



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

August 10, 2021

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

Thank you for your March 2020 letter requesting a determination of a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster. As stated in your request, unfavorable ocean conditions, caused by poor sea ice, that were beyond the control of fishery managers resulted in reduced biomass and access to the 2019 red king crab fishery in Norton Sound.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service evaluated information from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to assess your request. After reviewing the information, I have determined that the request for a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster for the 2019 red king crab fishery in Norton Sound meets the requirements under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

This determination now makes this fishery eligible for fishery disaster assistance. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Pub L. 116-6), included \$15 million for fishery disasters, and the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Pub. L. 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 Alaska information regarding the award process and requirements for these funds.

Should you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Mash Sykes, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 341-3089 or ssykes@doc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gina Raimondo".

Gina M. Raimondo