

SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM REPORT ON SACRAMENTO AND KLAMATH RIVER  
FALL CHINOOK CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES SCOPING

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) discussed the potential for developing new conservation objectives for Sacramento River fall Chinook (SRFC) and Klamath River fall Chinook (KRFC) salmon.

With regard to SRFC, the STT continues to support development of a new conservation objective given the conservation concerns and importance of this stock to salmon fisheries south of Cape Falcon, Oregon. The STT is supportive of an ad hoc workgroup process, with a diverse team composed of participants with relevant SRFC expertise, but who may not be regularly engaged with the Council process. A workgroup of this magnitude would likely require a two-year process.

The STT is also supportive of an ad hoc workgroup to develop a new conservation objective for KRFC given conservation concerns, importance to salmon fisheries, and impending dam removal. The STT has previously stated that a SRFC workgroup would be of higher priority in the near term given that several years of data following dam removal would be desirable before such an effort should be pursued for KRFC. However, there may be a need for development of interim management objectives for the years immediately following dam removal. The timeline for a technical workgroup more narrowly focused on developing an interim conservation objective should be linked to dam removal timing. To have workgroup recommendations ready for implementation in the ocean fishing season prior to the first volitional passage above Iron Gate Dam, such recommendations would likely need to be adopted prior to the winter/spring 2024 fishery planning process.

The STT makes no recommendation on the relative prioritization of a SRFC or KRFC workgroup at this time. However, if the workgroups were to be held simultaneously, it is likely that availability and workload issues for the STT and other contributing entities would be a factor.

PFMC  
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