



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115
www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/index.html



PUBLIC NOTICE

For Information Contact:
Gretchen Hanshew (206) 526-6147

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 8, 2016

Court-Ordered Usual and Accustomed (U&A) Fishing Area Boundaries of the Quileute Indian Tribe and the Quinault Indian Nation

NMFS adopted U&A fishing area boundaries for several Pacific coast tribes in 1996 and published those boundaries in Federal fishing regulations for species managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA). Since 1996, some tribal U&A fishing area boundaries have been amended, as ordered by the courts.

On September 3, 2015, the United States District Court set forth boundaries for the Quileute Indian Tribe (Quileute) and the Quinault Indian Nation (Quinault) U&A fishing areas off the Washington coast.¹ NMFS is announcing publication of a final rule on June 8, 2016 implementing the courts final judgement. Latitude and longitude coordinates of the tribal U&A fishing areas are shown below in Table 1. An illustration of the tribal U&A fishing areas are shown below in Figure 1.

The Pacific Coast treaty Indian tribal U&A fishing areas are referenced in several places within Title 50, Part 660. NMFS is consolidating and moving regulations describing the Pacific Coast treaty Indian tribes' U&A fishing areas to § 660.4, Subpart A, and updating cross-references to Pacific coast treaty tribes' U&A fishing areas throughout Title 50. Consolidated regulations at § 660.4, Subpart A provide consistency for U&A fishing area boundaries across groundfish, coastal pelagic species (CPS) and highly migratory species (HMS) regulations. Regulations governing Pacific salmon fisheries are not codified, but use the same boundaries when published annually².

West Coast federal fishing regulations describe U&A fishing areas for the Quileute Indian Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Hoh Indian Tribe, and Makah Indian Tribe.

Find these boundaries at
§ 660.4, Subpart A

These changes to U&A fishing area boundaries do not modify fishing regulations for tribal and non-tribal fishers that may apply within or outside of those areas.

¹ *United States v. Washington*, 2:09-sp-00001-RSM, (W.D. Wash. Sept. 3, 2015) (Amended Order Regarding Boundaries of Quinault & Quileute U&As)

² 81 FR 26157, May 2, 2016, Final rule; 81 FR 36184, June 6, 2016, Correction

National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

Table 1: Latitude and longitude coordinates describing the boundaries of the Quileute and Quinault tribal U&A fishing areas before and after the 2015 Court order. Changes to boundaries from the Court order are in bolded text.

Geographic Boundary	Quileute		Quinault	
	Old ³	New ⁴	Old ⁵	New ⁶
Northern	48°07.60' N. lat. (Sand Point)	48°10.00' N. lat. (Cape Alava)	47°40.10' N. lat. (Destruction Island)	47°40.10' N. lat. (Destruction Island)
Western	125°44.00' W. long.	125°44.00' W. long.	125°44.00' W. long.	125°08.50' W. long.
Southern	47°31.70' N. lat. (Queets River)	47°31.70' N. lat. (Queets River)	46°53.30' N. lat. (Point Chehalis)	46°53.30' N. lat. (Point Chehalis)

³ Regulations at 50 CFR 660.50(c)(2) and (4)

⁴ *United States v. Washington*, 2:09-sp-00001-RSM, (W.D. Wash. Aug. 27, 2015) (Order Regarding Boundaries of Quinault & Quileute U&As). These coordinates are converted from degrees, minutes, seconds to degrees, decimal minutes, which is the format the U.S. Coast Guard requests for the *Federal Register*.

⁵ Regulations at 50 CFR 660.50(c)(2) and (4)

⁶ *United States v. Washington*, 2:09-sp-00001-RSM, (W.D. Wash. Sept. 3, 2015) (Amended Order Regarding Boundaries of Quinault & Quileute U&As).

National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

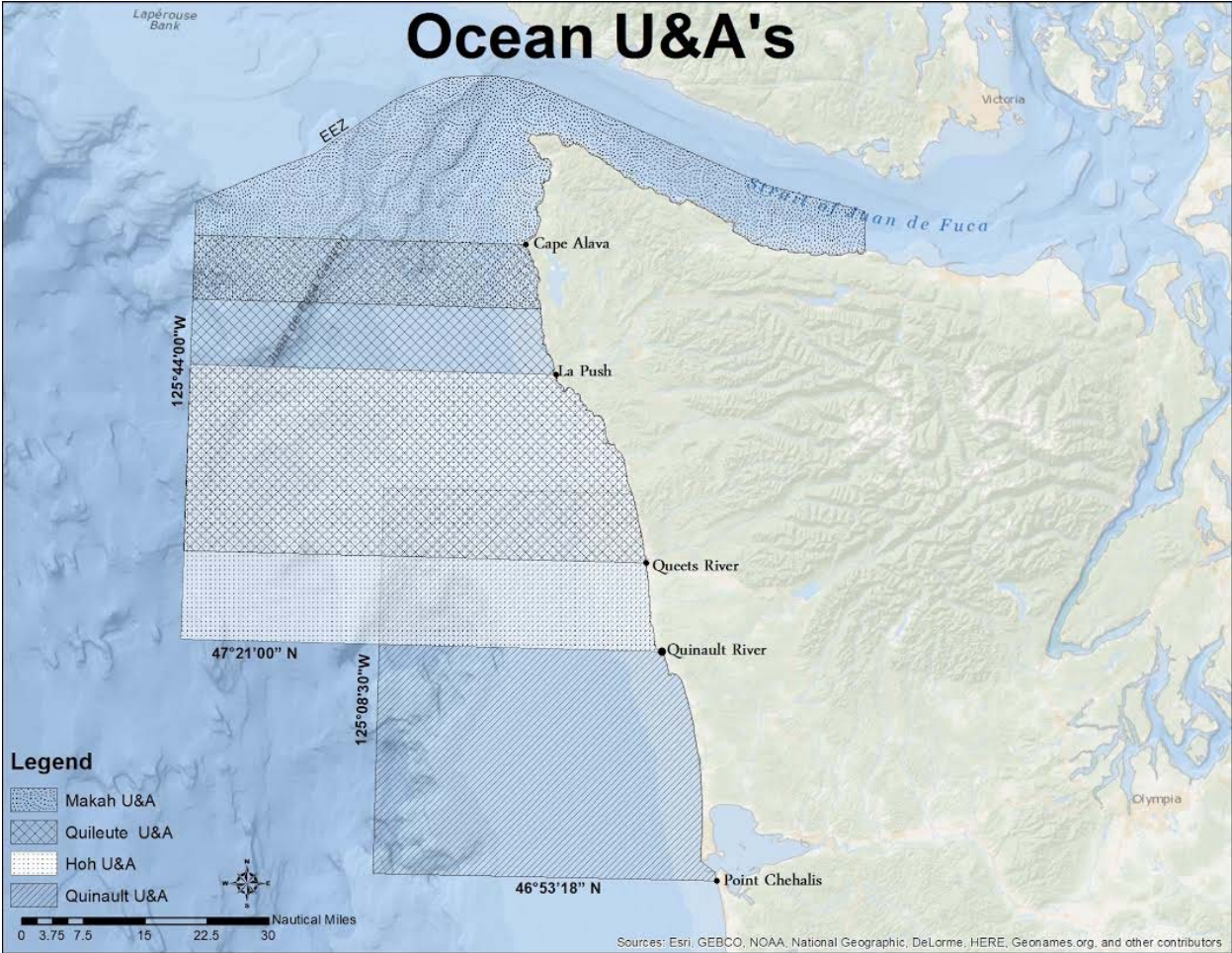


Figure 1: Depiction of Pacific coast treaty tribes' usual and accustomed (U&A) fishing areas off the Washington coast. Note: this map depicts U&A fishing areas that occur both inside and outside of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Note: NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES.