

## **Agenda**

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE 2015 SALMON INFORMATION MEETING**

Sonoma County Water Agency Office  
404 Aviation Boulevard  
Santa Rosa, California 95403

~

**Thursday, February 26, 2015  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Welcome - Moderator Opening Comments and Review Agenda	Brett Kormos, CDFW (9:00 AM)
2014 California Ocean Salmon Sport and Commercial Fisheries Overview	Alex Letvin, CDFW (9:15 a.m.)
2014 Central Valley Chinook Spawner Escapement	Barry Miller, CDFW (9:35 a.m.)
2014 Central Valley Chinook River Sport Fisheries	Erin Collins, CDFW (9:55 a.m.)
BREAK (15 minutes)	(10:15 a.m.)
2014 Klamath Basin Chinook Spawner Escapement, Harvest and Age Composition	Sara Borok, CDFW (10:30 a.m.)
NMFS 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Guidance	Heidi Taylor, NMFS (10:50 a.m.)
Abundance Forecasts and Harvest Model Results	Dr. Michael O'Farrell, NMFS (11:20 a.m.)
LUNCH BREAK (1 hour)	(11:50 a.m.)

Welcome Back / Introduction of CA Panel

Brett Kormos, CDFW  
(12:50 p.m.)

Panel members:

Ms. Marci Yaremko, CDFW Marine Region, PFMC-CDFW Designee  
Mr. Dan Welford, CA PFMC member  
Mr. David Crabbe, CA PFMC member  
Mr. Buzz Brizendine, CA PFMC member  
Mr. Dave Bitts, PFMC-SAS, CA Troll  
Mr. Marc Gorelnik, PFMC-SAS, CA Sport Fisheries  
Mr. Craig Stone, PFMC-SAS, CA Charter Boat  
Mr. Jim Hie, PFMC-SAS, Conservation  
Dr. Michael O'Farrell, NMFS SWFSC, PFMC-STT, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Brett Kormos, CDFW, PFMC-STT

Public Comment to California Salmon Management Panel

(1:00 p.m.)

- 2015 Ocean Sport Fishery Regulations
- 2015 Ocean Commercial Fishery Regulations
- 2015 Inland Fishery Regulations
  - Klamath River Basin
  - Sacramento River Basin and Delta

Closing Comments and Evaluation Form

Brett Kormos, CDFW  
(2:45 p.m.)

Acronyms:

CDFW: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service

PFMC: Pacific Fishery Management Council

SAS: PFMC Salmon Advisory Subpanel

STT: PFMC Salmon Technical Team

SWFSC: NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Santa Cruz, CA



## Department of Fish and Wildlife Ocean Salmon Project

### 2014 California Ocean Salmon Fisheries

Presented by  
Alex Letvin



### Ocean Salmon Project Objectives

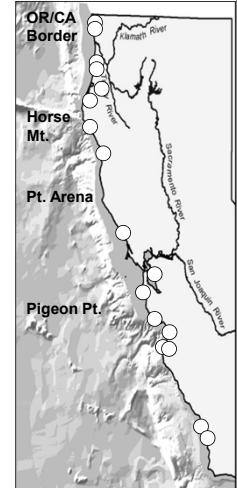
1. Estimate salmon harvest & fishing effort for each management area by half month periods for all California ocean salmon fisheries
2. Determine contribution rates of specific salmon stocks by age using coded-wire tag recoveries by fishery, time, and management area

### Recreational Salmon Fishery



### Sample Design – Private Skiff Fishery

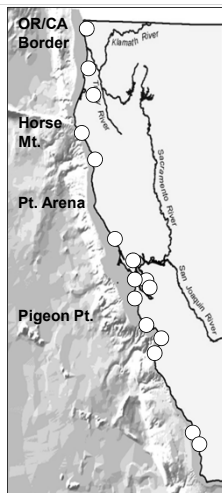
- Random stratified sampling design using weekday and weekend/holiday strata (i.e., skiff days)
- Sampling unit: all skiff trips made at a sample site for an entire day
- CRFS samples  $\geq 20\%$  of all skiff days in each management area and period
  - 20 primary salmon skiff sample sites
  - Average 7 sample days per month at each site
  - 673 skiff days sampled during the 2014 ocean salmon season
- Samplers observe, identify to species, and count all salmon landed
- Each salmon inspected for missing adipose fin
- Adipose fin-clipped salmon are set aside and the heads are collected for coded-wire tag extraction



## Sample Design – CPFV Fishery

### Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessels (CPFV)

- Sampling unit: each CPFV trip
- Sample  $\geq 20\%$  of all salmon-targeting CPFV trips in each management area and period
- Over 100 CPFVs target salmon at 16 primary sample sites
- Samplers observe, identify to species, and count all salmon landed
- Each salmon inspected for missing adipose fin
- Adipose fin-clipped salmon are set aside and the heads are collected for coded-wire tag extraction



## 2014 California Recreational Season

KMZ: OR/CA Border to Horse Mt. (121 days)



FTB: Horse Mt. to Pt. Arena (219 days)



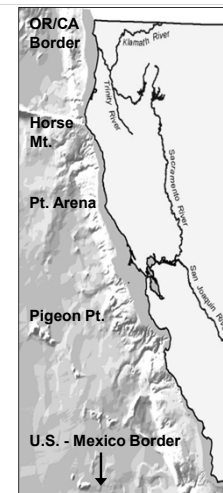
SNF: Pt. Arena to Pigeon Pt. (219 days)



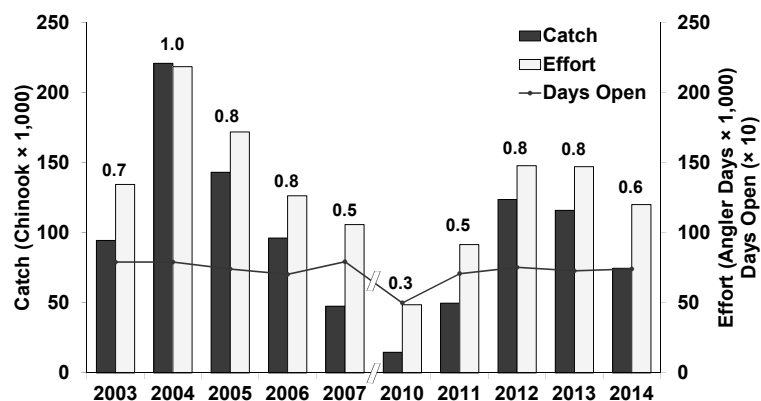
MON: Pigeon Pt. to US/Mexico Border (184 days)



Minimum size limit 24" in KMZ, SNF (through June), and MON;  
20" in FTB and SNF (after June); 2 fish per day

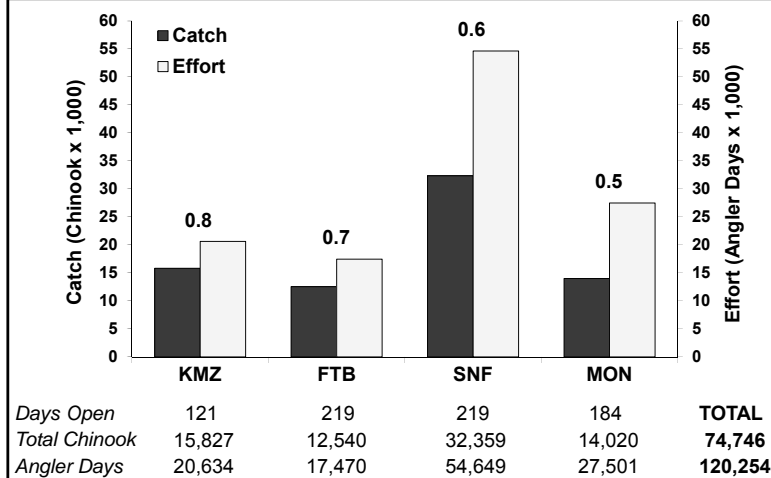


## Recreational Catch and Effort, 2003-2014



Days Open = All four management areas combined

## 2014 Recreational Catch and Effort by Management Area





## Sample Design – Commercial Fishery

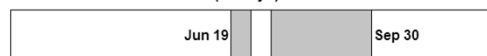
- Sample  $\geq 20\%$  of all landings by weight in each management area and period
- Sampling unit: each commercial landing
- Samplers observe, identify to species, and count all salmon being offloaded
- Each salmon inspected for missing adipose fin and all marked fish are set aside and the heads are taken for coded-wire tag recovery
- Determine average weight and days fished from sampled landings by catch area and sample period

## 2014 California Commercial Season

KMZ: OR/CA Border to Humboldt S. Jetty (15 days)



FTB: Horse Mt. to Pt. Arena (88 days)



SNF: Pt. Arena to Pigeon Pt. (148 days)

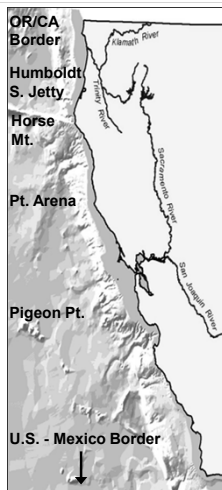


MON: Pigeon Pt. to US/Mexico Border (91 days)

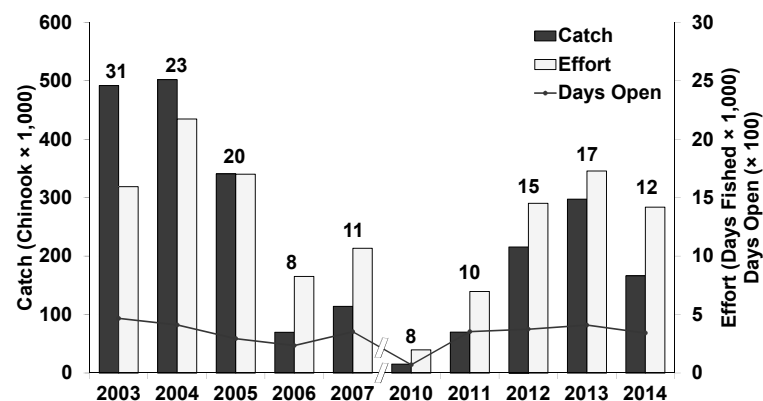


- Statewide closures: Jul 1-14 and Aug 30-31
- Minimum size limit 27", except 26" in SNF beginning Sep 1

