

THE HONORABLE RICARDO S. MARTINEZ

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,

Case No. C70-9213

Plaintiffs,

DECLARATION OF BRETT ROSSON

v.

STATE OF WASHINGTON, et al.,

Defendants.

BRETT ROSSON declares under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the following is true and correct.

1. I am over 18 years of age and competent to testify, and make this declaration based upon my own personal knowledge.

2. I am President of Fish Northwest, a nonprofit 501(c) company dedicated to ensuring equal and fair access to Washington State's salmon resource.

3. Fish Northwest is an organization with a board of directors of highly knowledgeable and dedicated fishermen who are well aware of the issues affecting fishing access to Washington State's salmon resource. Fish Northwest has arranged a network of knowledgeable consultants with respect to fishing and the salmon resource, including fishing opportunities,

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1 challenges, regulations, and conversation needs.

2 4. As President of Fish Northwest, our organization's purpose of ensuring responsible,
3 fair, and equal fishing with the treaty tribes is being significantly harmed by the Washington State
4 Department of Fish and Wildlife's ("WDFW") failure to ensure equitable sharing the harvestable
5 salmon resource per the "Boldt Decision" set forth in *United States v. Washington*. Our
6 organization's mission of promoting fishing, including fair and sustainable access to the salmon
7 resource, is impaired by the State of Washington's failure to take action necessary to ensure 50/50
8 sharing of the salmon resource.
9

10 5. Fish Northwest's members' interests with respect to the fair, 50/50 sharing of the
11 salmon resource, in accordance with applicable law, is also impaired by the State of Washington's
12 failure to ensure equitable sharing of the salmon resource, including but not limited to, the State
13 of Washington's failure to calculate the number of harvestable salmon, and the failure of the State
14 of Washington and Department of Fish and Wildlife's failure to obtain their own Endangered
15 Species Act permit independent of the treaty tribes' permit(s) and the State of Washington and/or
16 Department of Fish and Wildlife's ongoing inability to obtain meaningful input from non-treaty
17 tribe stakeholders, including Fish Northwest and its members.
18

19 6. I personally operate a charter fishing business that depends on open salmon seasons
20 to survive. The reduced seasons in recent years has a dramatic financial impact on my own
21 business, as well as the businesses of other small business that depend on open salmon fishing
22 seasons.
23

24 7. I, along with other members of Fish Northwest, have been involved in North of
25 Falcon. I have attended many meetings, given input, and talk regularly with WDFW staff. After
26 having spent years being involved with the process, it is clear to me that my input at North of

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1 Falcon has little value.

2
3 DATED this 5th day of October, 2020.

4
5 Brett E Rosson

6 Brett E Rosson {Oct 6, 2020 07:20 GMT+11}

7 BRETT ROSSON

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