Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Fishery Mitigation

FY2024 Request: Reference No:

\$6,500,000 64780

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Research / Studies / Planning

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1 - 40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1 - 40) Contact: Sam Rabung

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2023 - 06/30/2028 Contact Phone: (907)465-4210

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Southeast Alaska Chinook Salmon Fishery Mitigation Program was established in 2009 to alleviate economic impacts resulting from the 15 percent reduction in Chinook salmon harvest levels under the 2009 revision of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (Treaty). This program continues to be necessary due to an additional 7.5 percent reduction in Chinook harvest levels under the 2019 revision. Alaska's willingness to accept another loss to Chinook fisheries was predicated, in part, on a mitigation package designed to offset economic consequences. Distribution of mitigation funds is intended to benefit those most directly affected by the Chinook harvest reductions in Southeast Alaska.

Funding:	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$6,500,000						\$6,500,000
Total:	\$6,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,500,000
☐ State Match Required ☐ One-Time Project ☐ Phased - new ☐ Phased - underway ☑ Ongoing					Ongoing		
0% = Minimun	n State Match %	Required	☐ Amend	lment	☐ Mental Hea	alth Bill	

	<u>Amount</u>	<u> Stair</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

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Department of Fish and Game

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Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec11 Ch11 SLA2022 P89 L21 HB281 \$6,400,000 Sec11 Ch1 SLA2021 P104 L26 HB69 \$7,700,000 Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P83 L15 SB46 \$7,500,000 Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P27 L11 SB230 \$7,500,000

Project Description/Justification:

The department is advised by a panel of fishery stakeholders, hatchery operators, and local communities. The stakeholder panel has identified program components related to hatchery enhancement and hatchery research that will provide economic benefits to offset the losses to the Treaty harvest shares as top priorities.

The Treaty provides for the conservation and management of salmon that span the international borders between the United States and Canada. Since ratification in 1985, the Treaty has been instrumental in reducing interceptions, preventing overfishing, and improving salmon management. Southeast Alaska is home to a significant number of salmon enhancement facilities and programs. Primary impacts of the harvest reduction are on Southeast Alaska "hook and line fisheries," which

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include commercial troll and sport fisheries and associated interests.

The contributions of hatchery raised Chinook and Coho salmon are important to the troll and sport fisheries most affected by the reduction in Treaty harvests. Alaska hatchery produced Chinook salmon provide significant benefits because they may be harvested in addition to the annual Chinook salmon quota set under the Treaty.