SALMON ADVISORY SUBPLANEL REPORT ON METHODOLOGY REVIEW – FINAL TOPIC SELECTION

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) received a presentation from Dr. Mike O'Farrell (Chair of the Salmon Technical Team [STT]) and Dr. Will Satterthwaite (Chair of the Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup [SRWG]) on the three preliminarily selected 2025 Salmon Methodology Review items and F.1.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1.

The SAS is supportive of moving forward with a review of both the Oregon Production Index Hatchery (OPIH) forecast methodology approach used in 2025 which provided modelers with the flexibility needed to bring forward the most accurate forecast and with changes to the Oregon Coast Natural (OCN) coho marine survival index, as described in the ODFW report.

Regarding the SRWG's proposed topics, the SAS reiterates its April 2025 comments (Agenda Item D.4.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1) that no changes to Sacramento River fall Chinook (SRFC) management should be implemented until the Council reviews a full management strategy package. The SAS discussed that many management decisions that affect the productivity of SRFC are made outside of the Council's authority, particularly those related to water and habitat. The Council should consider adaptive approaches to managing this stock, rather than just managing to a single value. For example, the current conservation objective uses a range, which allows for some flexibility. The SAS appreciates the SRWG's work and the strong scientific basis of their work. **However, the SAS recommends that the Council not move forward with the two topics proposed by the SRWG. This pause would allow time for a more wholistic analysis of the fishery impacts that updating the reference points and conservation objectives using these or other methods could have, and to provide additional time to explore adaptive management approaches. The SAS recommends these considerations be done through an FMP amendment process.**

PFMC
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