

I would like to voice my support to Amended Language to Proposal 256 (formerly ACR 9). This proactive approach continues to limit impacts on Chinook and allows adequate harvest opportunity for species in abundance. Sockeye abundances have been at record levels over the last few years. Providing great harvest opportunity and outstanding table fare. They are willing biters on jigs tipped with prawns and are targeted in different water than Chinook. By eliminating the use of cured salmon eggs, restricting hooks to a single hook point, and allowing bait only as an enhancement to a lure or fly, any incidental Chinook encounters will likely result in low mortality release.

By limiting Chinook catch and release fisheries to below Gechiak Creek, you reduce fishing in areas Chinook are staging to spawn. The proposed fisheries would not effect the traditional Chinook spawning areas. Instead, targeting moving fish briefly staging in the lower river. I hope to see support for this proactive approach to freshwater fisheries management. This is a step in the right direction for sustainable opportunities and preserving our fishing culture for the future.

Thank you,

Lyle Jennings

Sport Angler