



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

November 6, 2023

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

Thank you for your letter requesting a federal fishery resource disaster determination pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) for the 2021 and 2022 Upper Cook Inlet East Side Setnet salmon fisheries and the 2022 Nelson Lagoon salmon fishery. 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 determination analysis.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service conducts the evaluation needed for the Secretary's fishery disaster determinations. We will work with the State of Alaska and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to assess whether a fishery resource disaster has occurred under the MSA.

Based on our initial review of your request, we will need the following information to assess whether a fishery resource disaster has occurred under the MSA. The State of Alaska has up to 1 year from the date of this acknowledgment letter to submit all necessary information. To ensure we have a complete request, please provide all of the following information to our Alaska Region point of contact, Stephanie Warpinski, at Stephanie.warpinski@noaa.gov:

- Further explanation on an allowable cause, as described in Section 312(a) of the MSA as amended by the Fishery Resource Disasters Improvement Act, for the 2022 Nelson Lagoon request.

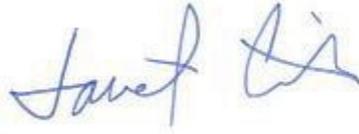
Further, based on our initial review of your request, other information you may choose to provide for consideration during the Secretary's evaluation includes:

- If applicable, additional fishery landings and sector revenue data, as noted in the fishery resource disaster request.
- If applicable, information on lost resource tax revenues for the 12 months of the disaster year and the previous 5-year average.

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 stylized "C".

Janet Coit
Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries