



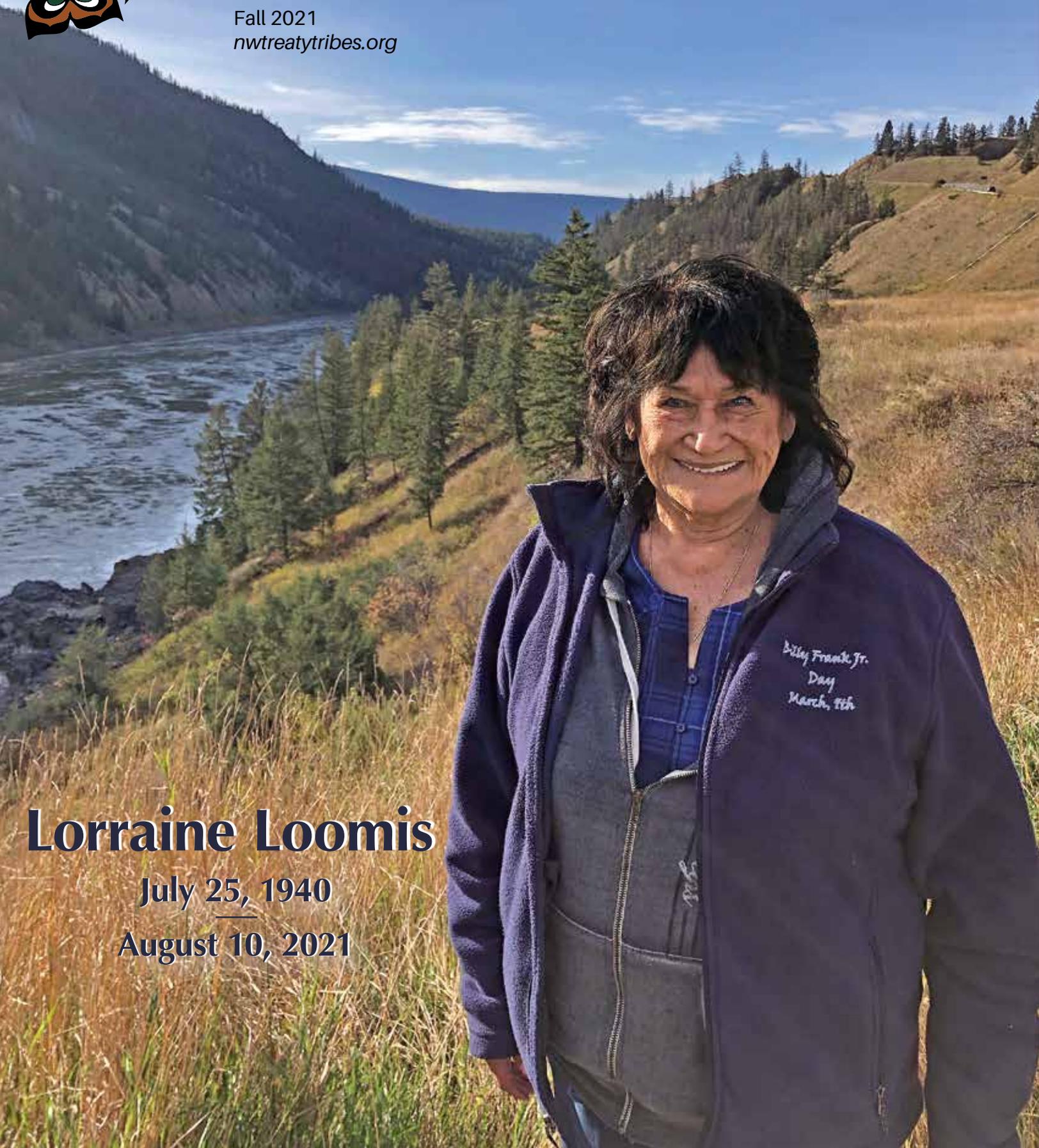
*A publication of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission*

# **Northwest Treaty Tribes**

*Protecting Natural Resources for Everyone*

Fall 2021

[nwtreatytribes.org](http://nwtreatytribes.org)



*Billy Frank, Jr.  
Day  
March, 11th*

## **Lorraine Loomis**

**July 25, 1940**

**August 10, 2021**

# No Time To Slow Down Recovery Efforts



by Shawn Yanity  
NWIFC Vice Chair

The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission lost an irreplaceable leader in August when our chairperson, Lorraine Loomis, walked on. Lorraine's contributions to protecting treaty rights can't be overstated. Before she was elected NWIFC chairperson, she served as a commissioner for more than 40 years, many of those sitting beside Billy Frank Jr. as vice chair.

