

## 1994 PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY

### **PREAMBLE**

Indian Nations, Tribes and First Nations ("Nations") signatory to this Treaty, in mutual recognition of our inherent sovereign powers, hereby re-establish political, social and economic relations, and cooperative control of natural resources essential to the cultural, spiritual and religious rights of our peoples.

Signatories to this Treaty shall include all interested Nations located in the Province of British Columbia, Canada and in the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana in the United States of America ("Pacific Northwest").

### **PRINCIPLES**

Recognizing each other as self-governing Nations, we subscribe to the following principles:

- A. The Creator has made us part of and spiritually inseparable from the environment. This truth binds us together.
- B. We share a cultural legacy of natural conservation and protection stemming from our inherent obligation to protect the land, waters and natural resources within our traditional territories.
- C. The relationship between the Nations in the Pacific Northwest predates and will live beyond our relationship with the Nation-States of Canada and the United States.
- D. No State, Province or Nation-State is possessed of jurisdiction over any of our Nations, our peoples, or our traditional territories, except in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of that Nation.
- E. We have permanent control and enjoyment of our territories, waters and the resources therein.
- F. We have the sole right to control our culture, including archaeological, historical and sacred sites, artifacts, designs, knowledge, and works of art.
- G. We have the right to control our economies including entering into agreements regarding trade and commerce.

### **COMMON OBJECTIVES**

This Treaty seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- A. To strengthen the cooperative and supportive bond between each Nation in order to promote the rights of our peoples for the well being of all our future generations.
- B. To develop an effective and meaningful process to promote cooperation between the Nations on common issues, concerns, pursuits and initiatives.
- C. To enhance communication and the sharing of information between the Nations.

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**MUTUAL COVENANTS**

We are committed to provide mutual assistance on the following basis:

- A. Each Nation shall, to the best of its ability, exchange financial, economic, legal, political, and technical knowledge regarding common issues, concerns, pursuits, or initiatives.
- B. Each Nation shall, to the best of its ability, do the following:
  - (1) appoint a coordinator to implement the Treaty;
  - (2) coordinate statements of policy and information of mutual and general concern to be disseminated to the media;
  - (3) establish an inter-tribal communication network;
  - (4) coordinate periodic reviews and strategy planning sessions to provide direct instruction or advice on additional commitments or follow-up actions.

**AMENDMENTS TO THIS TREATY**

Any ratifying Nation may request an amendment to this Treaty. This Treaty may be amended at a special conference called for this purpose. Any amendment shall be subject to ratification by the customary or constitutional processes of each ratifying Nation. Unanimous consent of the ratifying Nations is required to amend this Treaty.

**RATIFICATION OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY**

This Treaty shall come into force when the following Nations formally ratify the provisions according to their customary or constitutional processes. Following the coming into force of the Treaty, any other Nation, may ratify this Treaty at their pleasure, with the consent of Nations already signatory to this Treaty.

Each Nation which ratifies this Treaty may place conditions on its participation. Each ratifying Nation may attach a Statement of Reservations indicating specific provisions of this Treaty, which shall apply to it under specific conditions. Each ratifying Nation may attach explanations or clarifications expressing different meanings associated with the provision through a Statement of Understandings. These Reservations or Understandings shall become a part of this Treaty and receive full respect by other ratifying Nations.

Signed on behalf of the following Nations/Tribes on  
(Month/day/year at location:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Nation

JUN 22 '95 12:09PM FIRST NATIONS 990 9949

P.4/11

+2067538659

NWJFC

F-889 T-442 P-003/005 MAY 09 '95 16:12

## What Is The Pacific Northwest Treaty?

### **Purpose:**

This is YOUR treaty! It brings together indigenous governments in a cooperative effort to protect our natural resources and environment, our economies and sovereignty. It is a sacred commitment to "re-establish political, social and economic relations, and cooperative control of natural resources essential to the cultural, spiritual and religious rights of our peoples."

