

1212 N. 32nd Ave.

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Mr. Ronald Hull, U.S. Attorney office,
Federal Building, Yakima, Wash.

June 25, 1954

Dear Ronald:

Enclosed are copies of letters that are self explanatory.

Briefly: The Wanapums exercised fishery rights at the Horn, near Benton City, originally by right of possession, occupancy and tradition.

In later years there was evidently some trouble and the late L.V. McWhorter prosecuted, successfully, legislation protecting them from state interference.

This bill, passed in 1939, was repealed about two years ago along with other Indian fisheries bills, by number alone. No one in this area so far as I know, knew it was being done.

Then things went along as usual, the Wanapums fishing at Wanawish where they catch their winter fish and their fish for their religious ceremonies, until this spring.

The State Department of Fisheries field men cited two of them. I prepared an 18 or 20 page documentation of the Wanapums semi-legal and moral rights.

The enclosed letter copies are the result.

I believe the case referred to is one instigated by the Department of Fisheries over a year ago. It involved the right, under Treaty, of the Yakimas, and whether they could fish on the left bank (just outside the actual reservation boundary) or not.

I do not know whether material on this case is on file in Yakima court or not. If not, I am wondering if I could be contacted the next time Mr. Bantz is in Yakima.

I see no reason to bring the Wanapums into this. And we certainly do not wish to interfere, in any way, with the other litigation, unless it is necessary to do so to protect our moral rights.

Indian problems!!! Land problems!!! Seems like I run a one man agency, legal clearing house and what have you. But the Wanapums and Relander refuse to give up.

Sincerely

Click Relander