When Billy passed in 2014, Lorraine carried on the work. And when COVID-19 closed down our offices, that didn't slow her down. She moved her computer into her sewing room, and when you didn't think she could put in any more hours, she did just that.

She also served as vice chair of the Fraser River Panel of the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Commission, vice chair of the board of directors for the Skagit River System Cooperative and co-chair of the Billy Frank Jr. Salmon Coalition.

It's hard to imagine how we are going to fill her shoes, but I truly believe that Lorraine wouldn't want us to miss a step. We must continue fighting for our treaty-protected resources.

That means keeping focused on our priorities, including:

## **Billy Frank Jr. Salmon Coalition**

After the inaugural Billy Frank Jr. Pacific Salmon Summit in March 2018, we formed the Billy Frank Jr. Salmon Coalition to restore cooperation among tribal, federal, state and local policy leaders, sport and commercial fishermen, conservation groups, scientists, business owners and others involved in recovering our natural resources. The coalition is committed to restoring and protecting salmon habitat, enhancing salmon hatchery production, and better managing seal and sea lion populations.

## **Habitat Recovery in Fisheries Management Planning**

Lorraine recognized that we can't manage fisheries in isolation. We must also consider habitat recovery at the same time. An important part of her legacy is that she and Washington

Department of Fish and Wildlife director Kelly Susewind created a co-managers' habitat work plan for the North of Falcon process. Wherever salmon fisheries are constrained by weak stocks, we must improve the habitat. We began this work in 2020, with a pilot project in the Stillaguamish watershed.

## **Protecting and Restoring Riparian Habitat**

Last year, we released a short video ([nwttt.co/riparian](http://nwttt.co/riparian)) explaining why we need to protect and restore riparian habitat for salmon. Streamside trees and vegetation provide shade, filter harmful runoff and slow erosion. Our need for quality riparian habitat is increasing as climate change leads to higher water temperatures and lower flows every year. At the 2019 Centennial Accord meeting, Gov. Jay Inslee connected his concerns about climate change to salmon habitat recovery and directed state agencies to develop a uniform, science-based management approach. We created a joint tribal/state riparian habitat initiative to achieve that goal.

## **Defining Net Ecological Gain**

We know that urban development leads to environmental problems such as air and water pollution, and habitat loss. But our land-use regulations allow developers to build now and attempt to fix habitat later, with no acknowledgment of cumulative effects. This makes it impossible to achieve a net gain in habitat, which is what we need to recover declining salmon runs. Recently, state legislators funded a study that aims to define "net ecological gain," a necessary first step to fix our broken ecosystem.

## **Understanding Marine Survival**

Tribes have collaborated with Long Live the Kings on the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project to learn more about what happens to juvenile salmon after they migrate to sea. Last summer, the project reported that two of the main reasons for poor salmon survival are that there are too many predators and not enough prey. Tribal natural resources departments are continuing important research about marine survival, while also working to restore estuary habitat and protect water quality.

## **Impacts of Recreation on Treaty Resources**

We have watched with alarm as increased recreational activities on public lands have degraded our treaty-protected resources. We saw this escalate during the coronavirus pandemic when tribal fishermen were displaced by sport fishermen and recreational boaters, beaches and forests were littered with human waste and drug paraphernalia, and the biodiversity of trails and forests was threatened by human overuse. Tribes are working with state and federal agencies to ensure that meaningful government-to-government engagement involves tribes in recreation policy, planning, funding, assessment and project implementation.

Now is not the time to slow down. The best way we can honor both Billy and Lorraine is to stay the course, because we have more work to do to recover salmon and protect our treaty rights.



**Northwest Treaty Tribes**

*Protecting Natural Resources For Everyone*

**Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
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Olympia, WA 98516  
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*Northwest Treaty Tribes* is a publication of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and published quarterly. Free subscriptions are available. This edition is online at [nwtreatytribes.org](http://nwtreatytribes.org). Articles in *Northwest Treaty Tribes* may be reprinted.

