

RC118

Alaska Board of Fisheries
PO Box 115526
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Date 1/15/2018

Dear Chairman Jensen and Alaska Board of Fisheries Members,

I am Marty Smith . I started commercial fishing when I was 13, (black cod with Don Nash on the "FOG") I am a gill netter on F/V High Surf. I have lived in Haines since 1972 and remember some of the big fall runs of chum and large king returns also.

I believe that gill netters have taken a lot of self imposed sacrifices for the betterment of the run and longevity of the fishery. It seems strange to me that the amount of closed area in 15 (Lynn Canal) last year was a lot and cost me personally thousands of dollars, of which I don't mind sacrifice if it is not all on one gear group. But when I was told that Icy Straits was open to 3 kings a day (sport), while we were trying to save as many as possible, does not seem like equal effort. In no report did I see Cross Sound mentioned in the king management program, I was under the assumption that this is part of rearing area for Chilkat kings. If you are still going to target a stock of concern please at least put a annual limit on, maybe a no retention for non Alaskans. I don't believe area 15 needs more restrictions, but implementing restrictions in Interception fisheries south of it would really help.

In regards to allocation, I support proposal 146, it will help solve allocation, by only allocating fish that all gear groups pay for. Part of the reason for allocation imbalance is there has been less time and area open to wild fish (in area 15 anyway) forcing more boats farther south and more dependant on hatcheries to survive. With the kings now a stock of concern this will also push more boats south and for years to come.

I also support proposals 130, 131, 141, 154, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 169, 170.

Thank You for considering this letter, and taking the time to help the fish.

Marty Smith

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.