



MEMORANDUM

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INTRA-DEPARTMENT

DATE: 27 April, 2012
TO: File
FROM: Chris Knutsen
SUBJECT: Public Comments from 4/25/12 Tillamook Fall Angling Regulation Meeting

Attendance: 57 public plus staff and OSP.

Stay with 2011 Nehalem fall Chinook angling regulations; relaxing rules is premature (Lower Nehalem Watershed Council)

Anglers would support Nehalem bar closure or additional closure if warranted, but given the forecast for 2012 this does not appear to be the case and is not necessary.

Conservation should be spread out among groups (those who use different parts of the river).

Close Nehalem bar if/when needed, otherwise let everyone have a share (don't penalize those who fish one particular area)

Leave lower and upper bay areas open. Question why allow fishing upriver in spawning areas?

Support 1/10 bag limit for ChF (3 people)

Question: What is difference in catch between 1/10 and 2/10 bag limit for ChF? (Chris Knutsen answered: Not much, about 5%). If not a big difference, then support 2/10 bag limit (2 people)

For wild coho fishery, days of the week is a good idea. This would spread the catch throughout the run (not just on the first part). Would choose different days than proposed (Friday is high effort day). Suggest Sun/Mon for Tillamook, Fri/Sat for Nestucca. (2 people)

One problem with days of the week is releasing "dead" (fish hooked badly) fish on the in-between days that you could have kept later in the week. Follow up comment suggested that days open should be the peak days since higher effort would lead to more "dead" fish released than on lower effort days.

Vote: Maintain 2011 regulations (bar closure)=7; Support 2012 staff recommendations=42

Focus should be on a long term conservative conservation policy.

Ten fish limit is a conservative policy.

Stocks have been depressed coast wide so the fishery at the jaws is not an issue.

Jaws is a difficult area to fish so catch is not as high as people think.

Would like to keep the 1/10 limit.

OK with having Friday/Saturday open but would like to have informational flyer with regulations to distribute.

Would prefer a mid week open time such as Tuesday/Wednesday.

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Fall Chinook and Coho Salmon Inland Fisheries Public Meeting
Mid Coast District, Newport - Hallmark Resort – April 26, 2012
Summary of Public Comments (21 public attendees)

Salmon River

-No comments were provided by the public on the staff proposal of 2 non fin clipped Chinook per day, 10 per season.

Siletz River

Chinook

- Move Chinook deadline up to Mill Park.
- Go back to permanent rules since the returns are above the PST goal.
- Move deadlines up to Twin Bridges or Moonshine Park if there is not a biological reason.
- Provide more open public fishing access above the Ojalla Bridge deadline. Make deadline at the first hole upstream of Ojalla Bridge (echoed a few times).
- Keep the deadline at Ojalla Bridge, (echoed a few times)
- Siletz Watershed Council supports a Chinook 2 daily 10 annual bag limit.
- As a compromise, move deadline up to Mill Park and go to a 1/10 Chinook limit.
- Look at catch by section from Chinook creel data to assist in making decision.
- Need to have a meeting with concerned public and Fish Division regarding the PST treaty process and options for public involvement.
- Resurvey punch card data to look at angler success under the various daily and seasonal limits, i.e. percent of anglers who catch 1 vs. 2 per day and 10 vs. 20 per year.

Coho

- Structure season to provide a bay and river fishery through the run.
- Start coho fishery on September 1st.
- Start coho fishery on September 15th.
- Daily / seasonal limit of 1 per day 2 per year (preferred option via a vote at the end of the meeting).

Yaquina River

-No comments were provided by the public on the staff proposed option for the Chinook and coho fisheries.

Alsea River

- No comments were provided by the public on the staff proposed option for the Chinook fishery.
- Structure the coho fishery to provide separate quotas for a bay and river fishery. –Structure a fishery that can provide bay and river opportunities through December.
- Start the coho fishery on September 15th.
- Start the coho fishery on October 1st.
- A vote at the end of the meeting resulted in a preferred October 1st start date for the coho fishery and a daily/seasonal bag limit of 1 per day 2 per season.

Siuslaw River

-No comments were provided by the public on the staff proposed option for Chinook and coho fisheries.

Other Rivers

-look into providing a wild coho fishery in Beaver Creek.