

Reference Proposal 129 and RC185 Klawock Coho subsistence annual bag limit.

Dear Board,

Please consider this information found in staff comments RC2, pages 102 and 106 in your deliberations.

“The Klawock River Hatchery’s large number of returning coho salmon to the system for many years leads the department to believe that the majority, if not all, returning coho salmon are of hatchery origin. AS 16.05.940(34) defines subsistence uses as the noncommercial, customary and traditional uses of wild, renewable resources by a resident. As such, if this proposal were to be adopted, it may be more appropriate to address the coho salmon possession limit under personal use regulations in Chapter 77” (RC 2 page 102)

From Table 130-1- Klawock River subsistence permits fished

| Year | Permits Fished | Coho Harvest | Fish Per Permit |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1999 | 124 | 50 | 0.4 |
| 2000 | 113 | 31 | 0.3 |
| 2001 | 130 | 60 | 0.5 |
| 2002 | 116 | 29 | 0.3 |
| 2003 | 91 | 10 | 0.1 |
| 2004 | 80 | 53 | 0.7 |
| 2005 | 34 | 49 | 1.4 |
| 2006 | 65 | 76 | 1.2 |
| 2007 | 37 | 31 | 0.8 |
| 2008 | 70 | 108 | 1.5 |
| 2009 | 127 | 104 | 0.8 |
| 2010 | 99 | 382 | 3.9 |
| 2011 | 76 | 34 | 0.4 |
| 2012 | 68 | 146 | 2.1 |
| 2013 | 53 | 476 | 9.0 |
| 2014 | 58 | 299 | 5.2 |
| 2015 | 29 | 177 | 6.1 |
| 2016 | 49 | 353 | 7.2 |
| 2017 | 37 | 251 | 6.8 |
| 2018 | 57 | 245 | 4.3 |
| 2019 | 33 | 261 | 7.9 |
| 2020 | 39 | 403 | 10.3 |
| 2021 | 23 | 141 | 6.1 |
| Averages | 70 | 164 | 2.3 |

The number of permits fished and the reported catch for years 1999 through 2021, show an average catch per permit of just over 2 fish. In nine years, the reported catch was less than 1 fish per permit. The data does not seem to indicate a need to increase the annual harvest. That said, if the Board chose to increase the limit, I would ask that a reasonable cap be imposed so that the historical nature and magnitude of the harvest does not experience exponential growth.

Thank You,

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