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**KLAMATH MANAGEMENT ZONE**  
**OCEAN SALMON SPORT FISHERMEN SURVEY**

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Klamath Management Zone  
Ocean Salmon Sport Fishermen Survey

INTRODUCTION

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) has restricted the ocean sportfishing and commercial salmon seasons in the Klamath Management Zone (KMZ) since 1985. In 1991, the PFMC instituted sportfish regulations in the KMZ that severely restricted ocean salmon fishermen. Eventually these restrictions closed the salmon season for the entire month of August.

Ports within the KMZ (Eureka, Trinidad, Crescent City, Brookings, Gold Beach, and Port Orford) were concerned about the effects these closures and restrictions might have on sport fishermen frequenting the area each summer. At the request of the port managers, the Curry/Del Norte Sea Grant advisor developed an ocean salmon sport fishermen survey questionnaire which was distributed to salmon sport fishermen throughout each port in the KMZ during the 1991 season. The purpose of the survey was to help KMZ ports better identify the ocean salmon sportfish users and to obtain anglers opinions about present management techniques and regulations in the KMZ.

METHODS

An ocean salmon sportfish questionnaire was developed with advice from port managers within the KMZ (Appendix). The questionnaire contained a "sport fishermen's profile" section and a "fishery issues" section. The sport fishermen profile measured demographics of fishermen utilizing each port. The fishery issues section measured opinions of fishermen about specific regulatory and management techniques instituted by the PFMC. The questionnaire was concise, enabling individual fishermen to complete the survey without the need for personal interviews.

Distribution of the questionnaire was a major undertaking for the five ports involved in the survey. Port Orford was excluded because it was not included in the regulatory zones utilized in the KMZ during 1991. Questionnaires were widely dispersed from June 25 through August 30 at tackle shops, RV parks, port district offices, charter boat offices, smokehouses, and launching facilities in each port. Questionnaires used were identical, in every port, except for color-coding to identify each port for data analysis.

Questionnaires were returned by mail to the marine advisor, or directly to the distribution locations. Returns appeared on a regular basis throughout the June 25 - August 30 sampling period, indicating little bias in the dispersal technique. Frequent communications by the marine advisor to the distribution locations aided this process and alleviated sampling problems.

Almost 3,000 questionnaires were distributed in the five ports and 30% were filled out and returned. The data were compiled and analyzed by the Sea Grant Advisor using standard statistical methods. These results were presented to the Klamath Management Zone Fisheries Coalition (A coalition of KMZ port districts, county supervisors and commissioners, and Chambers of Commerce).

## RESULTS

The survey data were analyzed by port. The results identify characteristics of sport fishermen and their opinions about management techniques, or regulations. When appropriate, certain questions were also analyzed using data from all ports combined.

The following abbreviations will be used in this report to designate individual ports:

HB = Humboldt Bay  
TR = Trinidad  
CC = Crescent City  
BK = Brookings  
GB = Gold Beach  
KMZ = Total for zone

The return rate of completed questionnaires resulted in the following percentages:

HB - 110 returns from	500 distributed	(22%)
TR - 97 returns from	400 distributed	(24%)
CC - 388 returns from	1,050 distributed	(37%)
BK - 208 returns from	800 distributed	(26%)
GB - 50 returns from	150 distributed	(33%)
KMZ - 853 returns from	2,900 distributed	(29%)

Two ports (Crescent City and Brookings) were sampled at higher rates to identify possible biases from sampling densities. Analysis of results from all ports for each question indicated individual port differences, but did not indicate any noticeable biases in sampling technique, or rates.

Sport Fishermen Profile

Questions incorporated in the sport fishermen profile were designed to measure anglers demographics for each port. Results are expressed as averages, ranges, or percentages of responses. The results are reported below in the same order as the survey questionnaire (appendix).

