

David Bitts
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**PACIFIC COAST FEDERATION
of FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS**



Noah Oppenheim
Executive Director
Glen H. Spain
Northwest Regional Director
Vivian Helliwell
Watershed Conservation Director
In Memoriam:
Nathaniel S. Bingham
Harold C. Christensen
W.F. "Zeke" Grader, Jr.

Please Respond to:

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Dear Representative,

The Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA) is the largest organization of commercial fishermen on the West Coast, representing the interests of hundreds of family-owned commercial fishing operations who harvest and deliver fresh seafood to American consumers and for export. Collectively, we represent many thousands of family wage jobs and a West Coast commercial fishing industry that contributes billions of dollars to the U.S. economy.

On behalf of the hundreds of hard working commercial fishermen we represent, we write to request your **SUPPORT for H.R. 2083**, the Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act. This bill would allow state and tribal wildlife managers to apply for a permit to humanely euthanize individual marine mammals in the Columbia River that are known to prey on endangered salmon as they line up at fish ladders attempting to return to their natal streams to spawn.

This bill provides an immediate, surgical solution to a significant problem in a highly impacted western river, the Columbia. Impediments to fish passage and severe flow curtailment from hydropower dams have resulted in severe depletion of the Pacific Northwest's most productive salmon river. These impacts have cost commercial fishing families billions of dollars in lost opportunity. While long-term solutions including dam removal and robust instream flow requirements will ultimately be required, immediate-term approaches like this bill are desperately needed. The limited, targeted culling of salmon predators on the Columbia is one such solution that will yield immediate results while long-term approaches can be designed. We therefore urge your support for this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Noah Oppenheim
Executive Director