

THE 2008 OCEAN TREATY TROLL FISHERY
Thursday, April 10, 2008

At the appropriate time, I will offer a Motion for Treaty troll Chinook and coho quotas. I would like to offer a few comments first.

As I indicated in my previous statements, the tribes have been working on a package of fisheries that meets resource constraints of this year's forecasted abundances and fairly distributes the burden of conservation.

- ❖ The fisheries that the tribes have proposed are consistent with this year's resource conditions and take into account the need for each tribe to have some fishing opportunity in their area.
- ❖ The Treaty troll quotas represent a balance of the Treaty rights of the Coastal Tribes, as well as the four Columbia River Tribes and the Puget Sound Tribes given the conservation constraints of the many salmon stocks of concern in 2008.
- ❖ The proposed quotas for the ocean Treaty Indian troll fishery meets the ESA considerations for Columbia Lower River natural tules, Snake River Chinook, Lower Columbia River natural coho, concerns for low abundance of North Coast and Puget Sound Chinook.
- ❖ The proposed quotas also meet the commitments made under the Pacific Salmon Treaty.
- ❖ The ocean Treaty troll fishery presents an opportunity to exercise our Treaty rights in the ocean this year. One must remember; the Treaty tribes must exercise their Treaty rights in their established Usual & Accustomed (U&A) fishing areas, so the Treaty troll tribes cannot simply move their fisheries to alternative locations in order to reduce impacts.