1. Years that sportsmen have fished for salmon in the ocean:

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average (years)	21	17	15	17	18	17
Range (years)	1-50	1-45	1-60	1-50	2-60	1-60

2. The harbor most frequently "fished out of" during their stay:

Each port has 100% use for itself; other percentages indicate the use of different ports (Table 1). "Others" represents ports out of the KMZ.

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 Table 1: Percent of fishermen using other ports during the sport salmon season:

	(Port Used)					
	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Others*</u>
HB -	100	6	4	1	1	5
TR -	8	100	3	1	3	6
CC -	2	5	100	6	4	4
BK -	1	1	11	100	2	6
GB -	0	0	2	4	100	4

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\* "Other" ports out of the KMZ represented in the responses include: Coos Bay, Winchester Bay, Newport, Westport, Morro Bay, Monterey Bay, Ft. Bragg, Sausalito, Columbia River, San Francisco Bay, Bodega Bay, Tillamook Bay, British Columbia, Half Moon Bay, Avila, Port San Luis, Shelter Cove, Santa Barbara, and Port Angeles, WA.

3. Permanent place of residence:

Many sport fishermen in the KMZ are transient residents from great distances. The percentages under each port listed below represent fishermen who resided in those states.

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
California	96%	89%	87%	16%	46%
Oregon	0%	0%	5%	74%	46%
Arizona	2%	4%	3%	1%	4%
Nevada	2%	5%	4%	4%	4%
Other	0%	2%	1%	5%	0%

The category of "other" included: Montana, Colorado, Washington, New York, Texas, Florida, Idaho, and Hawaii.

Each respondent was asked to list their city of residence. The results were tabulated by grouping the cities from distances to their respective ports. Four categories were used: 0-50 miles; 51-200 miles; 201-500 miles; and over 500 miles. These mileage categories represent distinct travel distances from major metropolitan areas (Table 2).

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 Table 2: Distances traveled from areas of residence by sport fishermen utilizing the KMZ ocean salmon sportfishery (percentage):

	(Miles Traveled)			
	<u>0-50</u>	<u>51-200</u>	<u>201-500</u>	<u>over 500</u>
Humboldt Bay	43	7	31	19
Trinidad	20	31	26	23
Crescent City	15	23	34	28
Brookings	47	24	17	12
Gold Beach	38	4	18	40

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Over 250 cities were represented in the responses to this question. Many of them were located near major metropolitan areas like Portland, Eugene, Medford, Redding, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Sacramento.

4. Types of lodging utilized while sportfishing in the area:

Table 3 lists the percent of lodging use for each port. Total use exceeds 100% because some fishermen indicated more than one type of use.

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 Table 3: Percentage of lodging use by ocean sport fishermen using the KMZ area:

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
Local Resident	45	18	14	41	34
Trailer/RV Park	41	60	67	40	60
Campground	9	11	13	8	2
Motel	5	9	4	6	4
Summer Home	1	2	1	3	4
Other (boat)	2	0	1	2	0

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5. Fishermen's age:

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average (years)	58	61	63	60	62	61
Range (years)	18-82	17-81	16-91	20-87	31-81	16-91

Most survey respondents were private vessel owners/operators (some charter boat passengers were surveyed.) Frequently, significant numbers of teenagers and young adults are seen fishing with vessel owners.

6. Type of vessel facility utilized:

The types of vessel facilities used by ocean salmon sport fishermen while in the KMZ are listed in Table 4. Over 95% of the sport fishermen in the zone own and operate, or share a private fishing vessel.

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 Table 4: Percent of vessel facility use, by port, in the KMZ.\*

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
Daily launch	22	32	17	26	14
Marina/Berth	60	49	68	50	80
Charter Boat	5	5	3	13	8
Fish w/Friends	20	22	16	26	24
Other	3	1	0	1	-

\*The total percentage for all types of vessel use exceeds 100% because some fishermen indicated they utilize more than one type of facility.

