

**FINAL MINUTES**  
**Klamath Fishery Management Council Meeting**  
**October 9-11, 2002**  
**Yreka Fish & Wildlife Office**  
**Yreka, CA**  
**Meeting #70**

**Wednesday, October 9, 2002**

10 a.m. Convene and Introduction of Members

**Representative Seat**

California Ocean Commercial Salmon Industry  
California In-river Sport Fishing Community  
California Offshore Recreational Fishing Industry  
California Department of Fish and Game  
Hoopa Valley Tribe  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Non-Hoopa Indians Residing in Klamath Conservation Area  
Oregon Commercial Salmon Fishing Industry  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
U.S. Department of Interior

**Members**

Dave Bitts  
Jim Waldvogel (alternate)  
Paul Kirk  
LB Boydston  
Mike Orcutt  
Dan Viele, Chair  
Dave Hillemeier  
Keith Wilkinson  
Curt Melcher (alternate)  
Not represented  
Phil Detrich

**Agendum 1. Review and approve agenda**

Members reviewed the agenda, and the following additions were made: a discussion of the September fish kill in the lower Klamath River, a possible trip to the Shasta River fish racks, an update on California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) salmon counts to-date, and a discussion of emergency fishing regulations. An additional public comment period was added to Thursday's agenda. Other changes were: Agendum 3, adoption of the February, March and April 2002 minutes, was moved to Thursday morning, and "adjourn" was changed to "recess" on Wednesday and Thursday.

Keith Wilkinson made a motion with Dave Bitts seconding.

**To approve the agenda as amended.**

The motion passed unanimously.

**Agendum 2. September 2002 Fish Kill on Lower Klamath River**

George Guillen, Fisheries Program Leader, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, spoke about the September fish kill on the lower Klamath River. He said there was an inter-agency response with the Hoopa, Karuk and Yurok Tribes and CDFG to document the magnitude of the fish kill and environmental conditions (i.e. water quality, pathogens, etc.). The group conducted several fish kill counts between September 20-October 1; he estimates the final count as ca. 20-30,000 fish. Water temperature was 17-21 degrees C, with higher temperature spikes prior to the kill. About 95% of fish examined showed signs of infection with two diseases, *Ichthyophthirius* ("ich") and *Chondrococcus columnaris* ("columnaris"). He noted these pathogens are

density-dependent, flourishing where fish are crowded and water quality is sub-optimal. More than 95% of the dead fish were Chinook salmon, with some coho, steelhead and a report of green sturgeon and one

cutthroat trout. These were mainly adult fish and some jacks; no juveniles were seen. There are reports of some fish dying after October 1, but in far fewer numbers. George Guillen said CDFG has not found any negative impacts from the increased water releases of the past few weeks. The co-operating groups are conducting redd surveys to find out hatchery/species composition of fish kill. He said the overall impacts wouldn't be seen for several years. The Humboldt Chapter Society of American Fisheries is planning to host a forum for scientists to present data on the fish kill.

### Comment

LB Boydston asked about management response and was told that the flow was increased to 1300 cfs for two weeks but would be cut back to 880 cfs on October 11. Dave Hillemeier noted that 1300 cfs is considered a starting point for discussion between Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and other co-managers, and meetings did not take place with the Yurok Tribe and other co-managers in mid-September as called for in the Biological Opinion (BO). There have been no flow increases on the Trinity River because of current litigation. George Guillen said when the flows were increased, there seemed to be a response from the fish, shown by an increase in catches at Ishi Pishi Falls. He said the lack of jet boats and not manpower hampered the effort to collect data. He noted the two diseases do not seem to affect human consumption of fish, and it is unlikely they are passed to progeny. Dave Hillemeier noted that both pathogens are always present but infect fish when there is crowding and/or poor water quality.

George Guillen said carcass and redd surveys on the mainstem river will determine if redds become de-watered when flows drop. He said there is a direct relationship between flow and available spawning habitat, and the impact can't be addressed through monitoring but need to look at historical data on flow and spawning habitat. He said hatchery and native fish are being tabulated separately; Dave Hillemeier said coded-wire-tag (CWT) counts would provide an estimate of the percentage of the hatchery fish. George Guillen said a preliminary report on the fish kill should be available by October 15, with more detailed information (i.e. age composition, etc.) possibly ready within a month. It is highly unlikely that spring Chinook were involved.

