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Mr. Chairman and the board, thank you for this opportunity to speak.

My name is Andy Hall, I'm a fifty year resident of Alaska, I live in Chugiak and I am an east side setnetter. My wife and I and our two children are permit holders.

I thought the Task Force process with its charge **to provide Fishing opportunity for all users during years of low abundance of Kenai River late run Chinook** was a good one. I never expected a unanimous consensus; I expected a compromise that would likely leave all participants feeling they had not gotten everything they wanted. I don't think it is perfect, but I think Dwight Kramer's proposal is as close as we're going to get to consensus.

- It is based on science:

The OEG range of 13,000-30,000 is scientifically defensible management because according to the Department of Fish and Game it is the goal range that provides 90% of maximum sustained yield.

- The July 21 run assessment date is based on reason:

It allows all user groups a chance to fish, and the department time to accurately assess run strength and to take action if the run proves weaker than expected. It also forces overzealous managers to slow down and avoid overreacting like they did last summer.

- It is fair:

If the run is deemed to be dangerously low it allows the department to take actions that equitably share the burden of conservation while still allowing sport, commercial and personal use fishermen a chance to fish.

- The salmon of upper Cook Inlet drive a huge economic engine that supports many Alaskans, we're all integral to making this work to the maximum benefit of the state.

So what happened when the setnetters were pulled out of the water? First of all, thousands of Alaskans in the setnet fishery and corollary businesses were economically devastated; I have to spend thousands of dollars to get ready to fish. I buy groceries, gas, propane, I hang new nets, and I renew permits and shore leases, pay for buoy stickers, hire crew all before a single net hits the water. Yes, processors got fish but buying station operators, tenders, truck drivers and others that serve set net operations were shut down. In river commercial guiding businesses and lodges also were hurt but they were able to pursue other salmon species.

On the management side, Fish and Game had to fish the drifters hard and the Mat Su fishermen got burned. In the Kenai River, the sockeye return exceeded the upper end of the escapement goal and future yield was impacted: That means fewer sockeye will return in the future and that hurts personal-use fishermen, private anglers, commercial in-river guides, as well as setnetters and drifters. And then in August the department said, 'Oops, we got enough Chinook after all.'

I don't know why the department didn't follow the plan that's in place, if it had, we could have avoided the 2012 crisis—but here we are. If you feel you have to act, I hope you'll accept Kramer's Proposal and make sure the department follows it.