

## REVIEW OF 2015 FISHERIES AND SUMMARY OF 2016 STOCK ABUNDANCE FORECASTS

Each year, the Council reviews the Stock Assessment and Fisheries Evaluation (SAFE) document (Review of Ocean Salmon Fisheries) and stock abundance projections (Preseason Report I). Stock status for non-Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed and non-hatchery stocks is evaluated in the SAFE document relative to status determination criteria (SDC) for overfishing, overfished, not overfished/rebuilding, and rebuilt. These stocks are evaluated relative to SDC for approaching an overfished condition in Preseason Report I.

Three stocks are required to have annual catch limits (ACLs) specified – the Sacramento River fall Chinook (indicator stock for the Central Valley fall Chinook complex), Klamath River fall Chinook (indicator stock for the Southern Oregon/Northern California Chinook complex), and Willapa Bay natural coho. The ACLs are equivalent to acceptable biological catch (ABC), and are specified based on formulas described in the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) (Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1) and the abundance forecasts in Preseason Report I.

Preseason Report I also contains an analysis of 2015 regulations on projected 2016 abundance for coho and some Chinook stocks. This analysis is intended to provide perspective for how fisheries might need to be modified in 2016 to accommodate the new abundance forecasts.

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) will review the results of the SAFE document for 2015 and the stock abundance projections and ACLs for 2016.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will review the forecasts and recommend approval for using them in modeling 2016 ocean salmon fisheries, specifying ABCs, and setting ACLs.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Adopt 2016 stock abundance forecasts, ABCs, and ACLs.**
- 2. Take action relative to stock status determinations as necessary.**

### **Reference Materials:**

- 1. Review of 2015 Ocean Salmon Fisheries (Electronic Only).*
- 2. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1: Excerpts from Chapter 3 of the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan.*
- 3. Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis and Environmental Assessment Part 1 for 2016 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations (Supplemental Briefing Material).*

### **Agenda Order:**

- E.2 Review of 2015 Fisheries and Summary of 2016 Stock Abundance Forecasts
  - a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
  - b. Public Comment

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- c. **Council Action:** Review and Discuss Relevant Fishery Information, Act on Relevant Conservation Objectives or Status Determinations, and Adopt 2016 Abundance Forecasts and Annual Catch Limits as Necessary

PFMC  
02/11/16