

Submitted by Southeast Alaska Seiners Association

Proposal 122

Madame Chair and Members of the Board,

The Southeast Seiners Association would like to support proposal 122. This would keep the Hawk Inlet sockeye cap ending July 22 and remove the sunset. This proposal would maintain the status quo and be the same date as it has been the last four years. This date was part of a suite of deals between gillnetters and seiners that included both wild stock and enhanced fish, four years ago at the board of fish. Up until this time, board actions have been mostly consistent with the terms of that deal and the seine fleet would like to see that status quo extend to this July 22nd sockeye cap date.

The seine fleet fishes this area to harvest north migrating pink salmon. Some sockeye harvest is incidental to this harvest, but is not our target.

The seiners would like to remind the board of fish that the Hawk Inlet fishery does not pose a threat to any of the north end sockeye systems, the Chilkat, Chilkoot, and Taku, and any sockeye cap is purely allocative.

Below you will find charts showing no correlation between the sockeye catch by seiners on the Hawk Inlet shore with escapements in these major sockeye systems, the Chilkoot, Chilkat and Taku.

The closer an R^2 value is to 1, the stronger the correlation. These graphs show a maximum R^2 of .0052, which is very far from being statistically significant.

Therefore the graphs show the seine fishery on hawk inlet has no demonstrable negative impact on Chilkoot, Chilkat, and Taku sockeye escapements.

