SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON KLAMATH RIVER FALL CHINOOK WORKGROUP PROGRESS REPORT

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) reviewed the Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup (KRWG) progress report and noted that the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), in September 2025, expressed interest in revisiting the KRWG's charges and its capacity for continued work at this meeting.

The SAS discussed that it will likely be 10–15 years before enough data is available to develop a new Klamath River fall Chinook (KRFC) escapement objective. During this period, the SAS requests the Council asks relevant state agencies to provide periodic updates on restoration and recovery efforts, as well as any changes to fish monitoring programs. The SAS expressed concern about diminished hatchery production of marked and tagged fish necessary for supporting recovery programs and stock assessment purposes.

The SAS observed that no progress has been made on the matrix-based approach outlined in the workgroup report. Sub-basin management could be reconsidered once sufficient post–dam removal data are available, and a revised KRFC escapement target is established. In the meantime, the SAS supports the Council considering the use of the buffer-based approach that was applied in 2024 on an annual basis, if necessary.

PFMC
11/15/25