

IDENTIFICATION OF MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND PRELIMINARY DEFINITION
OF 2016 SALMON MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES
INCLUDING TEST FISHERY ALTERNATIVES

Using the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) management recommendations as a base (Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental SAS Report), the Council should identify the range of management elements in the alternatives for public review (harvest ranges, special restrictions, and basic season structure). The Salmon Technical Team (STT) will attempt to collate the Council's identified management elements into coordinated coastwide alternatives. The collated alternatives will be returned to the Council for review and any further direction on Friday, March 11, 2016, followed by STT analysis and final adoption of the alternatives on Sunday, March 13, 2016. Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 1 provides guidance for developing and assessing the alternatives.

Any alternative considered for adoption that deviates from Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) objectives will require implementation by emergency rule. If an emergency rule appears to be necessary, the Council must clearly identify and justify the need for such an action consistent with emergency criteria established by the Council (Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 2) and National Marine Fisheries Service (Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 3).

Before defining the alternatives, the Council should be briefed on any pertinent management constraints resulting from: actions by the Pacific Salmon Commission; action by the California Fish and Game Commission to set the allocation of Klamath River fall Chinook or Sacramento River fall Chinook for the inside recreational fisheries; and National Marine Fisheries Service constraints for stocks listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The Council may also want to consider recommendations for inseason action to modify fisheries that may open prior to May 1, 2016, as impacts accrued in these fisheries may affect opportunity in summer fisheries. Currently, the Oregon commercial fishery from Cape Falcon to the Oregon/California border and the Oregon recreational fishery from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. are scheduled to open March 15, 2016. The California commercial fishery from Horse Mountain to Point Arena is scheduled to open April 16-30, 2016, and the California recreational fisheries from Horse Mt. to the U.S./Mexico border are scheduled to open April 2, 2016.

Additionally, under the Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut, incidental halibut retention in commercial salmon troll fisheries will begin April 1. The Council may discuss changes to incidental Pacific halibut retention when considering 2016 regulations for fisheries opening prior to May 1, 2016.

At the November 2015 Council meeting, the Council received a proposal for an industry-sponsored test fishery in the commercial troll fishery in the California Klamath Management Zone (KMZ) (Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 4). At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to take comments on the proposal from its advisory bodies and consider the proposal for inclusion in the 2016 management measure alternatives for public review.

Council Action:

1. Using the SAS proposals and other agency and public input, define basic management elements and alternatives for STT collation into coastwide management alternatives.
2. Consider the need for inseason action to address salmon fisheries opening prior to May 1, 2016.
3. Consider the proposal for a test fishery in the California KMZ and consider including the test fishery in the management measure alternatives for 2016.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 1: Guidance for Alternative Development and Assessment.
2. Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 2: Emergency Changes to the Salmon FMP.
3. Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 3: FR 97-22094: Policy Guidelines for the Use of Emergency Rules.
4. Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 4: California Klamath Management Zone Commercial Salmon Troll Test Fishery Proposal.
5. Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental SAS Report: SAS Proposed Initial Salmon Management Alternatives for 2016 Non-Indian Ocean Fisheries.

Agenda Order:

- E.4 Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2016
Salmon Management Alternatives Including Test Fishery Alternatives Mike Burner
- a. Report of the Pacific Salmon Commission Bob Turner
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Adopt Council Recommendations for Initial Management Measure and Test Fishing Alternatives for Salmon Technical Team Collation and Description

PPMC
02/11/15