## Fishery Issues

The fishery issue section was designed to ask questions related to specific sportfish regulations. Anglers' opinions about the management techniques utilized in the KMZ reflect their attitudes about the new regulations.

Some of the questions requested comments on the regulatory issues. The analysis of those comments appears in the "Discussion" section of this paper. Since many of the comments were similar, but not identical, statistical analysis was difficult. Results are reported below in the same order as the survey questions.

### 1. The adequacy of the sportfishing season within the KMZ:

Sport fishermen were asked if they felt the Memorial Day to September 30 dates for the season were adequate for their needs.

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
YES:	90%	96%	91%	90%	94%	92%
NO:	6%	4%	4%	7%	4%	5%
NO COMMENT:	4%	0%	5%	3%	2%	3%

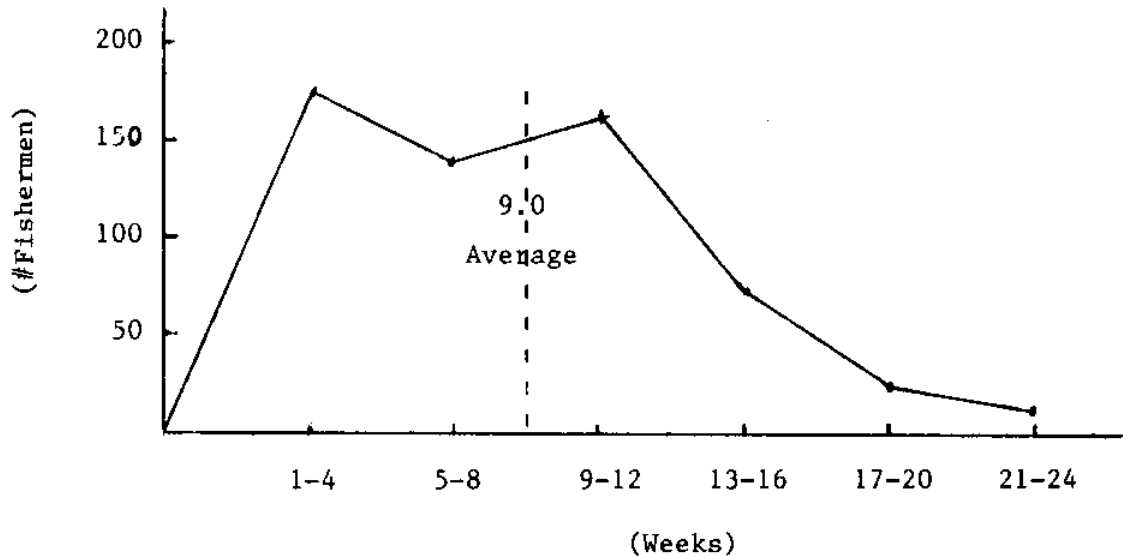
### 2. Length of stay in KMZ to ocean salmon sportfish:

The responses to this question were stated as the number of weeks a fisherman stayed in the area. The percent of fishermen who were local, tourists, or seasonal is listed below for each port.

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Local resident	45%	20%	13%	47%	46%	
Tourist	3%	1%	1%	3%	1%	
Seasonal	52%	79%	86%	50%	54%	
Average (weeks)	8	8	9	9	12	9
Range (weeks)	1-16	1-24	1-26	1-24	2-24	1-26

The length of stay of individual anglers varied greatly, but was consistent between ports. Only fishermen who checked the "seasonal" category were evaluated for length of stay. The small number of tourists surveyed tended to stay only 1-2 days. Length of stay peaked at 1-4 weeks and 9-12 weeks (Figure 1). The average stay in the KMZ was 9 weeks.

Figure 1: Bimodal graph of "length of stay" for ocean salmon sport fishermen in the KMZ (1991).



Fishery issue questions 3 through 6 asked the respondent to rank specific fishery regulation statements on a scale of 1-5 (1 equals strongly agree; 5 equals strongly disagree). The results to questions 3-6 are presented by port listing the "average rating," followed by the percentages of the dominant rating expressed for each statement (i.e., a #1 - 49% means that 49 percent of the respondents strongly agree).

