

Se'Si'Le



Our Grandmother

**Livestream Link:**

<http://www.zoo.org/salmonseas>

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

*Sent on Behalf of Se'Si'Le – Indigenous Non-Profit Organization*

**Media Invited to Press Conference:  
Pan-Pacific Indigenous Peoples to Sign Proclamation  
to Take a United Stand for the Salmon**

**WHAT:** Indigenous Peoples from across the pan-Pacific Salmon Seas will hold a press conference for a historical signing of a Salmon People’s Proclamation and formalize their solidarity to protect salmon and the indigenous lifeways they support. Speakers and signatories will include Indigenous Peoples from the Pacific Northwest, up through the Gulf of Alaska and across the Bering Sea to the Russian Far East.

**WHEN:** Monday, Oct. 31, 2022 at **11:00 a.m. (PDT)**

*Local times as follows for audiences outside of Pacific Daylight Time:*

Alaska Daylight Time (AKDT)	Kamchatka Time (PETT)	Papua New Guinea Time (PGT)	Vladivostok Time (VLAT)
Oct. 31 at 10:00 a.m.	Nov. 1 at 6:00 a.m.	Nov. 1 at 4:00 a.m.	Nov. 1 at 4:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Woodland Park Zoo at the grizzly bear habitat. Media are invited to gather prior to 11:00 a.m. at the West Entrance and will be escorted to the press conference location. The West Entrance is located at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55<sup>th</sup> & N. 56<sup>th</sup> Sts. Park in the Penguin Lot at N. 55<sup>th</sup> St. & Phinney Ave. N. or Otter Lot off N. 59<sup>th</sup> St. & Phinney Ave. N.

**VISUALS:** The press event will begin with a Lushootseed land acknowledgment followed by a ceremonial opening by JoDe Goudy from the Yakama Nation, remarks from Indigenous community leaders from each of the Salmon Seas, and conclude with a Salmon Seas Peoples ceremony that will accompany the signing of the Salmon Peoples’ Proclamation.

**LIVESTREAM LINK:** <http://www.zoo.org/salmonseas>

*Due to space and capacity restrictions, this event is open in-person to media only. The livestream link is available for all community members and interested viewers*

**SPEAKERS:** (see page 3 for speaker bios and name pronunciations)

- JoDe Goudy, Member of the Yakama Nation and Board Member of Se'Si'Le
- Jay Julius, Member of the Lummi Nation and President of Se'Si'Le
- Joel Jackson, President, Organized Village of Kake (Alaska)
- Thomas Tilden, Board Secretary, United Tribes of Bristol Bay (Alaska)
- Pavel Sulyandziga, Sr., Udege Elder
- Victoria Sharakhmatova, Itelmen scholar actively engaged in the work of the Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North (Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky city)

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Original Peoples of the Pan-Pacific Salmon Seas have honored, protected, and upheld salmon-centric lifeways and the environments that sustain them since time immemorial. The press conference will include speakers and presenters from the last great Salmon Seas: the Salish Sea bioregion, the Gulf of Alaska (Tongass Salmon Forest and Bristol Bay), and the Sea of Okhotsk in the Russian Far East (Udege and Itelmen Peoples). The event marks the conclusion of Se'Si'Le's multi-day International Indigenous Salmon Seas Symposium, where participating Indigenous Peoples are formalizing their solidarity, developing strategies for indigenous-led, pan-Pacific collaboration, and calling for respect and reciprocity in the ongoing work to restore and protect the Salmon Seas.

*"Since the beginning the salmon have given their life for the People. In turn the people must care for our salmon relatives. It is an ancient covenant, a sacred obligation."  
(Jay Julius, Lummi tribal member and President of Se'Si'Le)*

**ABOUT SE'SI'LE:** Se'Si'Le (*saw-sea'-law*) is the Lummi language term for *our grandmother*. Se'Si'Le is an all-Indigenous led nonprofit based in Washington that reintroduces Indigenous Natural Law into the mainstream conversation about climate change and the environment. Working with strategic partners, we deploy storytelling, special events, targeted campaigns, and policy analysis to provide a voice for the voiceless, including Salmon, Killer Whales, rivers, streams, the oceans and seas. For more information on Se'Si'Le and the symposium, visit: [www.se-si-le-symposium.org](http://www.se-si-le-symposium.org)

Woodland Park Zoo is a proud partner of Se'Si'Le and was honored to provide support and a location for the International Indigenous Salmon Seas Symposium and accompanying press conference.