\* Oct 1-15 fishery: open between Pt. Reyes and Pt. San Pedro; Mon-Fri

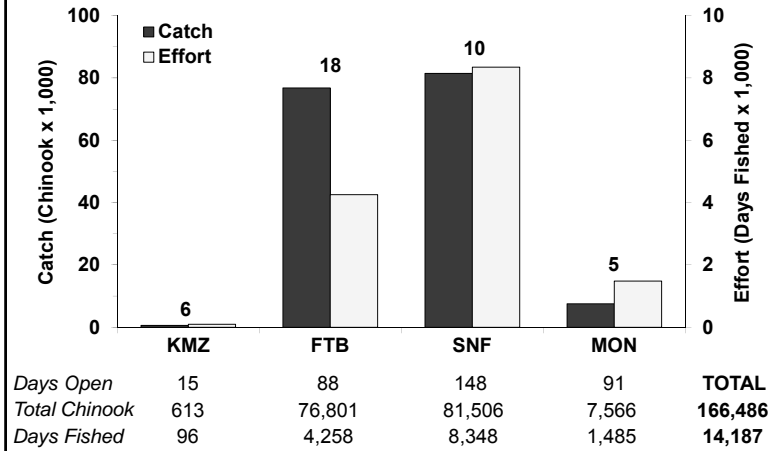


## Commercial Catch and Effort, 2003-2014

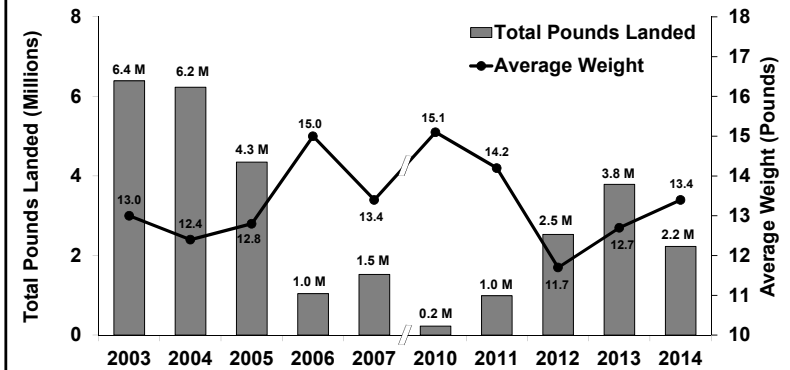


Days Open = All four management areas combined

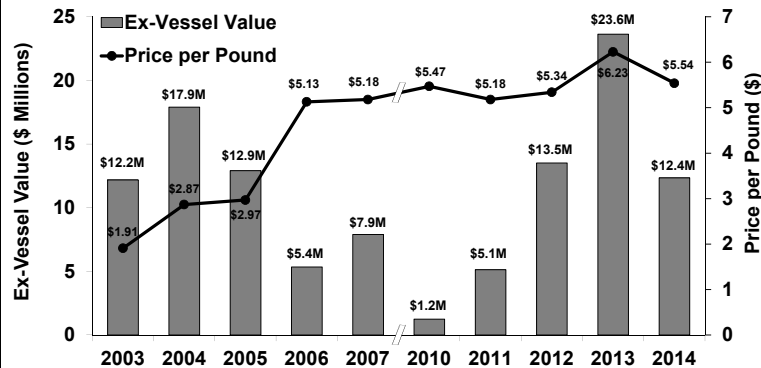
### 2014 Commercial Catch and Effort by Management Area



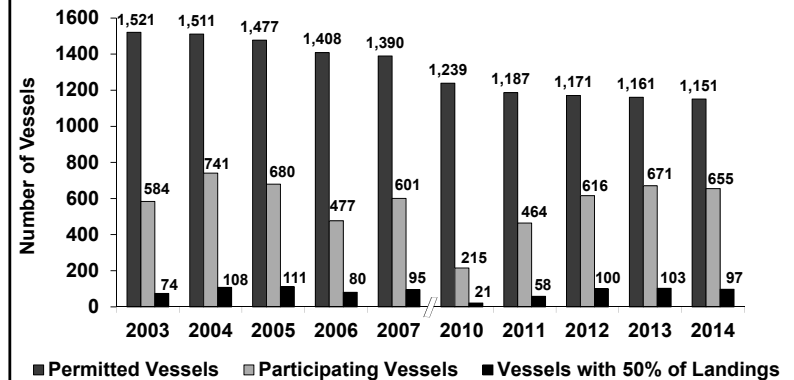
### Total Commercial Pounds Landed and Average Weight, 2003-2014



### Commercial Ex-Vessel Value and Price per Pound, 2003-2014



### Number of Vessels with Landings Compared to Permitted Vessels, 2003-2014



### 2014 Klamath Management Zone September Quota Fishery

Season	Chinook Quota	Total Chinook Landed	Average Chinook Landed Per Day
Sep 12-30, Fri – Tue (15 Days)	4,000	613	41



Average Boats Participating Per Day	Average Daily Catch Per Boat
7	6

### 2014 Fall Ocean Fisheries Impacts on Age-4 Klamath River Fall Chinook

Area	Recreational	Commercial
Northern Oregon	0	17
Coos Bay	29	80
KMZ - Oregon	0	0
KMZ - California	0	0
Fort Bragg	0	0
San Francisco	0	0
Monterey	0	-
Total	29	97

- 126 age-4 Klamath River fall Chinook were impacted during 2014 fall ocean fisheries (September – November)
- Equates to a 0.2% age-4 harvest rate, which will be deducted from the 16.0% allowable harvest rate when determining the 2015 season structure

### Hatchery Contribution to 2014 CA Ocean Fisheries

Hatchery Chinook Stock	Recreational (69%) N = 5,476 CWTs	Commercial (59%) N = 13,142 CWTs
Sacramento River Fall	82%	83%
San Joaquin River Fall	11%	9%
Klamath River Fall	1%	3%
Central Valley Spring	3%	2%
Central Valley Late-Fall	1%	2%
Pacific Northwest Stocks	1%	1%
Other Northern California Stocks	0.1%	0.4%
Sacramento River Winter	0.17%	0.03%

### Sacramento River Hatchery Fall Chinook, Contribution by Hatchery – CA Ocean Fisheries

Sacramento River Hatchery	Recreational	Commercial
Feather River Hatchery <i>~10 million fall Chinook released annually</i>	68%	61%
Coleman National Fish Hatchery <i>~12 million fall Chinook released annually</i>	22%	25%
Nimbus Fish Hatchery <i>~4 million fall Chinook released annually</i>	11%	14%



## Department of Fish and Wildlife Ocean Salmon Project

**Thank You**

Alex Letvin  
Environmental Scientist  
[alexander.letvin@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:alexander.letvin@wildlife.ca.gov)



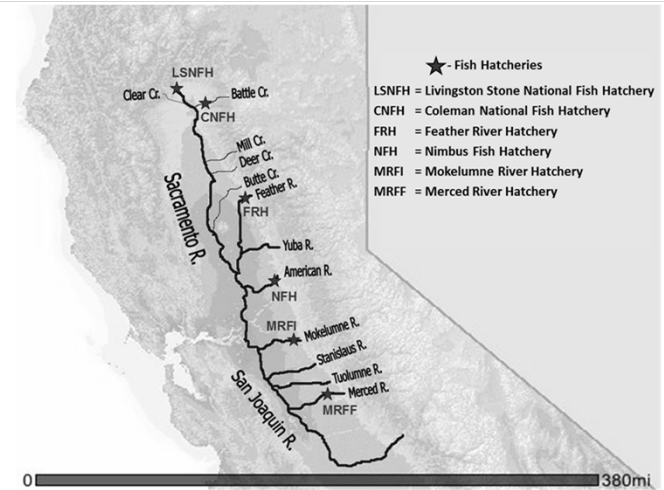


## Department of Fish and Wildlife Ocean Salmon Project

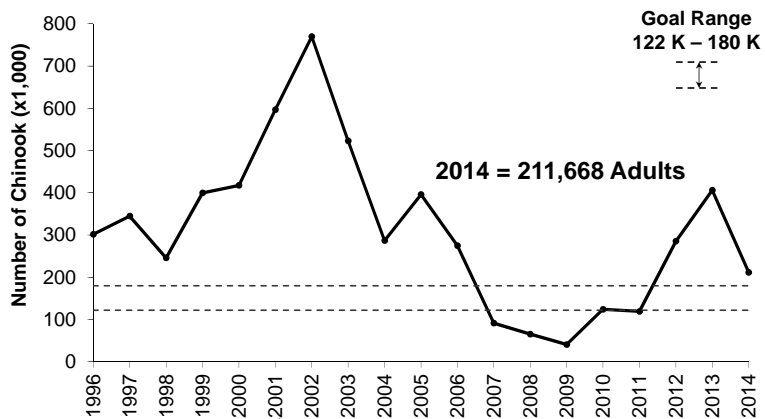
# 2014 Central Valley Chinook Salmon Spawning Escapement

