

Ilwaco Charter Association

P. O. Box 9
Ilwaco, WA 98624

July 20th, 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:

The Ilwaco Charter Association submits this letter in support of the **Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026**.

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 for our future generations.

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. This is not only vital for salmon recovery, but vital for our coastal communities as well as our tribal communities and the survival of them.

Salmon recovery is not a one-dimensional solution. We need to arm our federal, state and tribal partners with the tools they need to recovery this iconic species of the northwest. The Ilwaco Charter Associations encourages you to support the **Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026**. We would like to thank you, who have recognized the importance and the dire urgency we are in to save salmon.

Sincerely,
Butch Smith
President