

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 20, 2015

Dr. Donald McIsaac
Executive Director
Pacific Fisheries Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220

Dear Dr. McIsaac:

As you know, several bills to address the ongoing extreme drought in the Western states have been introduced during the 114th Congress, including H.R. 2898, the Western Water and American Food Security Act (Rep. David Valadao), H.R. 2983, the Drought Recovery and Resilience Act (Rep. Jared Huffman), and S. 1894, the California Emergency Drought Relief Act (Sen. Dianne Feinstein). If enacted, each of these bills would likely significantly affect salmon and their Delta habitat.

Chinook salmon from the Sacramento River form the backbone of California's commercial ocean salmon fishery, which supports tens of thousands of jobs and nearly \$10 million in annual revenue. Salmon are critical to both California's economy and ecosystems. As such, thoughtful consideration should be given to any actions that may impact inland spawning and rearing habitat and the long-term viability of salmon populations.

As the entity charged with managing and protecting marine fisheries resources, we ask that you provide thorough analysis and comments on the apparent or potential impacts of each of these bills on salmon fisheries and coastal communities. These comments will provide critical perspective to the ongoing consideration of Western drought legislation and will help to ensure that the potential impacts to all stakeholders are taken into account.

Sincerely,



MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress