

## SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON SALMON FISHERY BOUNDARY CHANGE REVIEW

At the April 2017 Council meeting, a boundary change was proposed through public comment. The change would affect the salmon fishery off the California coast near the southern boundary of the Klamath Management Zone (KMZ). The Council tasked Council staff to work with various technical teams and advisory bodies in investigating any potential effects of the proposed change.

Since the April Council meeting, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) announced plans to adjust the salmon fishery boundary between the Northern and Central Oregon (NO/CO) management areas. More details are available in Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1.

In June 2017, the Salmon Technical Team (STT) held a public webinar to discuss the two potential boundary changes and any technical details related to such changes. The following summarizes the STT's preliminary conclusions:

1. Concerning the NO/CO boundary change proposed by ODFW, the STT recognized the need for only minor changes in the data reported from the recreational ocean salmon fishery near Florence, Oregon regarding the assigned area of catch. Recreational boats in Florence that reported catching most of their fish in catch area 5 (CO) were likely fishing shoreward of Heceta Banks, an area that would change to catch area 4 (NO) under the proposed new boundary. Both Oregon and California agreed that reassigning area of catch is a simple task that could be completed over the winter and prior to the beginning of the preseason process in March 2018. Commercial data would not be modified because ODFW believes that, unlike the recreational fishery, commercial boats that report landings from catch area 5 (CO) were likely not fishing shoreward of Heceta Banks but instead were fishing further south in areas that would remain within catch area 5 (CO) under the proposed new boundary. This proposed new boundary would not be considered a change in methodology; there would simply be a re-assignment of the catch area reported in historical datasets for the recreational fishery that are used in the existing harvest models. The STT sees no issues with such a change.
2. For the KMZ boundary change request, the management line modification would require a change to harvest model methodology and be more involved than the data change described for the ODFW proposal. Because of this, review by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) would be required. Time and workload constraints are a factor for both the SSC and STT. Aside from the technical issues anticipated, it is unclear what type of policy and regulation changes would be required if such a change was determined technically viable. It may be prudent for the Council to consider potential policy aspects of such a change as well (Fishery Management Plan amendment requirements, etc.).