



Quinault Indian Nation

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Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Attention: Mr. Jim Lone – Chairman
2130 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone:

The spawning escapements for Queets wild coho have not been within established ranges for the past three years. However, the stock is not overfished under the Council's criteria.

The Draft Final Pacific Coast Salmon Plan under chapter 3 Conservation section 3.1.1. Basis specifically states: "Under those orders for Washington coastal and Puget Sound stocks (U.S. v. Washington, 626 F. Supp. 1405 [1985] and Hoh v. Baldrige No. 81-742 [R] C), the treaty tribes and WDFW may agree to annual spawner targets that differ from the MSP or MSY objectives"

Given the recent variations in marine survival in recent years, both the Quinault Nation and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, as co-managers of the Queets wild coho, have annually agreed to fishing regimes that were anticipated to result in escapements below the established range. The following table summarizes those expectations and provides estimates of actual spawning escapement levels since 1997:

Year	Preseason Ocean Abundance	Agreed to Terminal Spawning Escapement Expectation	Actual Terminal Spawning Escapement
1997	4,341 wild	2,121 wild	1,851 wild
1998 ¹	4,225 wild 694 supplemental 4,919 total	3,466 wild 564 supplemental 4,030 total	4,102 wild 1,413 supplemental 5,515 total
1999 ²	4,263 wild 3,037 supplemental 7,300 total	3,351 wild 2,398 supplemental 5,749 total	4,791 wild 521 supplemental 5,312 total

1 – Pre-terminal and terminal areas managed for wild and supplemental combined.

2 – QIN managed for wild and supplemental combined and WDFW managed based on wild.