Mark Hampton, CDFG reviewed the table of Chinook salmon runs in the Klamath basin, as of October 7, 2002. (*See Handout Agendum 2*) He highlighted some specific numbers, as follows:

- 1) Trinity River/Willow Creek weir fall run count: There were 1,619 fish on September 30, 2001 and 413 fish on Sept. 30, 2002, with a negative difference of -1,206 fish.
- 2) Klamath River/Shasta River Video weir fall run count: There were 2,804 fish on Sept. 30, 2001 and 3,577 fish on Sept. 30, 2002, with a positive difference of 773 fish. However, the count for October 8, 2001 was 6,306 fish and 4,690 fish for Oct. 8, 2002, making a negative difference of -1,616 fish.
- 3) Klamath River/Iron Gate Hatchery (IGH): There were 189 fish on Sept. 30, 2001 and 61 fish for Sept. 30, 2002. On October 6, 2001 there were 839 fish and 1,417 fish (adults only) for Oct. 6, 2002. (IGH figures may be higher because the effects of the lower river fish kill had not yet been felt.)

Members discussed flows in the Shasta and Scott Rivers. Flows in the Shasta are currently 18 cfs with water temperature at 20 C. Flows on the Scott River at the USGS gauge are 11-14 cfs, and it is doubtful fish can pass through the canyon areas on the lower Scott River. Fish are being forced to spawn in areas vulnerable to winter flows. Mark Hampton said denial of access by some Scott Valley private landowners has restricted surveys; he would prefer not to use a weir because of potential fish stress. Aerial surveys are also an option. Fall run data from the IGH and Trinity River Hatchery should be available in a week; he noted that the iodine dip at the hatcheries prevents any bacterial transmission.

Mike Orcutt gave an update of the 2002 Hoopa harvest estimates: The 2001 net fishery harvest of spring

Chinook was 4,100 adults and the 2002 figures were 40 jacks and 3,052 adults. Fall Chinook harvest for 2001 was 4,000 adults and the 2002 figures were 32 jacks and 1,068 adults. Recreational creel harvest of fall Chinook through October 7, 2002 was 98 fish. Peak capture at Willow Creek weir is about 25% of last year's numbers. Paul Kirk said Humboldt County is deciding whether to request a Declaration of Disaster because of the economic impact to the County and Tribes. Dave Hillemeier said water quality parameters would be assessed thoroughly. He said, to date, the Yurok fisheries 2002 harvest is 20,124 fall Chinook and 14,133 spring Chinook. He said since the fish kill, effort has plummeted, with very few people net fishing in the estuary and almost zero effort in the mid-Klamath. The spring/fall split in the Yurok Tribal fishery is currently calculated using an August 20 cutoff. Commercial harvest was 10,732 fall Chinook. He said the Tribal Council closed the fishery October 9-24, and they will reassess the situation after that time.

Jim Waldvogel said the fish kill negatively impacted the in-river sport fishery count. Prior to fish kill, there was a major influx of fish into the river system, mostly smaller Trinity River-size fish. Paul Kirk quoted Ed Duggan as saying the Derby's expectation was 50% of projections, and that people along the river are trying to gauge this disaster from a cultural, historical, social, and economic viewpoint. Keith Wilkinson stressed that the fish represent the biological health of the entire system.

### **Agendum 3. Klamath Fishery Management Council (KFMC) Response**

Members discussed the KFMC response, with LB Boydston asking about implications of the fish kill relative to short- and long-term fishery management. He suggested that the KFMC make a presentation to the Fish & Game Commission at their meeting October 24-25 in Crescent City, CA. Members agreed that further regulatory action this year would be ineffective, but KFMC should make a recommendation.

LB Boydston made a motion with Dave Bitts seconding.

**That the KFMC recommend to the California Fish and Game Commission to consider the following:**

- 1. Give DFG the authority to close the Lower Klamath River Salmon Fishery during the fall Chinook run if/when the CDFG determines a substantial fish kill has occurred.**
- 2. Urge CDFG to consult with co-managers in determining when a substantial fish kill has occurred.**

The motion passed with two abstentions by Dave Hillemeier and Mike Orcutt

LB Boydston confirmed that the KFMC had been placed on the agenda for the Fish and Game Commission meeting for an informational presentation. Dan Viele said he would state all fish kill facts known, as well as a description of the flows.

**Assignment: Dan Viele (or representative) will give an informative report on KFMC's position on the September fish kill in the lower Klamath River at the California Fish and Game Commission meeting on October 24, 2002.**

### **Comment**

Dave Hillemeier suggested that KFMC send a letter to the BOR regarding the Klamath Project operations. He then showed three slides: 1) salmon showing signs of *columnaris* and possibly *ich*, 2) Klamath River at flows at Iron Gate Dam for August/September 1992-2001, and 3) a graph showing the relationship between fall Chinook run size and flows over IGD, 1981-2002. Dave Hillemeier noted that the flows over IGD for 2002 were far less than in all recent years, and that Hardy recommended flows would have been 1050-1100 cfs for September. Dave Bitts noted that September 2001 flows were 250-300 cfs higher with

a larger fish run; there were no reports of pre-spawning mortality. Dave Hillemeier said 1100 cfs would have been better than the actual 750 cfs flow, and the fish kill could have been prevented.

Dan Viele said it isn't clear at this point why fish had stopped moving upstream, but the fact is there was a huge fish kill with a predicted run smaller than last year's at flows 2/3 of the Hardy levels. Dave Bitts said that KFMC's primary purpose is to determine and implement a policy that guarantees there will be enough spawners in the Klamath Basin for future generations, and that BOR's policy does the opposite. Dan Viele said he would work on a letter to the Department of the Interior (DOI) for the next day.

#### **Agendum 4. Public Comment**

Tim McKay, North Coast Environmental Center, Arcata, said his group flew over the river on Wednesday, September 25, to videotape and count fish. He passed out historical photographs of salmon fishing and photo of the recent fish kill, as well as editorials from the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Oregonian*. (See *Handout Agendum 10*)

Felice Pace, Klamath Forest Alliance (KFA), gave a brief report on the Scott River, and expressed concern about the wells pumping interconnected groundwater. He said if CDFG water codes were enforced, more water would be available. He said that the situation has gotten worse in terms of the amount of underground flow being pumped. He stressed there must be an all-basin, all-entity, all-stakeholder solution.

Aaron Douglas, USGS, Ft. Collins, spoke about the economics report he has been working on, which was supported by KFMC in 1994. He discussed the review process the report was going through.

Denver Nelson, citizen, mentioned a BOR-commissioned report done by Humboldt State University, Arcata, on upper Klamath Lake and possible solutions to improve water quality. He noted the report cost \$65,000 and took four years, but was never released by BOR. He said that he believes it offered cost-effective solutions to the problem.

#### **Agendum 5. Time line and Level of Detail for Meeting Minutes**

Gary Curtis spoke on Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) regulations that call for minutes to be available for review within 90 days of the meeting: Draft minutes will be sent by e-mail to members for their review as soon as possible after the meeting. He said that the only FACA requirement for approval of minutes was approval by the Chairperson, and minutes will now be approved before the next meeting. Phil Detrich pointed out the minutes may need to be less detailed in the future to save staff time for other issues. The group discussed the level of detail of the minutes. Suggestions were also made to upgrade the sound system, and Phil Detrich said he would explore this.

#### **Agendum 6. Review Materials and Correspondence**

Gary Curtis reviewed the materials/correspondence received, and discussed handouts/informational handouts.

#### **Agendum 7. Charter and Operating Procedures revision update from FWS Solicitor**

Gary Curtis reviewed the Charter revision update from the FWS solicitor. (See *Handout Agendum 7, KFMC Charter Revisions*)

**Assignment: The DFO will draft a letter to send to the appointing authorities with proposed charter revisions.**

Gary Curtis discussed the potential changes to the Operating Procedures discussed at previous meetings. (See Handout Agendum 7, KFMC Operating Procedures)

**Assignment: YFWO Staff will pursue approval of the Charter, and depending on the outcome, will then address the Operating Procedures.**

**Agendum 8. Trinity Management Council Update**

Doug Schleussner, executive director of the Trinity River Management Council (TMC) discussed that group's letter (See Informational Handout 2) to Department of Interior Secretary Gale Norton. The 2003 budget was approved at the TMC September 25 meeting. TMC is still pushing ahead on a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required following litigation and the Record of Decision (ROD), with the goal of finishing by the 2004 water year. The TMC does not have a clear picture of 2003 releases on the Trinity because Judge Wenger has not made a ruling yet; however, it is implementing other ROD requirements, including modification of four bridges on the upper end of river in order to pass 8,500 acre feet in wet years and 11,000 acre feet for extremely wet years. There is a gravel plan for the entire reach of river, with site-specific NEPA work being done now, and planned implementation of channel restoration sites on a demonstration basis.

**Comment**

Dave Hillemeier said members present at the September 25 TMC meeting noted the importance of managing the entire Klamath-Trinity ecosystem down to the estuary, especially in light of the recent fish kill.

**Agendum 9. Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force Update**

Keith Wilkinson briefly reviewed the Task Force's June 2002 meeting, and said many comments were made on BOR's Klamath Project operations and flows. These minutes are available to all KFMC members and he encouraged KFMC members to read those.

**Agendum 10. Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) Update**

Dan Viele said the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) approved recommendations closing large areas of the coast to rockfish bottom trawling for management of ground fish in 2003. This was done at their September meeting. He noted this is the most extensive closure ever enacted under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and will have significant economic consequences.

