

If you are a Commercial Fisher or Fish Processor that was in operation as of May 19, 2015, and fished or purchased fish from certain Southern California Fishing Blocks, you may be entitled to a payment from a class action settlement

A Federal Court authorized this Notice.

*Para una notificación en español, visite: www.PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com
Để nhận thông báo tiếng Việt, vui lòng truy cập: www.plainsoilspillsettlement.com
如需中文通知, 请访问: www.plainsoilspillsettlement.com*

A Settlement has been reached in the class action lawsuit claiming that Plains All American Pipeline L.P. and Plains Pipeline L.P. (“Plains” or “Defendants”) caused an underground pipeline to rupture, resulting in an oil spill along the coast in Santa Barbara County on May 19, 2015. Plaintiffs allege the spill caused long term harm to commercial fishing in the affected class blocks, including significant financial losses. Plains denies any claims of wrongdoing and disputes Plaintiffs’ claims. A Fisher Class was previously certified by this Court. This Notice provides information regarding the \$184 million Fisher Class Settlement. A settlement has also been reached on behalf of certain property owners and lessees (“the Property Class Settlement”). The Fisher and Property Class Settlement, if approved by the Court, will resolve all remaining claims in the class action litigation pending in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

You are a Fisher Class Member if you are a person or business who owned or worked on a vessel that was in operation as of May 19, 2015 and that: (1) landed any commercial seafood in California Department of Fish & Wildlife (“CDFW”) fishing blocks 654, 655, or 656; or (2) landed any commercial seafood, except groundfish or highly migratory species (as defined by the CDFW and the Pacific Fishery Management Council), in CDFW fishing blocks 651-656, 664-670, 678-686, 701-707, 718-726, 739-746, 760-765, or 806-809; from May 19, 2010 to May 19, 2015, inclusive; or if you are a person or business in operation as of May 19, 2015 who purchased such commercial seafood directly from the Commercial Fishers and re-sold it at the retail or wholesale level. You can find out if you are a Fisher Class Member by going to www.PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com.

What does the Settlement provide?

The Fisher Class Settlement, if approved, will result in the creation of a cash settlement fund of \$184,000,000 (the “Fisher Class Settlement Amount”). The Fisher Class Settlement Amount, together with any interest earned thereon, is the “Fisher Class Common Fund.” The Fisher Class Common Fund less (a) any Taxes and Tax Expenses; (b) any Notice and Administration Expenses; and (c) any attorneys’ fees and costs and any service awards to Class Representatives in connection with their representation of the Class, awarded by the Court (the “Net Settlement Fund”), will be distributed to eligible Class Members pursuant to a proposed plan of distribution (“Plan of Distribution”). If you are entitled to relief under the Fisher Class Settlement, the Settlement Administrator will determine the portion of the Fisher Class Net Settlement Fund payable to you pursuant to the Court-approved Plan of Distribution.

What are the reasons for the Settlement?

The Court has not decided whether Plaintiffs or Defendants should win this Litigation. The Settling Parties do not agree on whether Plaintiffs would have prevailed on any of their claims against Plains, or the amount of damages, if any, that would be recoverable if the Class prevailed on the claims alleged. Instead, both sides agreed to the Settlement after years of contested litigation, including at the motion to dismiss, class certification, and summary judgment stages. The Parties had also completed substantial discovery and were preparing for trial to commence on June 2, 2022.

Who represents the Class?

The Court has appointed Lief Cabraser Heimann Bernstein LLP, Keller Rohrback L.L.P., Cappello & Noel LLP, and Audet & Partners, LLP (“Class Counsel”) to be the attorneys representing the Class. You will not be charged for these lawyers. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys’ fees in an amount not to exceed 33% of the total amount of the Fisher Settlement (or \$60,720,00), plus their litigation expenses (not to exceed \$5.2 million). (Class Counsel’s fee and litigation expenses application will also include a request for an equivalent percentage from the Property Class Settlement, plus additional litigation expenses.) If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

What do I need to do to?

If you are a Class Member and you wish to get money from the Settlement, you are required to submit a Claim Form available at www.PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com, or by calling the toll-free number 1-844-202-9486 to request that a hard copy Claim Form be mailed to you. Your Claim Form and, if necessary, any required supporting documentation as set forth therein must be postmarked (if mailed) or submitted online **on or before October 31, 2022**.

Plains Oil Spill Settlement
c/o JND Legal Administration
P.O. Box 91450
Seattle, WA 98111
Email: info@PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com
www.PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com
Telephone: 1-844-202-9486

If you are a Class Member, you may object or tell the Court what you do not like about the Settlement. You will still be bound by the Settlement, and you may still file a Claim. Objections must be served/filed no later than **August 19, 2022**. Go to www.PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com for details on how to object to the Settlement.

If you are a Class Member and you did not previously opt out of the Fisher Class or enter a separate settlement with Plains for which you signed a full release, you are a member of the Class and you will be bound by the release of claims as part of the Settlement. The Fisher Class was first certified on February 28, 2017, and later amended on November 22, 2019, and you previously had an opportunity exclude yourself. If you did not exclude yourself then, you may not exclude yourself now.

What happens next?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **September 16, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. Pacific**, before the Honorable Phillip S. Gutierrez at the United States District Court for the Central District of California, First Street Courthouse, 350 West 1st Street, Courtroom 6A, 6th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012-4565. At the hearing the Court will determine whether: (1) the Settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement for \$184,000,000 in cash should be approved by the Court as fair, reasonable and adequate; (2) the Judgment as provided under the Settlement Agreement should be entered; (3) to award Class Counsel attorneys’ fees and expenses out of the Fisher Class Common Fund and, if so, in what amount; (4) to award Plaintiffs’ service awards (Class Counsel is requesting \$15,000 for each Fisher Class Representative) in connection with their representation of the Class out of the Fisher Class Common Fund and, if so, in what amount; and (5) the Plan of Distribution should be approved by the Court.

How do I get more information?

For more details and to print the Settlement Agreement go to www.PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com. You may also write with questions or notify the Settlement Administrator regarding address changes to *Plains Oil Spill Settlement* c/o JND Legal Administration, P.O. Box 91450, Seattle, WA 98111, email at info@PlainsOilSpillSettlement.com or call the Settlement Administrator at 1-844-202-9486.