

## PROPOSAL 86

Chairman and Board Members,

I am a born and raised Alaskan with a passion for sportfishing the Kenai River. My family has been fortunate enough to own property on the Kenai River for 50+ years.

Proposal 86 is so ridiculous that I did not think it would require any comments or testimony. After watching the meeting online, I now wish I had been there in person to testify today.

The justification for this proposal starts out with "Set netters are experiencing incredible hardships to protect Late Run Kenai King salmon."

This proposal is vindictive in nature and coming from an upset set net fisherman. The purpose of this proposal is not to protect King salmon but rather it appears intended to cause pain to another user group as a backlash to paired restrictions.

King salmon are spawned by late August / early September. As a landowner, I see the spawned-out carcasses littered along my section of riverbank. I should add that I'm finally starting to see more carcasses again since the implementation of paired restrictions to the commercial fishery as well.

There are not fresh Kings hitting bait in September and certainly Oct for that matter. The ADFG's current process of no bait to protect Kings until Aug 15<sup>th</sup> is acceptable and understandable. Last year the Department decided at the last minute to close bait until Aug 31<sup>st</sup>. This was probably an overreach.

I'm not going to spout off any "guesses" on statistics or provide false stats like I hear from many testifiers but catching a King while fishing for silvers in Aug/Sept is very rare.

Kings spawn in the main channel. I see them rolling at certain times. We fish silvers a couple feet off of the bank and we are not "fishing on their spawning beds."

The proposer testified that it "does not remove much opportunity" or something to that affect. False. As you all know, the fall in Alaska is often very rainy and the Kenai is already glacial and murky with low visibility. Many years with any substantial rain, it's extremely hard to catch a silver salmon without bait and scent in the lower Kenai River.

I'm writing to oppose this proposal and to appeal for you to use common sense.

Sincerely,

Rob Boyer