

forecast of the run strength. After that date, the TAC shall be determined from the in-season forecast model;

c. modifications to the Stikine Management Plan and forecast model may be made prior to June 1 of each year by agreement of both Parties. Failure to reach agreement in modifications shall result in use of the model and parameters used in the previous year; and

d. estimates of the TAC may be adjusted in-season only by concurrence of both Parties' respective managers. Reasons for such adjustments must be provided to the Committee.

(ii) The Parties desire to maximize the harvest of Tahltan/Tuya sockeye salmon in their existing fisheries while considering the conservation needs of wild salmon runs. The Parties agree to manage the returns of Stikine River sockeye to ensure that each country obtains 50% of the TAC in their existing fisheries. Canada will endeavour to harvest all of the fish surplus to escapement and broodstock needs returning to the Tuya and Tahltan Lake systems.

(iii) The Parties agree to continue the existing joint enhancement programs designed to produce annually 100,000 returning sockeye salmon.

(2) Coho salmon:

(i) Consistent with paragraph 2 above, the Parties agree to develop and implement an abundance-based approach to managing coho salmon on the Stikine River. Assessment programs need to be further developed before a MSY escapement goal can be established.

(ii) In the interim, the United States' management intent is to ensure that sufficient coho salmon enter the Canadian section of the Stikine River to meet the agreed spawning objective, plus an annual Canadian catch of 4,000 coho salmon in a directed coho salmon fishery.

(3) Chinook salmon:

(i) Both Parties shall take the appropriate management action to ensure that the necessary escapement goals for chinook salmon bound for the Canadian portions of the Stikine River are achieved.

(ii) The Parties agree that new fisheries on Stikine River chinook salmon will not be developed without the consent of both Parties. Consistent with paragraph 2, management of new directed fisheries will be abundance-based through an approach to be developed by the Committee. The Parties agree to implement assessment programs in support of the development of an abundance-based management regime.

(iii) The Parties shall review an appropriate MSY escapement goal for Stikine River chinook by May 1999 and establish a new goal as soon as practicable thereafter.