IN-SEASON ADJUSTMENT TO THE
YUROK TRIBAL FISHING RIGHTS ORDINANCE

NUMBER: 2011-01

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 11, 2011 through July 15, 2011

SUBJECT: Sturgeon and Spring Chinook Conservation Regulations

The Yurok Tribal Council is concerned that Klamath River sturgeon may be in decline and that the abundance of wild spring Chinook (primarily the Salmon and South Fork Trinity River populations) has been extremely low during recent years. Therefore, the Council has adopted the following regulations as conservation measures:

1. No fishing, except angling\(^1\), will be allowed from Monday at 9:00 a.m. through Thursday at 9:00 a.m., except for Memorial Day and July 4th, when the fishery will remain open until Midnight.

2. Sturgeon shall not be sold or bartered\(^2\). Spring chinook may not be sold to anyone. Tribal members may only barter up to 10 spring Chinook salmon per week (defined as Sunday through Saturday) with other Yurok Tribal members and other Indians.

3. Live sturgeon shall not be held by tying or storing them in containers within the river, except while the Fisher is tending their net or processing fish on site. Sturgeon found in this condition will be released if they appear to be healthy enough to survive, otherwise they will be confiscated and distributed to elders.

4. All green sturgeon greater than 6 feet in total length (along the top of the fish, from the tip of the nose to tip of the tail) shall be released.

5. No fishing will be permitted within 500 feet below Coon Creek Falls.

6. No individual can harvest more than two sturgeon per day. Therefore, each Fisher can transport no more than two sturgeon at a time, unless they have a valid transportation permit(s) that was issued on the day(s) the sturgeon were harvested.

7. All salmon and steelhead must have the dorsal fin removed to within ¼ inch of the back. Fins must be clipped within five minutes of first handling of the fish, and prior to gutting/cleaning the fish or transporting the fish.

8. Penalties for violation of items 2 through 7 of this in-season adjustment shall be $500 and loss of nets, anchors, buoys, ice chests, fish boxes and fish for the first offence, $1000 and loss of nets, anchors, buoys, ice chests, fish boxes and fish for a second offence, and total loss of fishing rights for one year with loss of nets, anchors, buoys, ice chests, fish boxes, fish, and boat for a third offence within three years.

Thomas O’Rourke, Chairperson
Yurok Tribal Council

\(^1\) As noted in the Yurok Tribal Fishing Rights Ordinance, “angling” is defined as “the taking or attempted taking of fish by hook and line with the line held in the hand or closely attended in such a manner that the fish voluntarily takes the hook in its mouth.”

\(^2\) Pursuant to the Yurok Tribal Fishing Rights Ordinance, “barter” is defined as “the exchange of goods or productive services for other goods or productive services without the use of money”. Bartered fish may not subsequently be sold.