

(3) Technical Assistance Letter(s)

- August 29, 1980

Mr. William E. Matheson
Snohomish Tribe of Indians
P.O. Box 247
902 1/2 First Street
Snohomish, Washington 98290

JUN 29 1980

Dear Mr. Matheson:

This is to acknowledge the receipt on December 3, 1979, of the documented petition for Federal acknowledgment of the Snohomish Tribe of Indians. Receipt of this petition has been previously acknowledged by phone.

As required by the Federal acknowledgment regulations, 25 CFR 50.9(b), the Acknowledgment staff has reviewed the petition for obvious deficiencies and significant omissions. Although the petition is generally well done, there are some areas where additional documentation and discussion are necessary to strengthen the petition.

This considerable material is presented indicating that the Bureau dealt with the Snohomish as a single tribe and that not all of the tribe moved on the Tulalip Reservation. The political organization of the tribe before 1930 needs to be more clearly described. The description of the political leadership of the group for this period should state, if possible, the years a leader or leaders were in office, and describe which portions of the Snohomish each leader represented. Supporting evidence, such as examples of actions taken by each leader, should be provided.

Some clarification will be needed of the genealogical materials submitted with the petition. A number of specific questions relating to these materials were discussed previously in telephone conversations between the Acknowledgment staff and Mr. Jack Klidder of the tribal council. These questions, as well as an additional item which has come up since that time, are included as an enclosure with this letter. It is our understanding, based on recent conversations with you, that additional work has subsequently been completed in this area which may answer most of the questions.

Additional information concerning the current group will also be needed. This information, which is listed below, will help speed the processing of the petition, but does not represent significant deficiencies or omissions.

1. A description and any associated written materials concerning any group events, informal gatherings of all or part of the tribe, social clubs, and political, geographic or social distinctions within the tribe. Please provide a description of any distinct cultural practices or language that have been maintained.
2. A list of the tribal council members since 1960.
3. A description of the committees the group has and a list of members of these committees for the past five years.
4. As a sample of the council minutes, the minutes of one meeting for each year since 1950. We appreciate your offer to make available the council records since 1950 and will take advantage of your offer to view them when staff members are in your area.
5. A copy of any grants that have been received or applied for.

The Acknowledgment staff will be in touch by telephone to discuss the specific materials needed to reinforce the petition. We look forward to working with you and do not expect the additional material requested to create a significant delay in processing the petition. In the meantime, if you have questions, please call the Acknowledgment staff on (703) 235-2960.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas W. Fredericks

DEPUTY

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

GENEALOGICAL QUESTIONS and/or REQUESTS FOR MATERIALS

Discussed with Mr. Kidders:

1. Section 274 of the petition contains the Snohomish Indian Judgment Roll dated 7/7/78. This roll includes check marks by selected names. These marks are explained as being "on both lists." Please explain which lists are involved, who made the check marks, and what significance is attached to an individual being "on both lists."
2. Section 275 is a list entitled "Tentative List of Snohomish Tribal Members Not Certified by the BIA." Please explain when this list was prepared, by whom, and for what reason? What is the significance of not being certified by the BIA?
3. Section 276 appears to be a list which has been xeroxed from cards or strips of paper. The date of February 22, 1979, appears on the first page of this list. Is this a complete list of all persons who are recognized by the tribal council as members of the Snohomish Tribe of Indians? From what source was the xerox list made? Is this a card file maintained by your tribal enrollment officials?
4. If Section 276 is your current tribal membership roll, please submit a certification statement signed by members of the tribal council which identifies this list as the group's official membership roll. An address should be provided for each person who appears on your membership roll. Approximately 100 persons included in the Section 276 list do not have addresses.
5. Copies of the Enrollment Ordinance approved April 30, 1978, which were submitted with the petition have pages missing from Parts 2, 3, and 4. Please provide us with a complete copy of all parts or sections of the ordinance.
6. When the petition comes under active consideration, we may ask for charts for some of the members who did not apply for the Snohomish or other tribe's judgment funds in Indian Claims Commission Dockets 92, 93 and 125. At that time, we may also take a look at some of the group's members who applied and were not accepted for payment for whatever reason.

New requests:

7. Section 259 of the petition describes a list of members and accompanying information provided to the court, at its request, in connection with the U.S. v. Washington suit. Please provide us with a copy of this material in order that we may have a complete set of all previous lists of members.