



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

May 9, 2023

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor of Washington
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Inslee:

Thank you for your letter requesting a determination of a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster for Washington's 2019 Columbia River, Willapa Bay, and Puget Sound salmon fisheries, and the 2020 ocean salmon fisheries.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service has evaluated information from the impacted fisheries. After reviewing the information, I have found that the requests for a commercial fishery failure for the listed fisheries meet the requirements under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

This determination makes these fisheries eligible for fishery disaster assistance. In the near future, using funds Congress has already appropriated for fishery disasters, the Department of Commerce will allocate disaster assistance for these fisheries. In addition, with this determination, eligible businesses and other entities in Washington may be able to access other loan/funding programs through other Federal relief programs (e.g., Small Business Administration loans). Programs within the Department of Commerce (e.g., Economic Development Administration grants) may also be available.

Should you have any questions, please contact Susie Feliz, Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-3663 or SFeliz@doc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gina Raimondo".

Gina M. Raimondo