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Bristol Bay Borough

December 7, 2012

Board of Fish
Attn. Honorable Johnstone, Chairman

The citizens of the Bristol Bay Borough are concerned re. the possible increase in the escapement proposal in the Naknek River.

For every million fish caught in the Naknek system, \$500,000 fish tax is brought into the Borough.

Our concern is, if we take the lower limit of the escapement from 800,000 to 900,000 and the escapement comes in lower than that, the district shuts down, with a loss of fishing time.

If we go from the escapement goal of 1.2m to 2m, that is 800,000 fish our community does not have access to, an estimated loss of \$300,000. Also, the State of Alaska receives a tax from the processed fish, of which the Borough gets half. This represents a loss to the State as well.

For eleven (11) years we did the In-River Management Plan and always reached the escapement goals.

Please consider this in your management decisions.

Sincerely,

Daniel J.O'Hara, Mayor
Bristol Bay Borough