UPDATED 4-25-16

Washington's ocean waters:

The Pacific Fishery Management Council approved a recreational chinook catch quota of 35,000 fish, which is 29,000 fewer fish than 2015's quota of 64,000 chinook. The PFMC, which establishes fishing seasons in ocean waters three to 200 miles off the Pacific coast, also adopted a quota of 18,900 coho for this year's recreational ocean fishery – about 131,900 fish fewer than last year's quota (150,800 coho).

Recreational ocean salmon fisheries for chinook will be open daily beginning July 1 in all four marine areas. Marine Area 1 (Ilwaco) will close Aug. 31 while the other three marine areas will close Aug. 21. The areas could close earlier if the catch quota is met.

Anglers will be required to release all coho salmon in marine areas 2-4 but can retain hatchery coho in Marine Area 1. Anglers will have a daily limit of one salmon in Marine Area 2. In Marine Area 1 anglers can retain two salmon, only one of which can be chinook. Areas 3 and 4 have a two-salmon daily limit.

Columbia River:

Below are highlights of the major Columbia River salmon fisheries this year. More details will be available in the 2016-17 Washington Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet, which will be available in June.

The Buoy 10 salmon fishery will be open from Aug. 1 through Sept. 5 (Labor Day) with a daily limit of two salmon, only one of which can be a chinook. On Sundays and Mondays through Labor Day, only hatchery fish can be retained.

From Sept. 6 through Sept. 30, anglers will have a daily limit of two hatchery coho, but must release all chinook. From Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, the fishery will be open for chinook and hatchery coho, with a daily limit of two adult salmon. Throughout the Buoy 10 season, fishery managers will assess the catch and may make changes to chinook retention in order to remain within guidelines.

The summer season on the mainstem Columbia River from the Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to the Hwy. 395 Bridge will be open from June 16 through July 31 for hatchery summer chinook and sockeye. The daily limit will be two adult salmonids (chinook and steelhead must be adipose fin-clipped). All sockeye are considered adults in the daily limit.

For the third-straight year, during fall fisheries, anglers fishing from the same boat may continue fishing for salmon until all anglers have reached their daily limits in the following areas:

- The mainstem Columbia River from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to the Lewis River will be open from Aug. 1 through Dec. 31. Anglers will be allowed to retain one adult chinook as part of their two-fish daily limit from Aug. 1 through Sept. 14. During Sept. 10 through Sept. 14, adult chinook retention is restricted to hatchery chinook only. From Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, anglers can retain two adult chinook daily.
- The Lewis River upstream to the Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco will be open Aug. 1 through Dec. 31 for chinook and hatchery coho, with a daily limit of two adult salmon.
- Columbia River anglers are reminded that retention of sockeye and chum salmon is prohibited during the fall season.

North Coast rivers:

This is summary of the changes to salmon fisheries in north coastal rivers for 2016. More details will be available in the 2016-17 Washington Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet, which will be available in June.

- The state and coastal tribes both agreed to close salmon fishing in coastal rivers during October and November, the peak months when wild coho return.
- The daily bag limit will require anglers to release wild coho in all open waters.
 Only one adult salmon will be allowed per day except in waters where hatchery fish are released (Quillayute, Sol Duc and Salmon rivers).
- Quillayute River system the entire system, including tributaries, will be closed to all fishing from Sept. 1 through Nov. 30, with the following exceptions:
 - The Quillayute River and Sol Duc River (up to the concrete pump station at the Sol Duc hatchery) will be remain open Sept. 1-30 and then will reopen Nov. 16 to allow anglers to harvest returning hatchery coho.
 - o The Bogachiel River below the mouth of Mill Creek will open Nov.16.
 - The Calawah River below Highway 101 will open Nov. 16.
- The Hoh River outside Olympic National Park will close to all fishing on Oct.11 and re-open Nov. 21.
- The state-managed waters of the Queets System will be closed to all fishing Sept. 1 through Nov. 30, with the following exceptions:
 - The state-managed waters of the Salmon River will remain open to salmon fishing through Sept. 30.