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JOHN B. ARUM
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Via Email and First Class Mail

October 21, 2011

William W. Stelle, Jr.
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
7600 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

Re: Makah Treaty Groundfish Fisheries in 2012

Dear Mr. Stelle:

We have been asked to write to you on behalf of the Makah Indian Tribe. Pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 660.324(d), please be advised that the Tribe intends to continue all of its existing groundfish fisheries in 2012 and requests that, except as noted below, all existing treaty groundfish regulations and allocations be continued.

The Tribe anticipates that it will again have five catcher boats participating in the Pacific whiting fishery. However, the Tribe has not yet determined its likely harvest in 2012, and will work with your staff to develop an appropriate set aside for the 2012 Makah whiting fishery.

The Tribe requests an increase of 15 metric tons (mt) in projected impacts on widow rockfish in 2012 (from 45 to 60 mt) associated with the Tribe's midwater trawl fishery. The Tribe understands that 38.1 mt of widows are available in the scorecard.

The Tribe also requests an increase of 24.6 mt in projected impacts on petrale sole in 2012 (from 45.4 to 70 mt) associated with the Tribe's bottom trawl fishery. The Tribe understands that 35.5 mt of petrale sole are available in the scorecard.

Makah representatives will be available to discuss any questions you or your staff may have regarding these matters at the upcoming Council meeting.

William W. Stelle, Jr.
October 21, 2011
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Sincerely,

ZIONTZ, CHESTNUT, VARNELL,
BERLEY & SLONIM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc D. Slonim". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Marc D. Slonim

cc (via email):

Frank Lockhart
Kevin Duffy
Russ Svec
Steve Joner