Presented by  
Barry Miller

## The Central Valley

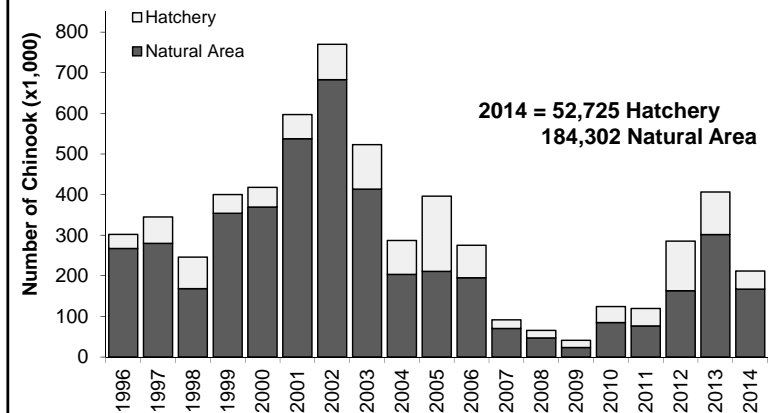


## Sacramento River Fall Chinook Adult Spawning Escapement, 1996-2014



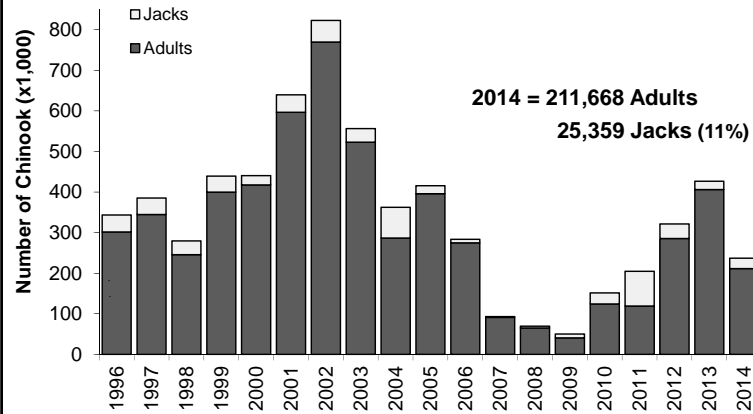
3

## Sacramento River Fall Chinook Hatchery & Natural Area Spawning Escapement, 1996-2014



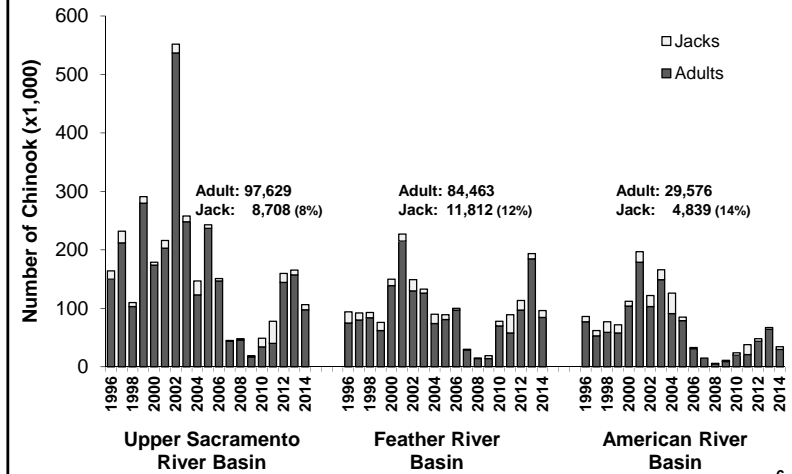
4

**Sacramento River Fall Chinook  
Adult & Jack Spawning Escapement, 1996-2014**



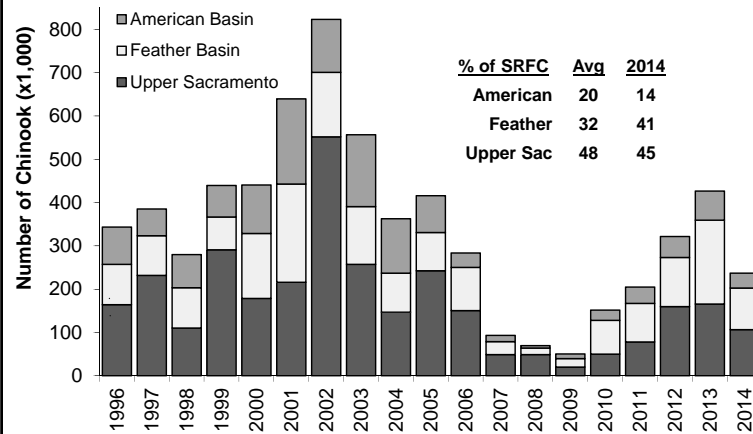
5

**Sacramento River Fall Chinook  
Adult & Jack Spawning Escapement By Basin, 1996-2014**



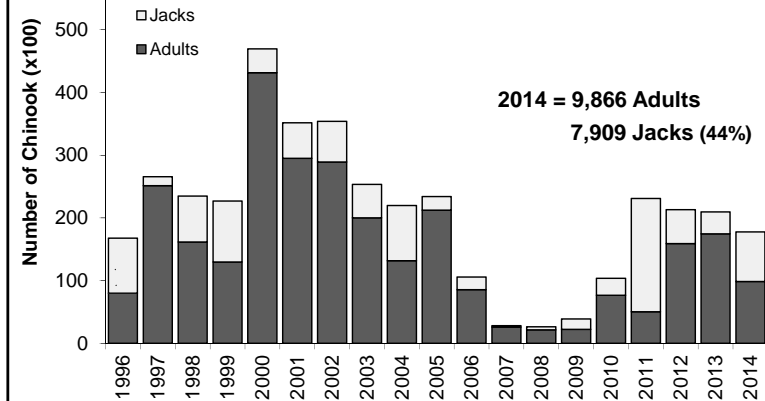
6

**Sacramento River Fall Chinook  
Total Spawning Escapement By Basin, 1996-2014**



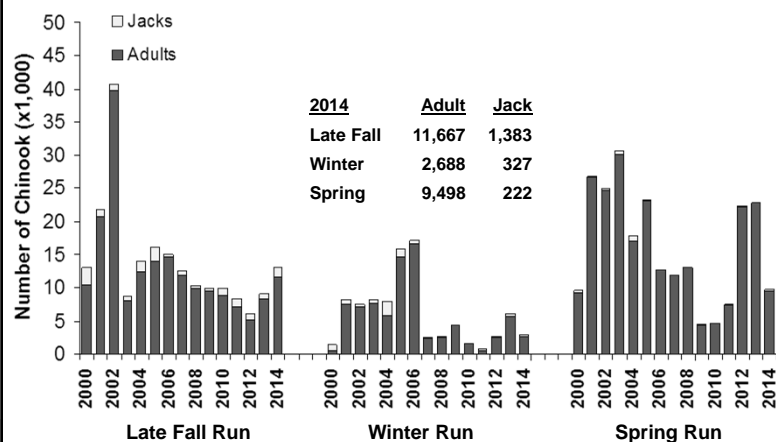
7

**San Joaquin Basin Fall Chinook  
Adult & Jack Spawning Escapement, 1996-2014**



8

### Other Sacramento Basin Chinook Stocks Spawning Escapement, 2000-2014



9



### Department of Fish and Wildlife Ocean Salmon Project

Thank You

Barry Miller  
Environmental Scientist  
[Barry.Miller@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Barry.Miller@wildlife.ca.gov)  
(707) 576-2860

More information available at:  
[www.pcouncil.org/salmon](http://www.pcouncil.org/salmon)

10

### 2014 Sacramento River Fall Chinook Hatchery and Natural Area Escapement

		Jacks	Adults	Total	% Jack	% Nat	% SRFC Total
Upper Sacramento River Basin	Hatchery	891	18,059	18,950	5%		8%
	Natural	<u>7,817</u>	<u>79,570</u>	<u>87,387</u>	<u>9%</u>	82%	<u>37%</u>
		<b>8,708</b>	<b>97,629</b>	<b>106,337</b>	<b>8%</b>		<b>45%</b>
Feather River Basin (including Yuba River)	Hatchery	4,612	18,848	23,460	20%		10%
	Natural	<u>7,200</u>	<u>65,615</u>	<u>72,815</u>	<u>10%</u>	76%	<u>31%</u>
		<b>11,812</b>	<b>84,463</b>	<b>96,275</b>	<b>12%</b>		<b>41%</b>
American River Basin	Hatchery	2,670	7,645	10,315	26%		4%
	Natural	<u>2,169</u>	<u>21,931</u>	<u>24,100</u>	<u>10%</u>	70%	<u>10%</u>
		<b>4,839</b>	<b>29,576</b>	<b>34,415</b>	<b>14%</b>		<b>14%</b>
<b>Total 2014 SRFC Escapement</b>		<b>25,359</b>	<b>211,668</b>	<b>237,027</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 2014 Other Central Valley Chinook Stocks Hatchery and Natural Area Escapement

		Jacks	Adults	Total	% Jack	% Nat
Central Valley Late Fall Chinook	Hatchery	942	3,927	4,869	19%	
	Natural	<u>441</u>	<u>7,740</u>	<u>8,181</u>	<u>5%</u>	63%
		<b>1,383</b>	<b>11,667</b>	<b>13,050</b>	<b>11%</b>	
Sacramento River Winter Chinook	Natural	<u>327</u>	<u>2,688</u>	<u>3,015</u>	<u>11%</u>	100%
		<b>327</b>	<b>2,688</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>11%</b>	
Central Valley Spring Chinook	Hatchery	222	2,603	2,825	8%	
	Natural	<u>---</u>	<u>6,895</u>	<u>6,895</u>	<u>---</u>	71%
		<b>222</b>	<b>9,498</b>	<b>9,720</b>	<b>---</b>	
San Joaquin Fall Chinook	Hatchery	4,986	4,636	9,622	52%	
	Natural	<u>2,923</u>	<u>5,230</u>	<u>8,153</u>	<u>36%</u>	46%
		<b>7,909</b>	<b>9,866</b>	<b>17,775</b>	<b>44%</b>	

## ***CENTRAL VALLEY ANGLER SURVEY: 2014 Recreational Harvest of Chinook Salmon***



**Erin Collins, James Lyons & Rob Titus**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Fisheries Branch  
Anadromous Resource Assessment  
Sacramento, California



## **2014 Central Valley Salmon Season**

**Open July 16<sup>th</sup>-December 16<sup>th</sup>**

### **Exceptions:**

Lower American River

July 16<sup>th</sup> –December 31

Upper Sacramento River

August 1<sup>st</sup> to December 16<sup>th</sup>

RBDD to Dechutes Road Bridge

Feather River

July 16<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>

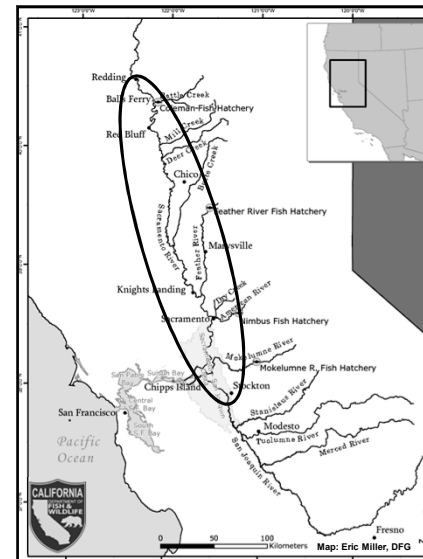
Low flow channel



## **Central Valley Angler Survey**



- Estimate angler effort targeting Chinook salmon
- Estimate harvest of Chinook salmon
- Estimate catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE)
- Collect biological information on the catch
- Recover coded-wire tags



### **Sampling Design:**

- 25 survey sections:
  - *Sacramento River: Carquinez Bridge to Deschutes Rd Bridge*
  - *Feather River*
  - *American River*
  - *Mokelumne River*
- Eight randomly selected sampling days per month:
  - *four weekdays*
  - *four weekend days*

## Estimates of Chinook Salmon Effort, Catch, and Harvest



### Data collection via:

- Roving angler counts
- Roving angler interviews
- Access point interviews
- Coded Wire Tag (CWT) Recovery

## Overview of 2014 Central Valley Sport Fishery for Chinook Salmon\*

<b>Effort:</b>	969,496 angler hours
<b>Trips:</b>	187,887 angling days
<b>Total catch:</b>	70,469 salmon
<b>Harvest:</b>	42,449 salmon
<b>Release:</b>	28,020 salmon
<b>Pct retention:</b>	60 %
<b>Harvest rate:</b>	7 salmon per 100 angler hours



\* Based on fishery statistics for the American, Feather, Mokelumne and Sacramento rivers, July – December 2014.

