

Statement of Jim Harp
On the Tentative Adoption of 2004 Management Measures
By the Pacific Fishery Management Council
April 6, 2004

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

- This year, several coho stocks are generally abundant. We are aware of the need to keep the U.S. fisheries to the level in the Pacific Salmon Treaty coho agreement.
- For chinook 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 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 now reached agreement on specific 2004 management measures and terminal area fisheries agreements. Further, the tribes are continuing to work cooperatively with WDFW in hopes of finding successful outcomes for the remaining regions and terminal area fisheries.

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 coho quota of 75,000, and a chinook quota of 50,000.

This would consist of a May/June chinook only fishery and a July/August/September All Species fishery. The chinook will be split 20,000 in May/June and 30,000 in all species. The coho quota would be modeled as follows: 60,000 in Area 4 and 15,000 in Area 3. Gear restrictions, size limits and other appropriate regulations would be as stated in previous Salmon Technical Team analysis.