

**Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture**  
**Where Have All the Salmon Gone?**  
**May 24, 2017 1-5pm**  
**State Capitol, Room 2040**  
**Background**

[Senator Mike McGuire](#), Chairman of the [Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture \(JCFA\)](#), and [Assemblymember Jim Wood](#), Vice-Chairman, are holding a hearing, "[Where Have All the Salmon Gone?](#)". The hearing will be held Wednesday May 24, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Room 2040 of the State Capitol building.

The hearing will focus on the [2017 salmon season](#), [deleterious actions of the federal government](#), [poor river conditions](#) and [diseases](#). Additionally, there will be information on dismal [ocean conditions devoid of food](#) that led to extremely low salmon abundance, impacts to tribal, commercial and recreational fisheries, recommendations for salmon recovery, and actions to support fishing communities. The agenda features presentations by state agency leaders, researchers, and tribal, commercial and recreational fishing representatives.

[Thomas O'Rourke](#), Chairman of the [Yurok Tribe](#), [Doug Obegi](#), Senior Attorney for the California's [Natural Resources Defense Council](#), [Craig Tucker](#), Natural Resources Policy Advocate for the [Karuk Tribe](#), [Michael O'Farrell](#), Fisheries Research Biologist, [NOAA Fisheries](#), [Russell Perry](#), Research Fishery Biologist, [USGS](#), Western Fisheries Research Center and Kevin Shaffer, [Fisheries Branch](#) Chief of the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#) headline the list of speakers and presenters.

The 2017 salmon season is anticipated to be one of the worst on record including predictions of the [lowest return of Klamath River salmon in history](#). The entire [Klamath River \(and Trinity River\) will be closed to recreational salmon fishing including catch and release](#). [Tribal commercially fisheries will be closed](#) and [subsistence and ceremonial fishing severely curtailed providing less than a fish per 10 tribal members](#) potentially [triggering a health crisis](#). [Recreational and Commercial fishing in the Klamath Management Zone will be closed for the entire season](#). Additional [ocean fisheries will be very constrained](#).

Due to the extensive closures, Senator McGuire and Assemblymember Wood have [called on Governor Brown to request a federal fishery disaster](#). Several [Congressional Representatives](#) have also requested disaster relief.

Additional information including links to: the [agenda](#), [press releases](#), articles about the hearing, [live stream links](#), and presenter biographies can be viewed at the committee web site under the "[2017 hearings](#)" heading.

Please contact [Tom Weseloh](#), Chief Consultant, Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture for more information.