

Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Fishery Mitigation

FY2023 Request: \$6,400,000

Reference No: 48948

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: 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2027

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Southeast Alaska Chinook Salmon Fishery Mitigation Program was established in 2009 as part of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (Treaty) negotiations and was designed to alleviate economic impacts resulting from the 15 percent reduction in Chinook salmon harvest levels under the 2009 revision of the 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.

Funding:	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>Total</u>
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$6,400,000						\$6,400,000
Total:	\$6,400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,400,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

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

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

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

This project is expected roughly every 10 years.

Project Description/Justification:

The Treaty provides for the conservation and management of salmon that span the international borders between the U.S. 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 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

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salmon provide significant benefits because they may be harvested in addition to the annual Chinook salmon quota set under the Treaty.

Distribution of mitigation funds is intended to benefit those most directly affected by the economic impacts of the Chinook harvest reductions in Southeast Alaska. The Department worked with fishery stakeholders and hatchery operators to identify priority uses for these funds. Projects to increase production of and access to hatchery salmon ranked highest in priority.