



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
PORTLAND OFFICE
1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100
PORTLAND, OREGON 97232-1274

June 21, 2018

Mr. Randy Fisher
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
205 SE Spokane Street, Suite 100
Portland, OR 97202

Dear Mr. Fisher,

Congress appropriated \$200 million under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123) for fisheries disasters that were determined by the Secretary of Commerce in calendar year 2017 and for fisheries disasters resulting from Hurricanes Maria, Irma, and Harvey. Twelve fishery disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce are eligible for this funding. These disasters occurred in fisheries between 2014 and 2017. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) used commercial revenue loss information to allocate the funding among the eligible disasters. NOAA Fisheries' allocation of disaster funds also took into consideration persistence of impacts and/or subsistence or other traditional uses that cannot be accounted for in commercial revenue loss alone.

Based on this approach, NOAA Fisheries has allocated \$119,316,576 of these funds to respond to the West Coast and Alaska Regional fishery disasters declared in 2017. The enclosed table specifies the distribution of disaster funds to each state and tribe for each fishery disaster.

NOAA Fisheries requests that your organization be a recipient of these funds for the purpose of addressing the declared disasters. NOAA Fisheries will provide the funds, after we receive, review, and approve a grant application. The grant application must reflect the appropriate use of funds and considerations as outlined here in this letter.

Funds can be used to address a range of fishery impacts, including impacts to commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, charter businesses, subsistence users, shore-side infrastructure, and the fishing ecosystem and environment. Please establish a spend plan, in coordination with the states and tribes, to meet the unique needs of local fishermen and related businesses in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act, and the NOAA Fisheries Disaster Policy.

NOAA Fisheries believes that funds should be used for activities that restore the fishery or prevent a similar failure in the future and assist fishing communities affected by such failures. NOAA Fisheries strongly recommends that recipients utilize these funds to strengthen the long-term economic and environmental sustainability of the fishery. This can include, but is not limited to, activities such as habitat restoration, research, state-run buybacks, job retraining, and fishery-related infrastructure. Additional guidance is available in Section VI "Forms of Financial Assistance" in the NOAA Fisheries *Policy Guidance for Disaster Assistance under Magnuson-Stevens Act 312(a) and Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act 308(b) and 308(d)*



(<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-and-financial-services/fishery-disaster-assistance>).

The spend plans developed with the states and tribes must articulate how the activities were prioritized and demonstrate how this assistance is aimed at preventing similar failures in the future. If the spending plan includes a request for direct payments, the project narrative must describe why direct payments, instead of long-term economic and environmental measures, are the best mechanism to address the fishery disaster, and describe the anticipated economic impact on the local fishing community. In addition, each spend plan should describe how it was determined who is eligible for direct payments and how these funds would be allocated.

As soon as possible, please have a member of your staff contact Federal Program Officers Kim Raneses (West Coast Regional Office) or Shawn Carey (Alaska Regional Office) to begin the grant application process via the grants.gov website. You may contact Kim Raneses (Kim.Raneses@noaa.gov) at 206-526-6131 or Shawn Carey (Shawn.Carey@noaa.gov) at 907-586-7845.

We look forward to working with you to expedite the distribution of this much needed assistance to the affected fishing industry and affiliated constituents.

Sincerely,



Barry Thom
Regional Administrator
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region

Cc: Dr. Jim Balsiger, Shawn Carey, NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region
Kim Raneses, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region
Derek Orner, NOAA Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries
Mr. Nathan Tyler, Chairman, Makah Tribal Council
Ms. Frances G. Charles, Chairwoman, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Ms. Fawn Sharp, President, Quinault Indian Nation
Mr. Arnold Cooper, Chairman, Squaxin Island Tribe
Mr. Jeremy Sullivan, Chairman, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Mr. Ron Allen, Chairman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Mr. Douglas Woodruff, Chairman, Quileute Tribal Council
Mr. Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr., Chairperson, Yurok Tribe
Mr. Ken Choke, Chairman, Nisqually Indian Tribe
Mr. Charlton H. Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mr. Joe Stohr, Acting Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mr. Sam Cotton, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Enclosure: Affected Fisheries for WCR/AK Disaster Grant

Affected Fisheries - NOAA Fisheries West Coast and Alaska Region Disaster Grants

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE ROLLOUT - 6-15-18

Table 1 - Qualifying 2017 Disasters for \$200M		Allocation		
Fishery	Requester/Location	Breakout by Requester	Breakout by RFA	
2014 Fraser River Sockeye salmon (WA)	Makah Tribal Council and Lower Elwah Klallam Tribe	\$277,135 \$2,550,774	\$119,316,576	
2015 Washington Coastal Salmon (WA)	Quinalt Indian Nation - Grays Harbor, Queets River (coho) State of Washington - Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay, non-tribal	\$13,900,169 \$706,770		
2015 South Puget Sound salmon (WA)	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe Squaxin Island Tribe Nisqually Tribe (coho) Nisqually Tribe (chinook) Nisqually Tribe (chum)	\$340,922 \$2,800,361 \$2,533,100 \$616,376 \$4,780,103 \$2,471,762		
2016 Ocean salmon troll non-tribal fishery (WA)	Governor of Washington	\$834,401		
2016 Klamath River Fall Chinook	Yurok Tribe in July 2016	\$3,864,902		
2015 Washington Crab	Quileute Tribe	\$1,481,200		
2015-2016 California Crab (dungeness and rock)	Governor of California	\$25,797,268		
2016 Gulf of Alaska pink salmon	Governor of AK - Southeastern Governor of AK - Yakutat Governor of AK - Lower Cook Inlet Governor of AK - Prince William Sound Governor of AK - Kodiak Governor of AK - South Alaska Peninsula Governor of AK - Chignik	\$10,030,734 \$46,712 \$310,352 \$32,200,363 \$11,477,873 \$1,752,664 \$542,635		
2017 Gulf/Caribbean Hurricanes (Allocation to Hurricanes uses FUS for PR/VI (assumes 100% loss) and prelim commercial fishery revenue loss from rapid assessment for FL/TX)	Florida (Hurricane Irma) Puerto Rico (Hurricanes Irma and Maria) USVI (Hurricanes Irma and Maria) Texas (Hurricane Harvey)	\$44,608,039 \$11,402,526 \$10,727,596 \$13,945,263		\$80,683,424
TOTAL		\$200,000,000		\$200,000,000

