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Via Telefax

June 16, 2003

Bob Lohn
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
7600 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

Re: Treaty Indian Groundfish Fisheries in 2004

Dear Mr. Lohn:

We have been asked to write to you on behalf of the Makah Indian Tribe. Pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 660.324(d), the Tribe requests that provision be made for harvest of groundfish by Pacific coast treaty Indian tribes in 2004 by continuing, with two exceptions, the treaty regulations and allocations in effect in 2003, including the Makah allocation in the Pacific whiting fishery, with adjustments to reflect changes in Optimum Yields as determined by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service for 2004.

The exceptions involve widow rockfish and ling cod. With respect to widow rockfish, the Tribe is concerned about the current uncertainty in the stock assessment and rebuilding analysis, and its effect on the determination of Optimum Yield. Once Optimum Yield is determined, Tribal representatives will work with federal and state managers to develop measures to hold impacts in Tribal fisheries to appropriate levels. With respect to ling cod, the Tribe proposes a treaty harvest guideline of approximately 25 metric tons round weight, with base trip limits of 450 pounds round weight per day and 1,350 pounds round weight per week.

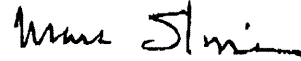
Tribal representatives attending the Council meeting this week will respond to questions you

Bob Lohn
June 16, 2003
Page 2

or your staff may have regarding the Tribe's planned 2004 fisheries.

Very truly yours,

ZIONTZ, CHESTNUT, VARNELL,
BERLEY & SLONIM



Marc D. Slonim

cc: Bill Robinson
Eileen Cooney
Russ Svec
Steve Joner