



PSVOA

PURSE SEINE VESSEL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

1900 W Nickerson St., Ste. 320 ■ Seattle, WA 98119 ■ Tel: (206) 283-7733 ■ Fax: (206) 283-7795 ■ www.psvoa.org

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 Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026**

Dear Chair Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman:

The Purse Seine Vessel Owners Association (PSVOA) strongly supports the Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026. PSVOA is the largest commercial fishing association on the West Coast representing small boat owners operating in a wide spectrum of fisheries, including the Puget Sound commercial salmon fishery.

PSVOA echoes the points raised by the Washington Hatchery Coalition in its July 15, 2026 letter in support of this important legislation. Despite all of the efforts over the past four decades to recover ESA listed Puget Sound Chinook salmon stocks, including habitat restoration, science based hatchery reform, and harvest restrictions, Puget Sound Chinook stocks continue to suffer. At the same time, the Marine Mammal Protection Act has prevented the Washington Department of Wildlife and tribal governments from implementing common sense measures to address predation on Chinook stocks by pinnipeds.

PSVOA agrees with the Washington Hatchery Coalition that pinniped management alone will not result in recovery. Rather, the Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Act, together with ongoing efforts to restore salmon habitat, modernize hatchery operations, and improve fish passage, will finally provide a comprehensive approach to salmon recovery.

July 19, 2026
P. 2

PSVOA respectfully requests the House Committee on Natural Resources to advance the Northwest Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act of 2026.

Very truly yours

Robert Kehoe

Robert Kehoe, Executive Director