

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 22, 2022. Representatives on hand included:

Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council)	Mr. Marc Gorelnik (California)
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS):	Ms. Shannon Penna
United States Coast Guard (USCG):	Lt. Lelea Lingo
Council Staff:	Ms. Robin Ehlke
Salmon Technical Team (STT)	Ms. Kandice Morgenstern (California)

Participants

An estimated 85 participants attended the online meeting, including the representatives listed above, California Council members, and other agency staff.

Opening Remarks

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

Summary of Testimony

A total of 28 people provided testimony:

- 10 commented on the commercial troll fishery, with support for Alternative I, but most supported modified versions of the Alternatives to provide more opportunity.
- 18 commented on the recreational fishery, all supporting Alternative I, or a combined version of Alternatives I and III.

Commercial Testimony

- Monterey (MO): Support opportunity in May and June.
- Fort Bragg (FB) – Alternative I: Support opportunity July and August. Some supported splitting the July/August dates into 5-day openers since opportunity is limited; this spreads the fleet out a bit, helps with infrastructure issues such as obtaining ice, and improves marketing. Others preferred keeping ‘block’ openers.
- San Francisco (SF) – In all Alternatives: Split time in July/August as suggested for FB. Add a boundary line at Point Pedro and Point Reyes to provide more fishing opportunity. Support for Alternative II. Would like a 26-inch limit in September and October.
- Establish a call-in line (phone, text, or email) to report catch for delivery to ports out of the area where fish were caught. Allows fishers to sell in their home port and could improve data on catch location. Saves fuel and time. Reduces carbon footprint as fishers must transit to and from ports to deliver, then return to home port.
- Request to review model that reduced the impact limit for California Coastal Chinook from 16 percent to 10 percent.

Recreational Testimony

- California Klamath Management Zone: Support Alternatives I and II that provide opportunity in May.
- SF: Overwhelming support for a mix of Alternatives I and III to provide as much time as possible in June and change the size limit to 20-inches in mid-May.
- FB: Mix of Alternatives I and III to provide as much time as possible in June and change the size limit to 20-inches in mid-May.
- MO: Support all Alternatives.
- FB/SF – Add June time and align the re-opening in June in both areas and 20-inch by June 23 at the latest.
- All Areas – Support Alternative II so can fish on July 4.
- Support use of Pedro Point to be considered as a separate zone.

PFMC

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