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.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

LDS:klk

Enclosure
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.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

LDS:klr

Enclosure
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:

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.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

LDS:ktr

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.).