

STATEMENT OF JIM HARP
ON THE TENTATIVE ADOPTION OF 2006 MANAGEMENT MEASURES

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

- This year, several coho stocks are generally abundant. We are aware of the need to keep all U.S. fisheries south of the Canadian border to the level in the Pacific Salmon Treaty coho agreement. This includes the Interior Fraser (Thompson) coho.
- 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 to the four Columbia River tribes 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 (WDFW), 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 2006 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 Treaty Indian ocean 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 35,000, and a Chinook quota of 41,600.

This would consist of a May/June Chinook only fishery and a July/August/September All Species fishery. The Chinook will be split 24,600 in May/June and 17,000 in the subsequent all species fishery. Gear restrictions, size limits and other appropriate regulations would be as stated in previous Salmon Technical Team analysis, (Table 3).