



In Reply Refer to  
NATURAL RESOURCES

United States Department of the Interior  
**BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**  
Northwest Regional Office  
911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169

**MAY 01 2015**

Mr. William Stelle, Jr.  
Regional Administrator  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
West Coast Region  
1201 Northeast Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 100  
Portland, Oregon 97232

Dear Mr. Stelle:

In a letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) dated April 29, 2015, the Puget Sound Tribes and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) summarized their objectives for managing the harvest of Puget Sound Chinook during the 2015-16 seasons.

The letter describes changes in management strategies for some management units. For other units, objectives remain the same as stated in the 2010 Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Management Plan (Puget Sound Indian Tribes and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 2010). The revised objectives are more conservative than the previous versions, which the NMFS determined compliant with the conservation standards of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Salmon 4(d) Rule.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) administers programs, that among other things, support tribal management of salmon fisheries in Puget Sound. To support the tribes' exercise of treaty fishing rights and to ensure compliance with Section 7 of the ESA, we request consultation with the NMFS on revisions to the 2010 Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Management Plan for the 2015-16 seasons.

Please contact Rick Cook, Fisheries Biologist, with questions or comments related to this request, either by email at [richard.cook@bia.gov](mailto:richard.cook@bia.gov), or by telephone at (503) 872-2878.

Sincerely,

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Northwest Regional Director