Statement by the Makah Tribe

Pacific Fisheries Management Council, 11 April 2002

The following statement is in response to the Quileute Tribes proposal to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council during the April 2002 meeting. That proposal was for a Tribally-operated charter sport fishery where non-Treaty fishers will be utilizing a portion of the Treaty ocean troll coho and chinook salmon quotas. While we do not oppose the concept of a Tribally-operated charter sport fishery, we recognize that there is an appropriate legal process to initiate this new fishery. Prior logistical- and legal-related details must be worked out among Federal, Tribal, and State entities prior to the initiation of this new fishery, which we believe should then be presented to the Council for consideration at the beginning of the annual PFMC process. This did not occur prior to the 2002 management season. Consequently, in recognition of the work that has not been accomplished for this proposal to move forward, the Makah Tribe must go on record at this time that we cannot support any Tribal charter sport fishery proposal for the 2002 ocean salmon season.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Gordon Smith
Chairman
Makah Tribal Council

Tribes in agreement with this statement are listed below:

Swinomish Tribe
Suquamish Tribe
Lower Elwha Tribe
Port Gamble Tribe
Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe
Nisqually Tribe