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**On the cover:**

Lorraine Loomis, photographed in 2019 in front of the Fraser River in British Columbia, served for many years on the Fraser Panel of the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Commission. Amy Seiders



NWIFC file photo



D. Preston

Lorraine Loomis spent decades advocating for tribal treaty fishing rights. Top: Loomis reviews papers alongside, from left to right, Guy McMinds (Quinault), longtime NWIFC chair Billy Frank Jr. and Gary Peterson (Skokomish). Above: Loomis presides over the award of the Billy Frank Jr. Award to Muckleshoot treaty rights warrior Stanley Moses in 2019 with NWIFC executive director Justin Parker.

# Lorraine Loomis (1940-2021)



Lorraine Loomis, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission chairperson and Swinomish fisheries manager, passed away Aug. 10 at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle at the age of 81.

Loomis was born July 25, 1940, to Laura and Tandy Wilbur Sr.

Born and raised on the Swinomish Reservation, Loomis came from a family of fishermen and was around the fishing industry her entire life. She grew up fishing with her brothers Claude Sr., Tandy Jr., Vince and Marvin Sr. All of her children and many of her grandchildren, nieces and nephews fish as well.

Following her graduation from La Conner High School in 1958, Loomis attended Skagit Valley College. After she moved away from Swinomish for a short time, Loomis' career in fisheries started at the tribe's fish processing plant in 1970. This included cleaning, smoking and freezing fish, and ultimately working her way up to assistant manager of the plant. It was hard work and long hours.

Not too long after the 1974 Boldt decision, which reaffirmed the tribes' treaty-reserved fishing rights, Swinomish tribal leaders asked Loomis if she would serve as the tribe's fisheries manager. She accepted the position, thinking that fisheries management might be easier than fish processing, but soon discovered it wasn't. Loomis still found herself working 14 hours some days but found it very rewarding.

Loomis broke the glass ceiling as she entered the world of fisheries management. Still largely a

male-dominated environment, Loomis became one of the first women to play an active role in fisheries policy and management. Loomis ultimately became one of the most prominent figures at the highest levels. Loomis' groundbreaking pathway and work ethic has provided inspiration to many others.

Fish and shellfish management would continue to fill Loomis' plate over the next several decades. Loomis served on the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission for more than 40 years. She succeeded long-time chairman and tribal treaty rights activist Billy Frank Jr. as the chair of the commission after Billy's passing in 2014. She served as vice chair from 1995 to 2014 and treasurer from 1993 to 1995.

Loomis also was co-chair of the Billy Frank Jr. Salmon Coalition and a founding board member of Salmon Defense.

Loomis was honored and humbled to follow in the footsteps of Billy as chair. She knew no one could ever truly replace him and that it would take all the tribes collectively to fill that void. But Loomis left her own mark. In October 2020, she was honored with the Billy Frank Jr. Leadership Award for her decades of dedication to defending tribal treaty rights.

Loomis recently served as vice chair of the Fraser River Panel that manages sockeye and pink salmon under the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty. She had served on the Fraser River Panel since 1985. She also was vice chair of the board of directors for the Skagit River System

Loomis' son John Grossglass, left, prepares salmon for the Swinomish Tribe's 2018 Blessing of the Fleet and First Salmon Ceremony, with Loomis' grandson Johnny Grossglass, while Loomis shares a laugh with NWIFC's former executive director Michael Grayum.



Fran Wilshusen



Bryan Bougher

Loomis receives the Billy Frank Jr. Leadership Award in October 2020. Beside her, from left, are Salmon Defense executive director Peggen Frank, NWIFC executive director Justin Parker, Nisqually Chairman Willie Frank III and NWIFC Vice Chair Shawn Yanity.

Cooperative, which is the natural resources consortium of the Swinomish and Sauk-Suiattle tribes. Additionally, Loomis continued to coordinate tribal participation in the North of Falcon fishery planning process with the state of Washington.

Loomis witnessed and contributed an unprecedented amount in her lifetime, including advances in salmon co-management, both regionally and internationally.

Loomis said that it wasn't until 1982 that true co-management became a reality through the development of the first joint Puget Sound Salmon Management Plan by the tribes and state. Loomis played a big part in that. She was especially proud of tribal involvement in developing and implementing the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty that governs the sharing of salmon between the two countries. She always said that cooperation was the key to salmon recovery and upholding tribal treaty rights.

Loomis loved fisheries management and working to ensure there will be salmon for the next seven generations. When Swinomish

had a fishery opening, she relished seeing the happy faces of the tribal fishermen. When that happened, she knew she had done her job. She lived for that – she said it was her life.

