

9 (18) \$1,000,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for
10 fiscal year 2022 and \$1,000,000 of the general fund—state
11 appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for a
12 voluntary buyback of Columbia river-Willapa bay and Columbia river-
13 Grays harbor commercial gill net licenses to mitigate for policy
14 restrictions on the use of gill nets in the mainstem lower Columbia
15 river. The department shall solicit offers from gill net license
16 holders who wish to participate in the buyback program, and purchase
17 gill net licenses in ranked, ascending order from lowest to the
18 highest bid price based on their 2016-2020 average annual Columbia
19 river landings. License holders that agree to the voluntary buyback
20 shall have their license retired and be prohibited from future
21 fishery participation with a Columbia river-Willapa bay or Columbia
22 river-Grays harbor gill net license. The department may not purchase
23 a gill net license for an amount exceeding 3.5 times the individual
24 gill net license holder's average annual ex-vessel value from the
25 salmon landed in Columbia river fisheries from 2016 through 2020. The
26 purchase price shall be \$3,000 for Grays harbor-Columbia river or
27 Willapa bay-Columbia river salmon gill net licenses without Columbia
28 river salmon landings in Washington from 2016-2020. Consistent with
29 the mitigation purpose of the buyback and the intent of Columbia
30 river fishery reforms, the department may only authorize mainstem
31 gill and drift net fisheries in zones four and five targeting upriver
32 bright fall chinook and allocate no more than 20 percent of allowable
33 impacts to off-channel and mainstem fall commercial fisheries.