## Raw Statistics

Contacted over 7,900 fishing parties  
 2,478 salmon reported kept  
 2,319 Salmon observed  
 - or 5.5% of the Estimated Harvest  
 507 adipose fin-clipped salmon, or 22%  
 496 heads taken for CWT recovery, or 98%



## Coded Wire Tag Recoveries

### *493 CWTs successfully recovered and read*

- 32.0% Feather River Hatchery fall-run
- 31.0% Coleman National Fish Hatchery fall-run
- 14.0% Nimbus Hatchery fall-run
- 12.0% Mokelumne River Hatchery fall-run
- 7.0% Feather River spring-run
- 3.0% Coleman National Fish Hatchery late-fall-run
- 0.6% Merced River Fish Facility fall-run
- 0.0% Winter-run

## Sacramento River Fall-Run Chinook Salmon (SRFC) Harvest

*Defined as any harvest of Chinook salmon in the American, Feather and Sacramento rivers.*



*Excludes*

Harvest in the Mokelumne River.

Harvest in the Late-fall-run Chinook salmon fishery  
Known non-SRFC from the recovery of coded wire tags

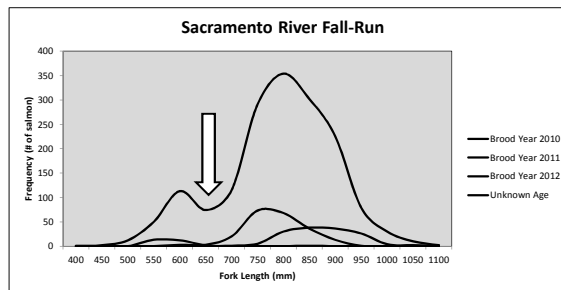
## SRFC Inland Harvest

40,752 SRFC in 2014, or 96% of all Chinook salmon harvest in the Central Valley



## Fork Length Frequency Analysis

Conducted for each management zone to determine the delineation between two year old (grilse) and older SRFC Chinook salmon.



## Grilse Composition Varied Between Management Zones

20% Lower Sacramento  
17% American River  
16% Feather River  
6% Upper Sacramento



## Final SRFC Harvest Estimate

Overall 11% of the harvest were grilse

**36,176** adult SRFC

**4,576** grilse SRFC



## 2014 Sacramento River Late-Fall-Run Chinook Salmon Season

- Restricted to the Upper Sacramento River  
Knights Landing to Deschutes Road Bridge
- Open November 1<sup>st</sup> – December 16<sup>th</sup>
- Daily bag and possession limit of 2 Chinook salmon



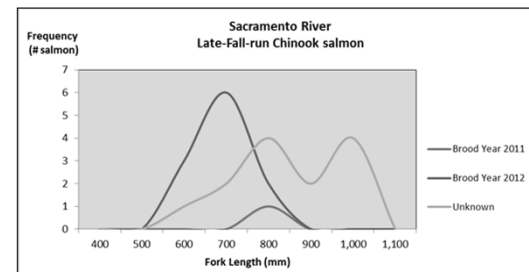
## Sacramento River Late-Fall-Run Chinook Salmon Fishery



- **Effort:** 10,207 angler hours
- **Trips:** 1,826 angler trips
- **Harvest:** 281 salmon
- **Harvest rate:** 3 salmon per 100 angler hours

## SRLFC Summary Statistics

- 38% Catch was of known hatchery origin
  - 100% SRLFC
- Fork Length Frequency Analysis
  - Grilse cutoff difficult to determine (n=21 fish)



## 2014 Mokelumne River Fall-Run Chinook Salmon Season

- **Camanche Dam to Highway 12 overcrossing**
  - Survey excluded Lake Lodi and a middle reach.
- **Open July 16<sup>st</sup> – December 16<sup>th</sup>**
- **Daily bag and possession limit of 2 Chinook salmon**



## Mokelumne River Fishery

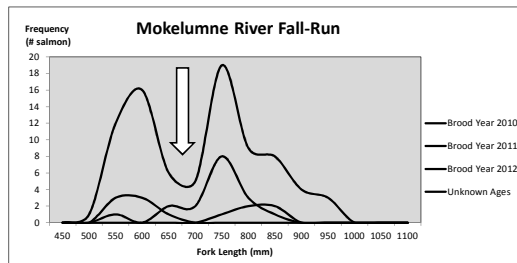
### San Joaquin Fall-Run Chinook Salmon (SJRFC)



- **Effort:** 29,915 angler hours
- **Trips:** 5,105 angler trips
- **Harvest:** 1,416 salmon
- **Harvest rate:** 5 salmon per 100 angler hours

## Mokelumne River Summary Statistics

- **35% Catch was of known hatchery origin**
  - 86% San Joaquin River Fall-run Chinook Salmon
  - 14% SRFC
- **Fork Length Frequency Analysis**
  - Grilse cutoff at 675 mm or 37% grilse



- **Final SJRFC Estimate: 892 adult, 524 grilse**

## Contact Information

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Erin Collins               | • James Lyons               |
| DFW / Central Valley Angler  | DFW / Central Valley Angler |
| Survey -Sacramento           | Survey -Red Bluff           |
| (916) 227-5029               | (530) 529-3295              |
| Erin.Collins@Wildlife.Ca.Gov | James.Lyons@Wildlife.Ca.Gov |





## SUMMARY OF THE 2014 CENTRAL VALLEY CHINOOK SALMON SPORT FISHERY

Prepared by Erin Collins and James Lyons  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Fisheries Branch  
8175 Alpine Avenue, Suite F  
Sacramento, CA 95826  
contact: [Erin.Collins@Wildlife.Ca.Gov](mailto:Erin.Collins@Wildlife.Ca.Gov)

### **Season**

Fishing for Chinook salmon in Central Valley rivers opened on 16 July 2014 on the Feather, American, and Mokelumne rivers and on the Sacramento River from the Carquinez Bridge to the Red Bluff Diversion Dam. An additional Sacramento River reach from the Red Bluff Diversion Dam to the Deschutes Road Bridge opened on 1 August 2014. Closing dates varied from 16 December through 31 December 2014. The varied closing dates were chosen to avoid contact with endangered winter-run Chinook salmon. The daily bag limit was 2 Chinook salmon with a 2 Chinook salmon possession limit for each licensed angler.

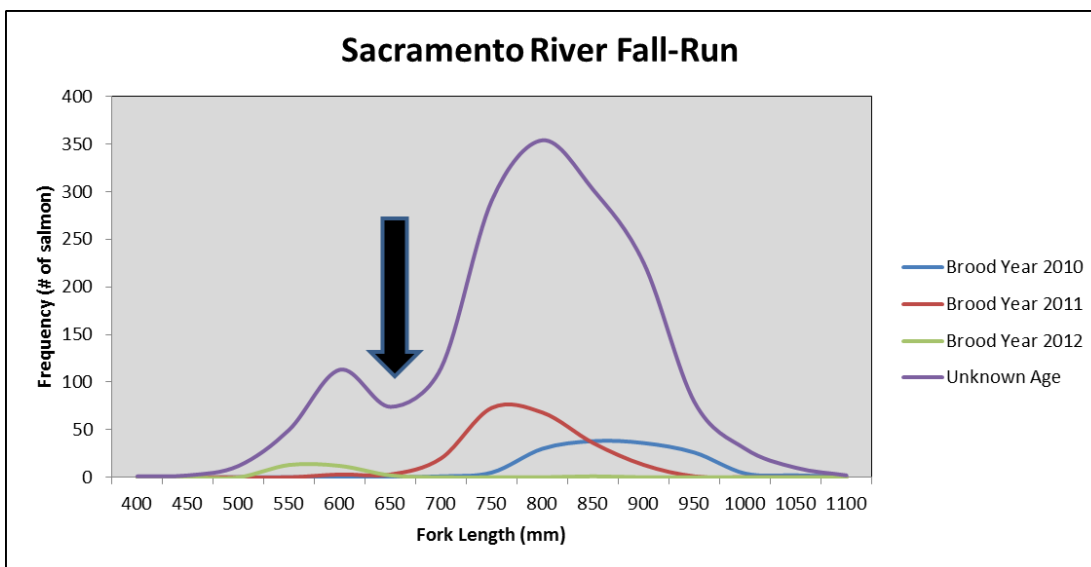
### **Methods**

The fishery was monitored by California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Central Valley Angler Survey using a random stratified sampling design. The Angler Survey had a three stage sampling design that consisted of roving counts, roving interviews, and access point interviews. The fishery area was divided into 25 survey sections that were sampled 8 times a month, resulting in a sampling rate of 27% of the total available fishing days. Biological data were collected on all harvested Chinook salmon. Coded-wire tags (CWT) from adipose fin-clipped salmon were used for stock identification and to determine age structure of the catch.

### **Fishery Results**

Estimated angling effort in the Central Valley Chinook salmon fishery totaled 969,496 hours, corresponding to about 187,887 fishing trips. This level of effort was lower than that estimated in 2013 (1,488,192 hours or 293,228 trips) and 65% of the average observed prior to the fall-run Chinook salmon decline in 2007. Total harvest in the Central Valley river fishery was estimated at 42,449 salmon with an additional 28,020 salmon caught and released. Retention rate of salmon was approximately 60% of the catch. Based on observations of adipose fin-clipped salmon, 22% of the harvest consisted of Chinook salmon of hatchery origin. Of the 493 CWTs recovered and read, 77% were Sacramento Basin fall-run Chinook salmon, 3.0% were Coleman National Fish Hatchery late-fall-run Chinook salmon, 13% were San Joaquin Basin fall-run Chinook salmon, and 7.0% were Feather River Hatchery spring-run Chinook salmon.