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Se'Si'Le would like to thank the sponsors of the International Indigenous Salmon Seas Symposium: Woodland Park Zoo; Wild Salmon Center; Save Our Wild Salmon; Earth Ministry; Natural History Museum; Trust for Mutual Understanding; Harder Foundation; Community Foundation; Pew Charitable Trust; Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and Sierra Club



## Speaker and Presenter Bios (in order of appearance)

**JoDe Goudy** (*pronounced Joe-day Gow-dee*) is former Chairman of the Yakama Nation, Vice-President of Se'Si'Le, and founder of Redthought.org, an educational resource center providing virtual platforms for events, conferences, workshops, and courses. He is expert on the issues of treaty rights, inherent rights, cultural and ceremonial knowledge, and deep histories such as the Doctrine of Discovery.

**Jeremiah “Jay” Julius** (*W'tot Lhem*), (*pronounced Jay Joo-lee-us*) is the founder and President of Se'Si'Le, the Principal of Julius, Consulting LLC, and served on the governing body of the Lummi Nation, for which he also served as Chairman. He has organized and executed Tribal, local, regional, and national campaigns. A bridge-builder, he uses empathy and storytelling to bring people together. Jay believes in honoring the past and his Nation's treaty rights and inherent rights, and is a strong advocate for true government-to-government relations. He takes an uncompromising position to protect their treaty rights, their sacred sites, the environment, and the way of life (Sche Langen) of his people. A lifelong fisher, he currently shares his passion for fishing through his seafood business, where he has two seafood operations in the heart of his people's original territory in the Salish Sea on San Juan Island. These businesses provide not only an income for his family, but a way to interact with the general public to inform them about the lifeways of his people.

**Joel Dáxhájóon Jackson** (*pronounced Jo-I Jack-son*) of the Kàach.ádi clan, a child of the Tsaagweidi clan, and is a lifelong resident of Kake. He currently serves as the council President of the federally recognized Tribe, the Organized Village of Kake. He has been on Kake's tribal council for almost 30 years. Joel worked as a road-builder for the Kake Tribal Corporation for 22 years, the Chief of Police for Kake for three years, and as a commercial fisherman. As a prominent Southeast Alaska Tribal leader, Joel has always championed caring for ancestral lands and waters that are intrinsically connected to Peoples' traditional ways of life. Joel has said it's impossible to separate the Tongass National Forest and its abundant salmon streams from our dinner table.

**Thomas Tilden** (*Curyung*) (*pronounced Tah-mus Till-den*) was born in Dillingham in 1953 to Mary and Earl Tilden. His family moved from Dillingham to Portage Creek along the Nushagak River when he was a young child, and he learned how to hunt, fish, and gather berries, game and plants to help sustain their lifestyle. He is the father of sons and daughters and has grandchildren. Tom studied at the University of Nagoya Japan, University of Alaska and Seward Skill Center. Tom is a Bristol Bay commercial drift fisherman and has worked on the North Slope as a baker, on seafood processors as a cook, for the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation as a cook, safety instructor, tobacco cessation trainer and now works as a call in cook for Kakanak Hospital. He has been active in advocating for his hometown and the people of Bristol Bay as a Chief of the Curyung Tribal Council, board secretary for the United Tribes of Bristol Bay, board member for Choggiung Ltd., member of the Bristol Bay Native Association, Chair for Indian Education, village representative on the AFN board of directors, and has previously served as a councilman and Mayor for the City of Dillingham and board member for Nunamta Alukestai.

**Pavel Sulyandziga, Sr.** (*pronounced Pa-vel Su-ljan-dzee-gà*) is an Udege elder and leader. Pavel was born in the village of Krasnyi Yar by Bikin River and has advocated for improvement of the well-being of his community for a long time. He negotiated with the federal and regional governments to resolve land claims. At the initiative of Pavel, the issue between Russia and China was resolved on opening the mouth of the Ussuri River for the passage of the Ussuri herd of chum salmon, which is the main food for Udege. Having a degree in economics Pavel was at the foundation of the Indigenous movement in Russia and actively participated in the development of the UN declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He is an elected Honorary Professor of the UNESCO Department of Novosibirsk State University, former member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2005-2010) and a former member of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights (2011-2018).

**Victoria Sharakhmatova**, (*pronounced Vic-tor-ee-a Sha-ra-hmà-to-va*) Postdoctoral Scholar, ARC-TICenter Department of Geography, University of Northern Iowa. Dr. Sharakhmatova is an economist

who studies traditional subsistence and mixed economies and Indigenous fisheries in particular. She is an Itelmen scholar who is actively engaged in the work of the Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North (Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky city). Her research is focused on studying social-ecological systems, community adaptation, understanding perception and impact of climate change through the lens of Indigenous knowledge.