



Washington
Department of
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**

State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, Washington 98501-1091
Phone: (360) 902-2200 TDD (360) 902-2207
www.wdfw.wa.gov



**NORTHWEST INDIAN
FISHERIES COMMISSION**

NORTHWEST INDIAN FISHERIES COMMISSION
6730 Martin Way East
Olympia, Washington 98516-5540
Phone: (360) 438-1180
www.nwifc.org

June 1, 2016

Dr. James Unsworth
Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capital Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Mr. Michael Grayum
Executive Director
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
6730 Martin Way East
Olympia, WA 98516

Dear Dr. Unsworth and Mr. Grayum:

Enclosed is the final co-manager fishery summary document for the 2016-17 management year. This represents the results of negotiations between the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Northwest treaty tribes during North of Falcon and Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) pre-season planning forums. This document contains summaries of agreed fishing arrangements for treaty and non-treaty salmon fisheries in the ocean north of Cape Falcon, Oregon and in Puget Sound. Further details, including stock-by stock management objectives, may be found in the Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Management Plan approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), in the respective parties' regulation summaries, in Status Report documents (as required by the Puget Sound Salmon Management Plan), and other state-tribal understandings.

This year's fisheries were shaped by the recovery management objectives for ESA listed Puget Sound Chinook and the forecasted critical status of the majority of western Washington coho stocks, both natural and hatchery. The tribes agreed to constrain coho impacts to maximize natural escapement and hatchery rack returns in consideration of the numerous stocks in critical status. This resulted in tribes forgoing directed coho fisheries except in a few areas where there was an abundance of harvestable natural or hatchery coho present.

The fishing arrangements contained in this document are based on pre-season expectations of stock abundance and in some instances, may be modified on the basis of information obtained in-season and by agreement between the parties. If any changes to the assumptions used to develop these fishing arrangements should occur that would significantly affect the achievement of the parties' agreed management objectives, the parties agree to meet to consider the need to make necessary changes to these fisheries. The agreed upon fisheries document includes non-treaty commercial and recreational fisheries, treaty commercial, and treaty ceremonial and subsistence fisheries. Individual treaty tribes may conduct additional ceremonial and subsistence fisheries

Dr. Unsworth and Mr. Grayum

June 1, 2016

Page 2

not detailed in this agreement, consistent with provisions of the Puget Sound Salmon Management Plan. This document does not specifically address steelhead fishing plans.

Final Fishery Regulation Analysis Model (FRAM) model run summary tables appended to the agreed upon fisheries document provided our assessment of impacts on key natural coho and Chinook salmon populations.

Detailed descriptions of the management intent and descriptions of monitoring, sampling and enforcement activities for conducting Chinook mark selective sport fisheries in Puget Sound during the 2016-2017 management year are also included and are a part of this fisheries agreement.

Sincerely,



Ron Warren
Assistant Director, Fish Program
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife



For Craig Bowhay
Director, Fishery Programs
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Enclosure

cc: Northwest Tribal Fisheries Managers and Biologists
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commissioners