The estimated harvest of just Sacramento Basin fall-run Chinook salmon was 40,752. Fork length (FL) frequency analysis (see figure below) was used to determine the delineation between 2-year-old (grilse) and older (adult) Sacramento Basin fall-run Chinook. The size break between the two age groups ranged from 650 to 700 mm FL in different parts of the basin, resulting in 11% of the overall harvest consisting of grilse. Grilse percentage ranged from 6% to 20% in sub-basins. The total estimated harvest of Sacramento Basin fall-run Chinook consisted of 4,576 grilse and 36,176 adults.



**Figure.** Fork length frequency distribution of Sacramento Basin fall-run Chinook salmon harvested in the Sacramento River during 2014. Brood year was determined from CWT recoveries and was used for age class determination.

### Acknowledgment

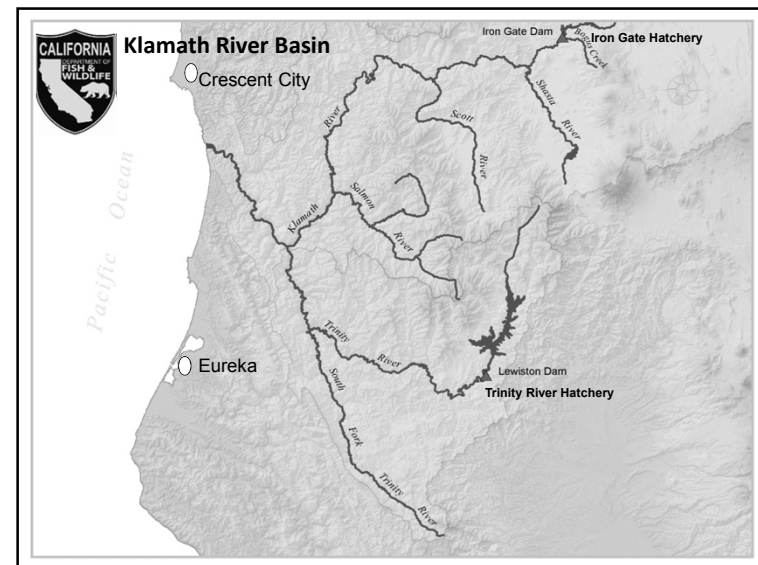
The California Department of Fish and Wildlife would like to thank the angling public for their cooperation in working with the Central Valley Angler Survey to provide data on their angling effort and catch, and for surrendering salmon heads for tag recovery.

**Note:** All statistics presented in this summary are preliminary and subject to change as they are finalized.



# California Department of Fish and Wildlife Klamath-Trinity Project Klamath Basin Chinook Salmon Spawning Escapement, Harvest and Age Composition

Salmon Information Public Meeting  
 Santa Rosa, CA February 26, 2015  
 Sara Borok











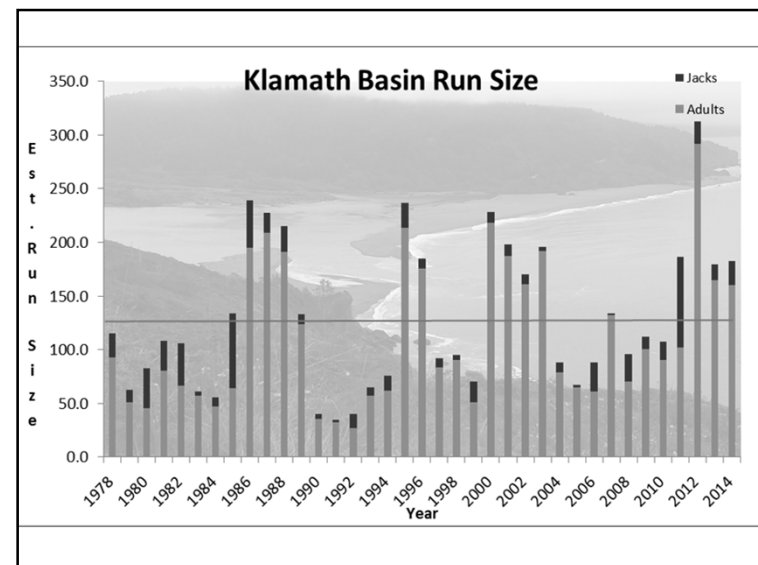


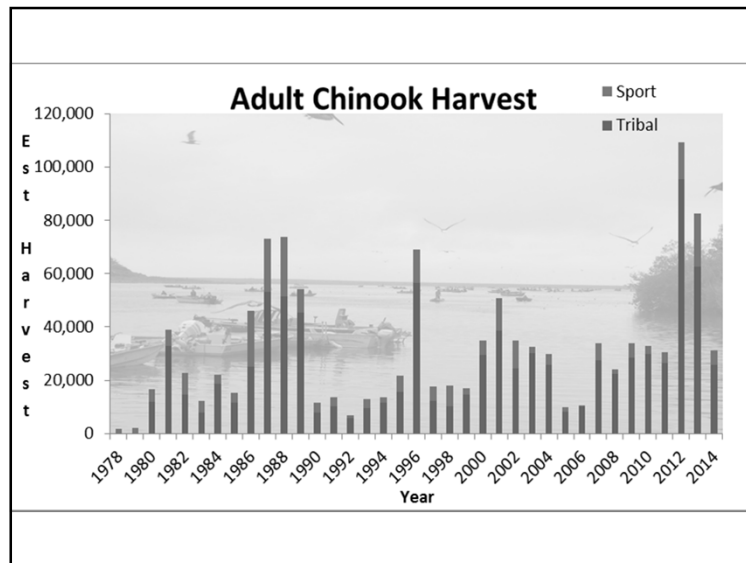
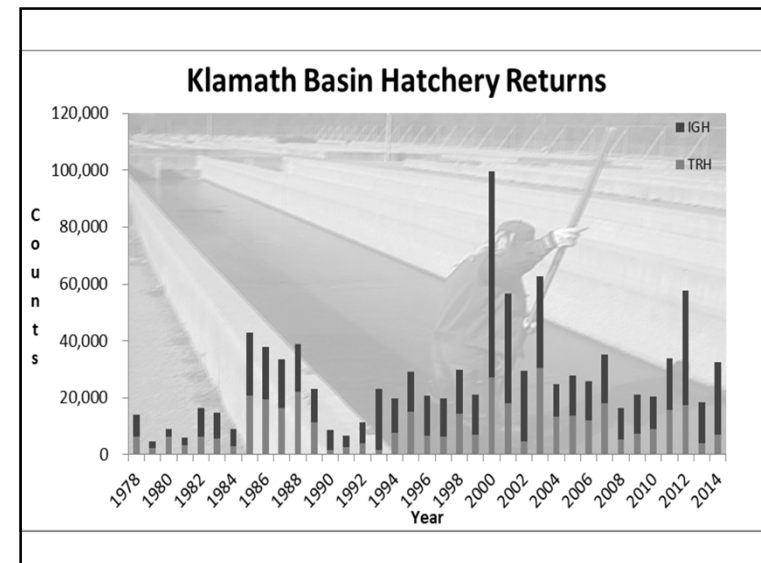
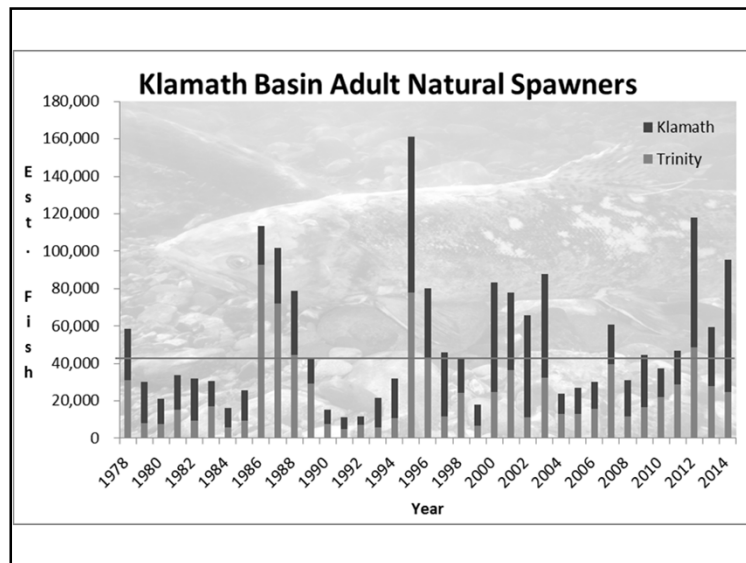






AND LANDOWNERS





Age composition of 2014 Klamath River fall Chinook run \*.

Escapement & Harvest	2	3	AGE 4	5	Total Adults	Total Run
<b>Hatchery Spawners</b>						
Iron Gate Hatchery	1,039	12,864	11,276	160	24,300	25,339
Trinity River Hatchery	221	3,653	3,271	51	6,975	7,196
Hatchery Spawner subtotal	<b>1,260</b>	<b>16,517</b>	<b>14,547</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>31,275</b>	<b>32,535</b>
<b>Natural Spawners</b>						
Klamath River	10,520	25,202	44,498	1,011	70,711	81,231
Trinity River	6,749	10,634	12,905	1,080	24,619	31,368
Natural Spawners subtotal	<b>17,269</b>	<b>35,836</b>	<b>57,403</b>	<b>2,091</b>	<b>95,330</b>	<b>112,599</b>
<b>Recreational Harvest</b>						
Klamath River	3,190	1,342	2,972	150	4,464	7,654
Trinity River	171	384	381	48	813	984
Recreational Harvest subtotal	<b>3,361</b>	<b>1,726</b>	<b>3,353</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>5,277</b>	<b>8,638</b>
<b>Tribal Harvest</b>						
Klamath River	283	2,855	19,453	1,165	23,473	23,756
Trinity River	65	524	1,804	112	2,440	2,505
Tribal Harvest subtotal	<b>348</b>	<b>3,379</b>	<b>21,257</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>25,913</b>	<b>26,261</b>
Drop off mortality	99	329	1,916	116	2,361	2,460
Klamath River Disease Testing	11	50	234	4	288	299
<b>Total River Run</b>	<b>22,348</b>	<b>57,837</b>	<b>98,710</b>	<b>3,897</b>	<b>160,444</b>	<b>182,792</b>

### 2014 Preliminary results/findings

The 2014 Klamath Basin fall Chinook run estimate ranks 13<sup>th</sup> highest in the 37 year time series.

