




RC 261

February 10, 2014

Dear Board Member,

I would like to bring to your attention that most of the proposals to the 2014 Alaska Board of Fisheries, Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fishing Committee have nothing to do with protecting the Kenai Kings or promoting a sustainable fish yield, rather, they specifically and target the reduction and elimination of the dip-net and set-net personal use fishery. These proposals are in direct opposition of the maximum benefit clause of the Alaska Constitution, Article 8, Section 2 and the subsequent 1986 personal use fishery statute. This statutory intent is to maintain a "fair and reasonable" opportunity for sport, commercial, and personal use fishing". These proposals if passed will negatively impact thousands of families including mine who fish to feed their families*. I respectfully request that you REJECT proposals 172, 271-281 and 283-290.

Thank you for your time and commitment to our resources,


Michael Powell
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172, 271 - Proposal establishes redundant and unnecessary enforcement

272 - Proposes excessive and redundant proof of residency requirements.

273 - Proposal eliminates a functional safeguard and accessible registration process to maintain the integrity of the current personal use fisheries.

274 - Proposal combines three disparate issues. It would unnecessarily reduce well established household limits that harm permit holder's ability to feed the family and establishes redundant enforcement and penalties. Whereas the third item, online permitting for personal use fisheries, would be convenient for those that qualify for on-line residency fishing licensure, making it mandatory eliminates reasonable access to the personal use fisheries for many households.

275 - Proposal establishes redundant and unnecessary restrictions to the number of participation in the personal use fisheries.

276 and 277 - Proposals establishes redundant and unnecessary restrictions to the well established start date of the personal use fisheries.

278 - Proposal establishes redundant and restrictive conditions on functional DFG authority.

279 - Proposal establishes unreasonable restrictions that would prevent many permit holders from feeding the family.

280 - Proposal reduces well-establishes opening dates and introduces unreasonable restrictions that would prevent many permit holders from feeding the family.

281 - Proposal is redundant to existing DFG authority

283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290 - Proposals establishes unnecessary and unreasonable restrictions to permit holders ability to feed the family.