

Statement of Jim Harp
On the Tentative Adoption of 2001 Management Measures
By the Pacific Fishery Management Council
April 3, 2001

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a brief statement regarding the tentative adoption of a quota for the ocean treaty troll fishery.

- This year our coho stocks are in much better shape than in previous years, with the possible exception of OCN stocks. However, all the ocean options analyzed by the STT indicated that the objectives for OCN stocks would be met under any of the options.
- For chinook, as I mentioned before, we have a difficult task of meeting the very low exploitation rate objectives defined in our comprehensive Chinook harvest plan for Puget Sound chinook. We are very close to meeting those objectives with the fisheries we are currently modeling and I am confident we will be able fully meet them with a few additional fishery adjustments.
- We also have to be aware of the impact from our fishery on Columbia River Chinook. We fully intend to continue to live up to the commitment that we made in 1988 to not increase our impacts on Columbia River chinook stocks of concern.
- We have been in the process of establishing, cooperatively with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, a package of fisheries that will ensure acceptable levels of impact on natural stocks of concern as well as providing opportunity to harvest hatchery stocks. In many cases we have not yet reached agreement on specific 2001 management measures, but the tribes are continuing to work cooperatively with WDFW in hopes of finding successful outcomes.

For the ocean treaty troll fishery, I would like to offer the following treaty troll management measures for tentative adoption and for analysis by the Salmon Technical Team:

A Treaty Troll Coho quota of 90,000, and a Chinook quota of 37,000.

This would consist of a May/June chinook only fishery and a July/August/September All Species fishery. Where the chinook will be split 50% into each fishery (18,500 in May/June and 18,500 in all species). In All Species fishery, the coho will have a split of 25,000 in July, 65,000 in August, with a carry over into September. Gear restrictions, size limits and other appropriate regulations would be as stated in previous Salmon Technical Team analysis.