

**Agreement no. CA 13-192 between the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC) and the
Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR).**

Summary Report

Introduction

Tribal treaty marine harvest, intertidal fishing and gathering zones and culturally sensitive regions have been depicted by GIS shapefiles for the Hoh, Quileute and Makah Tribes and the Quinault Indian Nation. Tribal harvest and utility data for the four coastal treaty tribes have been compiled into datasets. The purpose of this project is to enhance and inform marine spatial planning efforts on the Washington coast with the inclusion of management data on tribal harvest and fishing activity.

Task 1: Collecting, Analyzing and Mapping Tribal Harvest Data

Spatial and temporal information was collected on treaty marine harvest of finfish, shellfish and groundfish based on the reported catch on tribal fish tickets. Utilizing the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission's TOCAS database as well as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's LIFT database, tribal catch data captured year, month, species type, gear type, management area and units of catch reported for the time period January 1, 1980 through December 31, 2012. Treaty catch data was collected for both commercial fisheries and ceremonial & subsistence fisheries as reported on tribal fish tickets. Unit of catch is pounds or count.

Meetings were conducted with staff from each tribe to determine the best representation of utilization of marine natural resources and data according to tribal fishery management, gear management, management reporting areas to represent.

Analysis of data included a detailed reconciliation process in which data was evaluated by species, gear type, year and units and verified by tribal fishery staff. Data was analyzed by management fisheries with exclusion of fresh water management area catch data. Work was done by meetings with fishery staff of each tribe.

Tribal fisheries harvest data layers and shapefiles were created according to management area and made searchable by species, gear, year, and month.

Task 2: Defining and Mapping Tribal Intertidal Fishing and Gathering Areas and Marine Sensitive Areas

A detailed list of utilized species was derived from research of documented and reviewed publications of accounts of tribal elders. Tribal cultural resources staff and natural resources staff reviewed and verified data. Tribal biologists verified the currently utilized species. Work was accomplished by in-person meetings with tribal staff, email or phone communication. The extent of detail of data that could be released for public distribution was evaluated by tribal council members, workgroups and staff as each tribe determined necessary. Meetings with each tribal group were attended to reach a common

resolution of data to be released. The agreed upon level of summarization and detail for the final data set is submitted with this report. Expanded detail and inquiries requires consultation with individual tribes. Tribal cultural and sustainable harvests are driven by social, demographic and economic trends and needs. Analysis of tribal coastal marine utilization must incorporate these factors and ecosystem based management that the tribes traditionally and currently utilize. Data was gathered using ecosystem references and aligned with geographical WDFW beach zones. Current and traditional utilization patterns within the coastal watersheds, nearshore and intertidal regions as well of culturally important offshore utility were then related to the corresponding beach zones in which the activity was based from. Emphasis was made on the utility of the marine natural resources, and the seasonality of utilization.

Shapefiles of the collected data is represented according to the DNR beach zones; NW Coast, Kalaloch, Quinault, Copalis-Moclips as well as the marine beach areas of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Gray's Harbor. It is important to note that the extent of these areas was determined by the current extent of legally based tribal usual & accustomed harvest areas. The traditional extent may or may not be the same as these legal boundaries in place today. The data layers include detailed and extensive utilized species list for traditional and current utilization for the four coastal treaty tribes within each beach zone. It is not possible to provide a complete list of utilized species. This list serves as a sample of utilized species and cannot imply that it is an exhaustive list. Quantification of take cannot be estimated as the traditional utilization varies by needs and trends and extends to prehistoric history. Further details can be obtained by contacting each tribe's natural resource staff.

Tribal Coastal Marine Sensitive Areas span the tribal usual and accustomed areas in their entirety. Focusing on the intertidal region for task 2, the map denotes the coastal areas from the outer boundary of the "Traditional Marine Highways of Tribal Ancestors" through the 500 meters inland of the coastline, depicting the ecosystem based management the tribes practice traditionally and currently. This shapefile seeks to encompass intertidal marine sensitive areas both ecologically, economically and culturally, including coastal fishing and gathering areas, travel routes, landing sites, culturally sacred areas and historic areas. The "Traditional Marine Highways of Tribal Ancestors" represents human-use the coasts and the ocean currents for travel. In the Tribal Coastal Marine Sensitive Areas shapefile, this route is only represented within Washington State waters, but it extends the entire coast.

The development of this layer is based on feedback from discussions in meetings with each tribe. The extent and resolution of the depicted shapefile representing these areas was determined by consultation with tribal staff members, council members and workgroups.

Summary, Perspectives and Goals

The final deliverables were reviewed by staff of each tribe before the release of any information. The level of detail in the layers is greatly reflected by the need for ongoing communication and involvement with the tribes in the planning processes. One of the tribes' main concerns is the promotion of government to government relations on any projected impact on their usual and accustomed areas.

This project has served as an opportunity for tribes to analyze the current level of detail of data on tribal utility of the marine system. Contributing to the process, tribes were able to begin an evaluation of coastal marine spatial planning process representation of tribal treaty rights and use. As the tribes worked to develop datasets and GIS layers for the current level of CMSP process, they are also assessing the data gaps and the need for additional tribal resource cataloging and development of tribe-specific coastal marine spatial plans for future government to government contact on any planning prospective.

“Effective marine spatial planning is a continuous process, not a one-time “master plan”, and can only be successful through a highly-participatory networked governance approach” Charles N. Ehler, UNESCO consultant