

September 26, 2024



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

Mr. Timothy J. Greene, Sr.
Chairman, Makah Tribal Council
P.O. Box 115
Neah Bay, WA 98357

Dear Chairman Greene:

Thank you for your September 10, 2024, letter requesting a federal fishery resource disaster determination pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) for the 2023 Fraser River sockeye salmon fisheries. I am responding on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your request and to inform you that the Secretary is required to respond with her determination within 120 days after receipt of all the necessary data to conduct the analysis.

The National Marine Fisheries Service conducts the evaluation needed for the Secretary's fishery resource disaster determinations. We will work with the Makah Tribe to assess whether a fishery resource disaster has occurred under the MSA. Based on our initial review of your request, we need the following information to assess whether a fishery resource disaster has occurred. You have 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 West Coast Region point of contact, Courtney Hann, at courtney.hann@noaa.gov:

- A clear definition of the fishery(ies) and sector(s) (e.g., commercial, dealer/processors) or components thereof (e.g., the for-hire component of the recreational sector), including identification of the appropriate fishery management entity or entities (federal or non-federal).
- Twelve months of finalized revenue data for the affected fishery(ies) and sector(s) or components thereof of the requested fishery resource disaster.
- Annual revenues of the affected fishery by sector for the most recent 5 years when there were no positive fishery resource disaster determinations.
- Any additional information you are able to provide about the cause of the fishery resource disaster (e.g., published research, stock assessments, state reports, status of recovery from previous fishery resource disasters).
- Additional information on any negative impacts on ceremonial or subsistence fishing activities.

We look forward to working with you on this request. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Denit, Director of NOAA's Office of Sustainable Fisheries, at kelly.denit@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet Coit".

Janet Coit
Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries

