

## Fishery Conservation and Management

## § 660.411

(ii) Harvest quotas and hooking mortality limits for the area and total allowable impact limitations, if applicable.

(iii) Amount of commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian catch for each species in the area to date.

(iv) Amount of commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fishing effort in the area to date.

(v) Estimated average daily catch per fisherman.

(vi) Predicted fishing effort for the area to the end of the scheduled season.

(vii) Other factors, as appropriate.

### § 660.410 Conservation objectives.

(a) The conservation objectives are summarized in Table 3-1 of the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan.

(b) *Modification of escapement goals.* NMFS is authorized, through an action issued under § 660.411, to modify an escapement goal if—

(1) A comprehensive technical review of the best scientific information available provides conclusive evidence that, in the view of the Council, the Scientific and Statistical Committee, and the Salmon Technical Team, justifies modification of a conservation objective: except that the 35,000 natural spawner floor and the *de minimis* fishing provisions for Klamath River fall Chinook may be changed only by amendment.

(2) For Oregon coastal chinook, specific goals are developed within the overall goal for north coast and south coast stocks; or

(3) Action by a Federal court indicates that modification of an escapement goal is appropriate.

(c) The annual management measures will be consistent with NMFS jeopardy standards or NMFS recovery plans for species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

(d) Within the Cape Falcon to Point Sur area, the Council may allow *de minimis* fisheries which: permit an ocean impact rate of no more than 10 percent on age-4 Klamath River fall Chinook, if the projected natural spawning escapement associated with a 10 percent age-4 ocean impact rate, including river recreational and tribal impacts, is between the conservation objective (35,000) and 22,000. If the pro-

jected natural escapement associated with a 10 percent age-4 ocean impact rate is less than 22,000, the Council shall further reduce the allowable age-4 ocean impact rate to reflect the status of the stock.<sup>1</sup>

(1) When recommending an allowable age-4 ocean impact rate, the Council shall consider the following year specific circumstances:

(i) The potential for critically low natural spawner abundance, including the risk of Klamath Basin substocks dropping below crucial genetic thresholds;

(ii) A series of low spawner abundance in recent years;

(iii) The status of co-mingled stocks;

(iv) The occurrence of El Nino or other adverse environmental conditions;

(v) Endangered Species Act (ESA) considerations; and

(vi) Other considerations as appropriate.

(2) The Klamath River fall Chinook age-4 ocean impact rate must not jeopardize the long term capacity of the stock to produce maximum sustainable yield on continuing basis.

[61 FR 34572, July 2, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 35451, July 1, 1997; 66 FR 29241, May 30, 2001; 73 FR 9964, Feb. 25, 2008]

### § 660.411 Notification and publication procedures.

(a) *Notification and effective dates.* (1) Annual and certain other actions taken under §§ 660.408 and 660.410 will be implemented by an action published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and will be effective upon filing, unless a later time is specified in the action.

(2) Inseason actions taken under § 660.409 will be by actual notice available from telephone hotlines and USCG broadcasts, as specified annually. Inseason actions will also be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as soon as practicable. Inseason actions will be effective from the time specified in the

<sup>1</sup>NMFS interprets that, consistent with the *de minimis* provisions of the FMP, the maximum allowable 10 percent age-4 ocean impact rate may be implemented only when the anticipated escapement is near the 35,000 natural spawner floor. As escapement falls below approximately 30,000, the impact rate will need to decline automatically.

actual notice of the action (telephone hotlines and USCG broadcasts), or at the time the inseason action published in the FEDERAL REGISTER is effective, whichever comes first.

(3) Any action issued under this section will remain in effect until the expiration date stated in the action or until rescinded, modified, or superseded. However, no inseason action has any effect beyond the end of the calendar year in which it is issued.

(b) *Public comment.* If time allows, NMFS will invite public comment prior to the effective date of any action published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If NMFS determines, for good cause, that an action must be filed without affording a prior opportunity for public comment, public comments on the action will be received by NMFS for a period of 15 days after filing of the action with the Office of the Federal Register.

(c) *Availability of data.* The Regional Administrator will compile in aggregate form all data and other information relevant to the action being taken and will make them available for public review during normal office hours at the Northwest Region, NMFS. For actions affecting fisheries occurring primarily or exclusively in the fishery management area seaward of California, information relevant to the action also will be made available for public review during normal office hours at the Southwest Region, NMFS.

**§ 660.412 EFH identifications and descriptions for Pacific salmon.**

Pacific salmon essential fish habitat (EFH) includes all those water bodies occupied or historically accessible in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California in hydrologic units identified in Table 1 of this subpart H. Exceptions include cases in which man-made barriers (dams) identified in Table 1 of this subpart H represent the upstream extent of Pacific salmon access. EFH also includes the marine and estuarine areas shoreward of state boundaries and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) off the coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington State. To clearly identify watersheds that contain EFH, NMFS uses fourth field hydrologic unit codes (HUCs) developed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) (defined in the

Department of the Interior, USGS publication; Hydrologic Unit Maps, Water Supply Paper 2294, 1987). The geographic extent of HUCs range from first field (largest geographic extent) to sixth field (smallest geographic extent). Fourth field HUCs divide the landscape into distinct geographic areas that are identified by eight numbers unique to that hydrologic unit.

(a) Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) EFH includes all streams, estuaries, marine waters, and other water bodies occupied or historically accessible to Chinook salmon in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California, in hydrologic units identified in Table 1 of this subpart H. Exceptions include cases in which man-made barriers (dams) identified in Table 1 of this subpart H represent the upstream extent of Pacific salmon access. EFH also includes the marine and estuarine areas shoreward of state boundaries and the EEZ off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California north or Point Conception.

(b) Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) EFH includes all streams, estuaries, marine waters, and other water bodies occupied or historically accessible to coho in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California, in hydrologic units identified in Table 1 of this subpart H. Exceptions include cases in which man-made barriers (dams) identified in Table 1 of this subpart H represent the upstream extent of Pacific salmon access. EFH also includes the marine and estuarine areas shoreward of state boundaries and the EEZ off the coasts Washington, Oregon, and California north of Point Conception.

(c) Pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*) EFH includes all streams, estuaries, marine waters, and other water bodies occupied or historically accessible to pink salmon within Washington State, in hydrologic units identified in Table 1 of this subpart H. Exceptions include cases in which man-made barriers (dams) identified in Table 1 of this subpart H represent the upstream extent of Pacific salmon access. EFH also includes waters north and east of Cape Flattery, Washington, including Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Strait of Georgia.

[73 FR 60988, Oct. 15, 2008]