

**STATEMENT BY JIM HARP TO THE PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
REGARDING THE 2005 OCEAN TREATY TROLL FISHERY
Thursday, April 7, 2005**

Mr. Chairman,

At the appropriate time, I will offer a Motion for Treaty troll chinook and coho quotas. I would like to offer a few comments first.

As I indicated in my previous statements, the tribes have been working on a package of fisheries that meets resource constraints of this year's forecasted abundances and fairly distributes the burden of conservation.

- The fisheries that the tribes have proposed are consistent with this year's resource conditions and take into account the need for each tribe to have some fishing opportunity in its area.
- The Treaty troll quotas represent a balance of the Treaty rights of the coastal tribes, as well as the four Columbia River Tribes and the Puget Sound tribes given the conservation constraints of the many salmon stocks in 2005.
- The proposed quotas for the ocean Treaty Indian troll fishery meets the ESA considerations for Snake River chinook, OCN coho, and Puget Sound Chinook.
- The proposed quotas also meet the commitments made under the Pacific Salmon Treaty.
- The ocean Treaty troll fishery presents an opportunity to exercise our Treaty rights in the ocean this year. One must remember, the Treaty tribes must exercise their Treaty rights in their established Usual & Accustomed (U&A) fishing areas, so the Treaty troll tribes cannot simply move their fisheries to alternative locations in order to reduce impacts.