

Comments on Chinook Salmon Stocks of Concern Action Plans January 23, 2018

'Guiding Principles in Implementing These Action Plans'

- 1. The title doesn't match the verbiage in this section. What do Taku, Stikine, and Situk have to do with the Unuk and Chilkat-King Salmon action plans? There has been no process for the Board or public to review management proposals relative to any of those stocks. ADFG will no doubt take additional EO action for other stocks, like Taku, that are going through a period of low productivity, but only management actions specific to the SOC listed stocks should be included in these action plans.
- 2. The treaty language is unnecessary, because references to Alaska meeting its commitments relative to conservation and harvest provisions of the treaty are already found in state regulation at 5 AAC 33.361 (p.52, 25, 38 in the SE-YKT 2015-2018 Reg Book) and 5 AAC 29.060 (p.3 & 8). If it is important to the Board to note such language in these action plans, then perhaps it could be done with a reference to the existing treaty management plan and/or language (5 AAC 33.361).

Chilkat-King Salmon Rivers

Option A

Request that 'regionwide' be removed from the language. It may not be necessary to implement a regionwide closure to protect these stocks. Only a handful of Chilkat tags have been recovered south of Petersburg and there are no tags for the very small King Salmon stock. The troll manager should be provided the flexibility to decide what level of closure would best fit the circumstance from year to year.

Unuk River

Option B

Since the July fishery is referenced, we ask that the Board of Fish also include the August opening. A simple way to do this would be to reference the Troll Summer Chinook Management Plan ($5 \text{ AAC } 29.100^2$).

¹ <u>5 AAC 33.361. United States-Canada Salmon Management Plan</u>. (a) The department shall manage recreational, troll, purse seine, and gillnet salmon fisheries in the Southeastern and Yakutat Areas in accordance with the conservation and harvest goals, and the understandings of, the United States-Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty.

² 5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer salmon troll fishery

⁽b) The department shall manage the fishery as specified in (c) of this section until the annual harvest allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 is reached.

⁽c) The department shall manage the summer king salmon troll fishery as follows:

⁽¹⁾ the department shall manage the summer king salmon troll fishery

⁽A) to take 70 percent of the remaining king salmon harvest calculated as the annual troll harvest ceiling minus the winter and spring troll harvests of treaty king salmon in an initial opening beginning July 1; and

⁽B) to take the remaining portion of the king salmon harvest calculated as the annual harvest ceiling minus the winter, spring, and initial July 1 opening harvest of treaty king salmon;

⁽i) following the reopening of the king salmon troll fishery after any closure of a coho salmon troll fishery; or ...