

Resolution No. 1999-19

[\(Council Minutes 99/06/07\)](#)

RESOLUTION NO. 1999-19

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, responding to the listing of the Puget Sound Chinook Salmon as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, supporting the Tri-County Early Action proposal, and urging the National Marine Fisheries to recognize the value of the Tri-County Early Action proposal in its decision on what is necessary and appropriate to conserve the species

WHEREAS, in 1973, the United States Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA), codified as 16 USC 1531-1543, to provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend may be conserved and to provide a program for the conservation of such endangered and threatened species; and,

WHEREAS, in February 1998, the National Marine Fisheries Service proposed the listing of the Puget Sound Chinook as AThreatened@ under ESA; and,

WHEREAS, in March 1999, the National Marine Fisheries service formally listed the Puget Sound Chinook Salmon as AThreatened@ under ESA; and,

WHEREAS, shortly after the listing, the National Marine Fisheries Service is expected to propose a rule under Section 4(d) of ESA containing provisions deemed necessary and appropriate to conserve the species, including a prohibition on ATake@; and,

WHEREAS, a blanket prohibition on ATake@ may have a far reaching impact on land use and economic activities in the Puget Sound region and Pierce County; and,

WHEREAS, the health and sustainability of Puget Sound salmon are important to the citizens of the City of Lakewood, Pierce County and the State of Washington; and,

WHEREAS, Pierce County is a participant in the Tri-County ESA effort and shares with other Tri-County participants a commitment to and enthusiasm for bringing salmon back to full productive levels; and,

WHEREAS, representatives from the state, counties, cities, ports, and tribes, as well as business, environmental, agricultural and recreational interests, support a unified Tri-County response to Puget Sound salmon listings; and,

WHEREAS, Tri-County participants are providing to the National Marine Fisheries service an Early Action Proposal; and,

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Early Action Proposal is based upon initial environmental, biological, and scientific analysis of habitat conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Early Action Proposal gives special attention to early actions that prevent further habitat degradation while conservation planning for long-term recovery occurs; and,

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Early Action Proposal consists of four -volumes, one volume for cross-WRIA (Water Resource Inventory Area) commitments and one volume for each of the county subregions, including the Pierce County subregion, developed using common methodologies; and,

WHEREAS, Pierce County provided leadership in the Pierce County subregion by organizing WRIA efforts, by soliciting and collecting early action commitments from participating governments, and by preparing the Pierce County subregion volume for collation into the Tri-County Early Action Proposal; and,

WHEREAS, The Pierce County subregion volume contains commitments from most of the cities in Pierce County, Pierce County, the Port of Tacoma, and others for money, projects, programs, staff, studies, regulatory changes, and support for a long-term WRIA based conservation planning effort for each of Pierce County=s WRIAs; and,

WHEREAS, Pierce County has reviewed its programs, plans and regulations, has identified fish friendly components, and has targeted opportunities for improvement; and,

WHEREAS, the Lakewood City Council supports a balanced approach between long-term conservation planning and implementation of new substantive actions to conserve habitat f or the majestic Chinook and other salmon species.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD HEREBY RESOLVES as follows:

Section 1. The City of Lakewood voices its support for the Tri-County Early Action Proposal as a method to protect and improve salmon habitat. The City of Lakewood urges the National Marine Fisheries Service to recognize the value of the Tri-County Early Action Proposal in its decisions on what is necessary and appropriate to conserve the species. Finally, the City asks the National Marine Fisheries Service to work with the Tri-County participants in shaping the contours of the 4(d) rule to ensure conservation of the Puget Sound Chinook while allowing essential governmental and economic activities to continue in our region.

Section 2. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 7th day of June, 1999.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest: _____

Bill Harrison, Mayor

Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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