**Agendum 11. ESA Issues**

**A) California Endangered Species Act Coho Listing**

Mark Hampton, CDFG, gave an overview of the process of the listing of coho salmon under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). He said coho salmon were determined to be warranted for listing as endangered on central California coast, and as threatened in northern California under CESA. He outlined the process of assembling a recovery team and developing recovery plans for both Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESU). If accepted by the Fish and Game Commission, the listing is recorded into law and an incidental take restriction goes into effect.

**Comment**

LB Boydston said the species has protected status as a candidate until the listing is finalized, and added this is a regulatory issue.

LB Boydston then informed KFMC members about his retirement after 37 years; he was commended for his work on the KFMC. He said Mark Hampton will sit in for him as a non-voting member for the remainder of the meeting.

**B) NMFS Recovery Process Update**

Dan Viele said Southern Oregon/Northern California (SONCC) coho Technical Recovery Team (TRT) has been expanded to include Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) coho. The TRT recently completed a list of coho streams to determine independent populations in order to assess population viability.

**C) Green Sturgeon Petition**

Dan Viele said the status review for green sturgeon is now complete. A decision on whether or not to list the species will be made in mid-to late November. He noted that the Status Review report would not be available until a decision is made.

**D) Winter Chinook Salmon**

Dan Viele said NMFS went before the PFMC in 2001 to request that the PFMC initiate the FMP amendment process to establish management objectives for Sacramento River winter Chinook. An interagency work group will recommend that the PFMC delay any action on winter Chinook for at least two years, as there is not enough information to move ahead.

**Recess**

**Thursday, October 10, 2002**

8 a.m. Reconvene.

Mark Hampton sat in for LB Boydston as a non-voting representative for CDFG.

**Agendum 12. Approval of Minutes**

Steve King requested the following changes: April minutes: Agendum 6: change "LA" to "CA"; Agendum 8: change "boast" to boats"; Agendum 10: change "Oregon Endangered Species Act (ESA)" to "federal ESA." March minutes: Agendum 9: change "from 17.3% to 165" to "from 17.3% to 16%"; Agendum 10: change "Jim Coon" to "John Coon." February minutes: Agendum 12: add to third paragraph, "if a 5% Columbia River freshwater exploitation rate....," and change names on List of Attendees, Attachment 3, to read "Allen Grover, CDFG, and George Kautsky.

Dan Viele requested the following changes: February minutes: Agendum 20: change "drop-off mortality" to "hook and release mortality." March minutes: Agendum 9: Change quote by Dan Viele to read "Dan Viele said that in years of higher Klamath fall Chinook abundance the ESA constraints for coastal Chinook come into play, and a shift occurs of harvest of Klamath fall Chinook from ocean to river fisheries." April minutes: Agendum 6: Delete last sentence by Dan Viele at bottom of page.

Keith Wilkinson made a motion with Curt Melcher seconding.  
To approve the February, March and April 2002 minutes as amended.  
The motion passed unanimously

**Agendum 3. KFMC Management Response (Continued)**

Members reviewed the draft letter to Interior Secretary Norton. After careful crafting, another version was produced. (See Handout Agendum 13, Drafts 2 and 3 KFMC letter to Gale Norton)

**Agendum 13 Public Comment**

Jennifer Silveira, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, commended the KFMC for doing a good job.

Jim Waldvogel then showed a brief video depicting the September fish kill on the lower Klamath River during the break.

**Agendum 14. KFMC Recommendations to the PFMC**

- A) Coordination with Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) Process
- B) Scope of KFMC Recommendations for seasons in areas outside the Klamath Management Zone (KMZ)
- C) Utility of unranked options as recommendations

Members collectively discussed the above three items. Dan Viele said there were two issues: 1) how the KFMC communicates with the SAS and, 2) the form that recommendations should take, i.e. whether a single option versus several options should be presented. Curt Melcher clarified that the SAS' role is to develop options specific to season structures and KFMC's role is to make recommendations as they relate to Klamath Chinook. Several members said it is important to present a single recommendation to avoid parallel tracks between KFMC and SAS. Dan Viele pointed out that the KFMC makes recommendations directly to PFMC, but KFMC needs to keep SAS informed. He said KFMC must make every effort to let SAS know its recommendations by their Monday morning meeting.

**Assignment: Dan Viele will speak with SAS Chair, Don Stevens, regarding KFMC interaction with SAS.**

**Agendum 15. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Agendum 16. Review of in-season river recreational utilization model and its utility for identification of harvestable-surplus**

This item was deferred until the February 2003 meeting to enable Virginia Bostwick and Neil Manji to be present for the discussion.

