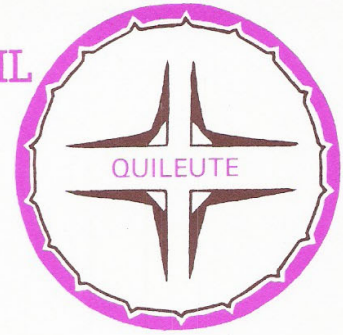




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QUILEUTE TRIBE ANNOUNCES EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF THE QUILLAYUTE RIVER INDIAN GILL NET (IGN) STEELHEAD FISHERY

February 25, 2022, La Push, WA- The Quileute Tribe has closed its IGN fishery effective Thursday, February 24, 2022. The Tribe found it necessary to implement further restrictions to their IGN fishery after analyzing data that indicated a statistical difference between pre-season and in-season run forecasts for wild steelhead. Conservation measures were implemented in 2022 by restricting the IGN fishery to 1.5 days per week. Due to environmental variables (low precipitation and low flow) the Tribe has experienced dismal wild steelhead harvest. The Tribe’s Natural Resource Committee met to discuss fishery concerns and as a result, recommended the Tribe take additional necessary emergency actions to close the IGN steelhead fishery effective immediately. The Tribe took these actions to support wild steelhead conservation.

The Tribe and co-manager WDFW (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife), agree that to ensure future treaty and non-treaty fishing opportunities on this stock these fishery closing measures are necessary. In response, the co-managers have all agreed to cease IGN and sport fishing in the Quillayute Basin.

The Tribe strives to provide treaty year-round fishing opportunities within the Quileute Usual and Accustomed Treaty Area for the Tribe’s members, for commercial, ceremonial, and subsistence purposes; and to assure primary hunting and gathering rights can be exercised within the Treaty Ceded Lands.

These are extraordinary times, and we appreciate everyone’s collaborative efforts in determining these critical decisions. The Quileute Tribe will continue to monitor this situation and will make further determinations regarding our stewardship. We will share additional updates as warranted.

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