



Honourable Bernadette Jordan, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
Mail Stop 15N100, Floor 15
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E6
Via Email: min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

March 11, 2021

Dear Minister Jordan,

We write you today to express our support for mark selective Chinook fishery opportunities that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is considering for the Pacific region beginning in Spring 2021.

As Members of Parliament representing constituencies in British Columbia, we are acutely aware and supportive of the importance that British Columbia's public fishery represents to British Columbians and the coastal communities they support.

In 2020, DFO approved a limited number of pilot public fishery opportunities proposed by the Sport Fishing Advisory Board (SFAB). As part of their 2020 proposals, the SFAB also identified areas where there exist conditions necessary to implement sustainable and precautionary mark selective fisheries.

These opportunities are needed for the 2021 season, beginning April 1, more than any other season before. The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted British Columbians as cultural, economic, and heritage activities have been limited by the pandemic.

It is within this context that we see the opportunity for increased mark selective harvest opportunities in the Pacific public fishery to support Indigenous and non-Indigenous fishers alike in their efforts and desire to sustain their families and communities.

There has never been a time where the ability of individuals to provide for their own food security in a safe manner has been more relevant or necessary. Harvest opportunities for easily identified marked hatchery fish can be provided in a manner that will minimize mortality of wild stocks, allow for appropriate catch monitoring and sampling to take place while also supporting collection of important stock assessment information.

Indigenous and non-Indigenous public fishery businesses offer world-class fishing experiences to locals, Canadians and international visitors. While the pandemic and associated travel restrictions have severed these businesses from international visitors, British Columbians and

Canadians can participate in the fishery and provide much-needed economic activity that can sustain jobs and communities in British Columbia, if there are opportunities to do so.

We believe that it is possible and necessary for mark selective Chinook fisheries to be implemented in a manner that supports restoration and conservation of Pacific salmon, especially at-risk populations. Therefore, we are asking you to support mark selective fisheries that are properly designed, implemented, and monitored to prevent unintended impacts on unmarked or untargeted fish of wild origin.

Thank you in advance for your fair consideration of our request and this opportunity to support British Columbia's public fishery and all who depend on it to sustain their families and communities.

Sincerely yours,



Mel Arnold, M.P.
North Okanagan—Shuswap



Gord Johns, M.P.
Courtenay—Alberni



Elizabeth May, M.P.
Saanich—Gulf Islands



Kenny Chiu, M.P.
Steveston—Richmond East



Taylor Bachrach, M.P.
Skeena—Bulkley Valley



Paul Manly, M.P.
Nanaimo—Ladysmith



Marc Dalton, M.P.
Pitt Meadows—Maple Ridge



Rachel Blaney, M.P.
North Island—Powell River



Honourable Ed Fast, M.P.
Abbotsford



Richard Cannings, M.P.
South Okanagan—West Kootenay



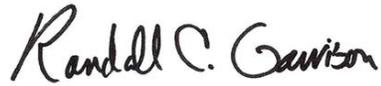
Hon. Kerry-Lynne Findlay, M.P.
South Surrey—White Rock



Laurel Collins, M.P.
Victoria



Tracy Gray, M.P.
Kelowna—Lake Country



Randall Garrison, M.P.
Esquimalt—Saanich—Sooke



Cathy McLeod, M.P.
Kamloops—Thompson—Cariboo



Peter Julian, M.P.
New Westminster—Burnaby



Rob Morrison, M.P.
Kootenay—Columbia



Jenny Kwan, M.P.
Vancouver East



Nelly Shin, M.P.
Port Moody—Coquitlam



Alistair MacGregor, M.P.
Cowichan—Malahat—Langford



Mark Strahl, M.P.
Chilliwack—Hope



Jagmeet Singh, M.P.
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Brad Vis, M.P.,
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Bob Zimmer, M.P.
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