SALMON HEARING SUMMARY ON MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES CALIFORNIA REPORT

The public hearing focused on salmon management alternatives affecting California was held online on the evening of Tuesday, March 23, 2021. Representatives on hand included:

Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council)	Mr. Brett Kormos (California)
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS):	Ms. Peggy Mundy
United States Coast Guard (USCG):	NA
Council Staff:	Ms. Robin Ehlke
Salmon Technical Team (STT)	Mr. Alex Letvin (California)

Participants

An estimated 65 participants attended the online meeting, including the representatives listed above, California Council members, and other agency staff.

Opening Remarks

Mr. Kormos provided opening remarks for the hearing. Mr. Letvin of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife provided a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the recreational and commercial alternatives.

Summary of Testimony

A total of 14 people provided testimony:

6 commented on the commercial troll fishery, most supporting Alternative I, with some support for a modified version of Alternative II.

8 commented on the recreational fishery, all supporting Alternative I, or a modified version of Alternative III.

Commercial Testimony

- All but one of the commenters preferred Alt I. The one commenter who differed preferred Alt II but with more time in Monterey during May and June.
- One person commented that the Chinook total length should be 26-inches, not 27-inched as seen in recent years.
- Fort Bragg Alternative I provides opportunity in all of September.
- San Francisco Full opportunity during September/October is preferred, but five days per week (Mon-Fri) would be workable.
- One person spoke in favor of fishing opportunity in the fall.
- Less time on the water this year and low crab season, access to Rockfish Conservation Areas etc. would help the fishermen economically.
- During August, consider restricting the San Francisco management area to the Fall Area Target Zone between Point Reyes and Point San Pedro.

Recreational Testimony

• Anglers from the San Francisco area preferred Alt I, or Alt III but with the extended end dates shown in Alt I or Alt II if possible.

• In CA Klamath Management Zone – if possible - extend to Sunday August 1, rather than end Saturday, July 31 so anglers can fish through the weekend. Preferred Alt I.

Other Comments

Public expressed appreciation for opportunity to provide comment.

PFMC 03/29/21