While she dedicated so much of her life to the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and the Swinomish Tribe, where she also served as senator from 1985 to 2000, Loomis' biggest source of strength was her family. Her parents had a significant impact on her life. Her father, Tandy Sr., was general manager of the tribe for more than 40 years, and her mother, Laura, served on the Tribal Senate for more than 50 years. Loomis was the proud matriarch of the large extended Wilbur family.

Loomis is survived by sons Jim Grossglass and John Grossglass (Jo), daughter Kim Murphy (Pat), 30 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, brothers Marvin Wilbur Sr. and Vince Wilbur, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by son Ronnie Loomis, her parents, and brothers Tandy Wilbur Jr. and Claude Wilbur Sr. – J. Parker

# Leading the Way for Warrior Women

Seats were set aside at Lorraine Loomis' funeral for the Honorary Warrior Women who stood with her in the fight for tribes' treaty fishing rights.

Among them were Kat Brigham and Doreen Maloney. When each started working in tribal fisheries management, they were often the only women in the room.

Maloney, now the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe's general manager, credits Loomis with fighting for salmon fisheries in the terminal areas of the Skagit River. Together, they were the drivers who made sure Skagit River stocks were represented. Consensus required their approval.

"We earned the nickname, 'The Witches of Weak Stocks,'" she said. The label was worn with pride.

Brigham, a founding commissioner of the Columbia Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission, first met Loomis at a joint meeting with NWIFC in the early 1980s.

"We kept in touch, since we were the only women at the time," said Brigham, now chair of the Board of Trustees of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. "She was the only woman up there and I was the only woman down here."

They began working together more regularly with the Pacific Salmon Commission around 1985.

"She was on the Fraser River Panel and I was on the Southern Panel," Brigham said. "Once I became an alternate commissioner, Lorraine said, 'You have to know what you're talking about if you're going to represent my tribes now.'"

Loomis invited Brigham to learn more about the fisheries in Washington state.

"She brought me on a plane that flew over the fishery and she showed me how they gillnet," Brigham said. "She made arrangements for me to go to the other tribes to see how they fish."

When the Swinomish Tribe hosted the Centennial Accord meeting, Brigham wasn't able to book a room in



NWIFC file photo

time. Loomis invited her to stay in her home.

"She knew how to make people feel special," Brigham said. "She stood up for treaty rights, and she was a good representative. We learned from each other and we worked with each other to protect and rebuild salmon runs."

With the number of hours Loomis spent in meetings and traveling on fisheries business, the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission became her second family, and she was its matriarch. Meetings began and ended with hugs, and her infectious laugh filled the room. But commissioners knew to watch out for the stern "Lorraine Look."

"It was like my mom," said Lower

Elwha Klallam Vice Chairman Russ Hepfer with a laugh. "It went straight to your heart. Her motherly guidance is what helped me a lot."

Commissioners called her "Auntie" or "Queen Bee." She put out a swear jar at contentious meetings during the North of Falcon salmon season setting process. At the end of negotiations, the money was used for a pizza party.

Loomis celebrated when a new generation of women took their seats at the table.

"Lorraine was an inspiration in fisheries management for many women, including myself," said Kadi Bizyayeva, deputy fisheries manager for the Stillaguamish Tribe. "Despite me being a young woman who was new to

the process, Lorraine often made a point of calling me up to the table during the North of Falcon process and encouraged me to share my story even if my voice shook.”

Bizyayeva became an NWIFC alternate commissioner in 2018.

“Lorraine commanded a room with strength so perfectly balanced by her inherent kindness and humor,” Bizyayeva said. “We will all miss her terribly, but I know her presence will remain in the legacy she left behind, and in the fight that will continue on behalf of protecting our treaty resources.”

Lummi Indian Business Council member and NWIFC commissioner Lisa Wilson also feels grateful to Loomis and Maloney for leading the way for everyone sitting around the table.

“It’s not about being a woman, just being the person who stood up,” Wilson said. “She didn’t brag about what she did. She just did it, and she did a lot that we took for granted. We took for granted that she was going to continue doing that for all of us.”

Wilson, who started fishing a year before the Boldt decision, was the first recipient of the Billy Frank Jr. Endowment Scholarship at Northwest Indian College six years ago.

“I did my research on fishing history,” Wilson said. “I had no idea the route



that I was headed on at that time. I really want to thank Lorraine for opening those doors. The amount of time that she took. I want to make sure the work we do is meaningful and gets us back to where we need to be.”

Wilson remembers racing Loomis to the ferry after commission meetings. “Goddamn it, she would always win.”

