

Chapter 5 Coho Salmon

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply for the period 1999 through 2008.

1. Recognizing that for the past several years some coho stocks have been below levels necessary to sustain maximum harvest and that recent fishing patterns have contributed to a decline in some Canadian and United States coho stocks, the Parties agree to develop management measures and programs to prevent further decline in spawning escapements, adjust fishing patterns, and initiate, develop, or improve management programs for coho stocks.

2. The Parties shall

(a) maintain a joint Coho Technical Committee (the "Committee") reporting, unless otherwise agreed, to the Northern and Southern Panels and the Commission. The Committee shall, *inter alia*, at the direction of the Commission and the Panels:

- 1) evaluate the effectiveness of management actions;
- 2) identify and review the status of stocks;
- 3) present the most current information on harvest rates and patterns on these stocks, and develop a joint database for assessments;
- 4) collate available information on the productivity of coho stocks in order to identify escapements and associated exploitation rates which produce maximum sustainable harvests (MSH);
- 5) present historical catch data, associated fishing regimes, and information on stock composition in fisheries harvesting these stocks;
- 6) devise analytical methods for the development of alternative regulatory and production strategies to meet objectives set forth by the Commission;
- 7) identify information and research needs, including future monitoring programs for stock assessments; and
- 8) for each season, make stock and fishery assessments and recommend to the Commission conservation measures consistent with the principles of the Treaty.

(b) establish regimes for troll, sport and net fisheries consistent with management objectives described herein and as may be subsequently recommended and approved by the Commission. For coho stocks shared by fisheries of the United States and Canada, recommendations for fishery regimes shall be made by the Northern Panel for coho salmon originating in rivers with mouths situated between Cape Caution and Cape Suckling and by the Southern Panel for coho salmon originating in rivers with mouths situated south of Cape Caution, as provided in Annex I to the Treaty.

3. In 1999, the Parties agree to implement management measures for depressed coho stocks shared by Washington and southern British Columbia fisheries which are intended to achieve conservation benefits that are consistent with those produced by the management measures implemented in 1998.

4. For coho stocks shared by Washington and southern British Columbia fisheries, the Parties agree to cooperate in the development of coho salmon management programs designed to meet the following objectives: