

RC034

Sent via fax 907-465-6094 on January 11, 2018

January 10, 2018

Dear Members of The Alaska Board of Fisheries

My name is Mike Hamar and I am a lifelong resident of Alaska and a commercial fisherman. My grandfather gill-netted, my dad gill-netted, my uncles gill-netted and I too gillnet. I spent many summers, all through the 70's and 80's fishing on the Southend (area 1). During those years there were few if any, enhanced salmon coming over the roller! The same certainly cannot be said today. I fish area 1 and Nakat and feel confident in stating that 80% of my overall catch is because of that release site. Any changes in area 1/Nakat would be devastating to the gillnet fleet there. It is a scratch fishery. With that being said I feel overall value should be given much more consideration when trying to evaluate allocation.

In regards to the seine fleet, to which many I have crewed on, I do not overlook their importance in the industry as job creators and producers. However I could not overlook the fact that nearly 50% of the seiners are non-residents. I believe that 80% to 90% of the gillnet and troll fleet are Alaskan residents! I am an Alaskan! I work here! I spend here! I invest here!

I oppose 140, 143, 145, 153, 155

Thank you for your time

Mike Hamar