

## KLAMATH RIVER FALL CHINOOK WORKGROUP PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

At their June 2023 meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) formed the ad-hoc Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup (Workgroup or KRWG). One of the main purposes of the Workgroup is to provide technical data for Council consideration that would assist the Council with developing interim management measures, or a management framework, that would benefit Klamath River Fall Chinook (KRFC) as they respond to changing conditions due to the removal of Klamath River dams. The Workgroup was provided guidance by the Council through a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) and General Timeline that has helped the Workgroup focus their tasks ([June 2023 Council Meeting, Agenda Item I.1, Supplemental Attachment 2](#)).

In March 2024, the KRWG provided the Council with a range of options to consider that were designed to offer additional protection for KRFC given their current status as overfished and the impacts to the in-river environment caused by dam removals on the Klamath River ([March 2024 Council meeting, Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental KRWG Report 2](#)). Guided by the Workgroup's report, the Council decided to apply a 20 percent buffer to the maximum exploitation rate allowed in 2024 under the Pacific Salmon Fishery Management Plan. The Council opted to adopt the buffer for 2024 only, noting that the degree and magnitude of changing conditions will help inform the need for additional buffers or alternative harvest control rules in future years.

Since March 2024, the Workgroup has met five times (April 24; June 24; August 6; September 6; October 1) to continue developing interim alternative management strategies for KRFC. Their report under this agenda item describes four options for Council consideration as well as monitoring needs and recommendations (Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 1).

The Council is scheduled to receive their next report from the KRFC Workgroup at the June 2025 Council meeting. In March 2025, the Council is anticipated to adopt, for public review, three Alternatives for the 2025 salmon season, and as alternatives are being developed, the management measures for all salmon stocks are part of the analysis when determining if the conservation objectives and other requirements are being met. Therefore, it would be prudent for the Council to discuss and recommend any additional precautionary measures that should be considered for KRFC for the 2025 ocean salmon fisheries at this meeting.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Discuss the interim management options and recommendations in the Workgroup report.**
- 2. Recommend additional precautionary measures for KRFC for implementation in 2025, as appropriate.**
- 3. Provide additional guidance and direction to the Workgroup, as needed.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item F.5.a, Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup Progress Report 1 (***Electronic Only***).

2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- F.5 Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup Progress Report Angela Forristall  
and Recommendations
- a. Workgroup Report Michael O’Farrell
  - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. **Council Action:** Consider Workgroup Report and Adopt Recommendations, As Appropriate

PFMC  
10/21/24