



PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

205 SE Spokane Street, SUITE 100, Portland, OREGON 97202

PHONE (503) 595-3100 website: psmfc.org

February 15, 2024

Dr. Craig Shuman, Regional Manager
 Marine Region (Region 7)
 California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
 Monterey, California 93940

Dear Dr. Shuman,

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) has received notification for the appropriation of funds for fisheries disaster assistance through the 2023 Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328). On January 31, 2024, NOAA allocated \$20,625,729 of these funds to respond to the impacts of the fishery resource disaster that occurred in the 2023 California Sacramento River Fall Chinook (SRFC) and Klamath River Fall Chinook (KRFC) ocean and inland salmon fisheries. Funds were allocated based on fishing revenue losses.

| FISHERY DISASTER | FISHERY SECTOR | FULL AMOUNT | HOLLINGS \$ | AFTER HOLLINGS |
|--|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 2023 California Sacramento River Fall Chinook, Klamath River Fall Chinook, Ocean and Inland Salmon Fisheries | Commercial | \$10,072,244 | \$10,072 | \$10,062,172 |
| | Processor | \$4,633,427 | \$4,633 | \$4,628,794 |
| | Charter | \$5,920,058 | \$5,920 | \$5,914,138 |
| TOTAL | | \$20,625,729 | \$20,625 | \$20,605,103 |

Funds will be deducted for the Commission to administer this relief and are based on our anticipated level of effort; funds are expected not to exceed 1% (\$206,051).

The Commission is requesting information from the State of California so that we can prepare the grant application for these funds. Funds can be used to address a range of impacts including impacts to commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, charter businesses, subsistence users, processors, shore-side infrastructure, and the fishing ecosystem and environment. These funds should be used for activities that restore the fishery, prevent a similar disaster in the future, or assist the affected fishing community. NOAA strongly recommends that recipients utilize these funds to strengthen

the long-term economic and environmental sustainability of the fishery, with an emphasis on addressing the factors contributing to the fishery resource disaster and minimizing future uninsured losses, if applicable. This can include, but is not limited to, activities such as habitat restoration, research, state-run buybacks, job retraining, and fishery-related infrastructure. Below is a summary of what we need from your entity, the timelines, and what these funds can or cannot be used for.

1. A spend plan (statement of work and detailed budget) outlining what the funds will be used for.

Describe the main categories for funding as applicable (habitat restoration, research, buybacks, job retraining, and fishery-related infrastructure) that restore the fishery or prevent a similar failure in the future and assist fishing communities affected by each failure. Describe the work to be performed, approach to complete the work, and timelines for the work.

2. The performance period for these funds will be January 1st, 2025 through December 31st, 2029. All work must be performed or expenses incurred during this timeframe. **No work or expenses can occur prior to this date. Work and expenses should not begin until your entity is notified of the approved start date of these funds.**
3. These disaster funds cannot be used on the following: cost share or match to any other funds (federal or non-federal); land purchases; loan programs; losses already covered by insurance; or specific grant-related activities for which Federal or other funds have been received.
4. Funds may be expended for administrative processes, for the purpose of economic analyses that may be necessary for a detailed spend plan.
5. Depending on activities proposed, NEPA review may be required.

If proposing to use funds for direct payments to fishers, businesses, etc., you must include a justification addressing the following:

- 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.
- Describe how you will determine who is eligible for direct payments and verify their eligibility.
- Describe how you will determine the disbursement amounts of direct payments.
- Describe the appeals process and how you will determine if an appeal is granted or not.
- Payments may not be provided directly to minors.

The Commission requests all spend plans be submitted no later than **May 13, 2024**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Brian Bissell at bbissell@psmfc.org or me at bthom@psmfc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barry Thom", is positioned above the typed name.

Barry Thom
Executive Director

CC: Marci Yaremko, California Department Fish and Wildlife