



QUILEUTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

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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: Quileute preferences for nominations to PFMC tribal seat

Dear Mr. Fredieu:

This letter regards the Quileute Tribal Council's three recommendations for the PFMC tribal seat: Mike Orcutt of the Hoopa Valley Tribe (CA) or Sue Masten of the Yurok Tribe (CA) as suggested primary candidates, and Mel Moon of the Quileute Tribe (WA), as an alternate. However, before we address their qualifications, we would like to share with you the setting that leads to our support for these nominations.

The Quileute Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe located on the Pacific Coast in Washington State, with treaty-reserved rights to the river and marine fisheries in its Usual and Accustomed Area. As part of our shared co-management of these treaty fisheries with the state and federal agencies (and with some U&A overlap north and south with neighboring tribes), we have worked integrally for several decades now with not only these agencies (e.g., WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and NOAA), but also with the Pacific Coast of Washington treaty tribes and with many other PFMC participants. Over the years this has broadened to include state agencies and tribes in California, Oregon and eastern Washington, such as the Columbia River tribes.

It has become apparent to us that in the extremely complex field of fisheries management, more than one perspective is essential to good decision-making. We note that the states and federal agencies make the use of alternates, and that the MSA provides for this for tribes as well (16 U.S.C. §1852 (b)(2)). It is also good to rotate expertise over the years within different areas.

We have come to know and admire Mike Orcutt of the Hoopa Valley Tribe. He is presently the director of their Natural Resources Department and also has for some years now been on the PFMC's Habitat Committee in the California seat. He has frequently testified before PFMC as part of these duties. Additionally he has been a co-lead in negotiations of the Klamath River disputes. Hoopa, as with its neighbor the Yurok, has fishing rights similar to that of the Washington Treaty Tribes—a 50% interest in

the salmonids of the river systems. He also brings perspective of issues at the southern end of the California current.

Sue Masten is Vice Chair of the of the Yurok Tribe's Council and recently has been an active spokesperson for California Tribes in general and the Yurok in particular, regarding the development of a West Coast Regional Planning Body under the National Ocean Policy. She was present in Portland this January for the recent discussion on both the RPB and proposed modification of the West Coast Governors Alliance and a significant leader in discussion of "next steps" regarding these policy bodies. Yurok is also involved in planning for fisheries use of the Klamath watershed and in discussions involving both California and Oregon to assure salmonids have adequate water levels for their life cycle.

Mel Moon is director of Quileute's Natural Resources Department, a position he has held for 30 years. In that capacity he has been a commissioner to Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, an appointee to the federal advisory committee for Marine Protected Areas, and a continual representative for the 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.

The Quileute Tribe Council believes that these three working collectively will be able to tap the concerns of all the tribes involved in PFMC to bring their wide perspectives into focus on key issues before the Council. It is our hope that you will agree and accept this nomination of either Mike Orcutt or Sue Masten as primaries for the tribal seat, with Mel Moon as an alternate.

Sincerely,



Charles Woodruff, Chairman
Quileute Tribal Council