PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

FILE

AAIRMAN Robert C. Fletcher 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224 Portland, Oregon 97201

Telephone: (503) 326-6352

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Lawrence D. Six

April 22, 1997

Miss Jacqueline E. Schafer, Director California Department of Fish and Game P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Dear Director Schafer:

Enclosed is a resolution adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council on April 10, 1997, concerning the recovery of California coho salmon. Thank you for your attention to our recommendations.

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Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

LDS:klr

Enclosure

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Robert C. Fletcher 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224 Portland, Oregon 97201

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Lawrence D. Six

Telephone: (503) 326-6352

April 22, 1997

Mr. Douglas P. Wheeler, Secretary California Resources Agency 1416 - 9th Street, Room 134 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Wheeler:

Enclosed is a resolution adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council on April 10, 1997, concerning the recovery of California coho salmon. Thank you for your attention to our recommendations.

Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

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Enclosure

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2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224 Portland, Oregon 97201

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Lawrence D. Six

Telephone: (503) 326-6352

April 22, 1997

Dr. William Hogarth, Regional Administrator Southwest Region National marine Fisheries Service 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200 Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

Dear Dr. Hogarth:

CHAIRMAN

Robert C. Fletcher

Enclosed is a resolution adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council on April 10, 1997, concerning the recovery of California coho salmon. Thank you for your attention to our recommendations.

Sinzerely

Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

LDS:klr

Enclosure

c: Mr. Rolland Schmitten, Director Mr. William Stelle, Regional Administrator

RESOLUTION ON RECOVERY OF COHO SALMON IN CALIFORNIA

Adopted by Pacific Fishery Management Council April 10, 1997

WHEREAS there is a prohibition on directed take of coho salmon in central California; and

WHEREAS, retention of coho in ocean fishing south of Cape Falcon, Oregon, has been prohibited for the last three years and is anticipated to be prohibited again in 1997; and

WHEREAS, the central California coho evolutionary significant unit (ESU) has been listed since October 1996 and a decision is due on April 25, 1997 on the listing of the northern California/southern Oregon boundary ESU and the Oregon ESU; and

WHEREAS, there have been severe delays in the implementation of actions to bring about the recovery of coho in the central California ESU due to a lack of progress in discussions between the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the State of California (State), including the failure to publish "take" avoidance guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the discussions since October on coho recovery between NMFS and the State have not involved either the public or interested non-government organizations (NGOs) or tribes, causing further delay in developing a program for recovery; and

WHEREAS, on-the-ground activities (e.g., timber harvest) in the affected waters have been delayed, including the review of an estimated 70 timber harvest plans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) urges NMFS and the State to convene an independently facilitated meeting of all parties of interest, including fishery NGOs, affected local governments and tribes, to resolve conflicts in the implementation of coho recovery in California;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council requests NMFS and the State, following consultation with Oregon, NGOs, tribes, and affected local governments, convene an independent scientific panel to evaluate coho recovery, including limiting factors (e.g., existing habitat protection regulations, best management practices, hatchery practices, etc.).