

RC 266 Comment

My name is Jeff Turner, I run the freezer troller Mirage. Dugan Daniels from the Pacific Bounty passed on the info you sent to him.

What I am hearing is an ocean season for Coho on July first, followed by a king opener July 8th?

This is a very valuable time of the season for all trollers. I average 300 Coho a day in early July. Now it sounds like I will be able to target Coho and search for kings at the same time.

I will be very efficient during the king opener!

I also will have shaken a few hundred kings prior to it opening. That is another point.

Enforcement? How on earth will this staggered season opener be managed?

If we have a closure on the fourth to allow inspections and offloads for all freezer boats, that is just more time lost from an already catastrophic season projection.

Areas of high abundance are to be closed also?

Fairweather included?

Now we are targeting all the nearshore king salmon!

For my operation, I see this plan costing me at the minimum \$20,000 and four days of prime season.

I see the proposed plan as being a nightmare for all. Especially individual fisherman and enforcement.

What makes the most sense to me is open the ocean season for kings on July 1st. Close the near shore areas of high abundance, leaving the Fairweather grounds open.

I have more to say, but I wanted to get you the basics.

Thank you, Jeff Turner  
F/V Mirage