Via Email and First Class Mail

November 4, 2013

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 2015-2016

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 2015 and 2016, and requests that, except as noted below, all existing treaty groundfish regulations and allocations be continued.

The Tribe anticipates that it will continue to have five catcher boats participating in the Pacific whiting fishery in 2015 and 2016 and requests an allocation of 17.5 percent of the U.S. Total Allowable Catch for its fishery in each year.

The Tribe intends to request increases in the tribal set asides for yellowtail rockfish, widow rockfish and Pacific cod in 2015 and 2016. However, because of current market constraints, the Tribe has not yet determined the amount of the increases it will request. Tribal representatives will confer with your staff to determine that amount before the June 2014 Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting.

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

Sincerely,

ZIONTZ & CHESTNUT

Marc D. Slonim
cc (via email only):

Frank Lockhart
Kevin Duffy
Russ Svec
Steve Joner