**Agendum 3. KFMC Management Response (Continued)**

Members continued the discussion on the letter to Interior Secretary Norton regarding the fish kill. The latest draft was reviewed (see Handout letter Version 3). Final edits were made and given to staff for final preparation and distribution to the group (see Handout letter Final Version). The group decided to fax a copy

of the final version to LB Boydston for his review.

## **Agendum 17. Spring Chinook**

### **A. Technical Advisory Team (TAT) Report**

#### **1. Assessment of Cohort Reconstruction Results**

George Kautsky gave a brief background on the cohort reconstruction and explained how hatchery CWT counts were used to reconstruct spring Chinook estimates (*See Handout Agendum 17*). He said the KFMC could decide whether to refine the cohort reconstruction or to factor in natural stocks. Desma Williams, Yurok Tribe, said it's not clear whether fish showing up in August are considered springers or hatchery cross-breeds. George Kautsky said there was a relatively large run of springers this year with dead fish showing up in the Trinity, a factor of the large run or was it an abnormal event? Dave Hillemeier noted that most of the springers in the 2002 Yurok fishery were caught during August, which he thinks this is counterintuitive to what springers do. George Kautsky said that although substantial portions of the Trinity River have been monitored over the past few decades, most of the Klamath River remains unmonitored for spring Chinook.

George Kautsky then reviewed graphs predicting the age 3, 4 and 5 February stock size based on age 2, 3 and 4 in-river cohorts. He then discussed the procedures and reviewed graphs calculating age-specific troll fishery impacts and maturation rates, using data from the spring cohort reconstruction for the brood years 1987-1996.

#### **2. Fishery Impact Rates by Time and Area**

George Kautsky showed a series of graphs detailing total commercial fishing impacts on Trinity River Hatchery (TRH) spring Chinook 1979-2001, by month, in several fishing areas along the coast. He explained that data can only be collected when/where fishing occurs. (*See Handout Agendum 17*).

#### **3. Comparison of Tribal and non-Tribal impacts**

George Kautsky briefly reviewed graphs showing Tribal/non-Tribal impacts. (*See Handout Agendum 17*).

#### **4. Potential categories of management objectives**

George Kautsky outlined several potential management objectives, and members discussed these in detail.

TRH Management: The objective would be to minimize hatchery impacts to non-hatchery populations and meet escapement goal/egg take, mitigation goals and maintain historic harvest/escapement. The data needs are the effect of hatchery production on wild stocks, and comprehensive CWT recovery and analysis to determine success of the stocking program. There would need to be an annual forecast of fishery impacts and potential hatchery return.

Natural (non-hatchery) spawning: The objective would be to maintain viability of composite "natural" population, and assess habitat capacity and population productivity. The data analysis needs include determination of the natural population age-structure (possibly using fish caught in the net fishery).

Basin specific, weak stock: The objective would be to determine/maintain viability of specific stocks.

## **Agendum 18. Public Comment**

Felice Pace, Klamath Forest Alliance (KFA), said his group helped convince the Fish and Game Commission to restrict fishing above the Trinity River confluence to reduce impacts on spring Chinook; he noted this should be extended along the entire river, as there is fishing even when water is low. He asked the KFMC to

formally request CDFG to provide those data on Klamath River angler harvest, perhaps at the February KFMC meeting. He also expressed concern about the effects over-predicting run size of fall Chinook, especially when runs are small, and the resulting increased impact of the fisheries.

Petey Brucker, Salmon River Restoration Council (SRRC), spoke on the Salmon Learning and Understanding Group (SLUG). He also spoke on the Spring Chinook Recovery Group's activities, including their study of Chinook life stages to determine limiting factors. (*See Informational Handouts, SRCC*). He said SRRC's goal is to educate local residents about the spring run and the need for protecting key refugia for the spring run. He reported on the group's South Fork of Salmon River survey, and discussed the weak stocks proposal. He also discussed the effects of boating and gold prospecting on the river.

Adrienne Harling, SRRC library project coordinator, informed the KFMC about this new library resource; the library is focusing on spring Chinook. She said a variety of research services and a website are available.

Phil Detrich, YFWO, spoke about the KFMC and Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force web sites, and said these sites have been upgraded and made more accessible to people looking for Basin material.

### **Agendum 17. Spring Chinook Management Goals (continued)**

#### **B. Management Objectives**

##### **1. Magnuson-Stevens Act and Pacific Coast Salmon Plan requirements for conservation objectives**

Dan Viele said that Klamath-Trinity spring Chinook would be subject to the over fishing requirements under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Fishery Management Plan (FMP) management objectives will need to

specify maximum sustainable yield, and if the stock were found to be overfished, the PFMC would then be required to develop a recovery plan. He said it is premature to ask for a scoping session, but the KFMC can advise the PFMC that it is actively working on FMP management measures. He said KFMC members must provide direction to the TAT on management objectives if the KFMC is going to present an amendment to the PFMC.

