



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S SECOND SENATE DISTRICT

SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE

MEDIA



RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 19, 2019

Contact: Kerrie Lindecker, Kerrie.Lindecker@sen.ca.gov or (707) 319-3654

McGuire re-named Chair of State's Joint Committee on Fisheries & Aquaculture

46th Annual Fisheries Forum will be held this Thursday, focused on California's multimillion dollar fishery and aquaculture industry

Sacramento, CA – North Coast Senator Mike McGuire was re-appointed to serve as Chair of the State's Joint Committee on Fisheries & Aquaculture. Senator McGuire has served this role since 2015.

"We have accomplished a lot over the past four years, chairing the Joint Committee. Together, we have passed new laws that are protecting whales from dangerous entanglements, secured disaster declarations and tens of millions in funding after the disastrous collapse of previous crab, salmon and sardine seasons and we've protected fishermen from new exorbitant state fees," Senator Mike McGuire said. **"I'm grateful to continue this work to protect our coast and fisheries and continue our advocacy for one of the strongest economic drivers for rural coastal economies, California's hardworking fishing fleet."**

As Chair of the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture, Senator McGuire will convene the 46th annual Zeke Grader Fisheries Forum this [Thursday, March 21](#) at the State Capitol in Sacramento. The Forum will provide a state of the state of all fishery issues impacting the multi specie California fishing fleet.

Wade Crowfoot, California's Natural Resources Secretary and Charlton Bonham, Director of the state Department of Fish and Wildlife headline this year's speakers and presenters. The Forum will also include presentations and discussion focusing on reducing the risk of whale entanglements, salmon, sea urchins, crab, and aquaculture. The agenda features presentations by state agency leaders, commercial and recreational fishing representatives, and aquaculture producers.

"We have to protect and preserve California's fisheries and we remain concerned about the future," McGuire said. **"This week's hearing will be focused on the current state of the Fleet and aquaculture industry, along with a look to the future and how we can work together to ensure its historic success."**

The industry is suffering from disastrous seasons for crab, salmon, urchins and sardines, which are the result of poor ocean conditions the last few years. Salmon and crab have seen some improvement and may keep the fleet afloat.

The hearing begins [at 1:30 p.m.](#) this Thursday and will be held in Room 3191 of the Capitol. The public is welcome to attend the hearing.

The hearing will be live-streamed via the Senate web site: <http://senate.ca.gov/>. For more information about the Fisheries Forum visit the Committee web site at: <http://fisheries.legislature.ca.gov/>.

###