The adult Chinook returns to the basin were 1.7 times the projected forecast (@ 93,000 pre vs. @160,000 post).

The adult fall Chinook natural escapement conservation threshold of 40,700 was met this season.

The number of jacks (22,348) exceeded the average (18,775) for this time series.



## 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Information

West Coast  
Regional  
Office

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Salmon Informational Meeting  
February 26, 2015

Heidi Taylor  
Sustainable Fisheries Division  
West Coast Region

- All Guidance Preliminary; final at March Council Meeting

Indicator Stock	NOAA Guidance
Sacramento River fall Chinook	195,596 hatchery and natural area adult spawners
Klamath River fall Chinook	40,700 natural area adult spawners



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 2

## Endangered Species Act (ESA) Listed Stocks



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 3

## Sacramento River Winter Chinook Salmon

- ESA – Endangered
- Recovery plan released July 2014 (79 FR 42504)
- Guidance for 2015:
  - Continuation of consultation standards on minimum size limits and seasonal windows
  - Circle hook restrictions while mooching in the recreational fishery between Horse Mountain and Point Conception
  - Impact rate cap for 2015 = **19.0 %**



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 4

## Sacramento River Winter Chinook Salmon

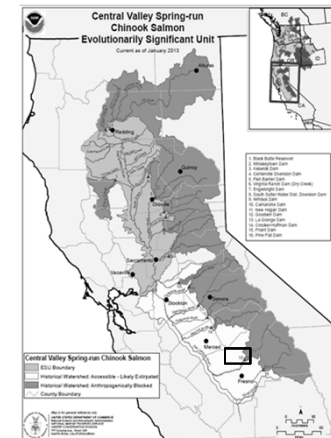
- NMFS issued a Notice of Availability and Request for Comment on January 23, 2014 (79 FR 3783)
- NMFS will not be reconsidering the control rule prior to 2015 fisheries
- New information has come forward, particularly with regard to CA drought and ocean conditions
- NMFS review and consideration of winter Chinook ocean fishery management is a work in progress



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 5

## Central Valley Spring Chinook Salmon

- ESA-threatened
- Recovery plan released July 2014 (79 FR 42504)



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 6

## California Coastal Chinook Salmon

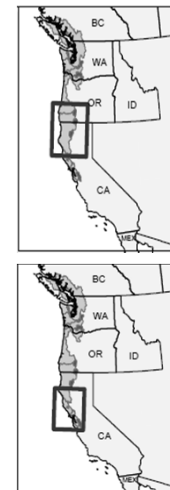
- ESA-threatened
- Draft multi-species recovery plan likely available for public comment late summer 2015
- A maximum Klamath River fall Chinook age-4 ocean harvest rate of 16.0%



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 7

## Coho Salmon

- Prohibit coho-directed fisheries off CA;
- Prohibit coho retention in Chinook-directed fisheries off CA
- Southern Oregon/Northern California Coho
  - ESA – Threatened
  - Recovery plan released September 2014 (79 FR 58750) – Next Steps: workshops to develop implementation plan
- Central California Coastal Coho
  - ESA – Endangered
  - Final recovery plan released 2012



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries | Page 8

**Thank You**

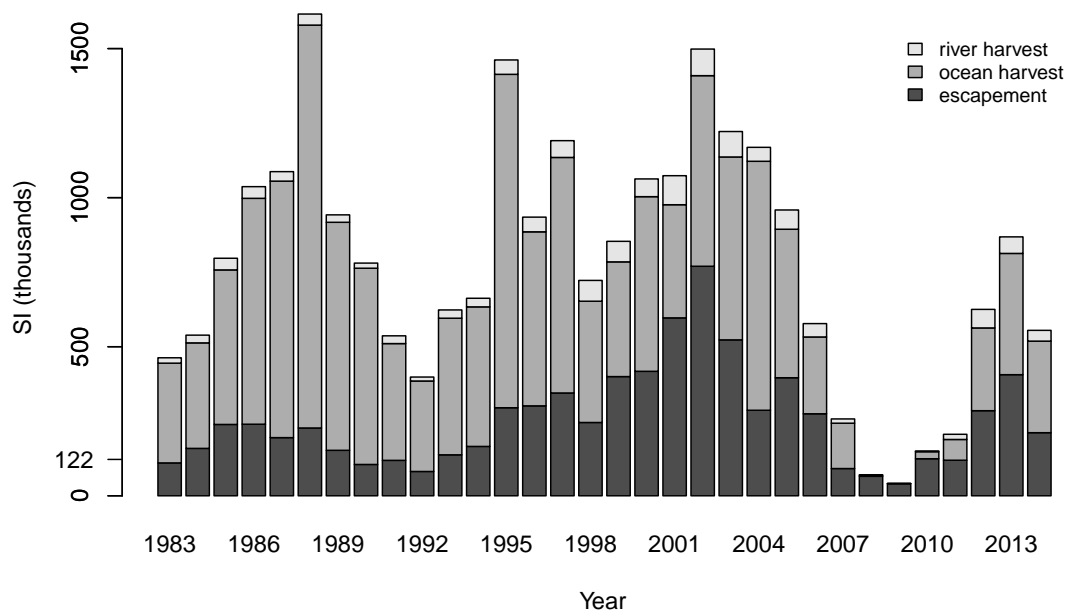
[Heidi.Taylor@NOAA.GOV](mailto:Heidi.Taylor@NOAA.GOV)

[Peter.Dygert@NOAA.GOV](mailto:Peter.Dygert@NOAA.GOV)

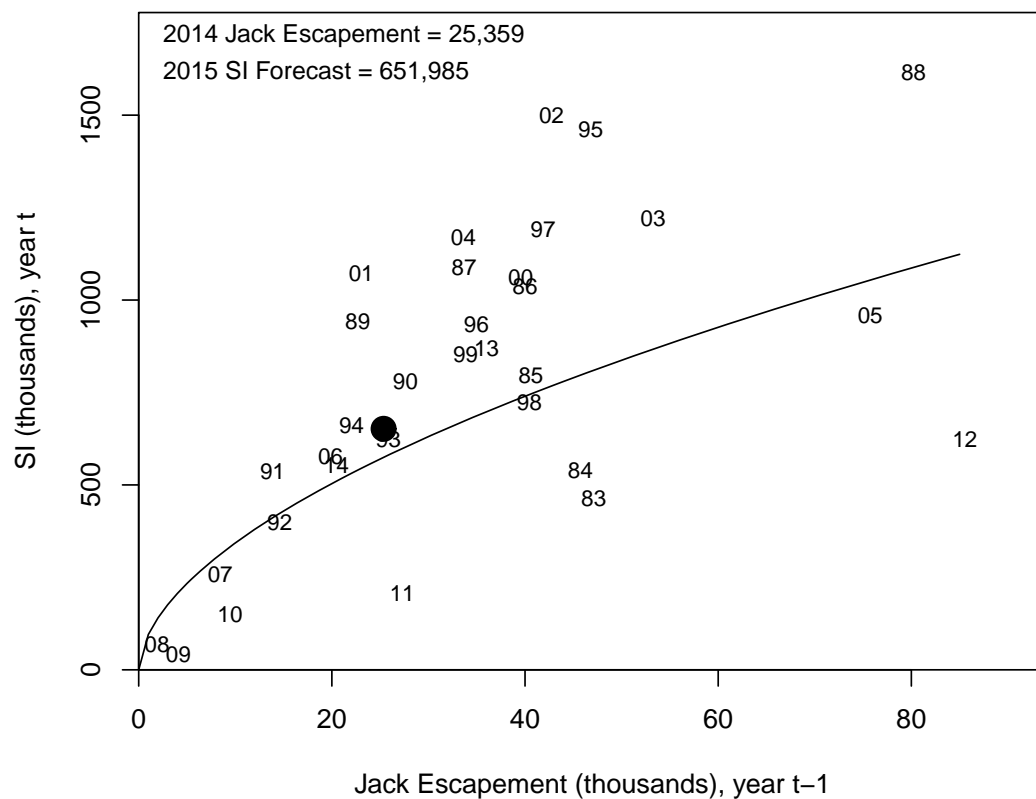




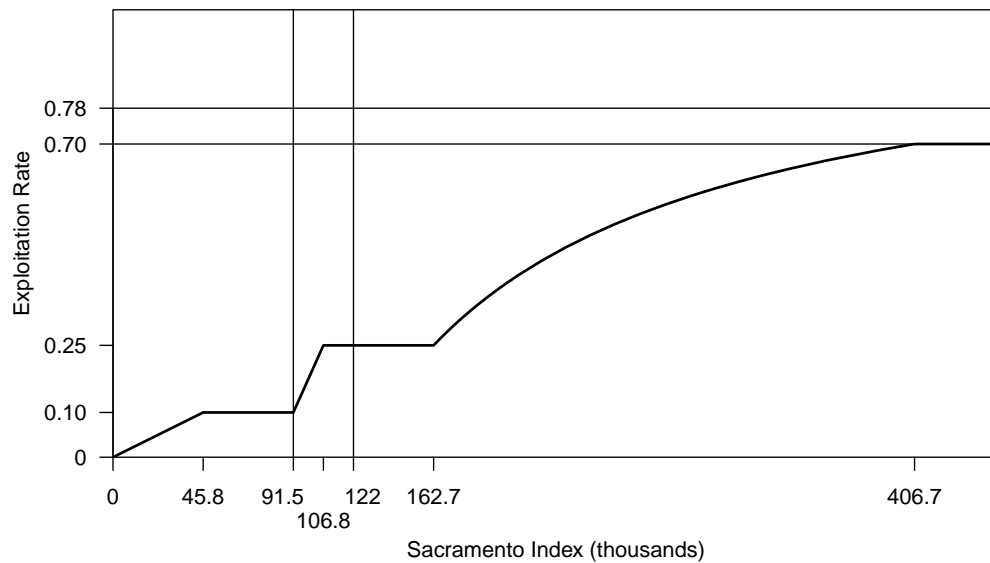
2014 Sacramento Index (SI) estimate: 554,932



