



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S SECOND SENATE DISTRICT

SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE

MEDIA



RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:** March 8, 2018

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## **McGuire hosts Legislature's 45th Annual CA Fisheries Forum this afternoon**

*Today's 1pm hearing will be focused on California's multibillion dollar fishery and aquaculture industry and potential exterior threats such as President Trump's Offshore Oil drilling proposals and potential impacts from climate change*

**Sacramento, CA** – Senator Mike McGuire, chairman of the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture, will convene the 45th annual Zeke Grader Fisheries Forum TODAY, Thursday, March 8 at the State Capitol in Sacramento.

This year's Forum takes on special importance with President Trump's looming proposal to open up nearly the entire California coastline to new offshore oil and gas drilling. For the first time in history at the Forum, there will be a panel dedicated to this pending threat and a conversation about how California's \$7 billion commercial fishing industry will be organizing to oppose the Department of Interior's dangerous new proposal.

### **Presenting at the Forum are:**

#### **Remarks from Agency, Department and Commission Leaders**

- John Laird, Secretary, Natural Resources Agency
- Charlton Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Anthony Williams, Vice President, California Fish and Game Commission

#### **Offshore Oil Threats to California's Environment, Economy and Fisheries**

- Noah Oppenheim, Executive Director, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- Kathryn Phillips, Director, Sierra Club California
- Katie Hawkins, Steering Committee Member, California Outdoor Recreation Partners

#### **Salmon Fisheries Updates**

- Dr. Robert Lusardi, Research Ecologist, UC Davis Wild and Coldwater Fish Scientist, Center for Watershed Sciences, University of California Davis
- Dave Bitts, President, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- John McManus, President, Golden Gate Salmon Association

#### **Crab and Disaster Relief Updates**

- Noah Oppenheim – Executive Director, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- Lori French, President, Central Coast Women for Fisheries

**Aquaculture and Sardine Industry Updates**

- Rob Ross, Executive Director, California Fisheries and Seafood Institute
- John Finger, Chief Executive Officer, Hog Island Oyster Company

**Sea Urchin, Halibut and Crab Gear Retrieval Updates**

- Tom Trumper, Vice Chairman, California Sea Urchin Commission
- Lisa Damrosch, Executive Director, Half Moon Bay Seafood Marketing Association

**Fishery Committee Reports**

- Rachelle Fisher, Administrative Team, California Dungeness Crab Task Force
- Darren Mierau, Chairman, California Advisory Committee on Salmon & Steelhead Trout
- Mike Ricketts, Chairman, California Salmon Stamp Committee
- Errin Ramanujam, Senior Scientist, Ocean Science Trust

**Forum details:**

**WHAT:** 45th annual Zeke Grader Fisheries Forum

**WHEN:** TODAY, Thursday, March 8, beginning [at 1 pm](#).

**WHERE:** Room 2040 of the California State Capitol

**WATCH LIVE:** <http://senate.ca.gov/>

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