Alexie Walters Testimony

January 14, 2013

My name is Alexie Walters Sr. I am a lifelong resident of Mountain Village, located along the Lower Yukon River. I am a Y2 Subsistence Fisherman, and a former Tender Boat Captain.

Before I get started I would like to apologize to anyone I may offend in any way from my testimony. I represent Y2 Fisherman and I have an idea of how Y1 and Y3 Fisherman along the Yukon River harvest salmon.

We all share the same goal – to feed our families. Although some are permit holders, they are subsistence users as well. You know over the years, we faced certain proposals for Y1, Y2, and Y3 which were written to try and better the fishing in all districts. Some don’t work for everyone.

I would like to leave everything status quo and have Fish and Game monitor the salmon escapement goals as before. If some of you folks that write these proposals live where I live, you won’t appreciate it.

I know a lot of people that live along the Yukon River that don’t have a say in the proposals that are passed for Y1, Y2 and Y3. We can’t help what Mother Nature is doing to the decline of the fish. Also climate and pollution play a part in it. Fish and Game has been here for many years monitoring the salmon. They have a lot of knowledge on how we harvest the salmon in our areas.

Sincerely,

Alexie Walters Sr.