“Our water boundaries have shrunk to just a tiny little box. We…Makah fishermen… fished from California into the Bering Sea. And today we're just in the box. And that's not who we are. And it creates a lot of tension among the fishermen. But despite the tension, they're still able to work on the water in a traditional way where everybody gets a fair shot and has a chance to catch their share.”

Greg Colfax (Makah), NMAI Interview, July 2016

When Boldt ruled that treaties guaranteed fifty percent of the fishing harvest to Indian fishers, including off reservation fishing, he looked to historical maps to determine these usual and accustomed boundaries. Reaching consensus from these maps is a challenge. For instance, the Makah are one of several Native Nations who may have had ancestral hunting and fishing grounds reduced as a result of the Boldt Decision.