



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

April 21, 2023

Mr. Joseph L. James
Chairman, Yurok Tribe
190 Klamath Boulevard
P.O. Box 1027
Klamath, CA 95548

Dear Mr. James:

Thank you for your letter requesting a federal fishery disaster determination pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act for the 2021 Yurok Tribe's Klamath River Fall Chinook Run 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 Magnuson-Stevens Act. The Secretary is required to respond with her determination within 120 days after receipt of all the necessary data to conduct the analysis.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) conducts the evaluation needed for the Secretary's fishery disaster determinations. NMFS will work with the Yurok Tribe and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to assess whether a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster has occurred under the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Based on our initial review of your request, we will need the following information as soon as possible. Please provide the following information to our West Coast Region Senior Policy Advisor, Frank Lockhart, at frank.lockhart@noaa.gov:

- Twelve months of finalized revenue data for the 2021 Klamath River Fall Chinook salmon fishery.
- Annual revenues of the affected fishery for the most recent 5 years when no fishery resource disaster occurred, excluding 2016, 2017, 2019, and 2020, when the fishery had positive fishery resource disaster determinations.
- Any negative impacts to ceremonial or subsistence fishing activities.

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,

Janet Coit
Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries

THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR FISHERIES