3. The "weekly" bag limit for salmon has been 6 fish in 7 consecutive days recently:

"I feel that this is a good regulation to conserve salmon."

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.1
Dominant rating (strongly agree)	#1-46%	#1-41%	#1-52%	#1-59%	#1-64%	#1-52%



4. The "daily" bag limit for salmon is two fish:

"I feel that this is an adequate daily limit."

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8
Dominant rating (strongly agree)	#1-54%	1-58%	#1-61%	#1-66%	#1-72%	#1-62%

5. In recent years the PFMC has utilized a "1 and 1" salmon limit (1 chinook, 1 coho):

"I feel that the 1 and 1 salmon limit is a good regulation."

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average	4.5	4.4	4.0	4.0	3.3	4.0
Dominant rating (strongly disagree)	#5-81%	#5-75%	#5-63%	#5-58%	#5-44%	#5-64%

6. For the first time this season the PFMC closed ocean sport salmon fishing several days per week:

"I feel that specific day closures for sport fishermen are needed to conserve salmon."

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.3	4.0
Dominant rating (strongly disagree)	#5-63%	#5-68%	#5-57%	#5-55%	#5-66%	#5-62%

"I think a one fish daily bag limit is better, so I can go fishing each day."

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
Average	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.7	3.9	4.5
Dominant rating (strongly disagree)	#5-88%	#5-86%	#5-82%	#5-85%	#5-54%	#5-79%

7. Use of days during "closed" salmon fishing days:

Fishermen were asked to indicate how they utilized their days when salmon fishing was closed specific days of the week (Table 5). Total of percentages exceeds 100% because many fishermen checked more than one item.

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 Table 5: Day use (percent) when salmon fishing was closed on specific days in the KMZ.

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
Fished other species	16	46	46	36	30
Stayed Home	56	52	41	38	44
Left Area	20	18	37	26	14
Shopped	23	26	25	15	10
Beachcombed	4	19	10	6	4
Worked	16	6	5	12	8
Other (golf)	5	4	5	2	4

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8. Will you return to this area to ocean sportfish for salmon if the specific day closures continue or are extended?

Fishermen were asked to answer "yes or no" and to comment. This question received the greatest number of written comments in the survey (60%). These comments are discussed in the next section.

Table 6 summarizes the responses to the question about returning to the KMZ to ocean salmon fish. The responses were categorized into five groups: YES (resident); YES (non-resident); NO (non-resident); NO, if extended; and MAYBE. The percentages in parentheses are a combination of both Yes responses and both No responses.

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 Table 6: Percentage of fishermen who will return to the KMZ to ocean salmon sportfish in 1992.

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>KMZ</u>
YES (resident)	23 (37)	20 (38)	9 (34)	31 (53)	32 (42)	(41)
YES (non-resident)	14	18	25	22	10	
NO (non-resident)	47 (61)	45 (59)	51 (62)	34 (44)	48 (52)	(55)
NO if extended	14	14	11	10	4	
MAYBE	2	3	4	3	6	4

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9. Fishing facilities evaluation:

Fishermen were asked to rate (excellent, good, fair, or poor) specific facilities for the ports they utilized. The responses are grouped in Table 7.

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 Table 7: Percent of anglers rating port facilities as excellent (E) or good (G).

