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

July 28, 2026

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

Dear Chairman Greene:

We received your letters requesting a determination of a fishery resource disaster for the 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023 Makah Tribe Fraser River sockeye salmon fisheries. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service evaluated information from the impacted fisheries. Upon review, I have found that the requests for a fishery resource disaster determination for the 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023 Makah Tribe Fraser River sockeye salmon fisheries meet the requirements under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA).

This determination now makes the 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023 Makah Tribe Fraser River sockeye salmon fisheries eligible for fishery resource disaster assistance. The Department of Commerce will allocate disaster assistance for these fisheries. After the Secretary of Commerce makes a positive fishery disaster determination under the MSA, the requesting state or tribal government can make a written request to the Small Business Administration (SBA) certifying at least five small businesses in the disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury resulting from the positive fishery disaster determination. Under this Economic Injury declaration, SBA's Disaster Loan Assistance program is available to small businesses with financial losses directly related to the declared disaster. For more information on the SBA Loan program please visit: www.sba.gov/disaster. Programs within the Department (e.g., Economic Development Administration grants) may also be available.

If you have further questions, please contact Geoffrey MacLeay, Director of Oversight in the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-1749 or GMacLeay@doc.gov.

Sincerely,

Howard W. Lutnick
Secretary of Commerce