

**Substitute Language for Proposal 142**

Submitted by: Dan Norman

There is currently no accurate data to report large chinook salmon in the commercial harvest. There used to be a difference in how data was collected for chinook salmon between a fish 10 pounds and over and those under 10 pounds. At some point the department did away with the split between jacks vs kings.

A great deal of effort was put on precise measurements of all chinook harvested. The attached table and chart show a best fit curve for salmon harvested during the 2023 Kintama Pilot Study. This data shows that a 34-inch fish intercepts the weight line at exactly 20 pounds. The department testified during Staff comments that a 34-inch fish was around 20 pounds, so their assumption and this data reinforce each other.

The current way of collecting chinook size data is not helpful to truly understanding harvest rates of large chinook vs small chinook. The department then relies on the scale and DNA sample teams to get a data point on percentage of chinook by size. This is incredible inefficient and unreliable to get a true data capture.

Fisherman get paid by the pound and every single chinook is weighed since there is a different in price per pound for jacks. I believe the commercial fishing industry would welcome additional data on exploitation rates of jacks vs small vs large chinook salmon.

During these times of low abundance the fecundity of our returning spawners is of great importance.

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5AAC. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan

**(7) King Salmon Reporting Requirements**

**Alaska department of Fish and Game general salmon fish tickets must record Chinook Salmon as follow:**

**Large Chinook over 20 Pounds will be reported as code 410. Small Chinook from 10-20 pounds will be reported as code 411. Jacks under 10 pounds will be reported as code 415.**

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Weight	length
17.1	3
17.33	5
17.5	3
17.75	3
19	3
19	4
19.5	4
21.46	6
23.5	6
25	8
25	8
25.2	7
25.3	8
25.5	9
26.5	8
26.57	10
31.3	19
35.63	26
36.42	26
37.4	30
39	27
40	33

