Fisheries Under Consideration: Non-Treaty Commercial Salmon

Management guidelines, allocations, and run forecasts for the 2009 fall season were presented in Fall Fact Sheets #1 (July 29, 2009) and #11 (September 22, 2009)

- Preseason forecasts for Columbia River coho total 703,100 adults, comprised of 466,600 early and 236,500 late stock coho. The ESA limit is 20% for ocean and in-river fisheries combined.

- Considering preseason forecasts and inseason sampling information, staff estimates around 44,000 coho are currently available for harvest. The current estimate includes remaining impacts from completed ocean and in-river fisheries.

- TAC is scheduled to meet October 6 to review coho stock status. Currently, the states can account for around 300,000 early stock coho. It appears the early stock coho are tracking within expectations. Late stock coho are just beginning to reach counting facilities.

- Coho directed fisheries occurred on September 28 and 30. A third fishing period is scheduled for Monday October 6.

- Coho landings have been much greater than expected, with 13,800 coho landed on September 28 and 23,300 landed on September 30. An additional 3,300 coho have been landed in fall fisheries. Current landing estimates total about 40,500 coho.

- Given the landings to date and the current estimate of available coho harvest, staff is recommending the following action:

2009 Late Fall Mainstem Commercial Salmon Fishery

Rescind the fishery scheduled 7AM – 7 PM Monday October 5, in Zones 1-3.

- Coho catch in Zone 4-5 fisheries has been low enough that these fisheries can remain in place without exceeding allowable impacts.

- Staff will continue to monitor the ongoing fisheries, update landings, and review stock status.

- A hearing is scheduled via teleconference for 3 PM Tuesday, October 6 to review salmon stock status and consider non-treaty commercial fisheries.