

John Renner

RC121

Ladies and gentlemen of the board,

Proposal ⁵⁷ allowing permit stacking in Prince William Sound salmon seining will have devastating unintended consequences. The small boat fleet who I represent will experience financial difficulties including: 1) Advancement with better equipment will be severely restricted. 2) New entrants will find permit prices significantly higher i.e., PWS seine permit \$120,000.00 30 days ago, now \$200,000.00 and rising rapidly. 3) Nets that were viable a short time ago are now to be used for parts and pieces to meet new regulations. How much are they worth i.e. A legal rebuilt net valued at \$20,000.00 is now worth \$10,000.00. \$5000.00?, obviously less. 4) Sales of smaller vessels are already difficult i.e., Copper River boats and permits three small boats for sale with zero offers, one large boat listed sale pending. I cannot outline for you all the ramification of the proposals approved by the board at this time, but I assure you that they will be swift and devastating to the small boat portion of the fleet. They have already begun to manifest. i.e., permit prices rising. Young fishermen will gain entry to the fishery only through family ties or having the right name and living somewhere else other than Cordova. The obstacles for young fishermen have gotten worse. I was representing small boat owners in the discussion at the committee of the whole. I was cut off from testifying because of time constraints and false testimony.

Thank you John Renner a private individual who owns a small boat. I would hope you could correct this glaring inequity. While I am in favor of fleet reduction in the siene fishery i.e., it has changed dramatically since new regulations were approved in 2017, this is not the way to do it on the backs of new entrants, young fishermen, and especially small boat owners.

P.S. I was the only representative for small boat owners at the meeting!

Thank you for your consideration.