

2016-17 KLAMATH RIVER FALL CHINOOK SALMON DISASTER RELIEF SPEND PLAN: HARVESTERS DATA UPDATE

September 17, 2020

The [draft spend plan](#) submitted to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission during August 2020 included preliminary determinations of eligibility and related payment calculations for potentially eligible individuals or businesses. During the preparation of the notification letters and applications that mailed on September 14, 2020, the list of potentially eligible individuals, payment amounts, and those involved in permit transfers/changes of ownership was finalized and all numbers pertaining to Harvesters were updated. The content below is the most current and supersedes that which is contained under the 'Commercial salmon harvesters' section in the earlier draft. Note also that the payments and eligibility counts summarized below are subject to further change once all applications are received, data discrepancies are resolved, and determinations of eligibility are made. Please contact CDFW at SalmonDisaster@wildlife.ca.gov or (707)494-0593 if you have further questions.

Commercial salmon harvesters

Criteria for eligibility: To qualify for disaster relief funds, an individual or party must, at minimum, have held a Salmon Vessel Permit (SVP) during all or a portion of the 2016 or 2017 fishing seasons. Individuals/parties who owned SVPs that transferred between vessels or changed ownership during either year remain eligible but will receive only half of the vessel's total eligible payment amount¹. Additionally, eligible individuals/parties with qualifying landings during the 2013-2018 fishing seasons may qualify for a tiered catch-based payment. Based on CDFW records, an estimated 1,221 payments may be paid to eligible parties, with 231 of these being half-payments arising from permit transfers or changes in ownership during either 2016 or 2017.

Payment amounts: Total payment amounts for eligible parties will be determined according to their position in five different tiers of fishing activity (Table 1). First, however, all qualifying parties are eligible to receive \$1,200 (or \$600, for half-payments), an amount meant to approximate a permit fee refund, regardless of tier membership. In total, \$1,326,600 of the harvester allocation is slated to cover permit fees.

¹ Note that owners of SVPs receiving half-payments due to permit transfers or changes in ownership may receive more than one half-payment if they were involved multiple such transactions.

Tier 0² represents latent SVP holders, or parties who held SVPs but have no documented sales (i.e., on fish tickets) between 2013 and 2018; these parties will receive a permit refund only.

Vessels with documented landings between 2013 and 2018 were then assigned to one of four tiers based on their position in one of four quartiles of fishing activity³. Members of the lowest quartile, Tier 1, are SVP holders that participate in the salmon fishery on a limited basis only. Like latent permittees, these parties will receive a permit refund only.

The funds remaining after allocating permit refunds to eligible vessels (\$1,671,485.77) will be allocated to the low (Tier 2), moderate (Tier 3), and high (Tier 4) activity tiers according to a 1/6, 2/6, and 3/6 breakout, and split evenly among approximately across qualifying vessels within each tier. This equates to individual payments of \$1,379.11, \$2,704.67, and \$4,057.00 for Tiers 2-4, respectively, which is paid in addition to the \$1,200 permit refund. These payments, like permit refunds, will be half for vessels involved in permit transfers or changes of ownership during 2016 or 2017. Note that the payment amounts are based on the expected size of the eligible applicant pool, tier eligibility classifications, and a 100% application rate. Final amounts may change once all applications are received, data discrepancies are resolved, and determinations of eligibility are made. Awards will be paid once signatures are attained from all qualifying parties.

² Tier 0 and Tier 1 are presented as a combined Tier 1 on application forms.

³ Fishing activity was indexed as a vessel's maximum year for % of total statewide eligible sales between 2013 and 2018. As an example, if a vessel sold 100K, 10K, 50K, 40K, 25K, and 100K pounds over years with 25M, 2M, 5M, 2.5M, 10M, and 10M in total eligible pounds, it constitutes 0.4, 0.5, 1.0, 1.6, 0.3, and 1.0% of each year's statewide total. The vessel's maximum index value would be 1.6%.

Table 1. Summary of harvester eligibility and payment amounts.

Tier	Tier Description	Total Payments (half-awards)	Minimum Activity Index	Maximum Activity Index.	Individual Payment[†]
0††	Latent permit	320 (55)	n/a	n/a	\$1,200
1††	Limited activity	222 (46)	<0.01%	0.06%	\$1,200
2	Low activity	224 (44)	0.06%	0.17%	\$2,579 (\$1,200+\$1,379)
3	Moderate activity	225 (38)	0.17%	0.39%	\$3,905 (\$1,200+\$2,705)
4	High activity	230 (48)	0.39%	2.56%	\$5,257 (\$1,200+\$4,057)
Total		1,221 (231)	-	-	\$2,998,086

† The \$1,200 allocated for each tier is intended to approximate a permit refund.

†† Tier 0 and 1 are combined into a single tier 1 group on application forms.