

SALMON HEARING SUMMARY ON MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES
OREGON REPORT

The public hearing focused on salmon management alternatives affecting Oregon was held online on the evening of Wednesday, March 24. Representatives on hand included:

Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council):	Mr. Chris Kern (Oregon)
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS):	Ms. Peggy Mundy
United States Coast Guard (USCG):	Mr. Chris German
Council Staff:	Ms. Robin Ehlke
Salmon Technical Team (STT):	Mr. Craig Foster (Oregon)

Participants

An estimated 63 participants attended the online meeting, including the representatives listed above, and other agency staff.

Opening Remarks

Mr. Kern provided opening remarks for the hearing as the Council representative for Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Mr. Foster reviewed alternatives for the commercial and recreational salmon seasons, and for incidental halibut retention in the salmon troll fishery.

Summary of Testimony

A total of 11 people provided testimony:

6 were primarily interested in the commercial troll fishery (preferred a range of all Alternatives)

4 were primarily interested in the recreational fishery (all preferred Alternative I)

1 attendee inquired about tribal participation

0 commented on incidental halibut retention

Commercial Testimony

1 troller preferred Alt II, and did not like Alt III (Leadbetter Pt. to Cape Falcon).

1 troller preferred Alt I (Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt.). There was also mention of increasing the number of hooks allowed per line during the coho retention period.

3 trollers preferred Alt III (Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt.) stating a preference for consecutive days on the water, which saves time going in and out of port and is better economically. Also, weather dictates when to fish safely, trollers may take more risk (and reduce safety) with the short openers outlined in Alts I and II.

1 troller preferred Alt I (Humbug Mt. to OR/CA border).

Recreational Testimony

3 anglers preferred Alt I and were unified in their opposition of having periods closed to Chinook retention (Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt). Also, a request was made to delay the coho opening date to June 26 to allow time for larger fish to be available.

1 angler preferred Alt I and appreciates the early start (Humbug Mt. to OR/CA border).

Other Comments

Appreciation was expressed for the hard work of the Advisory body and technical team members, and for the opportunity to provide comment.