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Hello my name is Fred Fogle. My family has been involved in salmon fishing in Alaska for 70 years. My father arrived in Alaska in 1947 after WW2 and homesteaded in Homer. The next year one of his friends talked him into going salmon fishing. Someone from my family has been part of the salmon fishing here almost every year since. My brother Phil holds permits in a number of different areas and still fishes. I now work at a company that sells gear to the fisherman.

The proposals before you are retreads of the past. Chignik's complaints about Kodiak fishermen at Cape Igvak is at least 30 years old. The management plan in place now is a result of Kodiak trying to make sure that Chignik was treated fair. This plan has worked well for years. Nothing Kodiak has done is part of their ongoing return problems. They must have a robust catch and escapement before Kodiak is even allowed to fish. Changing a working management plan is foolish.

The proposals from Cook Inlet are more of the same. In 1988 Cook Inlet was enjoying record catches, Kodiak was also having a banner year. We caught a lot of north bound fish that year! So in 1990 the North Shelikof Strait plan was put in place to make sure that Kodiak didn't have a detrimental effect on Cook Inlets catch. In the years since Kodiak has been kept from many of our traditional fishing areas to protect their runs. Now once again Cook Inlet wants Kodiak to give up more of our fishing on the chance that they will catch more fish. While at the same time, their catch rates and escapement has been well within the target numbers for those areas. Maybe they should look to their ongoing pike problem before they come knocking on Kodiaks door looking for more fish!

Kodiak has the most successful salmon management plan in the state. If you decide any incidental catch of fish headed to other areas is enough to change a management plan you will open the flood gate for all the self-serving proposals that follow! Let's not change that for questionable gains to another area. The argument that we catch fish heading elsewhere could be made for any salmon fisherman that doesn't have his net across the mouth of a river!

