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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802

"DEDICATED TO THE PROFESSIONAL FISHERMAN" COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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APR 9 1980

Commissioner Ronald Skoog
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
Subport Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Commissioner Skoog:

This letter is a follow up to a USAG Juneau Chapter meeting held on March 7, 1980. At that meeting, we discussed Turner Lake with Dick Marriot, Sport Fish Division; Harold Heinkel, FRED Division, and Don Ingledue, Commercial Fish Division. The discussion centered around the Department's position on the feasibility of conducting enhancement work in Turner Lake. As you may know, our organization is interested in Turner Lake for sockeye enhancement, particularly now that the Canadians have initiated a major set net fishery on the Taku.

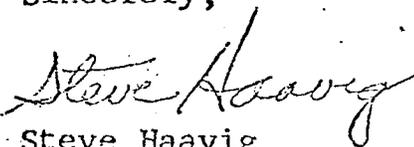
The discussion was general in nature and it became fairly apparent that there was a limited data base for talking seriously about enhancement on Turner Lake. This was particularly true about Sport Fish concerns regarding the loss of a quality sport fishing area if sockeye enhancement work were initiated. We were not given too many biological specifics, instead we've been given mostly a range of fearful speculations that Sport Division has about the issue. Our initial contacts with the Department regarding Turner Lake have been with one Division at a time. The Chapter meeting with all three Divisions together was certainly more productive in terms of getting the issues out in the open. There was mutual agreement from all the parties attending the meeting that a more coordinated response to our organization's inquiry about Turner Lake enhancement was needed. It is our hope that the Department can review the topic and give our organization a more cohesive response than we've received in the past.

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We feel that the benefits and risks of sockeye enhancement in Turner Lake have not been adequately evaluated up to this point. We would like to see a Departmental review of the issue so that we can get a better understanding of what the problems are and what, if any, the solutions to those problems would be.

Sincerely,



Steve Haavig
Executive Secretary

cc: Dave Cantillon, Comm. Fish
Stan Moberly, FRED
Don Stewart, Sport Fish