



**CCA**

COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION  
WASHINGTON

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February 26, 2010

Congressman Norm Dicks  
2467 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Dicks,

Coastal Conservation Association Washington (CCA Washington) is aware that the Colville Confederated Tribes have requested a \$1 million appropriation for FY'11 to further test fishing gears for selective harvesting Chinook salmon in the upper Columbia River. The Colville Tribes are leaders in the Pacific Northwest in the pursuit of selective salmon fishing and what it offers for recovery and sustainability of our salmon resources.

As you know, recent scientific reviews of Pacific Northwest hatchery programs and salmon recovery efforts have underscored the importance of selective fishing reforms. The recent efforts of the Tribes are not only demonstrating how this can be implemented in the upper Columbia River, but also contributing directly to similar pursuits in the lower Columbia River and the region as a whole.

Specifically, the Colville Tribes want to test and evaluate the effectiveness of a pound net fish trap. This gear, used historically on the lower Columbia River, may again provide an effective means to passively harvest hatchery salmon while allowing wild fish to be released unharmed. Any information the Tribes can generate in their evaluation on the efficacy of the trap could greatly advance use of this gear in other Washington waters.

The fish trap should also offer the opportunity to collect salmon to supply local hatchery broodstock. As you are well aware, local broodstocks are critical to the needed reform of many hatchery programs.

We support the Colville Tribes in their selective fishing endeavors and trust that you can assist them in this effort. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bryan Irwin  
Executive Director  
CCA Pacific Northwest

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Dedicated to the Conservation and Protection of Marine Life

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