Red Sea Urchin Fishery Social & Economic Resilience Workshop

Overview of 2016, 2017 Red Urchin Fishery Disaster Declaration



David Goldenberg Executive Director California Sea Urchin Commission February 9, 2024

2014 Warm Water Blob and 2015 El Nino



- May 17, 2017 CSUC Requests Chuck Bonham's assistance to obtain Gubernatorial disaster declaration
- June 27, 2017 CSUC coordinates 17 Congressional Members to petition Gov Jerry Brown
- September 5, 2017 Lt. Gov Gavin
 Newsom sends disaster request to
 Wilbur Ross, Sec of Commerce for 2016
- Northern CA 5-year average down 77%
- Orange County down 93%
- San Diego down 48%

- September 24, 2018 Secretary Ross declines disaster request because the 2011-2015 state avg is 15% loss and the minimum loss must exceed 35%
- In consultation we learn NMFS believes the CA SU industry is managed as one
- February 28, 2019 Governor Gavin Newsom affirms CA SU is managed as two distinct Management Zones, and No CA experience 76% and 78% loss
- October 30, 2019 Secretary Wilbur Ross finds 2016 and 2017 meet the federal requirements for disaster



October 30, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of California Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

Thank you for your letter requesting a determination of a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster. Your request relates to the impacts to the 2016 and 2017 Northern California red sea urchin fishery resulting from unfavorable ocean conditions, among other factors, beyond the control of fishery managers that reduced biomass and access to the fishery in 2016 and 2017.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service evaluated information from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission to assess whether a commercial fishery failure occurred due to a fishery resource disaster. After reviewing the information, I have found that the request for a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster for the 2016 and 2017 Northern California red sea urchin fishery meets the requirements under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and under section 308(d) of the Interiurisdictional Fisheries Act.

This determination now makes this fishery eligible for fishery disaster assistance. The 2019 Consolidated Omnibus Appropriation (PL 116-6) included \$151 million for fishery disasters, and the 2019 Supplemental Disaster Appropriations (PL 116-20) included \$150 million for fishery disaster assistance. The Department of Commerce will determine an allocation of funds for this fishery disaster and provide the State of California information regarding the award process and requirements for these funds.

If you have any further questions, please contact Anthony Foti, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-3663.

Sincerely, Willow Ron Willow Poss

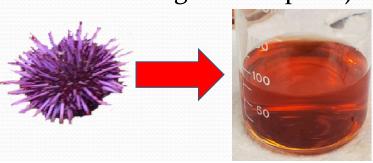
- March 18, 2020 NMFS allocates \$3.3 million
- May 1, 2020 Chuck Bonham provides Spend Plan 79% to divers and processors, 20% mitigation and 1% to PSMC



- Pre Proposal RFP issued October 11, 2021, Full Proposal due Jan 14, 2022
- Kelp Forest Restoration
- Marketing
- Recruitment Studies
- Socio Economic Assessments
- 16 Pre Proposals Submitted
- 8 Full Proposals Requested
- 5 Full Proposals Funded

Projects funded:

- OST Red Sea Urchin Fishery Social & Economic Resilience
- CSUC Developing Uni Appellation Marketing Regions and Alternative Uses for Purple Urchins
- Dave Colker CSUC Website Rebuild for Marketing & Outreach
- Greater Farallones Association Restoration of Kelp Forest Habitat
- Fishbio Kelp Reef Duster Reseeding Bull Kelp Project







Status of 2018-2019 Request?

- February 25, 2022 Gov Gavin Newsom requests 2018 and 2019 81% and 88%
- Held up on effort to qualify Southern California
- Last request, no more loss remaining
- April 25, 2022 Chuck Bonham provides additional data on 2018 and 2019
- October 6, 2023 NMFS approves Disaster request
- NOAA allocated \$1.6 million January 29, 2024

NMFS requests additional data

April 21, 2022



The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newson

Thank you for your letter requesting a federal fishery disaster determination for the 2018 and 2019 red sea urchin fishery in California. I am responding on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your request and to request additional information. The Secretary will respond with her determination after all the necessary data have been received and our evaluation has been completed.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) conducts the evaluation needed for the Secretary's fishery disaster determinations. NMFS will work with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to assess whether a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster has occurred under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act or the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act. You can find more details about criteria for evaluating fishery disaster requests in the NMFS Fishery Disaster Policy, which can be found on our syebsite.

Based on our initial review of your request, we will need the following information as soon as possible. Please provide the following information to Frank Lockhart at frank Lockhart at frank Lockhart (Planck) good.

- Information about the cause of the fishery resource disaster
- Twelve months of finalized commercial revenue data for the affected fishing years from the red sea urchin fishery
- Annual commercial fishery revenues for the previous five years for the 2018 and 2019 red sea urchin fisheries.

We look forward to working with you on this request. If you have any questions, please contact Makeda Okolo, Director of NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at Makeda Okolo@noaa.gov.

Janet Coit

Assistant Administrator

