



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNORS



John A. Kitzhaber, Oregon

Mike Lowry, Washington

June 27, 1995

Honorable Ron Brown
Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Brown:

The states of Oregon, and Washington respectfully request \$13 million from the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act to meet the needs arising from a continuing fisheries resource disaster caused by El Nino, years of drought and recent floods. This fisheries resource disaster has caused the Pacific Fisheries Management Council to severely curtail the ocean salmon fishing season in 1995. This limited coastal salmon fishing season in 1995 follows the total closure in 1994 and represents serious economic hardship for our coastal salmon fishers and their communities.

These coastal communities are already facing considerable economic hardship due to the virtual shutdown of the timber industry. Your Administration has recognized this hardship and has sought to mitigate its effects through the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative and programs administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration designed to assist dislocated salmon fishers. We are seeking a second year of those NOAA programs which are only now reaching fishers in our states.

We jointly seek \$13 million to continue the habitat restoration jobs program, the at sea data collection program and the license buyback program. These programs will continue to provide dislocated salmon fishers with needed jobs and at the same time help restore the fisheries resource in the Pacific Northwest. We further request that this assistance be coordinated with the Community Economic Revitalization Teams organized under the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative. This will insure that this assistance will fully involve state and local governments and make use of an innovative federal, state, local, and tribal partnership that is reinventing government and has a proven track record of accomplishment.

This assistance will give us the necessary resources to continue to meet the pressing needs of dislocated salmon fishers and their communities in the Pacific Northwest. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Respectfully yours,



John A. Kitzhaber



Mike Lowry