

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

April 18, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
H232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

The imminent closure of the commercial and recreational Chinook salmon seasons in California and Oregon will seriously exacerbate the economic crisis currently facing these industries in our districts. We seek your assistance in providing these states with much-needed emergency disaster funding in the upcoming emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

On April 10<sup>th</sup> 2008, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) recommended closing both the commercial and recreational fishing seasons of Chinook salmon for California and Oregon. *This is the single largest closure ever recommended by PFMC.* They did this because Chinook salmon returning to the Sacramento River system – considered the “driver” of wild salmon stocks in the continental U.S. – have reached historic lows. In 2006, an estimated 800,000 Chinook salmon returned to the Sacramento River system; but this year, PFMC estimates that less than 90,000 salmon will return.

The State's of California and Oregon are compiling their economic impact estimates on the closure and we should have final numbers by Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. As the State's process these estimates, we respectfully request your assistance in including emergency disaster funding for these communities in the emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

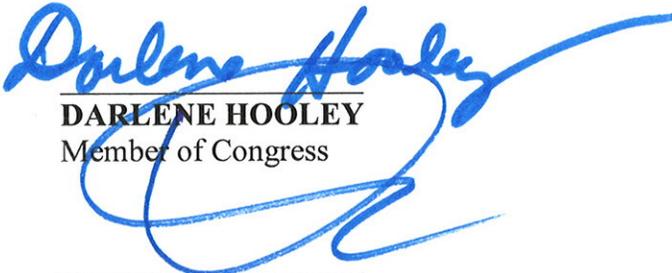
Sincerely,



**MIKE THOMPSON**  
Member of Congress



**PETER DeFAZIO**  
Member of Congress



**DARLENE HOOLEY**  
Member of Congress



**ANNA ESHOO**  
Member of Congress



**DAVID WU**  
Member of Congress

**LOIS CAPPS**  
Member of Congress

**ELLEN TAUSCHER**  
Member of Congress

**LYNN WOOLSEY**  
Member of Congress

**DORIS O. MATSUI**  
Member of Congress

**GRACE NAPOLITANO**  
Member of Congress

**EARL BLUMENAUER**  
Member of Congress

**JERRY McNERNEY**  
Member of Congress

**PETE STARK**  
Member of Congress

**SAM FARR**  
Member of Congress

**GEORGE MILLER**  
Member of Congress