



Discussion of Ocean Salmon Sportfishing Regulations



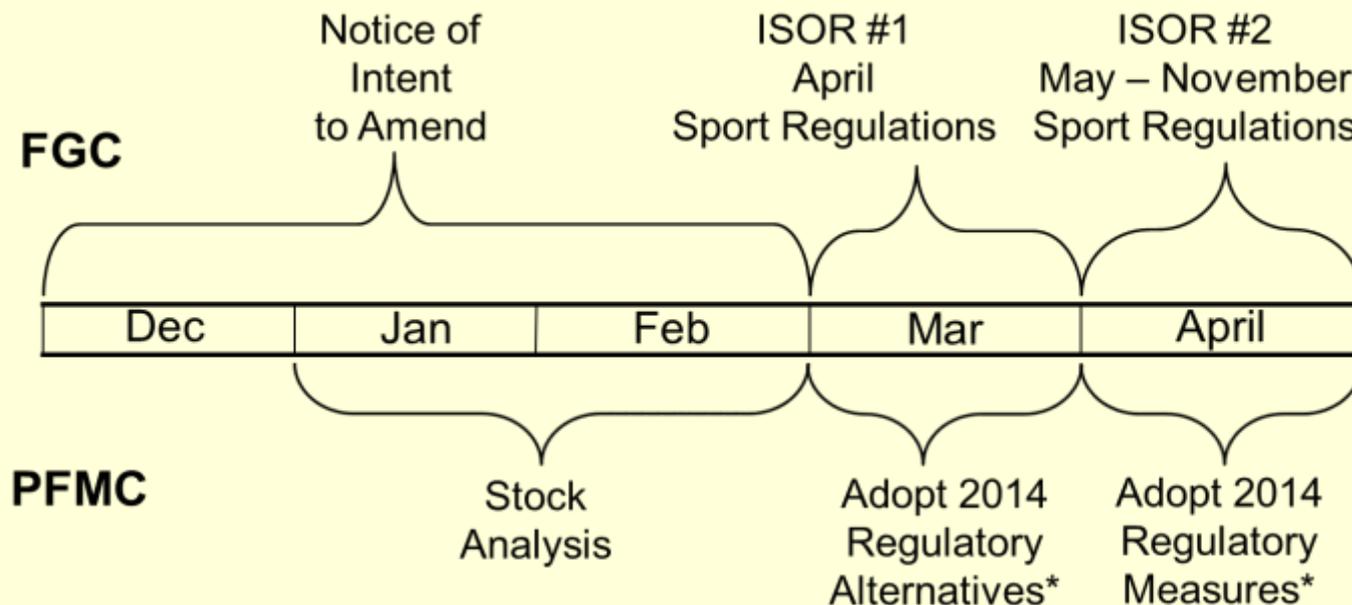
Fish and Game Commission Meeting

February 5, 2014

Marci Yaremko

2014 Ocean Salmon Fisheries Regulatory Process

- Stock analyses are currently underway to determine the current ocean abundance of adult Chinook salmon
- This information will be used to determine the California ocean salmon sport season for 2014
- Ocean fisheries are managed to ensure adequate number of spawners return each year to sustain the resource



Effects of Drought on 2014 Ocean Salmon Fisheries

“The Department of Fish and Wildlife will work with the Fish and Game Commission, using the best available science, to determine whether restricting fishing in certain areas will become necessary and prudent as drought conditions persist.”

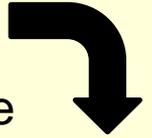
Chinook Salmon Life History



Return to freshwater birthplace



Adults spawn and die



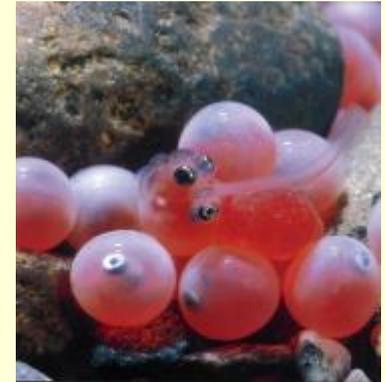
Feed and mature in ocean (3-5 years)



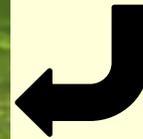
Migrate out to the ocean (Jan -May)



Juveniles rear in river (6-9 months)



Eggs hatch in 40-60 days



2014 Ocean Salmon Fisheries

- In 2014, ocean fisheries will harvest Chinook salmon that hatched from eggs 3 to 4 years ago
- This year's offspring will not be taken in 2014 ocean fisheries



Summary



- Closing ocean salmon fishing in 2014 will not help this year's offspring impacted by the drought
- These offspring will not be caught in the ocean for another 3 years
- Ocean salmon fishing regulations are dependent on stock abundance
- Salmon stock collapse possible in 3 years if survival of this year's offspring is low