

Press Release

For immediate Release

The Wild Salmon Center is pleased to announce that wild salmon in the Northwest will be better safeguarded in the future. Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington and Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska's legislation to increase monitoring and research for infectious salmon anemia in Northwest states has passed with 2/3 majority vote in the Senate. This legislation was introduced in December 2011, and passed today (30 January 2012). The legislation also calls for marine protected areas to be implemented for salmon in rivers where aquaculture ventures do not currently exist.

By strengthening monitoring for and research on infectious salmon anemia, and by implementing protected areas for currently wild salmon runs, more will be learned about the ISA virus, and limit the spread of this potentially devastating disease. In the wake of a scare that ISA had spread from Atlantic farmed salmon to wild Pacific salmon, this decision shows that precautionary and responsible measures are being taken in the interest of maintaining the health of the iconic wild salmon.

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