

November 30, 2023

To: Alaska Board of Fisheries

Gentlemen and Lady:

I have lived in and been a resident of Togiak for many years.

In the early nineties I was Chairman of the Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee. At that time we in Togiak had an issue with the Commercial Salmon management practices. The Advisory committee worked for several years and finally came up with the "Togiak Salmon Management Plan" that was at the time a new idea and developed an "Exclusive Use Fishery" for the commercial salmon fisherman. It has proved to be a positive benefit for local Togiak Fisherman and is in place to this day.

On that note, I would like to comment on the Proposal 256 before the Board at this time.

It appears to be a good compromise and allows for ample opportunity for a "unique" Sockeye fishery while putting safeguards in place for the Togiak River Chinook Salmon.

Over the years, the Chinook show up around the first part of June and peak towards the end of June. By the 10th of July the run is pretty much dropped off and by the 15th of July they are pretty much over. That's when the reds start showing up in earnest.

This has been my experience with both subsistence fishing and sports fishing, (rod and reel) in the Togiak River and when commercial fishing in the Togiak district.

The critical time for the conservation of Chinook (King) Salmon is from June 1 to July 10. July 15 would be a good safeguard date and after July 15, the "unique" Sockeye (Red) Salmon fishery should be allowed to operate in the river with no restrictions. These are my comments to the Board.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary Carlos".

Gary Carlos

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