



**PUGET SOUND ANGLERS STATE BOARD**  
**Protecting Salmon • Protecting Fishing • Protecting Future Generations**

**July 19, 2026**

The Honorable Bruce Westerman  
Chair  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026**

Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman:

On behalf of the Puget Sound Anglers State Board, we respectfully submit this letter in strong support of the **Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026**.

For four decades, Puget Sound Anglers has been one of Washington State's leading conservation and fishing organizations, dedicated to protecting and restoring salmon while preserving sustainable fishing opportunities for current and future generations. Throughout our history, we have worked to improve salmon recovery through increased hatchery production, habitat restoration, science-based fisheries management, and responsible stewardship of our fisheries.

We recognize that restoring salmon cannot be accomplished through any single action. Habitat restoration, hatchery production, improved fish passage, harvest management, and predator management must all work together if we are to recover salmon populations successfully. Ignoring any one source of mortality limits the effectiveness of every other investment being made.

Congress has invested billions of dollars over the past several decades to recover threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead throughout the Pacific Northwest. To maximize the return on those investments, every significant source of mortality must be addressed. One of the most immediate and measurable opportunities available today is reducing excessive pinniped predation on vulnerable salmon and steelhead populations.

The Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act provides fisheries managers with another important science-based management tool. It complements ongoing habitat restoration, hatchery modernization, adaptive fisheries management, continued scientific oversight, humane implementation standards, annual reporting requirements, and the continued development of



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effective non-lethal deterrent technologies. This balanced approach recognizes that successful salmon recovery requires managing all significant factors affecting survival throughout the salmon life cycle.

Puget Sound Anglers believes that salmon recovery and conservation must be driven by sound science, measurable results, and responsible management. As advocates for both healthy salmon populations and sustainable recreational fisheries, we support policies that increase the survival of threatened and endangered salmon while ensuring future generations have the opportunity to experience Washington's remarkable fisheries.

We respectfully urge the House Committee on Natural Resources to advance the **Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026**. This legislation represents an important step toward improving salmon survival and protecting the significant public investments already made in salmon recovery.

Thank you for your consideration of our views and for your continued leadership on behalf of our state's natural resources.

Respectfully,

Ron Garner

President

**Puget Sound Anglers State Board**