2015 SI forecast: 651,985

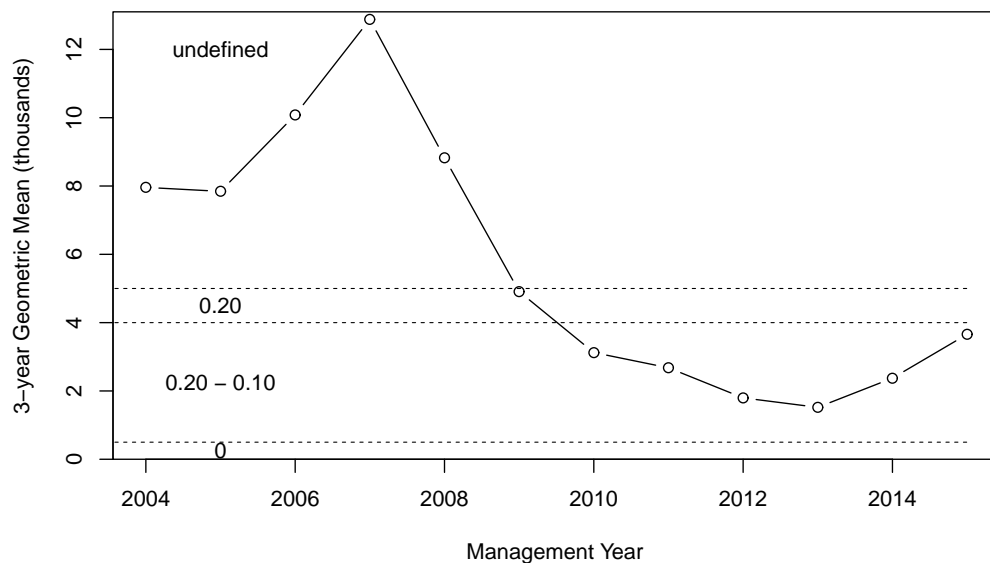


## Management context



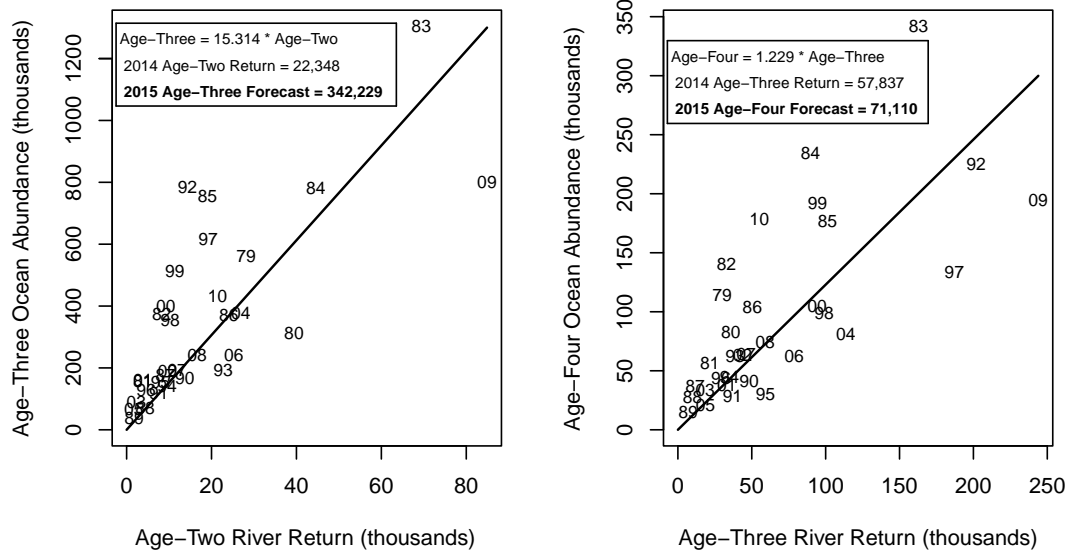
- ▶ Abundance forecast relatively large
- ▶ Must target an escapement of at least 195,596 (max 70% exploitation rate)
- ▶ 2014 regs: preliminary escapement prediction of 337,602
- ▶ Unlikely to constrain 2015 fisheries

## Sacramento River winter Chinook



- ▶ Maximum allowable age-3 impact rate: 19.0%
- ▶ 2014 regs: preliminary prediction of 15.2%
- ▶ Likely to constrain fisheries south of Point Arena

## 2015 Klamath abundance forecast: 423,753

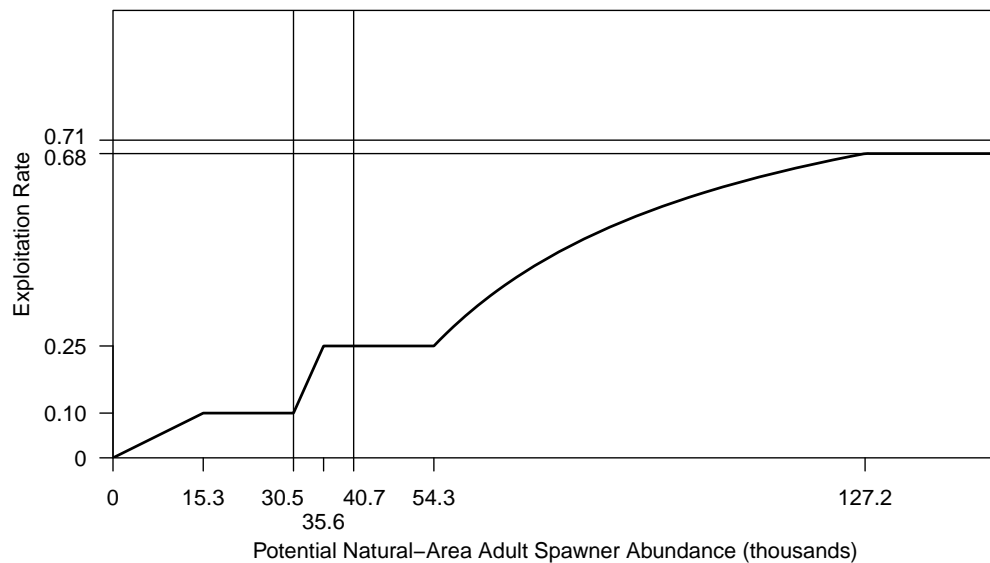


age-3: 342,229

age-4: 71,110

age-5: 10,414

## Management context



- ▶ Potential spawner abundance forecast: 99,102
- ▶ Must target an escapement of at least 40,700 (59% exploitation rate)

## KRFC management context, contd.

2014 regs:

- ▶ Tribal allocation: 50% of total harvest
- ▶ River recreational allocation: 15.1% of non-tribal harvest
- ▶ Natural-area adult spawners prediction: 57,800
- ▶ Exploitation Rate: 42%

## California Coastal Chinook

- ▶ Consultation standard limits KRFC age-4 harvest rate to 16%
- ▶ 2014 fisheries: preliminary forecast of 13.5%
- ▶ KRFC age-4 harvest rate will constrain 2015 ocean salmon fisheries

## **2015 California Ocean Salmon Preseason Process: Calendar of Events**

### **March 7-12, 2015 - Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting**

Hilton Hotel, 301 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Vancouver, WA 98660

The Council will determine if any in-season action for fisheries scheduled to open in April is needed. They will also adopt three regulatory alternatives for ocean salmon fisheries in effect on or after May 1. Final Alternatives for public review will be decided on March 12.

### **March 13-19, 2015 - Pacific Fishery Management Council Workshop**

The STT completes *Preseason Report II: Proposed Alternatives and Environmental Assessment Part 2 for 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations*, available online March 20, 2015 at: [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org)

### **March 16, 2015 - California Fish and Game Commission Meeting - Teleconference**

Commission Conference Room 1320, 1416 9<sup>th</sup> St., Sacramento, CA 95814

Proposed changes to Ocean Salmon Sport Fishing Regulations for 2015 will be addressed at this meeting. The Commission will take final action on Ocean Salmon Sport Fishery Regulations in effect during April 2015. The public may address and/or ask questions of the Commission relating to the implementation of its policies or any other matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Agenda and audio available online at: [www.fgc.ca.gov](http://www.fgc.ca.gov).

### **March 31, 2015 - Pacific Fishery Management Council Public Hearing - California**

Motel 6 Convention Room, 400 S. Main St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437

The Council will receive comments from the public on the three California ocean salmon fishery management regulatory alternatives adopted by the Council in March. More information is available at: [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org).

### **April 11-16, 2015 - Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting**

DoubleTree by Hilton Sonoma, 1 Doubletree Dr., Rohnert Park, CA 94928

The Council will tentatively adopt final regulatory measures for analysis by the STT during this meeting. Final adoption of recommendations to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is scheduled to be completed by April 15.

### **April 17-24, 2015 - Pacific Fishery Management Council Workshop**

The PFMC and STT complete *Preseason Report III: Analysis of Council-Adopted Management Measures and Environmental Assessment Part 3 for 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations*, available online April 24 at: [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org)

### **April 17, 2015 - California Fish and Game Commission Meeting - Teleconference**

Commission Conference Room 1320, 1416 9<sup>th</sup> St., Sacramento, CA 95814

The Commission will take final action on Ocean Salmon Sport Fishery Regulations in effect on or after May 1, 2015. The public may address and/or ask questions of the Commission relating to the implementation of its policies or any other matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Agenda and audio available online at: [www.fgc.ca.gov](http://www.fgc.ca.gov).

## Who Can I Contact Regarding the Upcoming Salmon Season?

Contact a member of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's **Salmon Advisory Subpanel**:

Jim Hie Conservation	Pacific Marine Conservation Council 1423 Vista Ave. Napa, CA 94559	Telephone: (707) 695-8661 Email: jnahie@att.net
Dave Hillemeier California Tribes	Yurok Tribe PO Box 1027 Klamath, CA 95548	Telephone: (707) 482-1350 ext. 315 Email: Dave@yuroktribe.nsn.us
Dave Bitts California Troll	Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations 2679 Sunnygrove McKinleyville, CA 95519	Telephone: (707) 498-3512 Email: dbitts@suddenlink.net
Marc Gorelnik California Sport Fisheries	Coastside Fishing Club 8042 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito, CA 94530	Telephone: (415) 409-9529 Email: marc@gorelniklaw.com
Craig Stone California Charter Boat	Emeryville Sportfishing 3310 Powell St. Emeryville, CA 94608	Telephone: (510) 654-6040 Email: emvlsport@aol.com

To make comments directly to the **Pacific Fishery Management Council** regarding the upcoming salmon season, please visit the Council's website at [www.pcouncil.org/contact](http://www.pcouncil.org/contact), or contact the PFMC staff officer for salmon: Mike Burner ([Mike.Burner@noaa.gov](mailto:Mike.Burner@noaa.gov)).

