

Shawna Rittenhouse

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Kodiak, AK 99697

October 3 2017

Chairman John Jensen

AK Board of Fisheries

Boards Support Section

Box 115526

Juneau, AK 99811-5526

RE: UCIDA Agenda Change Request
and Genetic Stock Composition of
Sockeye Salmon in the Kodiak Manage-
ment Area.

I am very much against UCIDA's Agenda Change Request. Their reasoning for the change is misleading. The report for the genetic stock composition study clearly states that it would be impossible to prove anything resulting from the study in just a three year time period.

I am a second generation salmon purse seiner and have been fishing salmon for over 45 years. I have two daughters that are in the process of buying into the fishery, as a lot of young people are, at great cost to them. My family's income is based solely on fishing.

It would be financially devastating to us to be shut down for half our season during a time that our local run is going by.

It is ridiculous to blame another area farther down the line

for a poor fishing season when the impact to Cook Inlet has always been minimal. ~~That~~ Interception has been going on for as long as the fishery has become what it is. It was built around interception and has proven over and over that it can be done without devastating impact to another area.

Kodiak and most of the rest of the State have suffered from poor seasons that have nothing to do with fish being intercepted from another fishing area.

My daughters and other young people that are trying to get into the Kodiak fishery have put everything they have on the line based on how the Salmon fishery has been historically. If a decision is made that changes this, and cuts half of our season down during a very critical part of our season, it would especially impact them and make it impossible to stay in the Kodiak fishery. The overall long term effects of this proposal to the Kodiak fishery would be devastating to the future of Kodiak salmon fishing.

The Agenda Change very clearly does not make sense, nor does it meet the Board's Agenda Change Request Criteria. There is no error in regulation that needs correcting. Kodiak Fishermen intercepting a small percentage of Cook Inlet Reds are not causing any conservation issues.

It is a terrible precedent to completely disrupt one area's fishery to slightly advantage another area's harvest. Salmon are considered common property, and do not belong to the area they were born in.

If UCIDAs Agenda Change Request is approved it will set a precedent for the rest of the State for the interception of non-local fish.

Thank You, Sincerely,

Shawna Rittenhouse

Shawna Rittenhouse

Steve Rittenhouse

Michelle Rittenhouse

Sally Rittenhouse

I am in full agreement with this letter.

Michelle Rittenhouse

Michelle Rittenhouse