



# LUMMI INDIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

## Office of the Chairman

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### EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 24, 2017

**FROM:** Timothy Ballew II, Chairman

**SUBJECT:** Emergency Response to Atlantic Salmon Spill

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On Saturday, August 19, 2017, the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) were informed of a catastrophic net pen failure that has resulted in the release of thousands of Atlantic salmon, an invasive aquatic species. This devastating Atlantic salmon spill occurred at Cooke Aquaculture's Cypress Island facility. The Atlantic salmon spill has the potential to devastate native salmon stocks critical to the culture and the economy of the Lummi Nation. The Lummi Indian Business Council (LIBC) learned of the spill on Monday, August 21, 2017, from our fishermen, and is directing all relevant department heads to take immediate action in an effort to protect native fish species. Specifically, the LIBC is directing the General Manager's (GMs) Office to work with the LIBC Treasurer, our Natural Resources Department, and our Fisheries and Natural Resources Commission to minimize the threat posed by these non-native fish.