



The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Colville Business Council
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March 11, 2025

Brad Pettinger, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Agenda Item E.7.a
Supplemental Tribal Report 1
March 2025

Re: Pacific Fisheries Management Council Meeting March 2025, comment for agenda item E.7

Dear Mr. Pettinger and the Pacific Fisheries Management Council,

We have reviewed the model output from the initial ocean fishing alternatives and would like the Council to know that Alternative 1 results in harvest allocations of Upper Columbia Summer Chinook that are not acceptable to the Colville Tribes. There was very little difference (219 fish) in ocean harvest of Upper Columbia summer Chinook between the model runs on March 8th and March 10th for Alternative 1. The March 10th model run resulted in a harvest allocation for the Colville Tribes of only 779 fish. Additionally, under Alternative 1 the non-treaty ocean allocation is nearly 5 times higher than the allocation for the non-treaty fishermen in the Columbia River.

Under Alternatives 2 or 3, the balance between ocean and river non-treaty harvest is more reasonable and the harvest allocation for the Colville Tribes (~1500 fish) would be more consistent with previous years with low run sizes. Additionally, reducing the ocean harvest of Upper Columbia summer Chinook will directly result in more natural-origin summer Chinook on the spawning grounds and in the hatchery brood. These outcomes will benefit future generations of Upper Columbia summer Chinook.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our comments. We look forward to continued participation in the PFMC process in 2025 and appreciate the efforts of your staff, committees and subpanels to work with the Colville Tribes for the benefit of the salmon and the people who rely on them.

Sincerely,

Signed by:


Cindy Marchand,

Chairperson of the Colville Business Council's Fisheries and Natural Resources committees
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation