

2017 Klamath River Fall Chinook Salmon Season



Fish and Game Commission Teleconference

April 13, 2017

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Status of the KRFC Stock

- 2017 ocean abundance forecast is lowest on record
- “Approaching an Overfished Condition”
- Almost a certainty that the stock will be classified as “Overfished” at this time next year

Klamath River

Fall Chinook Salmon

- Escapement goal for the Klamath Basin is **40,700** natural area adult spawners
- Projected return, absent fishing, is **12,383** natural area adult spawners
- The PFMC minimum escapement goal in 2017 under *de minimis* fisheries management for KRFC is **11,379** natural area adult spawners

2017 PFMC Recommended Allocations

- Klamath River recreational fishery:
129 adult KRFC
- Klamath Tribal allocation: 814 adult
KRFC

Considerations of Allowing a Recreational Fishery

- Allowing a fishery would be inconsistent with actions needed to rebuild the stock
- Small fish (< 22") returning to the river are sexually mature and will contribute to the reproductive success of the KRFC stock
- Given the stock status, extra precaution is warranted

CDFW Recommendation

- No fall Chinook Salmon recreational fishery in the Klamath and Trinity rivers for 2017 (August 15 through Dec 31)
 - 0 fish > 22 inches (adults)
 - 0 fish < 22 inches (jacks)

2017 In-river Fishing Opportunities

- Spring Chinook Salmon fishery in the Klamath River will continue through August 14
- Spring Chinook Salmon fishery in the Trinity River will continue through August 31
- Steelhead fishery in the Klamath and Trinity rivers will remain open
- Smith River offers other nearby in-river fall Chinook Salmon fishery alternatives
- Fishing opportunities in southern Oregon