Loomis, a founding board member of NWIFC’s charitable organization Salmon Defense, recruited Peggen Frank to be its executive director.

“I kept saying, ‘No, I’m not ready yet. I don’t have a master’s degree,’” Frank said.

“But sure enough, after I got that master’s degree, Lorraine said, ‘Well, now you’re going to be the executive director.’ For the past seven years, Lorraine’s been a vital part of my work.”

As a Plains Indian woman, Frank said, it was a privilege and an honor to sit in the room with the NWIFC commissioners.

“Lorraine was the embodiment of what it means to be the backbone,” she said. “She was the backbone to this sacred table at NWIFC, she was my leader, and a fierce matriarch who held on tight to the inherent values of her people and the salmon. She was a warrior who devoted her life to fighting the good fight. My time with her teaching and guiding me is a treasure that I will work to carry forward.”

Frank’s husband, Nisqually Chairman Willie Frank III, grew up watching Loomis work beside his father, Billy Frank Jr.

“She had the respect of every man in the room,” he said. “She broke down walls for our Native women.” – K. Neumeyer



D. Preston (2)

Top: Loomis meets with then Washington Gov. Gary Locke during a meeting with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission members at the Lacey headquarters.

Left: Kat Brigham, left, chair of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Loomis and Upper Skagit Indian Tribe general manager Doreen Maloney join Sue Williams onstage at Billy Frank Jr.’s 83rd birthday party in 2014.

# Remembrances

She never wavered as she fought for our treaty rights and she demonstrated to myself and many others what it means to give selflessly so our people can continue to live our way of life.

**Willie Frank III**  
Chairman, Nisqually Tribe

We honor Lorraine for her love, strength and leadership as a treaty warrior, matriarch and woman. Lummi Nation stands with our sister tribes to honor Lorraine for her fierce fight as one of the most powerful leaders in Indian Country. She elevated the traditional role of women in leadership and brought many of our young women leaders along with her. Our children, salmon, cedar, berries and deer raise their hands and honor this great woman for protecting our *Schelangen* for generations to come.

**Lawrence Solomon, Chairman**  
Lummi Indian Business Council

I'm feeling heartbroken hearing about Auntie Lorraine Loomis, our Queen Bee. Auntie Lorraine welcomed us in, she taught us everything about how and why we got to this point. She encouraged us to speak up and believed in us. I will be forever grateful to have shared time with her and will miss her smile, her hugs, her stories and her leadership.

**Fred Dillon, Council Member**  
Puyallup Tribe of Indians

Devastating sad news. Love and prayers to the family and community. Thoughts and prayers with the Swinomish people and all our people, as we mourn the loss of our great leader. A great warrior walks on to be with the ancestors.

**Ed Johnstone, Fisheries Policy Spokesperson**  
Quinault Indian Nation

Lorraine was a passionate and inspiring leader and a dedicated fighter for salmon recovery, tribal treaty rights and habitat conservation.

**Laura Blackmore, Executive Director**  
Puget Sound Partnership

As director of Swinomish Fisheries and chair of the NWIFC, Lorraine was a champion for salmon and for her tribe, her community and all people who care about fish, fishing and the environment. We will miss her terribly, but we're determined to carry on her legacy in our work and efforts to guarantee salmon will be here for this and many generations to come.

