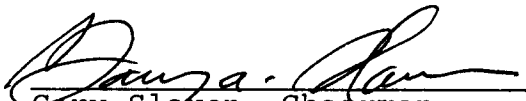


JOINT STATEMENT ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE  
KUSKOKWIM RIVER SALMON FISHERY

The Board of Fisheries, the Department of Fish and Game, the local Fish and Game Advisory Committees, and local subsistence and commercial fishermen agree to work together towards the goal of increasing the sustained yield of Kuskokwim River salmon stocks to provide for subsistence needs and an economically viable commercial fishery. To achieve that goal, the parties agree to the following:

1. Kuskokwim River salmon users will form a working group.
2. The local department staff will meet with the working group to discuss pre-season and in-season management of the fishery and evaluate items such as, but not limited to:
  - (a) test fishery data;
  - (b) CPUE data from historic and in-season commercial fisheries; and
  - (c) in-season subsistence catch data.
3. It is understood that the purpose of these meetings shall be to arrive at a consensus regarding the openings and closures of the Kuskokwim River fishery. If a consensus cannot be reached emergency order authority will continue to be at the area management biologist's discretion.
4. The department will announce the opening of the first commercial fishing period by June 10.
5. The fishing periods may be separated by six days to assist king salmon passage.
6. The department and the working group will work towards the development of a comprehensive management plan for all of the Kuskokwim River salmon stocks, and report to the board on their progress.
7. Working group/staff meetings will be at the discretion of the chair of the working group.

  
 Gary Slaven, Chairman  
 Board of Fisheries

Date: March 14th 1988

  
 Don W. Collinsworth  
 Commissioner, ADF&G

Date: 4.20.88