NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers (NWFSC/SWFSC) and West Coast Region will briefly report on recent developments relevant to salmon fisheries and issues of interest to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council).

No reports from the NWFSC/SWFSC were submitted for the advanced briefing book.

Topics of interest under this agenda item include the NMFS response to the Council’s request to expedite the 2020 salmon fishery regulation package with a May 1 target opening date (Attachment 1), and the notice of intent to sue from Wild Fish Conservancy to U.S. Department of Commerce and NMFS regarding southeast Alaska salmon fisheries (Attachment 2). Additional items identified for potential discussion may include an update on the Lower Columbia River Fishery Management Evaluation Plans, status of the Hoopa Valley Tribe mediation/litigation regarding southern Oregon/northern California coast coho, and an update on the status of the salmon rebuilding plans as they move through the regulatory process.

Council Action:

Council Discussion and Guidance.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.1 Attachment 1: Letter regarding schedule for the 2020 salmon season regulatory review from Mr. Chris Oliver, Assistant Director of Fisheries to Mr. Chuck Tracy, Executive Director of Pacific Fishery Management Council; received January 29, 2020.
2. Agenda Item E.1 Attachment 2: Letter of Notice of Intent to Sue from Wild Fish Conservancy to U.S. Department of Commerce and National Marine Fisheries Service for failing to ensure that their authorization of the southeast Alaska salmon fisheries does not jeopardize the continued existence of the Southern Resident Killer Whale and four Chinook salmon species; received January 9, 2020.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

E.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
   a. Regulatory Activities
   b. Fisheries Science Center Activities
   c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   d. Public Comment
   e. Council Discussion

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