



# YUROK TRIBE

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October 28, 2013

D.O. McIsaac, Ph. D.  
Executive Director  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

Subject: Proposal to Remove Restrictions on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)  
Tribal Seat

Dear Mr. McIsaac:

Thank you for your October 11, 2013 letter requesting our input regarding the re-authorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and potential changes regarding the nomination process and term limit for the Tribal seat. We agree that tribes should not be required to submit three names when submitting a nomination for the Council seat, however we believe the three-term limit should remain in place in an effort to increase opportunities for participation on the Council by various tribes. We also believe that an additional Tribal seat on the Council is warranted and recommend that this be addressed during the ongoing re-authorization process.

I appreciate the efforts the Tribal representatives on the Council have made over the years to represent our interests; however we feel that a representative from the Yurok Tribal Government is best suited to represent us. I recognize there may be reluctance to give each of the West Coast tribes with treaty or federally reserved fishing rights a seat on the Council, however designating an additional Tribal seat, such as a seat for Northern Tribes and a seat for Southern Tribes, would be a step toward increasing representation for each tribe on the Council. Retaining the three-year term limit, or at least limiting the Tribal seat to three consecutive terms, is another mechanism for increasing the opportunity for each Tribe to be directly represented on the Council.

In summary, we think that efforts should be made to maximize representation of Tribes on the PFMC, including the addition of another Tribal seat. If you have any questions, please contact me at the address in the letterhead.

Sincerely,

Thomas O'Rourke, Chairman