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The Spokane Tribe of Indians adopted an 86.3 g/day fish consumption rate in our first EPA approved standards. Although this rate was much less than the actual fish consumption level, EPA had designated that amount for subsistence populations at that time. The Tribe has since adopted 865 g/day which is reflective of the historic fish consumption level and is awaiting EPA approval. Oregon recently adopted a higher fish consumption rate to better reflect the amount consumed. Many tribal members live outside of the Reservation but still consume much more than 6.5 g/day of fish. The Tribal standards do not directly apply to the waters outside of the Reservation therefore they may not be protected under such a low fish consumption value. The State standards should consider the tribal community when developing a new fish consumption level. The Clean Water Act clearly identifies the most stringent standards apply between states/tribes and therefore the standards should be conservative enough to protect the higher fish consumers.

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