



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

May 4, 2023

The Honorable Tina Kotek
Governor of Oregon
254 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Dear Governor Kotek:

Thank you for your letter requesting a federal fishery disaster determination pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) for the State of Oregon 2023 ocean commercial salmon fisheries. I am responding on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your request and to inform you that the Fishery Resource Disasters Improvement Act, which was passed in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, has amended the MSA, and the Secretary is required to respond with her determination within 120 days after receipt of all the necessary data to conduct the analysis.

We understand that on April 6, 2023, the Pacific Fishery Management Council made final recommendations for the 2023 salmon fishing season. The Council recommendation is an important but not final step in the regulatory process; the fishery will not be closed until the Secretary issues the final regulations for 2023 management measures, which may close the Oregon ocean salmon fisheries. Thus, to the extent your request is premised on the closure, that closure has not yet happened.

In anticipation of a potential closure, and based on our initial review of your request, we will need the following information after the regulations take effect to assess whether a fishery resource disaster has occurred under the MSA. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has up to 1 year and 1 day from the date of closure to submit all necessary information.

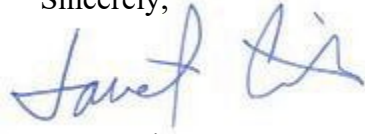
Please provide the following information to our West Coast Region Senior Policy Advisor, Frank Lockhart, at frank.lockhart@noaa.gov:

- Fishery characteristics (size and value; number of participants; environmental, economic, and sociocultural behaviors; whether jobs are full- or part-time; status of recovery from previous fishery resource disasters; and landings data).
- Length of time the fishery (or access to it) has been or will be restricted.
- Twelve months of finalized revenue data for the affected fishery(ies).
- Annual revenues of the affected fishery for the most recent 5 years when no fishery resource disaster occurred.
- Any additional information you want to provide about the cause of the fishery resource disaster (e.g., published research, stock assessments, state reports).

We look forward to working with you on this request. If you have any questions, please contact Makeda Okolo, Director of NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at makeda.okolo@noaa.gov.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet Coit". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "C".

Janet Coit
Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries