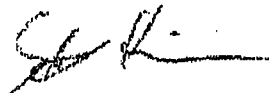


Jan. 29, 2014

Dear Alaska Board of Fisheries,

I am a father of four who has chosen to live in the Mat-Su Borough mainly because of the varied outdoor opportunities available to us here with the biggest being the great fishing. With all the electronic distractions these day for kids, it is getting harder and harder to motivate the kids to the get out and enjoy the great outdoors. But nothing is quite so exciting has hauling in hard fighting Salmon right from our own waters. I have loved the wide eyed look when one hits their lure and they work to bring it in. At that moment, there isn't a single thought of Mind Craft, Xbox or Facebook bouncing through their heads. It was all about the fish and it was the kind of life affirming experience that sticks with a person for a lifetime. Unfortunately, it's tough to catch fish when there's fewer and fewer fish being allowed to escape the nets of the commercial fishing industry. Let it be noted that I am not opposed to those making a living this way. We just don't want them doing it at the expense of fish heading into our waters. If the fish can't make it back to spawning grounds that means we ALL lose. Period. I have family who fish in Bristol Bay, so I'm not unsympathetic to commercial fisherman. Bristol Bay is a great example of good management. There's no reason why we can't expect the same thing in Upper Cook Inlet. We can all make use of this resource for years and years to come with proper management. I appreciate the Board of Fish for giving me this chance to share my views.

Sincerely,



Stefan Hinman
Wasilla