



TŜILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Tsilhqot'in Nation opposed to Fisheries Closure

Williams Lake, BC (September 30, 2016): The Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) remains opposed to the unjustified decision by Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to close the fishery within the Tsilhqot'in territory.

The TNG asserts that the Tsilhqot'in Nation has exclusive authority to manage the fishery in our Aboriginal title lands recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada, including our fishing sites at Siwash Bridge, Giggly Hole and Henry's Crossing. We promote conservation through our traditional practice of selective dip net fishing for food, social and ceremonial purposes.

Quotes:

Chief Joe Alphonse, Tribal Chairman of the Tsilhqot'in National Government:

"The closure of the Tsilhqot'in rivers by DFO is only for political reasons. Our fishing practices have always been selective and conservation focused. Fishing sites within the declared Aboriginal title land are no longer in the authority of DFO. The regulation of the areas remains the jurisdiction of the Tsilhqot'in Nation."

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