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DEVELOPMENT OF CONCEPT FOR QUALITY SPORT FISHERIES  
THROUGH LIMITING FISHING EFFORT

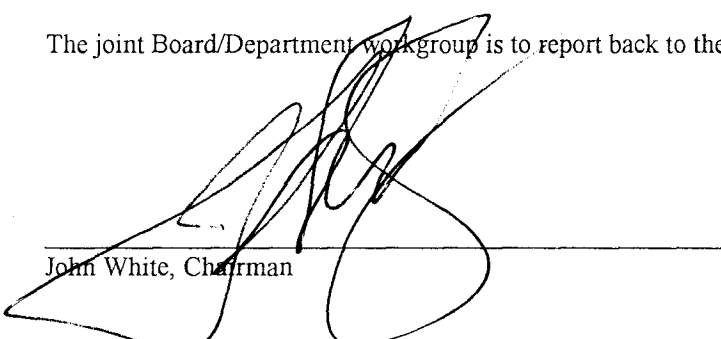
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
BRISTOL BAY MEETING  
NOVEMBER 13, 1997

The Board of Fisheries is interested in concepts that promote management of sport fisheries in a manner that provides for a diversity of sport fishing opportunity and optimizes social and economic recreational benefits. An important attribute of sustaining and optimizing benefits from a recreational fishery is maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the recreational experience. As a common property resource, most recreational fisheries are managed by the state to be accessible to all license holders consistent with sustained yield and property ownership. However, there are unique circumstances under which limiting daily participation through a permit system in a specific fishery to provide for a quality fishing experience could be appropriate.

The Board is committed to investigating the feasibility of creating quality sport fisheries in Bristol Bay and is interested in further development and design of this concept for further consideration. In partnership with the department, a joint workgroup is charged with the following assignment:

- Development of criteria for selecting waters eligible for quality management;
- Research other permit systems including those within state jurisdiction and other state and federal agencies;
- Development of an administrative process for permitting effort including an AG's opinion on identified options and costs for implementation and operation;
- Development of a public process to investigate this concept that includes all advisory committees with jurisdiction over Bristol Bay, affected industry, interest groups, other affected agencies, the department, and the Board of Fisheries.

The joint Board/Department workgroup is to report back to the full Board at the 1998 work session in October.

  
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John White, Chairman