

June 4, 1973

Marlin Johnson
Inter-disciplinary Planning Team
South Tongass National Forest
Box 2278
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Marlin:

In regard to the rough draft of the Chomly Unit Environmental Impact Statement and the temperature study plan you recently sent, I have the following comments to offer.

Concerning the Impact Statement, I can see no major problems with it. I would like to see a comment added that the chum and pink runs in the various streams within the unit could provide a freshwater sport fishery, especially in connection with the fall hunting use of the area.

Also under the "adverse impacts" section I feel mention should be made of the following:

1. Fisherman access up any stream which is logged to the banks will probably be adversely affected due to the logging slash left.
2. Canopy removal may have adverse affects on the winter icing conditions in the streams within the cutting units.

Other than requesting the addition of the above comments, I feel the Statement is quite adequate.

As for the temperature study I feel it is needed and will undoubtedly yield valuable information. However, due to the previous commitments on a study we are conducting on Starrivigan Creek near Sitka, I am sorry to say we will be unable to get too involved in the Chomly study. We will, however, assist whenever we can.

I did receive all the specialists' reports. Thanks.

Marlin Johnson

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Steve Elliott and I are planning to be in Ketchikan during the week of June 18-22 to work on the Thorne Arm unit and I'll drop in then.

Sincerely,

Richard Reed
Fishery Biologist
Sport Fish Division

cc:Wood
Novak
RDR:ml