

AMENDMENT 20: MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE AND KLAMATH MANAGEMENT
ZONE BOUNDARY CHANGE – FINAL ACTION

At its April 2019 meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) received a [report](#) from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) which stated that the 2019 regulations for ocean salmon fisheries could not be processed in time for the traditional start date of May 1. NMFS highlighted the increased challenge in completing the regulatory work needed given the complex approval process and short timeframe. Since the [Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan](#) (FMP) includes a preseason schedule for setting the annual season, any changes to the FMP schedule would require a plan amendment.

At its September 2019 meeting, the Council considered a [NMFS report](#) on the salmon preseason schedule, which outlined the issue and provided potential solutions. The Council tasked a Project Team comprised of Council and NMFS staff to develop a workplan and timeline for a potential amendment to the FMP consistent with the proposals requested by NMFS. In addition, under the Salmon Methodology Review agenda item, the Salmon Technical Team (STT) was tasked with the technical analysis needed to inform a proposed change to the southern boundary of the Klamath Management Zone (KMZ).

At the November 2019 Council meeting, the Project Team provided a [draft workplan](#) for the proposed changes to the salmon preseason schedule for Council consideration, which included a purpose and need statement, scope of action and range of alternatives. The report also included 'housekeeping' suggestions for minor updates to the FMP. Under the salmon methodology review process, the Council also considered an [STT report](#) on potential implications of the proposed KMZ boundary change. The Council agreed to move forward with the amendment process for both the proposed preseason schedule and the boundary change which would be the FMP Amendment 20. Consistent with Council Operating Procedure ([COP 11](#)), this meeting constituted the first of three meetings in a typical FMP amendment cycle.

In June 2020, the Project Team submitted a [report](#) which included a range of alternatives for both topics. The Council adopted for public review a range of alternatives being considered under Amendment 20. The alternatives are consistent with those described in the Project Team report, with the addition of a third alternative for the proposed boundary change that would designate the area (five nautical miles) of change as a conservation zone available for use during years of low Klamath River fall Chinook abundance forecasts.

Under this agenda item the Project Team has provided a report (Attachment 1) detailing the updated range of alternatives discussed in June 2020. A mark-up of the FMP showing proposed housekeeping edits is provided as Attachment 2. If the Council chooses to amend the FMP with the proposed schedule change, then [Council Operating Procedures](#) describing the preseason salmon management process will also have to be updated.

Council Action:

Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives and housekeeping edits to the FMP.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.2, Attachment 1: Analytical Document Organized as a Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment with Updated Range of Alternatives for Amendment 20 of the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan: Proposed Change to the Preseason Schedule and to the Klamath Management Zone Boundary, August 2020.
2. Agenda Item H.2, Attachment 2: Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan: Amendment 20: Proposed housekeeping changes.
3. If received, public comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- H.2 Amendment 20: Annual Management Schedule and Klamath Management Zone Boundary Change – Final Action Robin Ehlke
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives

PFMC
08/18/20