

RC243

SOUTH K BEACH INDEPENDENT

FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Protecting and Preserving the Kasilof River Aquarian System

February 10, 2014

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

RE: Cook Inlet Regulatory Meeting 01.31- 02.13/14

Proposals 177, 5 AAC 21.354 Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan


Chairman Karl Johnstone,

We highly support making considerable changes to the existing Pink salmon plan as it exists. The restriction to harvesting pinks based on a 50,000 static level is unrealistic and arbitrary. This would require managers to guess rather than test the waters for proximity and timing of the pulses of pinks returning to the east side beaches of the Kenai Peninsula.

We would suggest that at a minimum on even years that 48 hours of potential openings would be available for a directed harvest of pink salmon. If in the time allotted a minimum harvest standard has not been met, we would consider the stock concentrations were not available or the harvest effort was not present.

It should be noted that the Best Available Science (BAS) from Department studies indicates that the entire ESSN harvest about 1% of the return of the Coho to the Kenai River. For most of the Cook Inlet region, current returns of silver salmon are healthy and within sustainable levels.

Thank you,



Paul A. Shadura II
Spokesperson