The Salmon Technical Team (STT) discussed this topic at the STT/Model Evaluation Workgroup webinar on August 29, 2019, and had conversations with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) staff at the June 2019 Council meeting. The STT has reviewed NMFS Report 1 under this agenda item and considered the proposed solution within that report. The STT does not foresee any technical issues with the NMFS proposal to expand the ‘pre-May’ concept to include any early May (May 1-15) fisheries.

The STT does note that pre-May fisheries typically represent about 5 percent of the annual salmon harvest. Including the May 1-15 fisheries is estimated to result in an increase in this value to 10 percent (range 8-13 percent) of the annual salmon harvest based on data from 2011-2018 (Table B-1 in NMFS Report 1).