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
	(E-G)	(E-G)	(E-G)	(E-G)	(E-G)
Berthing	78	56	82	72	80
Ramps	70	36	70	71	88
Fuel	79	56	51	59	83
RV Parks	85	83	84	86	81
Fish.Eqpmt.	93	79	88	93	82
Ice Houses	71	59	87	72	42
Restaurants	97	67	84	86	79
Safe Harbors	80	74	98	96	51
Scenery	90	92	94	97	92
Boat/Eng./Rpr.	62	36	29	64	20
Activities	57	59	48	60	46

## DISCUSSION

In recent years marine fisheries management has focused on the social, economic, and biological factors in planning and managing our marine fishery resources (Dawson and Wilkins, 1980). There are many values to society from the use of fish resources for recreational purposes. They include the consumption of large quantities of fresh-caught, wholesome fish as nutritional contributions to subsistence. Also, the lost value of the opportunity-cost of time invested when limiting angling participation is great. Finally, the therapeutic health value is enormous, but hard to quantify. (Speech-Stroud, 1981).

The most direct products of a recreational fishery are not only catching a fish, but also the fishing experience which produces human satisfaction and benefit (Hendee, 1978; Holland, 1985; Andrews and Wiley, 1988). The overall quality of a fishing experience is determined by the extent which fishermen can experience the mix of satisfactions they seek. Since this experience differs for each individual, a diversity of opportunities is needed. Fishery managers need to consider those opportunities that provide the highest quality experiences to the most fishermen (McFadden, 1969; Driver, 1976; Fedler and Ditton, 1986; Matlock, et al, 1988).

Moeller and Engelken (1972) and Smith (1980) felt that factors other than catch were equally important in a fishing experience. Hampton and Lackey (1975) reported that a minimum expectation of catch is important to anglers. However, water quality, natural beauty and companionship with other anglers ranked above catching fish. Dewees (1990) analyzed anglers' most important considerations when deciding to go CPFV fishing (commercial passenger-carrying fishing vessels). Reports of recent catches and the anticipation of catching fish ranked as high considerations.

Recreational anglers on the Klamath River were surveyed by Kershner and Van Kirk (1984) and were found to have distinct differences in fishing attitudes and characteristics based on age. Anglers over 45 years of age showed strong preferences for keeping fish for food and enjoying the act of fishing. Anglers under 45 years of age indicated that closeness to the water (experience) and releasing of the catch were high priorities.

The results of the KMZ ocean salmon sport fishermen survey identified many of these concerns and attitudes. I will discuss some of these results and how they are characteristic throughout the KMZ, or within specific ports. The intention of this discussion is to clarify some of the differences in the results, not to compare individual ports within the KMZ.

## Sport Fishermen Profile

The number of years that KMZ ocean sport fishermen have fished for salmon was consistent throughout the five ports. Humboldt Bay had the highest average (21 years) and Crescent City the lowest (15 years). The lower figure in Crescent City may be a reflection of newly arrived anglers using the resource with the development of the Pelican Bay State Prison. Overall, the average number of years (17) shows that the resource serves an experienced group of fishermen.

The low frequency which fishermen use other ports for salmon fishing shows a strong characteristic of this fishery. Sport fishermen seldom fish out of other ports. Individuals are dedicated, comfortable, and have close social ties to their favorite ports. The only appreciable crossovers are Crescent City/Brookings (6-11%) and Trinidad/Humboldt Bay (6-8%).

Place of residence becomes an important analysis for each port, if they want to target certain market areas to "sell" their port and its facilities. Humboldt Bay, Trinidad, and Crescent City primarily serve California resident fishermen (over 87%). Brookings has a high percentage of Oregon residents (74%), many of them being local retired fishermen. Gold Beach attracts an equal percent of California and Oregon residents (46%). The perception that many of the fishermen in the KMZ are Arizona residents, was not supported by this survey. Less than 3% of the sport fishermen in the entire zone are from Arizona.

Table 2 indicates that each port has its own class of fishermen when "distances traveled to reach the port" are considered. Considerable variation occurs between ports and among distances traveled. However, the vast majority of the cities of residence (over 50 miles) are closely tied to major metropolitan areas, or hot desert areas.

The types of lodging utilized while sport fishing in the KMZ (Table 3) were dominated by trailer and RV park users (40-67%), and local residents living at home (14-45%). A surprisingly low percentage of sport fishermen (4-9%) stayed in motels during their visits. Some overlap of campground vs. RV park use may have occurred since some people classify these facilities as similar.