**Long Live the Kings**

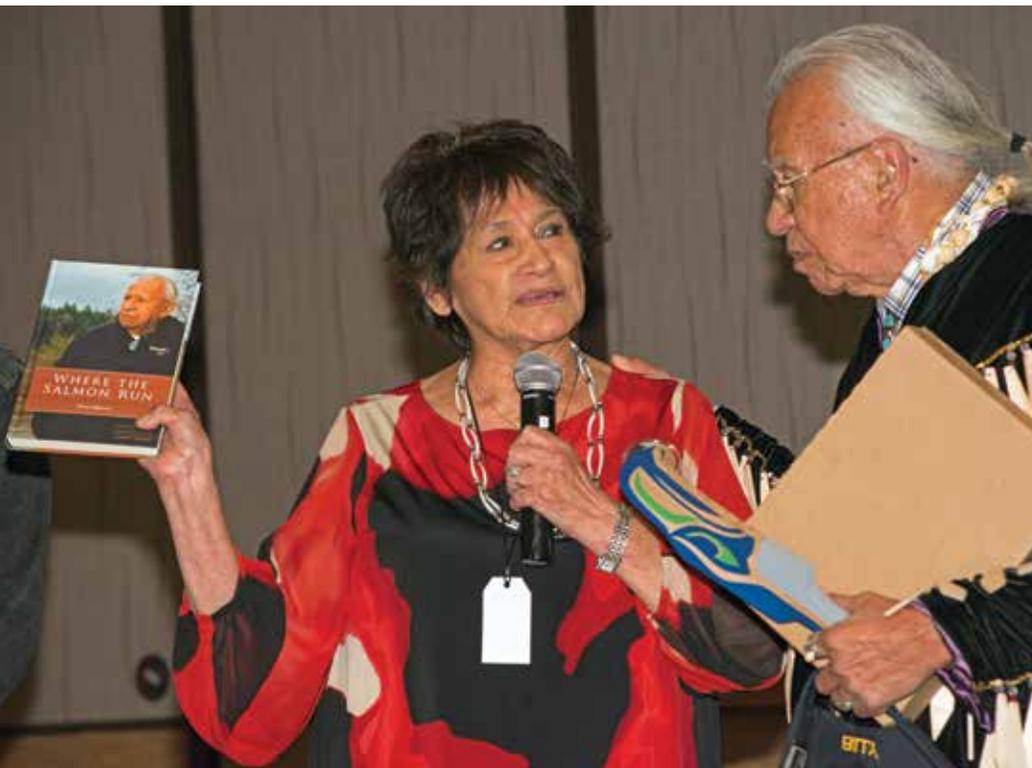
Top: Loomis at the retirement party of former NWIFC executive director Michael Grayum. Bottom: Loomis embraces Grayum at the Swinomish Blessing of the Fleet and First Salmon Ceremony, which she organized each year.



D. Preston



K. Neumeyer



D. Preston

Loomis presents a signed copy of *Where the Salmon Run* to Billy Frank Jr. at his 83rd birthday party in 2014.

The passing of Lorraine Loomis is a loss for so many. Lorraine was a strong, passionate leader who spent decades fighting for her tribe, protecting treaty rights and preserving salmon for future generations. My heart goes out to the Swinomish Tribe and all who knew Lorraine.

**Sen. Patty Murray**  
Washington

Lorraine dedicated her life to protecting and advancing tribal treaty rights. For more than four decades, Lorraine worked tirelessly to preserve the health of our environment and recover Pacific salmon populations PNW tribes rely on. As the chairperson of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, she was a leading light for tribes throughout the region. She fostered cooperation and consensus, and raised up everyone around her to make sure future generations may fish. I send my condolences to Lorraine's family and friends, her colleagues and the Swinomish Tribal Community.

**Sen. Maria Cantwell**  
Washington

We were honored by the time we spent together. Lorraine Loomis was our board vice chair and we will miss her energy, commitment to her work, in addition to the traditional values that kept us moving forward and on track.

**Skagit River System Cooperative**

Lorraine's passing has had a major impact on me. She was, for me, the mother of tribal fisheries and took care of me playing that role throughout my career. I'm sure she touched everyone in her own special way, but for me that was Lorraine. This quality in her is what made her such a great leader in fighting for treaty rights and keeping us together. I am lost for words expressing just how much I'm going to miss her.

**Russell Svec, Fisheries Director**  
Makah Tribe



T. Royal

NWIFC vice chair Shawn Yanity speaks in support of Loomis after her election as NWIFC chairperson in 2014.



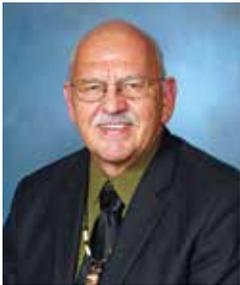
NWIFC file photo

Loomis with President Barack Obama.

Lorraine has contributed so much throughout her lifetime, not only to the Swinomish community, but to all the tribes in the Pacific Northwest. She was a true warrior who fought for sovereignty and treaty rights and was a force to be reckoned with and has changed the lives of many.

**Teri Gobin**  
Chairwoman, Tulalip Tribes

# A Teacher, Friend and Tribal Warrior



by W. Ron Allen  
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Chairman and CEO

Lorraine Loomis had no idea what she was getting into back in the late 1970s and early '80s.

Our journey together started in the early 1980s. I was new to the Point No Point Treaty Council and she was very welcoming and helped

me understand the complexities of fishery management. When we joined forces in the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty negotiations that wrapped up in 1985, we bonded for life.

