

DECISION FOR THE SECRETARY

I approve a positive determination for a fishery resource disaster under 312 (a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act for the following:

 X 2023 Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People Klamath River salmon fishery

I do not approve a positive determination for a fishery resource disaster for the following:

 2023 Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People Klamath River salmon fishery

I approve as amended a positive determination for a fishery resource disaster for the following:

 2023 Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People Klamath River salmon fishery

I would like to discuss the following:

 2023 Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People Klamath River salmon fishery

Signature: *Jim Rainey* Date: September 10, 2024



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

September 10, 2024

The Honorable Fawn C. Murphy
Chairperson
Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People
P.O. Box 529
Klamath, CA 95548

Dear Chairperson Murphy:

Thank you for your letter requesting a determination of a fishery resource disaster for the 2023 Klamath river salmon fishery.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service evaluated information from the impacted fishery. Upon review, I have found that the request for a subsistence and ceremonial fishery resource disaster for the 2023 Pulikla Tribe of Yurok (Tribe) People Klamath River salmon fishery in California meets the requirements under the recently enacted Fishery Resource Disasters Improvement Act, which amended section 312(a) the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA).

In order to have a positive determination, there must be a fishery resource disaster from an allowable cause. Due to several factors such as prolonged and historic drought, severe wildfires, negative impacts to spawning and rearing habitat, harmful algal blooms, and shifts in ocean forage and associated thiamine deficiency, there was a loss of access under the MSA in this fishery. The factors mentioned caused the Tribe's Klamath River salmon fishery to experience a total closure of the subsistence and ceremonial fishery in 2023. The lack of a subsistence and ceremonial fishery resulted in severe subsistence and cultural impacts for the Tribe. Therefore, this fishery meets the requirements for a positive fishery disaster determination.

This determination now makes the 2023 Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People Klamath River salmon fishery eligible for fishery disaster assistance. Should the Department of Commerce receive congressional appropriations for fisheries disasters, the Department of Commerce will consider allocations of disaster assistance for this fishery. In addition, eligible businesses and other tribal entities may be able to access other loan/funding programs through other Federal relief programs (e.g., Small Business Administration loans). Programs within the Department (e.g., Economic Development Administration grants) may also be available.

The Honorable Fawn C. Murphy
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Should you have any questions, please contact Susie Feliz, Assistant Secretary for
Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-3663 or SFeliz@doc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gina Raimondo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gina" and last name "Raimondo" clearly distinguishable.

Gina M. Raimondo