



*Port Gamble
S'Klallam Tribe*



*Jamestown
S'Klallam Tribe*



*Lower Elwha
Klallam Tribe*

To: Co-Managers

April 08, 2021

From: Port Gamble and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribes and Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

Re: 2021 Tribal Commercial Hook & Line Fishery in Hood Canal Areas 12 & 12B.

Hood Canal Areas 12/12B Hook & Line/Troll Fishing Plan:

Introduction:

The Hood Canal terminal area north of Ayock Point is the only area that three (of the four) Hood Canal Tribes can access a portion of the harvestable surplus of returning Hood Canal summer/fall Chinook. Currently, tribal opportunity to harvest Chinook salmon north of Ayock Point is severely limited by fishery restrictions in the Base Conservation Regime (BCR) of the Summer Chum Salmon Conservation Initiative (SCSCI), which includes a ban on gillnets during most of the summer/fall Chinook management period. The BCR, however, does allow for a Treaty commercial hook and line fishery to be conducted in Hood Canal north of Ayock Point. Thus, the Port Gamble and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribes and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe are returning to Chinook fishing in Hood Canal using hook and line gear. This fishery complies with the restrictions of the BCR to minimize impacts to summer chum salmon.

This fishery management plan outlines the 2021 tribal hook and line fishery in Hood Canal north of Ayock Point.

Objective:

The objective of this commercial hook and line fishery is to provide tribal fishers an opportunity to harvest surplus Hood Canal summer/fall Chinook salmon in management areas 12 and 12B, north of Ayock Point.

Eligible Tribes:

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, and Skokomish Tribe.

Fishery Area:

Salmon Management Areas 12 and 12B of Hood Canal.

Closure Areas:

Dewatto, Dosewallips, Duckabush, and Hamma Hamma: closed within 1000 ft. radius around all waters within channels created by exposed tidelands.

All areas within 1,000 feet from any stream or river mouth closed.

Fishery Period:

Week beginning July 11 through week beginning August 29th, or until the Chinook catch limit is harvested, whichever comes first.

Weekly Fishery Schedule:

Open 7 days a week, daylight hours only.

Chinook Harvest Limit:

1,500 Chinook salmon collectively harvested by the eligible Hood Canal Tribes.

Allowable Gear:

Hand lines: Maximum 2 single or 1 treble hook per line; all hooks must be barbless. Maximum of two lines per fisher.

Salmon troll gear: Maximum of 8 lines per vessel; maximum of 72 hooks being fished per vessel. All hooks must be barbless.

Other Restrictions:

All Chum salmon and steelhead must be released unharmed.

Chinook salmon measuring less than 22" must be released unharmed (except for take-home limit).

Coho salmon measuring less than 16" must be released unharmed (unless kept for take-home subsistence purposes only).

No more than two (2) undersize chinook salmon per fisher may be kept daily for take-home subsistence purposes.

All catch shall be recorded on treaty commercial fish tickets.

Expected Fishing Effort by Tribe:

Lower Elwha Klallam – 6
Port Gamble S'Klallam – 7
Skokomish Tribe – 0
Jamestown S'Klallam – 1

In-Season Coordination, Catch Monitoring, and Conference Calls:

Each participating tribe shall monitor the catch and bycatch of its fishers and be prepared to report these numbers on that week's in-season conference call. A catch update email shall be sent by (2:00 pm) on (Monday) of each fishing week to report fishing effort and catches to date, as well as anticipated effort and catches. This information will be used to assess what remains of the collective Chinook quota. If the 1,500 Chinook quota is harvested prior to the end of the scheduled fishing period, the fishery will be closed for the season.

Catch Sampling:

This fishery will be closely monitored and sampled consistent with the Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Fishery Sampling Manual to collect harvest, encounters, tagging, and biological data, which will form the basis of post-season evaluation of fishery impacts to salmon stocks and species, particularly summer chum salmon, Hood Canal natural Chinook, and steelhead. Each participating tribe shall strive to sample greater than 20% of its landings per management week and report the sampling results on weekly in-season conference calls.

Enforcement:

Each participating tribe shall maintain an enforcement presence to ensure that its fishers comply with this management plan and their individual tribal fishery regulations.

Modeled Fishery Impacts:

Chinook impacts were modeled in FRAM as a 1,500 landed catch quota and the coho impacts were modeled in FRAM as expected coho catch (and not a fishery cap or quota). The technical details of the FRAM modeling methods are documented separate from this plan.