



Sign-on with GSSA to urge and request the California Legislature include adequate funding – at least \$100 million – for a full-range of hatchery investments, including benefits for the economically critical fall-run, that supports our salmon fishery and thousands of salmon families and fishing businesses. Read the below letter.

We need the voices of all U.S. West Coast fishing industry businesses, trade associations/organizations and port associations (commercial and recreational fishing owner/operators, tackle manufacturers and retailers, fish brokers, marinas, fishing guide business owners, etc.).

GSSA also needs the help of all our members and the general public. Please sign and show your support for the tens of thousands of people and communities that rely on the salmon fishery.

First Name*

Last Name*

City

State

Choose one...

Zip Code

Email Address*

FV or Company Name

Title of Authorized Signer

Please send me updates about your work!



Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849-0029
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Dave Min, Chair
Senate Natural Resources and Water
1021 O Street, Suite 6710
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Dianne Papan, Chair
Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife
1021 O Street, Suite 4220
Sacramento, CA 94249-0021

Senator Ben Allen
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 6610
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8120
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Bond Funding for Salmon Hatcheries

Dear Senators and Assemblymembers:

We are writing as members of California's salmon fishing industry to urge you to ensure that any natural resources or climate bond passed by the legislature this year includes essential funding for salmon hatcheries. Our industry includes commercial and recreational fishermen and women, charter boats, river guides, equipment manufacturers and retailers, restaurants, fishing clubs and organizations, and Tribal interests. Salmon are an essential part of California's natural heritage and – with healthy runs – support 23,000 jobs and \$1.4 billion in economic activity. That natural heritage and our fishing economy are fighting for survival.

The 2023 commercial and recreational salmon season was closed entirely in California and most of coastal Oregon because of crashing Central Valley and Klamath fish populations. Recently, as a result of the low estimated 2024 population of adult Central Valley salmon in the ocean, the Pacific Fishery Management Council closed the 2024 California salmon fishing season as well. This closure is causing tremendous hardship for fishing jobs, families, Tribes, and coastal and inland towns and communities.

An essential ingredient to recover salmon populations to healthy levels requires upgrading salmon hatcheries that produce Sacramento River fall-run Chinook, including improved juvenile release practices and expanded production. These critical hatchery improvements will be extensive.

Last year, the legislature provided funding to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for a comprehensive assessment of the need to upgrade California's hatcheries in light of climate change. That assessment, which will be completed in 2025, is also included in Governor Newsom's California Salmon Strategy (Action 4.6). The Governor's Salmon Strategy also calls for increases in fall-run Chinook salmon hatchery production (Action 4.1), improved juvenile release practices (Actions 4.2 and 4.3), new, upgraded and expanded hatcheries (Actions 4.4, 4.5, 4.10 4.11 and 4.12) and implementation of genetic methods to monitor success (Action 4.9). Implementing these ambitious recommendations will require significant state bond funds.

Our industry is barely staying afloat and can't wait to get bond funds in place to support both conservation and production hatcheries that can help restore the declining Sacramento fall-run as well as other salmon runs. Funding for hatchery improvements should be a top priority in any natural resources or climate bond.

We urge you to ensure that any final natural resources or climate bond passed by the legislature includes adequate funding – at least \$100 million – for the full-range of hatchery investments summarized above, including benefits for the economically critical fall-run, as well as Endangered Species Act listed runs.

On behalf of salmon businesses, families and communities, thank you for your leadership and for considering these requests.





OUR MISSION

TO RESTORE CALIFORNIA SALMON FOR THEIR ECONOMIC, RECREATIONAL, COMMERCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL AND HEALTH VALUES.

We do this by working closely and regularly with state and federal elected and unelected policy makers at water agencies to enhance salmon *Hydrology (flows of fresh, cold water), Habitat and Hatcheries*. We employ myriad of strategies including:

- Public Relations and Social Media
- Grassroots Mobilization and Empowerment
- Strategic Litigation
- Hands-on Restoration
- Stewardship and Education



Hydrology	Habitat	Hatchery
<p>We work to secure sustainable and equitable use of fresh Central Valley stream and river water at the state and federal levels. Salmon are the iconic indicator of environmental health of their ecosystems.</p>	<p>We work to get stream and river habitat restoration projects implemented. We believe that more resources should be put into actually implementing priority projects and less resources be allocated to more studies.</p>	<p>We work to enhance productivity of salmon hatcheries generally by working to get policymakers to optimize release strategies primarily by moving release locations closer or into the Pacific ocean.</p>

Broad Coalition

GSSA is a coalition that includes commercial and recreational salmon fishermen and women, related businesses, restaurants, a native tribe, environmentalists, elected officials, families, and communities that rely on salmon.

What We Do

We work very closely with staff and leadership of California's wildlife and water agencies (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Water Board, Dept of Water Resources) as well as with Federal wildlife and

water agencies (Bureau of Reclamation, US Fish and Wildlife, NOAA Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Agency). We also work to inform state and federal elected policymakers about challenges and practical solutions for salmon and our freshwater environment. We are advocating for California to adopt policies and take action to provide water for the needs of people, salmon, the environment, and the sustainable needs of agriculture.

Our salmon, a key indicator of the health of their habitat, are in real danger. We are pushing for solutions now. We actively collaborate with our partners to restore salmon to the goals set by the state of California and the Federal government. That is 1 million fish returning annually to the Sacramento/San Joaquin river system to spawn.



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GSSA's mission is to restore California salmon for their economic, recreational, commercial, environmental, cultural and health values.

Golden State Salmon Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Tax ID # 27-4187163