

**Statement of Jim Harp  
on the Preliminary Definition of 2000 Management Options  
to the Pacific Fishery Management Council  
March 7, 2000**

Mr. Chairman, I would like <sup>to</sup> make a brief statement regarding the status of the salmon resource in 2000 and the tribes' current thinking about a range of options for the ocean treaty troll fishery. ✓

- This year, the forecasts for coho on the Washington coast are mixed for both wild and hatchery stocks. Because of the low forecasts for Queets, OCN, and several Puget Sound coho stocks, it will be a challenge to develop appropriate fisheries for this year.
- For chinook, as I mentioned before, several important contributing stocks continue to be depressed. However we still intend to live up to the commitment that we made in 1988 to not increase our impacts on Columbia River chinook stocks of concern. Additional listed chinook stocks will require continued attention to work out fisheries that meet the ESA requirements for these stocks.
- The tribes still have concerns about our ability to appropriately analyze and manage selective fisheries, but we appreciate the reports that WDFW and ODFW have been providing on the monitoring and sampling of their selective fisheries. We encourage the states to continue rigorous monitoring and sampling of these fisheries and continue communication on this issue with the tribes.
- For this year, we want to emphasize that any selective fishery proposals advanced by the Council must be consistent with the U.S. District Court's stipulation and order regarding mass marking and selective fisheries.
- We are beginning the process of establishing, cooperatively with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, a package of fisheries that will ensure acceptable levels of escapement for



natural stocks of concern. In some cases we may not yet have agreement on specific 2000 management objectives, but the tribes intend to work cooperatively toward that end.

The Council has heard two different perspectives on the appropriate options for the Treaty Troll fishery. Negotiations on the appropriate level for the treaty troll fishery will continue throughout the North of Falcon process. Our goal this week is to simply lay out a range of reasonable options for the ocean fisheries. What is reasonable is always at least partly a subjective process. This lack of consensus makes things more difficult. In an attempt not to pre-judge the final outcome of the tribal negotiations, I offer the following range of preliminary options for the ocean treaty troll fishery for analysis by the Salmon Technical Team with the understanding that this is only the first step towards finalizing options this week to be sent out for public review.

Treaty Troll Options	Coho	Chinook
Option 1	_____	_____
Option 2	_____	_____
Option 3	_____	_____

