

To the members of the Board of Fish –

In the Alitak District of Kodiak Island, the Upper Station escapement goals have been difficult to achieve for many years. We are asking the Board to consider regulation changes that would allow setnetters to fish at Dog Salmon flats if escapements are tracking on the lower range of the escapement curve at Upper Station . Currently, regulations suggest that traditional fishing areas will be utilized if escapements are between the lower and upper escapement numbers. By allowing nontraditional fishing areas, Fish and Game would have more flexibility in the management of Frazer and Upper Station runs when needed.

Please consider the following:

Allow setnetting to take place at Dog Salmon Flats with no fishing at traditional spots if the following criteria are met:

- Upper Station escapement goals are tracking above the lower escapement curve but showing weakness
- Dog Salmon/Frazer escapements are on target to reach maximum sustained yields

Benefits of the regulation change are:

- Less interception of Upper Station bound fish
- Makes it easier to achieve escapement goals of a weak return at Upper Station
- Allows fishermen to harvest a strong Frazer run
- Prevents overescapement of strong Frazer run
- Gives Fish & Game another tool to manage two runs that are in such close proximity

Alitak setnetters are shouldering the burden of the conservation of these runs. With such a long history of weak returns that leave little left for commercial harvest, we are asking the Board for another management option that might be of help. The Alitak setnetters want these runs to return to their former strength more than anyone and are looking for ways to make this happen.

The Underwood Family