The average age of the sport fishermen in each port was quite similar (58-63 years). The overall average of 61 years in the KMZ identified a group of fishermen who are generally retired and spending their senior years enjoying a favorite pastime. Many of the sport fishermen who frequented local ports for 10 - 15 years as seasonal fishermen, have since retired and become local residents in those areas. The average age of ocean salmon sport fishermen in 1991, in the ports of Crescent City and Brookings, were almost identical to the averages in a 1980 study by Waldvogel.

Major vessel facility needs (Table 4) identified were marina berthing and daily launching. During the peak period of the season (mid-June through July), each port's berthing capacities are filled. Therefore, daily launching increases during this time. The percentage of fishermen responding to the "fish with friends" category was much higher than expected (16-26%); an area that may need further research and analysis.

## Fishing Issues

The attitudes and opinions of ocean sport fishermen in the KMZ were reflected in the responses to several questions posed in this section. Some strong feelings for the techniques and regulations of fishery management being used in the KMZ were expressed.

When asked if a sportfishing season of Memorial Day to the end of September was adequate, the respondents were overwhelmingly in agreement, with a (90-96%) results. The few negative responses indicated they wanted a May 1 opening for the sport salmon season in the KMZ.

The length of stay in the KMZ for sport fishermen was quite similar. Individual fishermen's stays varied greatly, but peaks at 1-4 weeks and 9-12 weeks were evident in every port (Figure 1). The mean of 9.0 weeks indicates a seasonal stay in the KMZ by fishermen who are generally retired. This time frame greatly exceeds normal vacation periods experienced by tourists and non-retired fishermen.

The "weekly" bag limit for salmon of six fish for seven consecutive days was a regulation generally acceptable to most fishermen. Over 85% of the responses were favorable. The "daily" bag limit of two salmon was acceptable to 90% of the KMZ sport fishermen

In recent years the PFMC has utilized a "1 and 1" salmon limit in the KMZ (1 chinook, 1 coho). The response to this regulation was overwhelming disapproval. Over 90% of the sport fishermen felt this regulation was unacceptable because it causes a waste of salmon lost to hooking mortality. The comments are summarized below (Table 8).

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Table 8: Comments by anglers on the PFMC "1 and 1" salmon limit (percent).

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
Kills too many fish	70	74	64	59	42
Keep 1st two fish	21	40	36	46	54
4 fish/week and 20 fish/season	4	16	12	21	21
Equal KMZ laws	6	1	4	5	3
Close season if needed	4	3	5	3	4
Don't use day closures	4	9	3	2	4
Keep 6 fish in 7 days	5	8	13	11	4
Get rid of PFMC	3	6	8	10	5
No comment	24	29	36	29	52

The responses of sport fishermen to the PFMC's use of day closures and a one salmon daily bag limit were quite varied, yet predictable. Over 90% of the fishermen objected to the one salmon limit. However, this limit was not presented compared with no fishing alternative. Responses may have been quite different in that circumstance. Comments are summarized in Table 9.

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 Table 9: One salmon limit/day comments by KMZ anglers (percent).  
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	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
Stop foreign fleets first	14	19	25	27	33
Stop Indian gill nets first	13	17	25	13	17
Not worth fishing for 1 fish	50	63	63	51	20
Weather controls					
fishable days	25	25	22	12	56
Not necessary with limits	13	12	8	9	4
Close rivers	4	2	2	2	8
More enhancement	5	4	2	4	4
Sea lion problems	2	6	4	5	3
Good idea	7	6	8	12	1
Bad idea	14	18	13	11	1
No comment	44	51	50	51	50

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Some notable responses should be discussed further. The high response (56%) of Gold Beach fishermen to "weather effects on fishing" is a response to the fact that any weather changes (mainly wind) can effect the Rogue River bar. The low response by Brookings fishermen (12%) for the same question reflects the safer fishing conditions from that port, even when the wind blows.