It was through the Pacific Salmon Commission process that I learned how Lorraine and Mike Grayum, then NWIFC's director of fishery services, kept knocking at the door of the old International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, which had controlled Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon management since the 1930s. She was persistent in making the point that the federal government has a trust obligation to the treaty tribes. They wouldn't let her and Mike in the room. But with PSC, she made sure the tribes were going to be at the table for those management decisions. Hence, the PSC Fraser River Panel. No decision was going to be made without her.

Lorraine was born into the amazing Wilbur family. Her parents, Tandy and Laura Wilbur, passed on their vision, commitment and political balance to lead their community. For so many years, Lorraine and Robert Joe, then Swinomish chairman, led their tribe's agenda and growth toward self-governance and self-reliance. Those two could light up a room with their grace and laughter.

Longtime NWIFC Chairman Billy Frank Jr. always depended on her insights and advice. When Billy passed on, Lorraine was an obvious choice to lead our Northwest journey to protect and restore the habitat and salmon that is so essential to our Indigenous cultures. We liked to joke that she was our "Queen Bee," but she truly cared about her – our – kingdom of salmon. She was a warrior for all the tribes' rights.

And to make her journey even more amazing, she did it in a male-dominated environment. She was joined by her close friends Doreen Maloney (Upper Skagit) and Kathryn Brigham (Umatilla) as Indian women who cared about their salmon resources and were not going to be pushed to the back of the room. She and Doreen were a force when the "weak stock" driver conversations began, making sure their Skagit River salmon were protected. If any stock had to be sacrificed, we can all hear them say, "Don't even go there!"

I was always amazed at how well she led the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and North of Falcon meetings over her career. Lorraine's leadership was highly regarded by both the Northwest tribes and the First Na-



NWIFC file photo

Loomis, center, was one of few women at the table managing fisheries in the early days, breaking the glass ceiling for other women to participate on the national and international stages. Above, from left to right: Tony Forsman (Suquamish), Jim Harp (Quinault), G.I. James (Lummi), Ray Fryberg (Tulalip), Loomis, Jim Anderson (standing), W. Ron Allen (Jamestown S'Klallam) and Billy Frank Jr.

tions of British Columbia. In the same way they looked to see if Billy was in the room, they looked for Lorraine. OK, the meeting can start.

Lorraine had an amazing and very loyal, dedicated staff at Swinomish and the Skagit River System Cooperative. She always had a deep appreciation for the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and its leadership starting with Jim Heckman, then Jim Anderson, then Mike Grayum and then Justin Parker. She always had their and the staff's backs. When people started getting critical of them, she was quick to remind them of how great their work is and how much we depend on their expertise.

We all admired Billy Frank Jr., but I'd say he was like the coach of our team and Lorraine was the point guard making the plays and passes that made our team good. She implemented Billy's vision.

Lorraine, like Billy, was always the encourager and supporter of our new and next generation of natural resources leaders – young leaders like Fred Dillon (Puyallup) and Joe Peters (Squaxin Island). She'd be there to guide them and push them into leadership roles.

To know her is to appreciate her spirit, admire her advocacy, respect her determination, applaud her statesmanship and envy her ability to knock her opposition off Humpty Dumpty's wall and smile as she extended a helping hand to put you back on your feet again. She emerged in a male-dominated world of natural resources in the Northwest as a diamond in the rough.

I want to thank the Wilbur family and Swinomish Community for sharing her with us. Lorraine was an amazing Northwest Woman Warrior and leader in the spirit of Billy Frank Jr., a woman blessed with grace, respect, vision and a great sense of humor

We'll miss her dearly, but her spirit will be with us forever, just like Billy. They now watch over us together from above.

# Remembrances

She was strong leader and tireless advocate for tribal treaty rights. As a tribal elder, community leader and friend to many, her gentle voice will echo loudly for future generations. Washington is a little less bright without her.

**Gov. Jay Inslee**  
Washington State

For over four decades, Lorraine was a leader and teacher for the Northwest Treaty Tribes, helping to guide countless individuals and always ensuring that there were seats at the table for everyone. Her work has brought us so far, and with all of the lessons she leaves behind we will accomplish even greater things. I will always be thankful for the teachings and wisdom Lorraine shared with us all. She built fierce women treaty warriors who will carry on her legacy to ensure that seven generations of our children will live the dream that passes down from our elders.

**State Rep. Debra Lekanoff**  
Bow, Washington

Each year I had the privilege to work with Lorraine as she coordinated tribal participation in the annual North of Falcon salmon season development process. Through challenging and meaningful deliberations spanning North of Falcon, and tireless efforts to conserve resources for future generations, she held the respect of countless WDFW staff and myself. Together we shared a leadership commitment to strengthening relationships and collaboration. I am honored to have had the chance to work alongside her.

