Comments Regarding RC 266

The way it is written, areas like Sitka Sound and Yakutat Bay will be closed from March 15-April 30. They should not be closed because they have been identified as having low proportional harvests of wild stock. There must be more access on the outer coast during this period of time in order to provide the fleet with opportunity. A blanket closure will be very damaging to the health of the fleet.

The way it is written, the July first chinook opener will be delayed by one week. This will be detrimental to the troll fleet and its processors because that is the most productive week of coho fishing for the year. Furthermore, there is no data that definitively shows this to be a sound move towards conservation.