



# Hoopa Valley Tribe

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March 12, 2015

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
Attn: *Brian Fredieu*  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**Re: Hoopa Valley Tribal preferences for nominations to PFMC tribal seat**

Dear Mr. Fredieu:

I am writing you to propose one primary and two alternate candidates for the at-large Tribal seat on Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC). Our nominee for primary representative is Mike Orcutt, Hoopa Valley Tribe, who would be supported by two alternates: Mel Moon, Quileute Tribe, and David Sones of the Makah Nation.

As you are aware, the Hoopa Valley and Yurok tribes share a reserved right to the Klamath River fishery. Both tribes have closely followed the PFMC since the early 1980's. We have learned that the breadth of issues affected by the PFMC process is broad including not only salmon but ground fish and highly migratory species. Hence, while a single tribal seat has typically been representative of all issues, we believe a more effective form of representation would be to recognize a principal representative, supported by alternate designees to address the diversity of issues before the PFMC. Indeed, this is the model followed by several of state and federal co-managers on the PFMC.

Mike Orcutt is director of our Fisheries Department and has served in that capacity for over 30 years. He has routinely attended PFMC meetings on our behalf and has served on several committees and task groups of the PFMC during his tenure. Through his experience, Mike has developed a good rapport with other tribal groups associated with the PFMC process as well as those representing state and federal co-managers. We believe Mike would be an excellent principal representative for the tribal seat on PFMC. However, as discussed above, we'd envision Mike would draw on the expertise of other tribal co-managers when needed to address issues outside of his expertise.

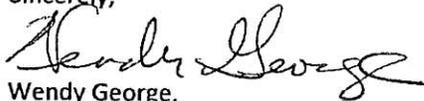
One prospective alternate designee would be Mel Moon, Natural Resources Director for Quileute Tribe, Washington. Mel has served as commissioner to Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, an appointee to the federal advisory committee for Marine Protected Areas, and a continual representative for the Quileute Tribe to the Pacific Salmon Commission, PFMC, and North of Falcon (Washington State salmon). He has negotiated a number of management agreements with the state and the coastal treaty tribes regarding both the marine and river fisheries.

Another alternate would be David Sones of the Makah Nation and present PFMC Tribal representative to PFMC. His experience includes service as Vice-Chairman to the Makah Tribal Council and Natural Resource Director for Makah where he assisted the Tribal Council in establishing policy for Fisheries, Forestry and Land Development. Mr. Sones career also includes service to the Tribal Southern Panel of the Pacific Salmon Commission and as Alternate and Commissioner to the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.

The alternates supporting our nominee for principal representative would likely expand beyond Mr. Moon and Mr. Sones. We are very respectful of the rich diversity of expertise and interests offered by other tribes of the northwest and know that Mr. Orcutt would effectively solicit their participation in support of his work were he appointed to the PFMC Tribal seat.

I thank you for this opportunity to nominate candidates for the tribal at large seat on PFMC. Please contact Mr. Mike Orcutt (530.625.4267 ext 13) should you have need to discuss our recommendations.

Sincerely,



Wendy George,  
Vice Chairwoman,

CC: Mr. Charles Woodruff, Chairman, Quileute Tribal Council  
Mr. Timothy J. Greene, Chairman, Makah Tribal Council

