



Quinault Indian Nation

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Mr. Chuck Tracy, Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384

November 12, 2019

Dear Mr. Tracy,

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) formal notice of the Quinault Indian Nation's intent to exercise its treaty right to harvest groundfish in a bottom-trawl fishery in its adjudicated ocean Usual and Accustomed (U&A) fishing area beginning in 2020. Our management plan anticipates a gradual entry into the fishery in 2020 with at least one vessel and a more robust effort with more vessels participating in the fishery in 2021 and beyond.

We have conferred with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding our intent to enter the bottom-trawl fishery. We are committed to working with NMFS and the PFMC to facilitate our orderly entry into that fishery. And as our fishery develops, we will keep NMFS and the PFMC informed of the fish we believe we need and are entitled to in order to fully exercise our right to harvest our treaty share of the fish in our U&A.

The federal courts have recognized our self-regulatory status and consistent with that status we have a demonstrated lengthy history of successful fisheries management. Our management plan for this fishery includes responsible measures to assure that our vessels are properly registered, the fishery is monitored and observed, catches of all species are timely reported and full retention of any catch.

We are also currently working with the three other Washington coastal treaty tribes to develop Tribal Preliminary Management Measures for groundfish in the 2021-2022 biennial specifications process that will include proposing a tribal groundfish allocation to ensure the availability of sufficient fish to cover our treaty fishing right in addition to sufficient fish to cover the treaty fishing right of those other tribes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Johnstone".

Ed Johnstone, Quinault Fisheries Policy
Quinault Indian Nation

c.c.

Joe Oatman, Tribal Representative, PFMC
Todd Phillips, PFMC
Aja Szumylo, NMFS
Michele Culver, WDFW