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January 19, 2019

Chairman Reed Morisky  
Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Boards Support Section  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Comments on March 8 Board of Fisheries Hatchery Committee tentative agenda (RC 11)

Dear Chairman Morisky and Alaska Board of Fisheries Members:

Thank you for requesting agenda item recommendations for the board's Hatchery Committee meeting scheduled for March 8, 2019.

Silver Bay Seafoods remains supportive of the board's intent to provide opportunity for the public and board members alike to develop an informed understanding on management, production, and research relating to Alaska's salmon fishery enhancement program. However, given the timeline of these current efforts and the proposed structure of the board's tentative Hatchery Committee agenda (RC 11), and especially the afternoon's proposed "Open Forum," we are concerned about the resulting quality of input available to the board in such a setting. In particular, the proposed topics of "hatchery stock straying" and "enhancement related research" are arguably best addressed by individuals who have devoted their academic and professional careers to these highly complex issues. As these individuals' time and expertise are highly sought after, we have doubts that this process will result in their attendance on March 8.

With the intent of encouraging board member access to high-quality presentations of research relating to these issues, Silver Bay Seafoods recommends that Alaska Board of Fisheries members consider attending the following upcoming meetings:

1. Tuesday, January 29 Alaska Marine Science Symposium presentation on Alaska Hatchery Research Project (AHRP) genetics findings, Anchorage. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CONFERENCE IS JANUARY 22, 2019:**  
<https://www.alaskamarinescience.org/agenda>
2. Thursday, March 7 AHRP Public Workshop, Anchorage. This workshop's agenda is currently under development by the AHRP Science Panel:  
[http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingHatcheriesResearch.current\\_research](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingHatcheriesResearch.current_research)
3. March 19–21 Alaska Chapter American Fisheries Society (AFS) meeting, Sitka. This meeting's agenda is still under development but will include some review of issues relevant to the board's Hatchery Committee:  
<https://www.afs-alaska.org/2019-2>
4. May 18–20 North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) International Year of the Salmon (IYS) Workshop on Salmon Ocean Ecology in a Changing Climate, Portland: <https://npafc.org/workshop-2019/>

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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