**Kelly Susewind, Director**  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Lorraine's work on tribal treaty rights has left an imprint on history. Her leadership on the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and salmon recovery were visionary. And her influence on the legislative process will act as a guide for others to follow in the future. I had the opportunity to meet and interact with Lorraine on a few occasions. Her passion for her causes radiated in our conversations. While we mourn the loss of this matriarch, we know that Lorraine's legacy will live on for generations. And we understand that our state and its leaders have much to learn from her enduring lessons.

**State Rep. J.T. Wilcox**  
Yelm, Washington

Lorraine Loomis was an extraordinary champion for recovering our salmon and for protecting tribal treaty rights. Her impact – and her legacy – will be felt for future generations as we see the fruits of the progress from seeds she planted for decades.

**U.S. Rep. Derek Kilmer**  
Gig Harbor, Washington



NWIFC file photo

From left, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Chairman and CEO W. Ron Allen, Salmon Defense executive director Peggen Frank, Loomis and NWIFC executive director Justin Parker (far right) met with Deb Haaland of New Mexico shortly before she was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2018. In 2021, Haaland became the first Native American Secretary of the U.S. Interior Department.

## Angler Tributes

*Sportfishermen on the online forum piscatorialpursuits.com offered their remembrances and condolences.*

**CARCASSMAN:** Worked with Lorraine quite a bit. She'll be missed. Like Billy, (to her) fish were way more than numbers on a computer screen or printout. Very easy to underestimate. I was with the state, but I would say that most of time we were on the same side of arguments. And there was a time or two when it was against the state.

**DRIFTERWA:** Younger people today just don't know all the "fish wars" fought in the late 60s-70s. RIP Lorraine Loomis... You did your people proud!

**SALMON G.:** I first met Lorraine in 1976 and then worked with the co-op where she was on the board of directors for a number of years. Last saw her about 2 years ago. She was a tireless fish advocate. RIP Lorraine.

**JASON BEEZUZ:** I worked with Lorraine for many years. She was a quick, witty person who could TKO most people verbally. Very intelligent and could play games to win. She could get young bucks to jump to action better than any big manly manager I ever saw. Politics aside, which many of us here disagree with her over, haters hate the winners, and Lorraine won again and again and again. RIP to the Fish Goddess.

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## WALKING ON



Charlie Cortez

A celebration of life service was held Aug. 17 for Tulalip Fish and Wildlife Officer Charlie Joe Cortez, who died when his boat capsized Nov. 17, 2020, while patrolling near Hat Island and Jetty Island. He was 29.

Cortez was born May 28, 1991, in Everett to Alan K. Cortez and Paula A. Cortez.

A descendant of Charles Jules, hereditary chief of the Snohomish Tribe, Cortez was a member of the Tulalip Tribes. He resided all his life in the Tulalip community and worked for the tribes for 12 years, including jobs in the wildlife enhancement department and at the Tulalip Marina. Most recently, he was an officer with the Tulalip Police Fish and Wildlife/Search and Rescue Division.

He graduated from Marysville Pilchuck

High School and the U.S. Indian Police Academy.

His passions included motocross, hunting and geoduck diving. He loved spending time with his family, and his children were his pride and joy. His “mini me,” Dominic Cortez, is the hunter and fisher, and his “little princess,” Peyton Cortez, is not afraid of snakes or touching worms.

Cortez is survived by his parents, son, daughter, brother Richard “Moochie” Grenier-Cortez, grandmother Sandra Grenier, grandfather Alvin Lyons, and aunts, uncles and cousins. He also will be missed daily by lifelong friend Beau Jess, and hunting buddies Tino Villaluz, Brady Johnson and Zac Parks, as well as his brothers in blue at the Tulalip Police Department.



Stanley Speaks

Stanley Monroe Speaks Sr., 87, of Pryor, Oklahoma, died Sept. 15 at his home.

He was born Nov. 2, 1933, in Milburn, Oklahoma, to J.D. Speaks and Minnie (Cumberston) Speaks.

Speaks worked for nearly 58 years for the U.S. government in the Bureau of

Indian Affairs (BIA). He was the BIA’s Northwest regional director for 35 years.

Speaks was a tireless advocate for Northwest tribes and treaty rights. He was a wonderful husband, father and brother who will never be forgotten.