



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Marc Gorelnik, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director

February 2, 2021

Mr. Barry Thom, Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232-1274

Re: Council Recommendations for Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan
Amendment 20: Changes to the Preseason Schedule and the Klamath Management Zone
Boundary

Dear Mr. Thom:

This letter transmits the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) final recommendations on Amendment 20 to the *Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan* (FMP) to change the salmon preseason management cycle, to adjust the boundary of Klamath Management Zone (KMZ), and to update the FMP with a variety of housekeeping items. The Pacific Council met September 8-11 and 14-18, 2020 and concluded a multiple meeting process to consider input from stakeholders and the public, review a range of alternatives and their associated impacts through draft Environmental Assessment documents, develop FMP amendatory language, and to adopt final preferred alternatives.

The Pacific Council recommends that the salmon preseason management schedule be amended to change the May 1 fishery implementation date to May 16 (Alternative 4.1.3¹) without specifying a Pacific Council transmittal date (Alternative 4.1.4). These final preferred alternatives are intended to provide sufficient time between the Pacific Council's final action to set annual salmon management measures and the start of the salmon season to ensure that Federal rulemaking is completed.

The Pacific Council also recommends changing the defined southern boundary of the KMZ from 40° 05' N. lat. (Horse Mountain, California) five nautical miles north to 40° 10' N. lat. (Alternative 4.2.2). This final preferred alternative is intended to simplify management of the fishery by aligning the southern boundary of the KMZ with the Federal boundary used in groundfish fisheries.

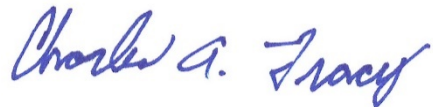
In addition, the Pacific Council adopted a variety of FMP housekeeping updates, corrections, edits, and formatting changes.

¹ The alternatives mentioned in this letter correspond to those in Agenda Item H.2, Attachment 1, in the September 2020 Briefing Book.

Details of the Pacific Council's final preferred alternatives and the adopted FMP changes can be found in the enclosed amendatory FMP language and the *Draft Environmental Assessment* prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

Should your staff have any questions regarding the Council's recommendations, please have them contact [Ms. Robin Ehlke](#) or [Mr. Mike Burner](#) of my staff.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Tracy
Executive Director

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Enclosures: Draft Environmental Assessment for Amendment 20 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan: Proposed Changes to the Preseason Schedule and Klamath Management Zone Boundary (RTID 0648-Xa603)

Adopted Changes to the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan

Cc: Pacific Council Members
Ms. Peggy Mundy
Dr. Michael O'Farrell
Mr. Jon Carey
Mr. Richard Heap
Ms. Megan Waters
Mr. Mike Burner
Ms. Robin Ehlke