

UPDATE ON SALMON REBUILDING PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Three coho stocks (Queets River coho, Strait of Juan de Fuca coho, and Snohomish River coho) and two Chinook stocks (Sacramento River fall Chinook and Klamath River fall Chinook) were found to meet the criteria for being classified as overfished in the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) *Review of 2017 Ocean Salmon Fisheries*, released in February 2018. Under the tenets of the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP), a rebuilding plan is required for each of these stocks. Excerpts from the Chapter 3 of the FMP was provided at the March 2018 Council meeting ([Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1](#)) which describes, in part, the steps to be taken by the Council when the overfished status determination criteria set forth in the FMP have been triggered.

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) has been charged with producing a salmon rebuilding plan (plans) for each of the five stocks that meet the criteria for being overfished. Once complete, adoption of a rebuilding plan will require implementation either through an FMP amendment or notice and comment rule-making process. It is anticipated that these plans will be handled through the notice and comment rule-making process and will require, at minimum, an Environmental Assessment. Council staff and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have been coordinating efforts to streamline the process.

The draft plans are scheduled for Council review at the November 2018 Council meeting. The Council is slated to adopt final plans for recommendation to NMFS at the March 2019 Council meeting.

A tentative timeline for developing the rebuilding plans was provided at the April 2018 Council meeting (Agenda Item H.3.a, [Supplemental STT Report 1](#)). At the June 2018 Council meeting, the STT submitted the first update on rebuilding plan progress (Agenda Item C.11.a, [Supplemental STT Progress Report 1](#)) which included a detailed timeline and work flow plan. Since the June 2018 Council meeting, NMFS provided a letter informing Council of the stock status change (Attachment 1).

At this September 2018 Council meeting, the STT will provide a second update to the Council on the progress made towards development of the five salmon rebuilding plans.

Council Action:

Discussion.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1: Letter to Mr. Phil Anderson from Mr. Barry Thom regarding salmon stock status determinations.

Agenda Order:

E.2 Update on Salmon Rebuilding Plans

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- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Discussion

PFMC
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