

INTER-TRIBAL RESOLUTION
for the Development of a
National Fish Hatchery Complex
and Indian Cultural Center in
Southern Puget Sound, Washington

WHEREAS, we, the Muckleshoot Tribe under the Point Elliott Treaty, the Nisqually and Squaxin Tribes under the Medicine Creek Treaty, and the Skokomish Tribe of the Point-no-Point Treaty, have been guaranteed by the United States preservation of our rights to fish in usual and accustomed grounds and stations, and

WHEREAS, we are comprised of Indians whose livelihood has depended primarily on salmon and steelhead runs, and

WHEREAS, we have small reservations, located without respect to historic fishing grounds, and

WHEREAS, we ceded essentially all of our lands, including the major drainages supporting the salmon and steelhead runs, and consequently have little influence or control over the management of the fish habitat or harvest of the runs, and

WHEREAS, we recognize that natural fish production of the streams of South Puget Sound are permanently impaired by numerous developments which dam, divert, erode, fill, and pollute the natural channels and flows, and

WHEREAS, we have had little success in curbing the destruction of the natural environment initiated with the settlement of the land by non-Indians, and

WHEREAS, we have kept the reservation portions of the rivers free of obstructions and pollution which limits fish production, and

WHEREAS, we seek an opportunity to contribute and participate in the management of the fishery resources, and

WHEREAS, we recognize the value of salmon hatcheries in supplementing natural production to maintain the fisheries, and

WHEREAS, with a hatchery we can help compensate for some of the problems which have been developed by others elsewhere in the drainages, and

WHEREAS, the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, cooperatively with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is responsible for providing assistance to Indian tribes in fishery resource management, and

WHEREAS, the Fish and Wildlife Service operates and has under construction a number of national fish hatcheries specifically for the benefit of Indian tribes throughout the United States

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED jointly by the above named tribes that:

1. The Fish and Wildlife Service be directed by the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of constructing a hatchery or hatcheries on the reservations or within the fishing areas of the above named tribes to benefit all Indian fishermen and other citizens.
2. The above study be completed within fiscal year 1973.
3. The tribes named above grant permission to the Fish and Wildlife Service and consulting personnel to trespass on reservation lands for the purpose of installing and operating water measuring devices and other equipment pertinent to the study.
4. The tribes offer information concerning the fisheries to the Fish and Wildlife Service to benefit the course of the study and assist in determining the salmon, steelhead, and other species best suited to the Indian fisheries.
5. A hatchery complex developing as a result of the study be constructed and maintained by the Fish and Wildlife Service.
6. During the construction as well as the operating life of the facilities qualified Indian residents receive employment priority.
7. The hatchery production be programed to service an area including all waters important to Indian fisheries of Southern Puget Sound.
8. This development will be designed and operated to complement and enhance the comprehensive development plans of the individual tribes.

9. After construction of the hatchery, the Councils of the above named tribes delegate a representative(s) to serve as a group on a co-management basis with the Fish and Wildlife Service to review the reports and develop the hatchery production programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, with the hatchery facility as a focal point representing a fishery management program initiated and supported jointly by the Indian tribes of Southern Puget Sound, a center be developed cooperatively with the Department of the Interior and the Indian tribes which will reflect and serve various aspects of the history and current life of the local Indians, including:

- 1) facilities to train Indians in the field of fish hatchery and aquaculture techniques;
- 2) a museum and cultural center;
- 3) a public information center;
- and 4) a meeting place.

David Mabe

Chairman, Nisqually Tribal Council
June 12 1972

Florence Hardin

Chairman, Muckleshoot Tribal
Council
June 13 1972

Ed Miller

Chairman, Skokomish Tribal Council
June 14 1972

Florence Nigo

Chairman, Squaxin Tribal
Council
June 14 1972