

RC 028

Alaska Outdoor Council
310 K Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

April 24, 2018

Alaska Board of Fisheries
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

RE: Mt. Yenlo F&G Advisory Committee Emergency Petition on Upper Yentna River Subsistence Fishery

Chairman John Jensen,

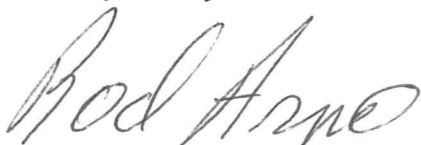
The Alaska Outdoor Council (AOC) is a statewide conservation organization organization representing 48 member clubs and 3500 individual members for a total membership of approximately 10,000 Alaskan's who hunt, trap, fish, and recreate on public lands and waters in Alaska.

AOC supports the Mt. Yenlo AC's emergency petition to amend 5 AAC 01.566(a)(1)(C)(e) to include a subsistence allocation for king salmon consistent with the state subsistence law AS 16.05.258.

The March 13, 2018 Sport Fishing Emergency Order 2-KS-2-10-18 issued by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game makes it clear that the forecasted return of king salmon to the Upper Yentna River is inadequate to provide a harvestable portion of the king salmon stock for other consumptive uses than subsistence use. AS 16.05.258(b)(3)(A) authorizes the board to determine the portion of the king salmon stock that can be harvested consistent with the sustained yield principal, Alaska State Constitution Article VIII, Section 4. The Mt. Yenlo AC is recommending a sustainable harvest of 100-200 king salmon which based on recent estimated returns of king salmon to the Yentna River would equate to approximately 1% of the return.

Its past time for the Alaska Board of Fisheries to allocate king salmon for subsistence uses on the Upper Yentna River. Based on the board's actions regarding the allocation of salmon across the state it would be consistent with state law and regulations to act on Mt. Yenlo's Emergency Petition prior to the 2018 fisheries openings in June.

Thank you for your considerations of AOC's support for the Mt. Yenlo AC Emergency Petition.



Rod Arno, Executive Director AOC