### **History of The Treaty:**

During the 1988/89 Pacific Salmon Commission negotiations Tribes and First Nations met to discuss working together. From these discussions came a commitment to develop a resolution of understanding between these indigenous nations. The resolution of understanding recognized the Tribes and First Nations north and south of the Canadian/U.S. border as sovereigns. It acknowledged them as protectors of natural resources with shared conservation and management responsibilities. Further pursuit of increased communication and mutual support led to the development of the Pacific Northwest Treaty, which was signed by dozens of Tribes and First Nations in ceremonies conducted at the Squamish Nation on September 30, 1994. In a follow up meeting conducted by the Pacific Northwest Treaty Steering Committee, held during negotiations of the Pacific Salmon Commission in Vancouver, B.C. in November of 1994, it was determined that a "Vision Conference" should be held to enable the participating nations to collectively "brainstorm" the implementation specifics of the Treaty.

### **The Future:**

It is clear to all participants that if this Treaty is to work, if it is to be meaningful to the future of our people, the work on it must continue. It cannot be ignored, like the treaties that Europeans signed with the tribes. We must know that our word is our bond, and that the strength of each of our nations is based on the strength of the others.

There is interest in this Treaty beyond the Pacific Northwest. One of the original signers was a representative of the aboriginee people in Australia. Native Hawaiians have expressed interest in signing, and word has been received of similar interest on the part of indigenous people from still other states and nations, as well. Will the Treaty extend to them or not? The answer to this question is up to you, the representatives of the Tribes and First Nations.

In fact, the entire future of this Treaty is in your hands. During this Vision Conference, we must focus on such questions as:

*\*What do the words of the Pacific Northwest Treaty mean to us all?*

*\*What do the principles, common objectives and mutual covenants of this Treaty among indigenous peoples truly mean?*

*\*How do these commitments translate to action and have meaningful ongoing impact on the future of our people?*

*\*Where do we go from here?*

### **Notes:**

If your Tribe or Nation has not yet signed the Treaty, and wishes to do so, you will have an opportunity to sign on Wednesday morning.

A special half day workshop on "hot" issues in natural resource management will be held here following lunch Wednesday. This will be your opportunity to discuss such issues, ask questions and make statements regarding them.

**Proposal**

**Proposal**

**Pacific Northwest Treaty  
Coordination and Resource Center  
May 30-31, 1995**

This office and Coordinator shall be responsible for the implementation of the mission and intent of the Pacific Northwest Treaty. To initiate this commitment the following Coordination and Resource Center shall be established:

**Purpose:**

- To strengthen the cooperative and supportive bond between each Nation in order to promote the rights of the Indigenous people for the well being of our future generations.
- To assist in the development of an effective and meaningful process to promote cooperation between the Nations on common concerns, pursuits, and initiatives.
- To enhance communications and sharing of information between the Nations.

**Responsibilities and Duties:**

- To provide access to information on fishing, hunting, health, Treaties, jurisdiction, legislation and litigation cases, education, housing and natural resource protection and management.
- Provide shared information on cultural, historical experiences and practices.
- To maintain an updated calendar of events to assist the leadership in remaining informed on key current and future activities, events, and meetings.
- Gathering and researching information on identified issues and areas of concern.
- Maintain an updated Indigenous Leaders mailing list.
- Coordinate with identified lead contacts for each Nation on implementation of this Pacific Northwest Treaty.
- Coordinate periodic reviews and strategy planning sessions to provide direct instruction or advice on additional commitments for follow-up actions.
- Manage an on-going fund raising effort to provide funding to maintain this office and coordination efforts through strategy and planning conferences.
- Establish an educational and media program and process to inform the indigenous and non-indigenous people about the purpose and function of the Treaty and its originators.

**Pacific Northwest Treaty  
Coordination and Resource Center Proposal**

**May 30-31, 1995  
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**Qualifications:**

- College degree or a minimum of 5 years of experience in Inter-Tribal relations including knowledge of Tribal protocols and traditional practices in political relations.
- Ability to work independently with limited supervision to carry out duties and responsibilities to carry out the Treaty commitments.
- Indigenous preference

**Supervision:**

This individual shall be provided direction from the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is an interim Committee established to organize the Treaty language negotiations and its initial implementation. It includes the following members:

- Gibby Jacobs (Squamish Nation), Co-Chair
- W. Ron Allen (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Co-Chair
- Kathryn Brigham (Umitilla Nation)
- Simon Lucus (Hesquiat Nation)
- Ken Malloway (Tzeachten Nation)
- Beryl Harris (Musqueam Nation & B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Commission)
- Steve Robinson (Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission)
- Carol James (Columbia River Fish Commission)
- Trudi Harris (Musqueam Nation & B.C. Vice-Chief's Office, AFN)

**Projected Rough Budget (1st year): (Canadian funds)**

• Salary and benefits	\$40,000
• Equipment (computer, printer, fax machine, etc.)	10,000
• Supplies (\$300/mo X 12 mos.)	3,600
• Travel expenses	10,000
• Communications (phone and Fax)	5,000
• Rent (\$400/mo X 12 mos.)	4,800
	<u>\$73,400</u>

Check Contributions to this initiative (Pacific Northwest Treaty Fund) should be sent to:

Beryl Harris, Steering Committee Member  
Pacific Northwest Treaty  
c/o B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Commission  
#207-1999 Marine Drive  
North Vancouver, B.C. V7P 3J3  
(604) 990-9939 - Telephone  
(604) 990-9949 - Fax

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Coordination and Resource Center Proposal**

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## **PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY** **STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **UNITED STATES**

Ron Allen  
Co-Chair

S'KLALLAM Tribe  
Telephone: (206) 683-1109  
Fax: (206) 683-4366

Kathryn Brigham  
Carol Craig

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
Telephone: (503) 238-0667  
Fax: (503) 235-4228

Steve Robinson  
Jim Anderson

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
Telephone: (206) 438-1180  
Fax: (206) 753-8659

### **CANADA**

Gibby Jacob  
Co-Chair

Squamish Nation  
Telephone: (604) 980-4553  
Fax: (604) 980-9601

Beryl Harris  
Simon Lucas  
Ken Malloway

B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Commission  
Telephone: (604) 990-9939  
Fax: (604) 990-9949

Trudi Harris

British Columbia Regional Vice-Chief's Office  
Telephone: (604) 990-9939  
Fax: (604) 990-9949

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**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY  
Visions Conference on May 30 & 31, 1995  
List of Objectives**

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**TREATY**

- Promote and encourage more Indigenous Nations to sign the Treaty
- Commitment to the Treaty
- Understand the vision and purpose of the treaty as it applies to all Indian Nations
- Preserve the energy and momentum of the Treaty
- Keep focussed on the big picture of the Treaty's purpose
- Use the Treaty as the vehicle to re-focus our priorities and care for each other's needs.

**IMPACTS**

- Understanding of the impact of the non-Indian lifestyles and values on the Indian communities
- Remain conscious that the anti-Indian mentality is still very strong throughout the world, and within the political systems.

**EDUCATION**

- Teach the non-Indian society what the Indian knows instinctively about nature
- Education and enlightenment of the Indian way of life and values
- Improve the Indian leaders' knowledge and understanding of the non-Indian views and objectives

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**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY  
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**VISION**

- Urge delegation to unite and visualize indigenous people as one
- Understand the individual as well as the collective concerns, needs, and situations
- Strengthen the government standing both within and across international borders
- Bridging indigenous nations and strengthening our collective power

**CULTURAL & TRADITIONS**

- Share histories, culture and traditions
- Clear consciousness of purpose and responsibilities for our communities and their welfare

**ENVIRONMENT & FISHING RIGHTS**

- Protect natural resources: fisheries, water, habitat
- Restore rightful role as managers of the resource
- Sharing natural resource and management techniques, skills and knowledge
- Responsibilities of stewardship of natural resources as delegated by the Great Spirit
- Restore and preserve the fishing and hunting rights of indigenous people



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**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY  
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**LAND RIGHTS**

- Seeking restoration of traditional lands and jurisdictions

**SOVEREIGNTY & INHERENT RIGHTS**

- Native Hawaiian Nations seeking support from Northwest Nations to re-establish their sovereign status and land base
- Empowerment of sovereign Rights and Authorities
- Preservation of our identity as unique indigenous people, with special rights
- Preservation of traditional and cultural rights and practices
- Strengthen the spiritual bond between the people and the Nations
- Preserve the future for our children

**REQUEST**

- Australian Indigenous people requested participants to sign flag representing unity
- Consideration by the delegates to amend the constitution to become Pacific and delete Northwest Restriction. Also, modify terminology to include Indigenous people

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREATY Structure flow chart

