

## Quinault, Quileute and Hoh Tribes Joint Testimony on the Initial Range of Ocean Options for the 2020 Treaty Troll Fishery

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on agenda item E.5. Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2020 Salmon Management Alternatives.

Weak returns have been observed for many WA coastal, Puget Sound and Columbia River coho populations in 2015-2019. The warm ocean phase that started during late 2014 persisted through the summer of 2019, and ecosystem indicators suggest poor feeding conditions for juvenile salmon that migrated to the ocean in 2019. The Council must consider the uncertainty of salmon survival conditions and resulting impacts on the reliability of the planning models used to estimate stock-specific fishery impacts. A precautionary management plan must be adopted for 2020 ocean salmon fisheries.

The Quinault Treaty Area (QTA) Tribes offer the following range of alternatives for the 2020 ocean Treaty Troll fishery.

### **Coho:**

Low- 0  
Mid- 10,000  
High- 12,500

### **Chinook:**

Low- 20,000  
Mid- 25,000  
High- 30,000

All three alternatives should be modeled with a 60:40 split between the May-June Chinook directed fishery and the July-August All-species fishery. The All-species fishery will close on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you for considering our testimony. We are available to answer any questions you may have this week.