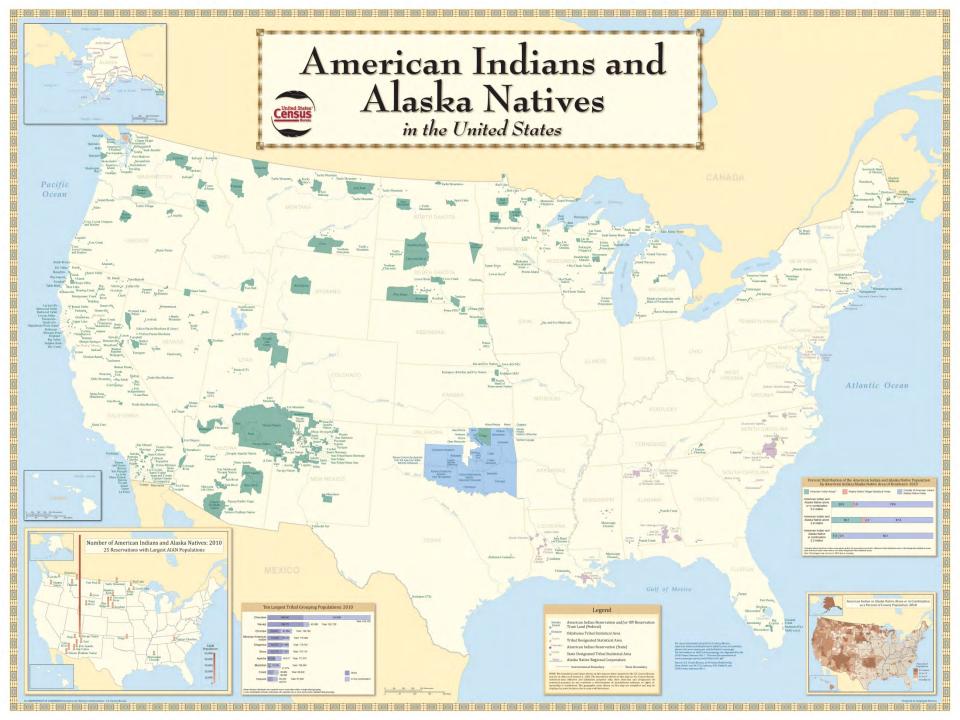




# Pulling Together: Working with Washington State Coastal Treaty Tribes



Carol Bernthal, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent



## Federal Tribal Relationship

- Tribes recognized as sovereign nations in the U.S Constitution and treaties.
- Political relationship, based on historic and evolving relationship between sovereign governments, not on the ethnicity of Native Americans.
- Tribal sovereignty is something Indian tribes have **retained**, not something **granted to them** by the federal government.

#### Constitution

- "The Congress shall have power...to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;"
- "...and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land"

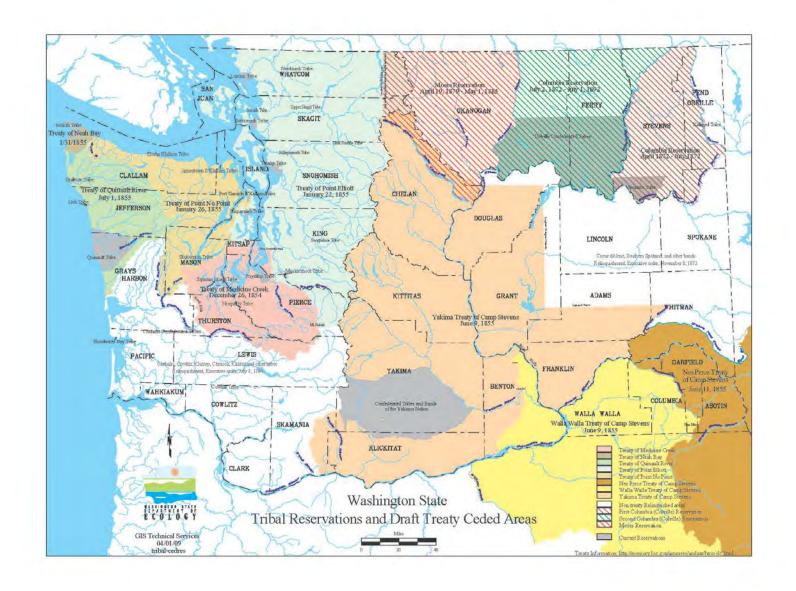
Article 1, Section 8 U.S. Constitution Article VI, Section 2, U.S. Constit

#### **Treaties**

- Cession of most of the lands of the United States by Indian tribes, was codified in hundreds of treaties, basis for federal programs that provide services.
- Tribes retained certain rights in exchange for ceding vast areas of their historic territories. Agreements articulated in treaties specific to tribal areas.
- Treaties are not simply historical documents. Their age does not invalidate them anymore than age invalidates the Constitution.

