Tribal and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 2018 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, Washington State Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the affected Puget Sound Tribes (Tribes) have established management objectives for Puget Sound Chinook salmon and coho salmon. The management objectives applicable to the 2018 regulation setting process are presented in the following tables. The management objectives define the maximum impact levels allowed for 2018-19 salmon fisheries and are based on a similar approach and methods as the objectives provided to the Council the past several years.

For Puget Sound Chinook salmon, the management objectives in Table 1 are part of the proposed harvest management plan developed by the Tribes and WDFW that is currently under review by NOAA. The Tribes and WDFW expect that fishing considered by the Council for the 2018-19 seasons will be consistent with these objectives. The Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Management plan has management objectives for some management units that differ from the NOAA Guidance Letter presented in Agenda item E.3.b. NOAA has developed some recovery exploitation rates (RERs) through simulation modeling using the Pacific Salmon Commission's exploitation rates (ERs) and then converted those to FRAM ERs. WDFW and the Tribes developed management objectives using FRAM ERs and observations of stock response. The Tribes and WDFW are continuing to discuss these differences and possible methods for making comparisons between them with NOAA to try to reach resolution on the management objectives for 2018.

Table 1. Puget Sound Chinook salmon management objectives for fishery year 2018. Objectives are specified as escapement-based objectives or as either Total, Southern U.S. (SUS), or pre-terminal SUS (PT SUS) exploitation rate limits.

Management Unit	Exploitation Rate or Escapement Objectives
Nooksack River North/Middle Fork South Fork	10.5% SUS ER
Skagit Summer/Fall Upper Skagit summer-run Sauk summer-run Lower Skagit fall-run	47% Total / 15% SUS
Skagit spring-run Upper Sauk Upper Cascade Suiattle	38% Total / 18% SUS
Stillaguamish River	24% Total / 13% SUS max
Snohomish River Skykomish summer-run Snoqualmie fall-run	21% Total[2]
Lake Washington – Cedar River fall-run [1]	500 Escapement (13% PT SUS limit) [3]
Green River fall-run [1]	2,013 Escapement (13% PT SUS limit) [3]
White River spring-run	22% SUS
Puyallup fall-run [1]	797 Escapement (13% PT SUS limit) [3]
Nisqually	49% Total (47% + 2% for experimental selective fishery)
Skokomish fall-run	50% Total
Mid-Hood Canal	12% PT SUS
Dungeness	10% SUS
Elwha	10% SUS
Western Strait of Juan de Fuca – Hoko River [4]	10% SUS

[1] Hatchery Escapement goals are an additional management consideration for harvest of these stocks.

[2] The co-managers will consider an SUS ER limit that may result in a total ER greater than 21% based on expected exploitation rate in northern fisheries.

[3] Based on the pre-season forecasts for Lake Washington, Green River, and Puyallup River, the ER ceiling for the pre-terminal fisheries will be 13% PT SUS.

[4] Although not part of the Puget Sound Chinook salmon ESU, Hoko River Chinook management objectives are a management consideration for Puget Sound co-managers.

Table 2. 2018 Puget Sound Primary Natural Coho Management Unit Exploitation Rate Ceilings.

Puget Sound Stocks	2018 Adult Forecast (Ocean Age 3)	2018 Assigned FMP Status	Total ER Ceiling
Strait of Juan de Fuca	7168	Critical	0.20
Hood Canal	59530	Normal	0.65
Skagit	59196	Low	0.35
Stillaguamish	18950	Low	0.35
Snohomish	65925	Low	0.40