

RC14

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# STATE OF ALASKA

Sean Parnell, Governor

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## Central Peninsula Fish & Game Advisory Committee

March 6, 2013

Board of Fisheries  
Karl Johnstone (Chair)

I have been selected to draft a letter to express our concerns about the 2013 season Kenai River King Salmon Plan. Members of our committee possess many years of experience serving on the local fish and game advisory committee. It is the collective understanding of the committee that legally we are afforded 30 days to comment on all proposals, board generated or not.

Further, that the board of fish, while considering statewide issues at the end of the month (March, 2013) will meet as a committee of the whole and hatch a 2013 Kenai River King Salmon Plan. This will preclude the 30 day comment period for advisory committees, the public, and local stakeholders. A question of legitimacy will shadow the king plan. A plan spawned in controversy; it will be viewed as a plan crafted exclusive of the customary and legally required 30 day comment period always afforded local fish and game advisory committees and again to repeat, the Alaskan public!

Stated succinctly, **THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES IS NOT FOLLOWING THEIR OWN LEGAL PROTOCOL**, regarding the 2013 Kenai River King Salmon Plan and the 30 day period for A.C. and public comments.

Finally there has always been opposition to board generated proposals as they alienate the public and abandon the public process. Some believe the board generated proposal is little more than a subterfuge. Denying the 30 day comment period tends to validate this view. Please consider a different approach in the future that will allow for a comment period for such controversial important issues.

John McCombs, Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee

- cc Governor Parnell
- Commissioner Campbell
- Speaker Mike Chenault
- Rep. Kurt Olson
- Rep. Paul Seaton
- Senator Cathy Giessel
- Senator Peter Micciche

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ANCHORAGE