

**MASTER MARINE BOAT CENTER  
506 JACKS LANE  
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273**

Jim Unsworth, Director  
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife  
Natural Resources Building  
1111 Washington Street SE  
Olympia, WA 98501

December 28, 2017

Dear Mr. Unsworth,

It has come to my attention of the potential salmon fishing closures in some marine areas in Washington State in 2018. I have nearly 30 years of experience in marine retail sales in Washington and have seen the severe effect first-hand in previous disruptions to salmon fishing seasons.

If marine areas 7, 8-1, and 8-2 were closed for calendar year 2018, Master Marine would expect to lose between 1.5-2.0 million dollars in retail sales. That would also cost the state between \$130,500-\$174,000 in sales tax revenue. The lost tax revenue would also affect the city of Mount Vernon, and Skagit County. We have had two sales cancelled because of the negative publicity regarding the potential closures already and have now lost \$ 235,550 in sales.

I would think the closures would add significant stress to the state budget in lost fishing license revenue and have a huge impact upon marina's, tackle shops, motels, and fuel stations and all boat dealers.

My biggest concern is the long-term psychological effect upon sportsmen and the general public. Once the public starts to lose interest in fishing, they will look to recreate some other way. They will go onto some other type of activity and we may lose them and never get them back into boating and fishing.

Please consider that the public just wants an opportunity to fish even with reduced catch limits or perhaps a little shorter season.

Sincerely,



Dick Carpenter  
General Manager