



**THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

April 30, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California  
Sacramento, CA 94102

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Thank you for your letter requesting a disaster determination under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (IFA) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (MSA).

I have determined a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster exists for the ocean troll salmon fishery off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California in 2008 under Section 308(b) of the IFA and Section 312(a) of the MSA. With regard to the small commercial salmon fisheries conducted in the Klamath River and lower Columbia River, the available information is not sufficient to make a determination on a prospective basis that a commercial fishery failure has occurred. However, we will review the actual results at the end of this year's fishing season and advise you at that time whether the facts available then justify such a determination.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service has carefully analyzed the data regarding the West Coast salmon fisheries. The enclosed economic analysis reviewed trends in low salmon returns by region and stock. The Sacramento River fall Chinook, normally an abundant stock, is at a record low this year. This stock is targeted by the ocean commercial fishery off California and Oregon and is also caught to a small degree off Washington. In addition, coho stocks off the coast of Oregon and Washington are at very low levels. Ex-vessel revenue losses of 90 percent from a five-year norm and over 80 percent from last year are expected in 2008 for these fisheries covering California, Oregon, and Washington.

I appreciate your concern for the fishing communities in your State and your interest in recovery and restoration of the salmon populations along the West Coast. If you have further questions, please contact me or Nat Wienecke, Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-3663.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos M. Gutierrez".

Carlos M. Gutierrez

Enclosure



**THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

April 30, 2008

The Honorable Theodore R. Kulongoski  
Governor of Oregon  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kulongoski:

Thank you for your letter requesting a disaster determination under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (IFA) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (MSA).

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April 30, 2008

The Honorable Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor of Washington  
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Gregoire:

Thank you for your letter requesting a disaster determination under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (IFA) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (MSA).

I have determined a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster exists for the ocean troll salmon fishery off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California in 2008 under Section 308(b) of the IFA and Section 312(a) of the MSA. With regard to the small commercial salmon fisheries conducted in the Klamath River and lower Columbia River, the available information is not sufficient to make a determination on a prospective basis that a commercial fishery failure has occurred. However, we will review the actual results at the end of this year's fishing season and advise you at that time whether the facts available then justify such a determination.

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