## Federal Trust Responsibility

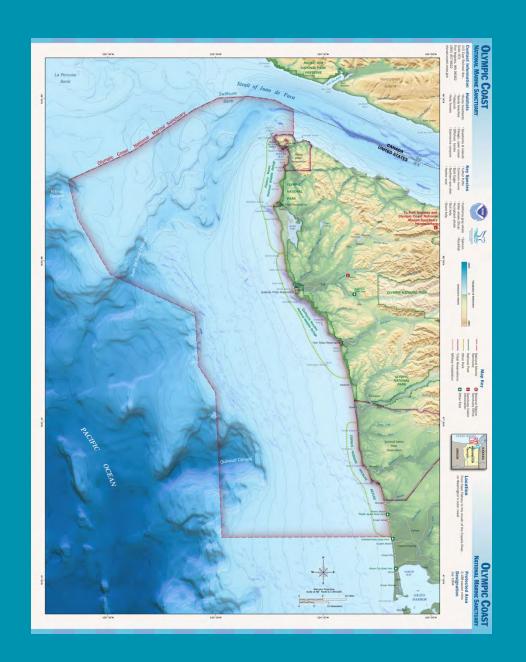
- Legal obligation under which the United States "has charged itself with moral obligations of the highest responsibility and trust" toward Indian tribes.
- Center of numerous U. S. Supreme Court cases, making it one of the most important principles in Federal Indian law.



#### **Treaties**

The Treaty of Neah Bay signed in January 1855 by Isaac Stevens, Governor of Washington Territory, and by leaders and delegates of the Makah tribe. The treaty contained provisions that allowed the Makah to continue fishing, sealing and whaling "at usual and accustomed grounds or stations.

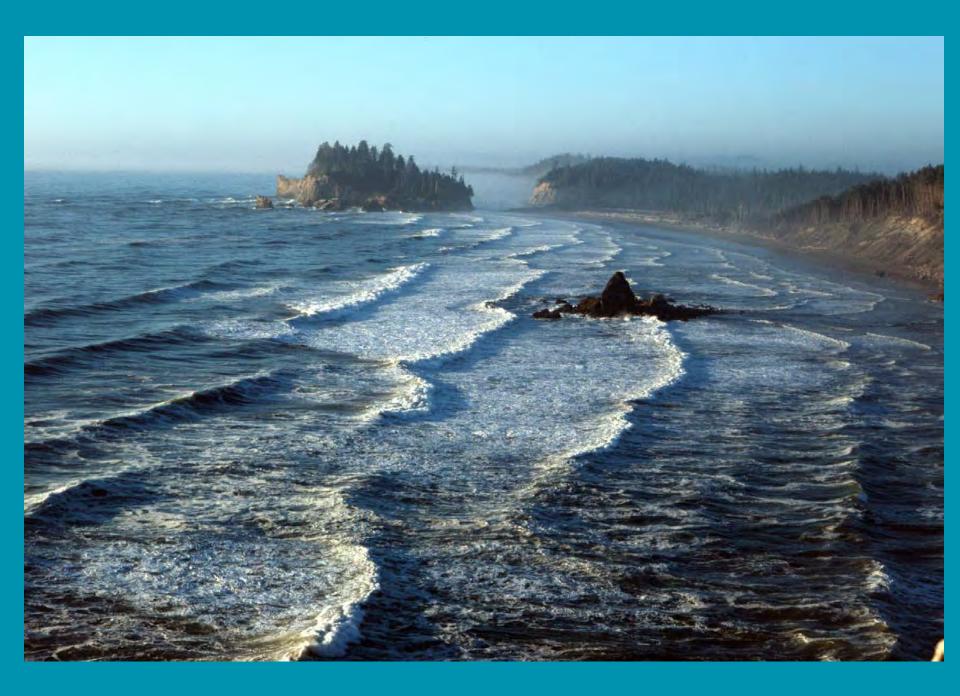
The Treaty of Olympia between the United States and the Quinault, Quileute and Hoh tribes, signed 1855-1856. The right of taking fish at all usual and accustomed grounds and stations is secured to said Indians in common with all citizens of the Territory, and of erecting temporary houses for the purpose of curing the same; together with the privilege of hunting, gathering roots and berries, and pasturing their horses on all open and unclaimed lands.













### Makah Tribe

Kwih-dich-chuh-ahtx (Qwidičča?a·tx):

People who Live by the Rocks and Seagulls







## Quileute Tribe







#### <u>Hoh Iribe</u>

# Chalá-at: People of the Hoh River





Elaine Thompson / AP

# **Quinault Nation**











# Colloborative programs with coastal treaty tribes











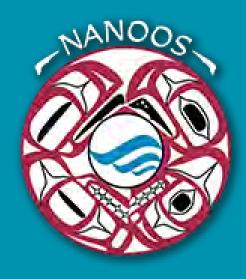
















# FIRS STEWARDS



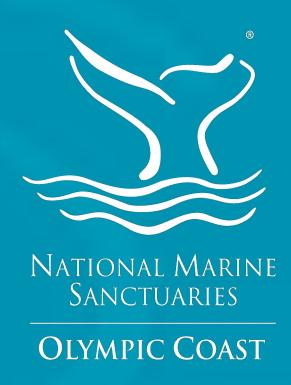
"Through our knowledge, spirituality, sciences, practices, experiences and relationships with our traditional lands, territories, waters, air, forests, oceans, sea ice, other natural resources and all life, Indigenous Peoples have a vital role in defending and healing Mother Earth. The future of Indigenous Peoples lies in the wisdom of our elders, the restoration of the sacred position of women, the youth of today and in the generations of tomorrow."

The Anchorage Declaration 24 April 2009









http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov