
Skagit Summer/Fall		14,500	4,800	15% SUS even-years 17% SUS odd-years
Upper Skagit	50%		2,200	
Sauk			400	
Lower Skagit			900	
Skagit Spring		2,000	576	18% SUS
Upper Sauk	38%		130	
Upper Cascade			170	
Suiattle			170	
Stillaguamish			900	700 ^{1/}
North Fork Summer	25%	600	500 ^{1/}	
South Fk & MS Fall		300	200 ^{1/}	
Snohomish			4,600	2,800 ^{1/}
Skykomish	21%	3,600	1,745 ^{1/}	
Snoqualmie		1,000	521 ^{1/}	
Lake Washington		20% SUS		
Cedar River		1,680	200	
Green River	Pre-Terminal fisheries will operate under the critical exploitation rate ceiling; terminal fisheries will not target Chinook and other species fisheries in the terminal area will be shaped to minimize Chinook bycatch.		1,800	12% PT SUS
White River Spring	20%	1,000	200	15% SUS
Puyallup Fall	50%	500 (South Prairie Cr.)	500	12% PT SUS
Nisqually	52%		700	SUS ER = 50% of remaining allowable ER ^{4/}
Skokomish	50%	3,650	1,300 ^{2/}	12% PT SUS
Mid-Hood Canal	15% PT SUS	750	400	12% PT SUS
Dungeness	10% SUS	925	500	6% SUS
Elwha	10% SUS	2,900	1,000	6% SUS
Western JDF	10% SUS	850	500	6% SUS

1/ Natural-origin spawners

2/ Skokomish LAT comprises an aggregate escapement of 1,300 total fish of at least 800 Natural spawners and 500 escapement to the hatchery.

3/ SUS ER will not exceed 7% in 4 out of 5 years

4/ SUS CERC will be 50% of the difference between 52% and the expected ER associated with fisheries in Alaska and British Columbia