#### **Comment**

Dave Hillemeier said policy objectives would be conservation of all natural stocks, including potential upper basin stocks, (in areas such as South Fork Trinity, Salmon River and North Fork and mainstem Trinity Rivers).

Michael Mohr said that Amendment 14 to the FMP added Klamath-Trinity spring Chinook to the list of managed stocks, but management objectives have not yet been identified. CDFG was reluctant to support Tribal recommendations to include spring Chinook in the group of stocks under Amendment 14, because of lack of resources.

Michael Orcutt said weak stock management hasn't been done for fall Chinook either, and asked if we are ready to do it for spring Chinook? Dave Bitts said he was also reluctant to use weak-stock management for spring Chinook when not being used for fall run.

Curt Melcher said precise figures are not available to allow the PFMC to constrain ocean fisheries to protect Salmon River spring Chinook. He stressed that KFMC must be confident that its management objectives are not putting natural springers in jeopardy.

Members discussed various options for obtaining more information, such as tagging Salmon River fry or taking tissue samples, but the overall consensus was there is a lack of information on natural stocks. Dave Hillemeier discussed the following options: spring Chinook impacts could be estimated using CWT from

hatchery stock; Salmon and South Fork natural stock information could be combined for a stock recruitment analysis to assess productivity which may result in the estimation of a reasonable harvest rate. Petey Brucker said that this is complicated as it is unclear where fall and spring Chinook merge together. Scale sample availability was discussed; it was noted that about 400 samples from spring Chinook are available from 1991-2002.

**Agendum 3. KFMC Management Response (Continued)**

Mark Hampton reported that LB Boydston would review the KFMC letter to Secretary Norton first thing in the morning on Friday. Members then discussed the need to approve and send the letter.

Paul Kirk made a motion with Keith Wilkinson seconding.

**To approve and send the KFMC letter to DOI Secretary regarding the Klamath River fish kill.**

Motion passed unanimously

**Assignment: FWO Staff will send the letter from the KFMC to Gale Norton, DOI Secretary, regarding KFMC's position on the September fish kill.**

**Recess**

**Friday, October 11, 2002**

8 a.m. Reconvene

**Agendum 17. Spring Chinook (Continued)**

**B. Management Objectives (Continued)**

**2. Issues: Recovery of naturally spawning populations, harvest management of hatchery population, integration of spring Chinook harvest with tribal/non-tribal harvest allocation.**

**C. Process**

Members (and others in the audience) continued discussion on these, agenda items issues from the previous day. Some members said it is unclear whether there is a benefit to separating fall from spring Chinook, or whether the current management process for fall Chinook is enough protection for spring Chinook. Dan Viele said specific management objectives were needed. He said that information on all impacts was needed, and, without that information, there can be no adequate management plan. Mark Hampton said he would speak to CDFG about gathering estimates of sport harvest on the lower river.

Mike Orcutt suggested researching existing springer management plans, to avoid repetition. Dan Viele said he hoped any information gathered would be used to manage wild stocks. Keith Wilkinson suggested using Rogue River springer stocks as a surrogate instead of Willamette river stocks. Petey Brucker said as long as habitat conditions remain poor in the mainstem Klamath, the springer stock would remain weak. Members then discussed information needed, such as ocean troll impacts after July 1<sup>st</sup> as well as drop-off mortality estimates. Mark Hampton said CDFG believes there is viability of Salmon River stocks despite very low numbers in some years.

Members discussed scale sampling. Michael Mohr said the TAT could conduct an analysis of hatchery stock/CWT and get estimates of harvest rates of all sectors, as has been done for fall Chinook. The TAT could then present the KFMC with hatchery stock information, as well as available natural stock information, and any analysis required. Mike Orcutt said KFMC should urge agencies to assist with this effort.

Dan Viele said it is important to consider PFMC reaction to further constraints on ocean effort, and whether spring Chinook management could be initiated outside PFMC process.

Keith Wilkinson stressed that Oregon is constrained by lack of resources; Dan Viele said Oregon is needed to formalize agency commitment.

Members discussed assignments for the TAT needed to assess fishery impacts on springers.

**Assignment: Mark Hampton, CDFG, will confer with CDFG staff about feasibility of gathering information on impacts to spring Chinook in the lower river from sport fishing. A CDFG representative will present findings at the KFMC February 2003 meeting.**

**Assignment: KRTAT will present the following at the February 2003 KFMC meeting:**

- 1. A complete cohort analysis, including monthly estimates of ocean and river impacts and contact rates/exploitation rates, and**
- 2. The number (and manner of collection) of wild stock scales/data sets available.**

**Agendum 18. Klamath Ocean Harvest Model (KOHM) revision and allocation of non-Tribal Harvest of fall Chinook**

Dave Bitts said that KFMC was operating based on allocations and assumptions from the old KOHM when applying the new KOHM. He expressed concern that a “reallocation” might occur when using current percentages with new model results that we might not know about. Michael Mohr said he doesn’t think the figures have changed radically because the fall Chinook figures are based on CWT information.

**Agendum 19. Public Comment**

There was no public comment at this time.

**Agendum 20. Review of motions and assignments**

Gary Curtis reviewed the list of motions and assignments, including assignments to the TAT. *(See attached list)*

**Agendum 21. Location/Agenda Items for February 2003 Meeting**

The next meeting will be February 27-28, 2003 in Brookings, OR. At that meeting, the KFMC will schedule a meeting for Sunday, March 9, 2002. Paul Kirk announced that this would be his last meeting; Jimmy Smith will serve in his stead on both the KFMC and Task Force, beginning in February 2003.

**Adjourn**

Members then took a field trip to the Shasta Weir.

**Attachment 1**

***LIST OF ATTENDEES***

***Klamath Fishery Management Council Meeting  
October 9-11, 2002  
Yreka Fish & Wildlife Office  
Yreka, CA  
Meeting #70***

The following individuals attended the Klamath Fishery Management Council meeting in Yreka, California, on October 9-11, 2002.

Oct 9

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>
Douglas Schleusner	Trinity River Restoration Program
Brian Favero	
Denver Nelson	
Tim McKay	Northcoast Environmental Center
Felice Pace	Klamath Forest Alliance
George Kautsky	Hoop Valley Tribe
Desma Williams	Yurok Tribe
Kim Mattson	
Tam Moore	Capital Press
Allen Grover	California Department of Fish and Game
Adrienne Harling	Salmon River Restoration Council
Brenda Olson	Klamath National Forest
Petey Brucker	Salmon River Restoration Council
Gail Ottoman	
Gary Curtis	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Michael Mohr	NOAA Fisheries
Wade Sinnen,	California Department of Fish and Game
George Guillen	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Jerry Barnes	KFMC Technical Advisory team

**Attachment 2.**

**KLAMATH FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING**

*October 9-11, 2002*

*List of Handouts*

- Agendum 3  
T Letter to Gale Norton from Klamath Fishery Management Council regarding  
he Klamath River Fish Kill;  
Draft Letter Version 1  
Draft Letter Version 2  
Draft Letter Version 3  
Final Letter  
Final Letter with comments from LB Boydston
- Agendum 3 Status of Chinook salmon runs in the Klamath Basin, California Department of  
Fish and Game.
- Agendum 5  
Item 1 Klamath Fishery Management Council Charter with proposed revisions  
Item 2 Klamath Fishery Management Council Operating Procedures with proposed  
revisions.
- Agendum 11 Article from Wall Street Journal, entitled **AKlamath Gothic@**, dated October 27,  
2002.
- Agendum 13  
Item 1 Klamath River Basin Spring Chinook Salmon Spawner Escapement, River  
Harvest and Run-size Estimates, 1980-2002.
- Agendum 13 Klamath River Spring Chinook: brood schedule, aging convention.
- Agendum 17 Packet of handouts on spring Chinook prepared by the Technical Advisory  
Team.

Informational Handouts

- Handout 1 Status Report of the 2002 ocean salmon fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and  
California: preliminary data through August 31, 2002.
- Handout 2 Letter from Trinity Management Council to Interior Secretary Gale Norton.
- Handout 3 Letter from Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to Interior Secretary Gale  
Norton regarding the Klamath River Fish Kill, dated October 3, 2002.
- Handout 4 Letter from the City of Arcata to Governor Grey Davis regarding Klamath Fish  
Kill, dated October 3, 2002.
- Handout 5 Letter from the City of Arcata to Interior Secretary Gale Norton regarding  
Klamath Fish Kill, dated October 3, 2002.

- Handout 6 Letter from the City of Arcata to Susan Warner, Executive Director regarding Klamath Fish Kill, dated October 3, 2002.
- Handout 7 PFMC Meeting Notice: Salmon Technical Team and Scientific and Statistical Committee's Salmon Sub-Committee joint work session.
- Handout 8 Minutes from Salmon River Restoration Council's Weak Stocks Planning meeting on October 4, 2002.
- Handout 9 Report from Salmon River Restoration Council on Upper South Fork Salmon River Spring Chinook adult presence and absence survey – Fall 2002.
- Handout 10 Oregonian Editorial titled "Belly up on the Klamath", dated September 28, 2002 and various photos of the Fish Kill taken by the Northcoast Environmental Center.

**MOTIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS**  
**Klamath Fishery Management Council Meeting**  
**October 11-13, 2002**  
**Yreka Fish & Wildlife Office**  
**Yreka, CA**  
**Meeting #70**

**Motions**

October 9

Keith Wilkinson made a motion with Dave Bitts seconding.

**To approve the agenda as amended.**

The motion passed unanimously.

LB Boydston made a motion with Dave Bitts seconding.

**That the KFMC recommend to the California Fish and Game Commission to consider the following:**

**1.) Give DFG the authority to close the Lower Klamath River Salmon Fishery during the fall Chinook run if/when the CDFG determines a substantial fish kill has occurred, and 2.) Urge CDFG to consult with co-managers in determining when a substantial fish kill has occurred.**

The motion passed with two abstentions by Dave Hillemeier and Mike Orcutt.

October 10

Keith Wilkinson made a motion with Curt Melcher seconding.

**To approve the February, March and April 2002 minutes as amended.**

The motion passed unanimously.

Paul Kirk made a motion with Keith Wilkinson seconding.

**To approve and send the KFMC letter to DOI Secretary regarding the Klamath River fish kill.**

Motion passed unanimously.

**Assignments**

**Assignments to Members:**

Dan Viele will speak with SAS Chair, Don Stevens, regarding KFMC interaction with SAS.

Mark Hampton will confer with CDFG staff about feasibility of gathering information on sport fishing impacts on spring Chinook in the lower river. A CDFG representative will present his findings at the KFMC February meeting.

Dan Viele will give (or find a representative to do so) an informative report on KFMC's position on the September Lower Klamath River fish kill to the Fish and Game Commission meeting on October 24, 2002.

**Assignments to Staff:**

The DFO will draft a letter to send to the appointing authorities with proposed charter revisions.

FWO Staff will pursue approval of the Charter, and depending on the outcome, will then address the Operating Procedures.

FWO Staff will send the letter from the KFMC to Gale Norton, DOI Secretary, regarding KFMC's position on the September fish kill.

**Assignments to the Technical Advisory Team:**

KRTAT will present the following at the February 2003 KFMC meeting:

1. A complete cohort analysis, including monthly estimates of ocean and river impacts and contact/exploitation rates, and
2. The number (and manner of collection) of wild stock scales/data sets available.

**FINAL AGENDA**

***Klamath Fishery Management Council  
October 9-11, 2002  
Yreka, CA***

**Wednesday, October 9, 2002**

10:00 am. Convene Klamath Fishery Management Council meeting and introduce members

1. Review and Approve Agenda
2. September 2002 Fish Kill on Lower Klamath River
3. KFMC Management Response
4. Public Comment
5. Time line and level of detail for meeting minutes
6. Review Materials and Correspondence
7. Charter and Operating Procedures revision update from FWS Solicitor
8. Trinity Management Council update
9. Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force update
10. Pacific Fishery Management Council update
11. ESA issues:
  - A. California ESA coho listing
  - B. NMFS recovery process update
  - C. Green sturgeon petition
  - D. Winter Chinook

Recess

**Thursday, October 10, 2002**

8:00 am. Reconvene

12. Approval of February, March and April 2002 Minutes
3. KFMC Management Response (continued)
13. Public Comment
14. KFMC Recommendations to the PFMC
  - A. Coordination with SAS process
  - B. Scope of KFMC recommendations for seasons in areas outside the KMZ
  - C. Utility of unranked options as recommendations
15. Public Comment
16. Review of in-season river recreational utilization model and its utility for identification of harvestable-surplus
3. KFMC Management Response (continued)
17. Spring Chinook Management Goals
  - A. Technical Advisory Team (TAT) Report
    - 1.) Assessment of cohort reconstruction results
    - 2.) Fishery impact rates by time and area
    - 3.) Comparison of tribal and non-tribal impacts
    - 4.) Potential categories of management objectives
18. Public Comment
17. Spring Chinook Management Goals (Continued)
  - B. Management Objectives

- 1.) Magnuson-Stevens Act and Pacific Coast Salmon Plan requirements for conservation objectives
3. KFMC Management Response (Continued)

Recess

**Friday, October 11, 2002**

Reconvene

17. Spring Chinook Management Goals (Continued)
  - B. Management Objectives (Continued)
    - 2.) Issues: Recovery of naturally spawning populations, harvest management of hatchery population, integration of spring Chinook harvest with tribal/non-tribal harvest allocation.
  - C. Process
18. Klamath Ocean Harvest Model revision and allocation of non-Tribal harvest of fall Chinook
19. Public Comment
20. Review of motions and assignments
21. Location and agenda items for the February 2003, meeting

Adjourn