

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Reed Morisky, Chair

February 19, 2020

Record Comment (RC) - Upper Cook Inlet BOF Meeting re: Hatchery Committee Agenda

Dear Chairman Morisky and members of the Alaska Board of Fisheries,

The BOF will be finalizing the Hatchery Committee agenda during miscellaneous business and has requested input for agenda topics. During the Lower Cook Inlet BOF meeting in Seward, several BOF members raised questions about enhancement programs' funding mechanisms, how cost recovery works, how cost recovery goals are determined, and how the Department of Commerce loan program is linked to cost recovery and the Salmon Enhancement Tax (SET). We believe it would be valuable for the BOF to hear answers to these questions from the regulators themselves – and especially the departments of Commerce and Fish and Game. Therefore, we are requesting that these topics be included on the hatchery committee agenda for the March 6, 2020 meeting.

We respectfully submit the following topic outline for your consideration:

- 1. Funding and Corporate Structure**
 - a. Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
 - i. Fisheries Enhancement Loan Program
 - ii. Return on investment (SET vs. Common Property Contribution)
 - iii. Lending Policy and Regulatory Structure
 - b. Department of Fish & Game
 - i. Cost Recovery (Statutes)
 - c. Departmental Oversight and Reporting
- 2. Aquaculture Associations: Organizational Structure, Operations**
 - a. Role of Regional Planning Teams
 - b. Annual Management Plans, Corporate Escapement
 - c. Operational Goals, Requirements, Planning
 - d. "How it Works"

We appreciate that the BOF on behalf of the public is pursuing a better and more complete understanding of Alaska's salmon enhancement program. As scientists and stewards of the resource, we see this ongoing inquiry as a benefit to our programs and to the contributions we make to the State of Alaska. We look forward to continuing the dialogue with the Board of Fisheries.

Respectfully,

Alaska's Hatchery Operators

Armstrong-Keta Incorporated
Angela Bowers, Executive Director

Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
Steve Reifentstahl, General Manager

Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Dean Day, Executive Director

Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation
Tommy Sheridan, General Manager/CEO

Douglas Island Pink and Chum
E. Prestegard/K. Harms, Executive Director

Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
David Landis, General Manager

Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
Tina Fairbanks, Executive Director

Valdez Fisheries Development Association
Mike Wells, Executive Director

