

Hello, I'm Dennis Nelson, born and raised in Dillingham. I am a current commercial fisherman and a permit holder. I've commercial fished my entire life, and almost entirely in the Nushagak District. We've seen a lot of changes during that time. The technology has advanced our gear from wooden boats to what we see now on the water. That's just in my lifetime.

The Nushagak King Salmon stock assessment and action plan should be tabled until March 2023. Residents, Advisory Councils, permit holders, subsistence users have not had adequate time to review this action plan, ADF&G released on November 23, 2022.

Because the Action Plan will be making such large changes to the fishery, we need time to consider additional changes to the Management Plan. These changes should be made simultaneously. Proposals 11-13 should also be table until the March meeting.

I support proposals 28, 29, 31, 32 & 61 – King Salmon are a major subsistence food not only for Alaskan residents, but for residents of the Bristol Bay. We need to step up and protect them at their lowest point. They'll come back to their highs, but for now we need to back off.

I oppose proposal # 46 – Permit Stacking: limits other people from getting into the Limited Entry Permit Fishery. Individuals that have the available finances to purchase more than 1 permit would dominate the drift commercial fishery. This was not the intent of the State of Alaska when the limited entry permit was enacted, to provide an equal opportunity for many to participate in this fishery.

Thank you for your time and commitment to Alaska and entirety of the Bristol Bay.