

The original documents are located in Box 8, folder “Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians” of the Norman Ross Files, 1974-75 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Rights Protection

Norman Ross, Assistant Director
Domestic Council
Executive Office Building Room 218
Washington, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Ross:

Enclosed are copies of resolutions adopted by the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians at their Annual Convention in Spokane, Washington, September 28 through October 2, 1974.

The resolutions are as follows:

75-1 - Distribution of funds to implement United States v. Washington and United States v. Oregon. We fully support the position of the Indians that the funds appropriated by Congress be used by the Fish and Wildlife Service to gather fishery information necessary to implement the Boldt Decision and that none of the funds be channelled to state agencies.

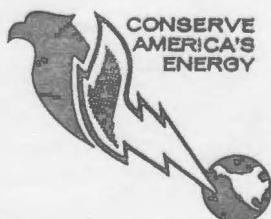
75-8 - Construction by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers of appropriate devices at Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph Dams to ensure migration of fish above the dams.

We endorse this resolution and recommend that the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers undertake the necessary action to provide the appropriate facilities.

75-10 - Recognition by the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission of Indian Treaty Rights in determination of regulations of the salmon fisheries.

The injunction issued by Judge Boldt on March 22, 1974 provides that in order to more nearly approach equal sharing of the fish, Indian treaty fishermen will also have an opportunity to catch fish in marine coastal areas closely adjacent to, but beyond the territorial waters of the state, or outside the jurisdiction of the state although within Washington waters.

If the ruling is to be meaningful, then full consideration must be given to the rights of the Indian treaty fishermen when regulations are drafted by the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission.



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Accordingly, we endorse the resolution and urge that proper steps be taken to so instruct the United States Commissioners as stated in the resolution.

Sincerely yours,

Morris Thompson
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Enclosures



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Terminated Tribes of Northwest Indians

RESOLUTION NO. 75-1

WHEREAS, Indian Fishing Treaty Rights have been affirmed by the Federal Courts in the cases of U.S. vs Washington and U. S. vs Oregon; and,

WHEREAS, it has been held that Indian fisheries are a matter for regulation, management and control by the Indian people in co-operation with the Federal Government; and,

WHEREAS, such regulation, management and control requires sufficient funding; and,

WHEREAS, hearings were held for supplemental appropriations at which Indian people and the Federal Government expressed the need for sufficient funds channelled to appropriate Federal agencies to implement the court cases; and

WHEREAS, such appropriations were enacted by the Congress with the clear intent that such funds be utilized by the tribes and the Federal Government in cooperation; and,

WHEREAS, attempts are now being made to channel such funds through the States; and,

WHEREAS, the states have historically refused to recognize treaty rights, are currently refusing to recognize such rights, and will undoubtedly continue to so refuse; and,

WHEREAS, channelling funds through the states will thus effectively destroy tribal ability to protect treaty fishing rights; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior has a trust responsibility to the tribes to protect these rights; and,

WHEREAS, the tribes have worked effectively with the Northwest Fisheries Program of the Fish & Wildlife Service; and,

WHEREAS, such agency has gone far in meeting the trust responsibility of the U.S. Government to Indian people,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that all funds to implement U. S. vs Washington and U.S. vs Oregon be channelled to the Northwest Fisheries Program of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to be used by them to best meet the needs of the Indian people in managing and conserving the resource in cooperation with the Northwest Indian Fish Commission and affected tribes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no funds be channelled to state agencies for such purposes.



Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

RESOLUTION NO. 75-1

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution has been duly adopted by the Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians meeting September 30, October 1 and 2, 1974, in Spokane, Washington.

Walter L. Moffett

Rev. Walter L. Moffett
Executive Director

Roger R. Jim Sr.

Roger R. Jim Sr.
President



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Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

WHEREAS, fishing has historically been important to the Colville people for food, commercial, religious, and cultural purposes, and

WHEREAS, the availability of fish is being destroyed by Dams, to the injury of the Colville people, and

WHEREAS, it appears that properly constructed fish devices can help stop this destruction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Northwest Affiliated Tribes that the Bureau of Reclamation and United States Corps of Engineers construct appropriate devices at Grand Coulee Dam and Chief Joseph Dam to insure and guarantee that substantial numbers of fish can migrate to places above the Dams.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

The foregoing Resolution has been duly adopted by the Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, meeting in Spokane, Washington, September 29 thru October 2, 1974.

Rev. Walter L. Moffett
Rev. Walter L. Moffett
Executive Director

Roger R. Jim, Sr.
Roger R. Jim, Sr.
President



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WHEREAS, the Treaty Fishing Rights of Western Washington Tribes were upheld by the Federal Court in the Case of U.S. v. WASHINGTON, which case recognized the Indian Right to catch 50% of the accustomed places; and

WHEREAS, Many Washington Tribes were never the less blocked from such share by actions of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, such actions appear to be caused by failure of the International Commissioners, Department of Commerce and Department of State to fully recognize and implement Indian treaty Fishing Rights as affirmed in U.S. v. WASHINGTON;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Government through all its departments, agencies and personnel fully recognizes and implement Treaty Fishing rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that specifically the United States Commissioners be instructed that they may agree only to regulations which fully recognize and affirm Indian Treaty Rights.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, meeting in Spokane Washington, September 29 thru October 2, 1974.

Rev. Walter L. Moffett

Rev. Walter L. Moffett
Executive Director

Roger R. Jim, Sr.

Roger R. Jim, Sr.
President

