

December 11, 2013

RC 038

John H. Lamont
Commercial Fisherman
Lower Yukon River Y-1

**Re: Emergency Petition
5AAC 05.362. Yukon River Summer Chum Salmon Management Plan**

Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Yukon River Panel Meeting at Whitehorse, YT, Canada, December 03, 2013, Dr. Stephanie Smith reported more conservative measures will be implemented on the Lower Yukon River to conserve Chinook Salmon in 2014.

I don't see any more conservative measures we can take as Commercial Fishermen on the Lower Yukon but to restrict harvesting the abundant summer chum salmon with dip-nets only in 2014.

Our small more efficient harvest of summer chums with 5 ½ inch mesh by 30 meshes deep nets (that the Alaska Board of Fish adopted last winter) will not be an alternative if the Department of Fish and Game is going to take a more restrictive/conservative management approach next summer on the Lower Yukon River to conserve Chinook Salmon bound for Canada.

Therefore, as a lifelong Traditional Commercial Chinook Salmon Fisherman and in more recent years a Summer Chum Commercial Fisherman. I ask that the Governing Body of our Fishery Resources in Alaska allow for a change in 5 AAC 05.362 and include Purse Seines as legal commercial gear to harvest the abundant summer chum salmon on the Lower Yukon River Districts Y-1, Y-2, and Y-3 during times of Chinook Salmon conservation.

Thank you for your collective efforts in helping to manage the Fishery Resources in our Great State of Alaska.