The low percentage (20%) of fishermen in Gold Beach responding to the "value of fishing for only one fish" seemed odd. However, Gold Beach fishermen have an opportunity to catch salmon just inside the Rogue River, while other ports do not have that opportunity.

There were some interesting responses to the question of activity during "closed" salmon days (Table 5). The percentages for "fishing other species" were expected, including the low percentage (16%) for Humboldt Bay. The opportunity to fish for other species out of Humboldt Bay is limited without traveling long distances. Other ports have good nearshore rocky areas for lingcod, rockfish, and halibut. The "staying at home" responses were higher than anticipated for every port. The two categories of "left the area" and "went shopping" appeared interrelated. Many respondents said they left the area to shop during days closed to salmon fishing.

Table 6 summarizes the responses to the question about returning to the KMZ to ocean salmon fish. The results of this inquiry may have some long-term effects on communities and ports within the KMZ. The overall KMZ response suggests that almost 55% of the sport fishermen may not return to the area to fish. This could prove devastating to local economies. Excluding local residents, 60-70% of the sport fishermen utilizing the KMZ ports indicated they may not return next season if regulations become more severe. Written comments connected with this question expressed two strongly held major concerns.

	<u>HB</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>GB</u>
It costs too much, not worth staying	29%	30%	31%	21%	17%
Will go to an area where we can fish each day	21%	11%	17%	22%	21%

The total August closure of the 1991 sport salmon season in the KMZ presented a new concern for port managers and sport fishermen. The "working man" sport fishermen generally vacation in late summer. In 1991, the sport salmon quota in the KMZ was caught quickly by "retired" sport fishermen before the August fishermen could take their vacation. This situation resulted in bad feelings and created economic hardships for many fishermen in their favorite ports.

The final survey question listed ratings of fishing facilities available in each port in the KMZ. The responses in (Table 7) should help port managers and community developers evaluate their respective ports. There was no intent in this survey to compare ports and their facilities. The overall ratings for this question were as anticipated, reflecting some of the strengths and weaknesses for each port.



## SUMMARY

The KMZ ocean salmon sport fishermen survey provided information that will benefit the port districts and communities throughout the zone. The profile of a typical ocean salmon sport fisherman was identified.

The average age of an ocean salmon sport fishermen is 61 years. They are generally retired people who have sportfished for salmon over 17 years. While their stay in their favorite port averages nine weeks, most stay 1-4 weeks or 9-12 weeks.

The distances traveled by the ocean sport fishermen to get to the KMZ varies greatly. Many fishermen are local residents (45-47 percent in Eureka, Brookings, and Gold Beach; but only 13-20 percent in Trinidad and Crescent City). Most who do travel to the KMZ come 200-1,000 miles for the experience of ocean salmon fishing. Many of these fishermen have returned to the same port for 15-20 consecutive seasons.

The sport fishermen expressed their attitudes toward many of the present fishery management techniques and regulations. There is a strong feeling of frustration among most sport fishermen that salmon fisheries are being used as a scapegoat for more serious resource problems. In turn, many are considering relocating to new ocean ports to enjoy their favorite pastime. A major shift out of the KMZ by ocean sport fishermen will have serious negative economic effects on the region.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**OCEAN SALMON  
SPORTFISHING SURVEY**

"I think a one fish daily bag limit is better, so I can go fishing each day"

strongly agree      1      2      3      4      5      strongly disagree

Comments Please: \_\_\_\_\_

7. During the "closed" salmon fishing days this season, how did you utilize your time on most days? (Check the major use of time)

- fished for other fish species       went shopping  
 stayed at home or in trailer       beachcombed, hiked  
 left the area       other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

8. Will you return to this area to ocean sportfish for salmon if the specific day closures continue or are extended?  yes  no

