

**Testimony of the Makah Tribe**  
On the Options for the Ocean Treaty Troll Fishery  
March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

We recognize that this is just the first step in the process and there will be much discussion in developing the final quotas. With that in mind, the Makah Tribe is proposing the following options for the 2020 Ocean Treaty Troll Fishery:

	<b>Chinook</b>	<b>Coho</b>
<b>Option 1</b>	45,000	30,000
<b>Option 2</b>	35,000	22,500
<b>Option 3</b>	25,000	15,000

This fishery will operate from May 1<sup>st</sup>, through September 15<sup>th</sup>, with a 50/50 split between the May/June and July-September time periods.

This year's driver stocks for chinook are Mid Hood Canal, Stillaguamish, Snohomish, Skagit Springs, and Nooksack Springs. We believe the ocean options we set forth are conservative enough to allow for shaping of fisheries throughout the pre-season process that will meet the objectives for these stocks that are in low abundance status.

For coho, stocks of concern are Strait of Juan de Fuca, Snohomish, Interior Fraser, Lower Columbia Naturals, and Queets.

- Strait of Juan de Fuca coho, which has a 10% exploitation rate ceiling this year, remains well under that ceiling under all three of our proposed ocean options. In fact, even the high options keep it under 8%.
- For Lower Columbia Natural coho, two out of our three proposed options keep the exploitation rate under the 18% ceiling. The high option puts it just barely above 18%, but in collaboration with WDFW, we might be able to shape fisheries to reduce that impact to below 18%.
- Snohomish coho, another stock that has been in rebuilding status, has a 10% southern U.S. exploitation rate ceiling this year. None of the ocean options puts it under that ceiling, but the ocean isn't where the impacts are. Even the high option takes less than 3% of Snohomish coho in the ocean fishery.

- Queets coho is also a stock of concern. But once again, the big impacts are not in the ocean troll fishery. In fact, the difference in impacts on Queets coho between the low option and the high option we are proposing is only 111 Queets wild coho, and even under the high option, there would be enough wild coho entering the Queets River to allow for an in-river fishery larger than Quinault Nation has had in three of the last four years, and still keep escapement above the goal of 5,800.
- While we're on the subject of the Queets in-river fishery, we should point out that fishery takes over nine times as many wild Queets coho as are taken in the treaty troll fishery.
- We're aware that three of these coho stocks, Queets, Strait of Juan de Fuca and Snohomish, are under rebuilding plans, which the Council adopted at the September meeting just last year. Realistically, for a species with a 3-year generation, we can't expect to see results for at least one generation, and probably more than one.

With that, we will continue to work through the process with the co-managers to come up with solutions to address stocks of concern.