



THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION

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A People of Vision

A Confederation of the Salish,
Pend d' Oreilles
and Kootenai Tribes

April 17, 2014

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Ronald Trahan - Chairman
- Carole Lankford - Vice Chair
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Mr. Steve Bullock
Governor, State of Montana
P. O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620-0801

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Dear Governor Bullock:

Thank you for your letter of March 31, 2014 in which you acknowledge that the recent dissolution of the Flathead Board of Control and reassumption of the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project by the Bureau of Indian Affairs leaves the Tribes' Proposed Compact and Exhibits with some problems.

The Tribal Council considered those problems and is prepared to engage in a narrow reopening of negotiations. The Council authorized reopening negotiations for the single purpose of revising the Water Use Agreement and incorporating it into the Compact.

Since the Bureau of Indian Affairs had reassumed operation and management of the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project, they will be a necessary party to the negotiations and signatory to the agreement. We are providing them a copy of this letter for their information.

We anticipate the Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission, the United States, and the Tribes will be the parties to these limited negotiations.

We look forward to discussing how to move forward.

Sincerely,

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

Ronald Trahan, Chairman
Tribal Council

Cc: Stan Speaks, Bureau of Indian Affairs Northwest Regional Director
Duane Mecham, Department of Interior Solicitor