Comments please: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Are there adequate fishing facilities in our area for your needs? (Check the facilities you utilize)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Berthing	_____	_____	_____	_____
Launching ramps	_____	_____	_____	_____
Fuel	_____	_____	_____	_____
RV or Trailer Parks	_____	_____	_____	_____
Fishing equipment	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ice houses	_____	_____	_____	_____
Restaurants	_____	_____	_____	_____
Safe harbors	_____	_____	_____	_____
Scenery	_____	_____	_____	_____
Boat/engine repairs	_____	_____	_____	_____
Activities for non-fishermen in your group	_____	_____	_____	_____
Others (list)	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please send this survey to: Sea Grant Marine Advisor  
981 H Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

The Pacific Fishery Management Council has continued to restrict the ocean Salmon sport-fishery in recent years in the Klamath Management Zone, (KMZ). The Port Districts of Eureka, Trinidad, Crescent City, Brookings and Gold Beach would like to obtain your opinions concerning various management techniques. Please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire and let us know how you feel about these issues.

Leave this completed survey here, return it to your local port or marina office, or mail to:

Sea Grant Marine Advisor  
981 H Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

Sport Fisherman Profile

1. How many years have you sportfished for salmon in the ocean? \_\_\_ years.

2. What harbor do you usually fish out of?

- \_\_\_ Brookings      \_\_\_ Gold Beach      \_\_\_ Crescent City
- \_\_\_ Trinidad      \_\_\_ Humboldt Bay      \_\_\_ Other (list)

3. Where is your permanent place of residence (check one):

- \_\_\_ California      \_\_\_ Oregon      \_\_\_ Arizona
- \_\_\_ Nevada      \_\_\_ Other state (list)

What city do you reside in? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What form of lodging do you use while ocean salmon sportfishing in the area? (Check one)

- \_\_\_ Local resident      \_\_\_ Trailer Park      \_\_\_ Campground
- \_\_\_ Motel      \_\_\_ Summer Home      \_\_\_ Other

5. What is your age? \_\_\_ years old.

6. What type of vessel facility do you utilize while ocean salmon sportfishing?

- \_\_\_ daily launching      \_\_\_ marina berth, or anchorage
- \_\_\_ charter boat use      \_\_\_ fish with friends on their boat
- \_\_\_ other

Thank you for completing the questionnaire. Please send to:

Sea Grant Marine Advisor  
981 H Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

Fishery Issues

The PFMC has utilized different management techniques for ocean sportfisherman in the KMZ. Please answer the following statements to the best of your ability. We welcome your comments and have provided space for that need.

1. The ocean salmon sportfishing season in the KMZ usually extends from Memorial Day weekend through the end of September. Is this season adequate for your needs? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

2. How long do you stay in this area to sportfish?

- \_\_\_ local resident      \_\_\_ tourist
- \_\_\_ seasonal fisherman      (\_\_\_)      (\_\_\_)      (\_\_\_)
- months      weeks      days

The following fishery statements require an opinion rating of 1-5 (strongly agree to strongly disagree). Circle your opinion:

3. The "weekly" bag limit for salmon has been 6 fish in 7 consecutive days recently.

"I feel that this is a good regulation to conserve salmon take"

- strongly agree      1      2      3      4      5      strongly disagree

4. The "daily" bag limit for salmon is two fish.

"I feel that this is an adequate daily limit"

- strongly agree      1      2      3      4      5      strongly disagree

5. In recent years the PFMC has utilized a "1 and 1" salmon limit (1 chinook, 1 coho).

"I feel that the "1 and 1" salmon limit is a good regulation"

- strongly agree      1      2      3      4      5      strongly disagree

Comments please: \_\_\_\_\_

6. For the first time this season the PFMC closed ocean sport salmon fishing several days per week.

"I feel that specific day closures for sportfishermen are needed to conserve salmon"

- strongly agree      1      2      3      4      5      strongly disagree