To make comments directly to the **Fish and Game Commission** regarding the upcoming salmon season, please visit the Commission's website at: [www.fgc.ca.gov/contact](http://www.fgc.ca.gov/contact).

### Online Resources:

#### **Review of 2014 Ocean Salmon Fisheries (includes in-river escapement data)**

Available online at:

[www.pcouncil.org/salmon/stock-assessment-and-fishery-evaluation-safe-documents/](http://www.pcouncil.org/salmon/stock-assessment-and-fishery-evaluation-safe-documents/)

#### **Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis for 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations**

Available online in early March at:

[www.pcouncil.org/salmon/stock-assessment-and-fishery-evaluation-safe-documents/preseason-reports/](http://www.pcouncil.org/salmon/stock-assessment-and-fishery-evaluation-safe-documents/preseason-reports/)

#### **Klamath Basin Age Composition and Stock Projection Reports**

Available online in March at:

[www.pcouncil.org/salmon/background/document-library/](http://www.pcouncil.org/salmon/background/document-library/)



State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Ocean Salmon Project – Marine Region  
[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/oceansalmon.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/oceansalmon.asp)



## 2014 Ocean Salmon Sport Regulations

### OR/CA Border to Horse Mountain:

- ♦ May 10 – September 7
  - daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - minimum size limit: 24 inches total length
  - Klamath Control Zone\* (KCZ) closed in August
  - closures around mouth of Klamath, Smith and Eel rivers (see CDFW regulation §27.75)

### Horse Mountain to Point Arena (Fort Bragg):

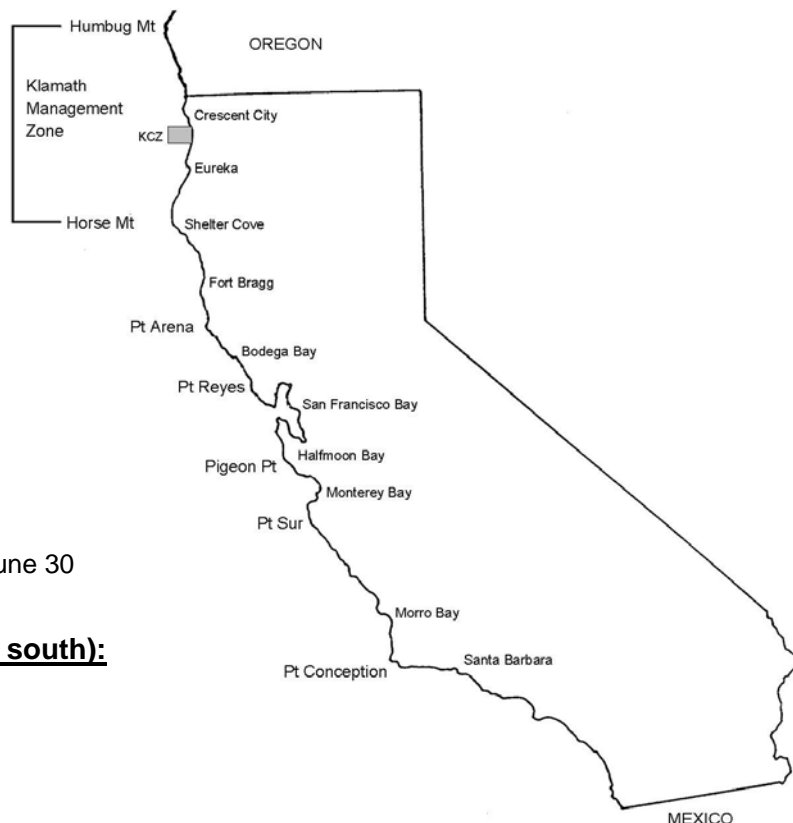
- ♦ April 5 – November 9
  - daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - minimum size limit: 20 inches total length

### Point Arena to Pigeon Point (San Francisco):

- ♦ April 5 – November 9
  - daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - minimum size limit: 24 inches total length through June 30  
20 inches total length thereafter

### Pigeon Point to U.S./Mexico Border (Monterey and south):

- ♦ April 5 – October 5
  - daily bag limit: 2 salmon of any species except coho
  - minimum size limit: 24 inches total length



### General Sport Regulations

- **Possession limit:** No more than two daily bag limits may be possessed when on land. On a vessel in ocean waters, no person shall possess or bring ashore more than one daily bag limit.
- **Retention of coho salmon or steelhead trout is prohibited in any ocean fishery.**
- **Salmon may only be taken by angling as defined in Section 1.05.** No sinkers or weights exceeding 4 lbs may be used, except that a fishing line may be attached to a sinker or weight of any size if such sinker or weight is suspended by a separate line & the fishing line is released automatically by a mechanical device from the sinker or weight when any fish is hooked.
- **North of Point Conception:** No more than two single-point, single-shank barbless hooks shall be used & no more than one rod per angler when fishing for salmon or fishing from a boat with salmon on board.
- **Horse Mountain to Point Conception:** When fishing with bait and angling by any means other than TROLLING<sup>1</sup>, no more than two single-point, single-shank barbless circle hooks<sup>2</sup> shall be used. The distance between the two hooks must not exceed 5 inches when measured from the top of the eye of the top hook to the inner base of the curve of the lower hook and both hooks must be permanently tied in place (hard tied).

**Note:** These special gear restrictions apply to each angler fishing for salmon or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

1. *TROLLING is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions.*
2. *A CIRCLE HOOK is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90-degree angle.*

\* **Klamath Control Zone:** The ocean area at the Klamath River mouth bounded on the north by 41°38'48" N. lat. (approximately six nautical miles north of the Klamath River mouth); on the west, by 124°23'00" W. long. (approximately 12 nautical miles off shore); and on the south, by 41°26'48" N. lat. (approximately six nautical miles south of the Klamath River mouth).



State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Ocean Salmon Project – Marine Region  
[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/oceansalmon.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/oceansalmon.asp)



## 2014 Commercial Ocean Salmon Regulations

### OR/CA Border to Humboldt South Jetty (KMZ):

- September 12-30 or 4,000 Chinook quota
  - five days per week, open Friday through Tuesday
  - minimum size limit: 27 inches total length
  - landing and possession limit of 20 Chinook per day
  - all salmon caught must be landed within the area and within 24 hours of any closure of the fishery
  - Klamath Control Zone (KCZ) closed (12 mile square centered on Klamath River mouth)



### Horse Mountain to Point Arena:

- June 19-30; July 15 - August 29\*; September 1-30
  - minimum size limit: 27 inches total length
  - during September, all fish caught in the area must be landed north of Point Arena
  - when the KMZ quota is open, all fish caught in the area must be landed south of Horse Mountain

### Point Arena to Pigeon Point:

- May 1 – June 30; July 15 - August 29\*
  - minimum size limit: 27 inches total length
- September 1-30
  - minimum size limit: 26 inches total length
  - during September, all fish caught in the area must be landed south of Point Arena

### Point Reyes to Point San Pedro:

- October 1-3, 6-10, and 13-15 (Monday through Friday)
  - minimum size limit: 26 inches total length
  - all salmon caught must be landed between Point Arena and Pigeon Point

### Pigeon Point to U.S./Mexico Border:

- May 1 - June 30; July 15 - August 13\*
  - minimum size limit: 27 inches total length

*\* All salmon must be offloaded and landed within 24 hours of the August 29<sup>th</sup> closure*

### General Commercial Regulations

- All salmon except coho; all commercial salmon must be landed in California
- Single point, single shank barbless hooks are required
- No more than 6 lines are allowed per vessel
- Compliance with minimum size or other special restrictions:** All salmon on board a vessel must meet the minimum size and other special requirements for the area being fished and the area in which they are landed if that area is open or has been closed less than 96 hours. Salmon may be landed in an area that is closed more than 96 hours only if they meet the minimum size and other special requirements for the area in which they were caught AND it is not otherwise prohibited in the regulations.
- Transit through closed area with salmon on board:** It is unlawful for a vessel to have troll gear in the water while transiting any area closed to salmon fishing while possessing salmon.
- Barbless circle hooks<sup>1</sup> required when fishing with bait and fishing by any means other than trolling<sup>2</sup>**
  - A **CIRCLE HOOK** is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90-degree angle.
  - TROLLING** is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions.

**NOTE:** Any person required to complete a landing receipt shall accurately record the total number of Chinook salmon landed in the "Note Pad" field of the landing receipt (Fish & Game Code § 8043, Title 14, §182). Federal regulations also require the total number of Pacific Halibut be recorded if caught and landed incidentally during commercial salmon fishing. 32



## **EVALUATION**

To improve future *Ocean Salmon Information Meetings* and to better meet your needs, please complete this evaluation.

1. Indicate the interest group with which you are affiliated.

<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Dependent Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal
<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation
<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Sport	<input type="checkbox"/> Resource Management
<input type="checkbox"/> River Sport	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe)
  
2. What information did you find most useful?

<input type="checkbox"/> Review of 2014 Ocean Salmon Sport and Commercial Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/> NMFS 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Guidance
<input type="checkbox"/> Review of 2014 Central Valley Chinook Spawner Escapement	<input type="checkbox"/> Abundance Forecasts and Harvest Model Results
<input type="checkbox"/> Review of 2014 Central Valley Chinook River Sport Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Comment to California Salmon Management Panel
<input type="checkbox"/> Review of 2014 Klamath Basin Chinook Spawner Escapement, Harvest and Age Composition	
  
3. What information would you like presented in the future?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What meeting organization comments or suggestions do you have?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Additional comments or suggestions about the meeting are appreciated.

Any formal recommendations or comments that you would like forwarded to your representatives for the 2015 salmon management process?

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation\_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

(Optional) Please provide your contact information so your representatives can ask follow up questions.

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_