7/23/2012

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Boards Support Section P.O. Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Attention: Chairman Johnstone

Subject: Up dated Emergency Petition Request Letter 7/22/2012

Dear Chairman Johnstone;

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Game Commission request an emergency Petition hearing at the earliest possible date. To determine if the current management procedures meet standards and guidelines established by the Board of Fisheries. Emergency order #18 issued on Friday 7/20/2012 by the commercial fisheries division was not sound management practice. We request the Board stop or restrict the department from issuing further orders that would impede the Northern District salmon stocks, some of which are stocks of concern.

Current escapements for sockeye and coho appear to be well below normal with commercial harvest of cohos at 17,828 and pinks at 47,871 which appear to be well below normal. This indicates continued weak runs may be expected in the Northern District. Last year (2011) coho returns to the Northern District were below normal and Alaska Department of Fish and Game instituted restrictions and closure on sports fisher to protect weak returns.

Current escapement levels:

Deshka River: Cohos 8

Pinks 258

Little Susitna Cohos 7

Pinks 1

Sockeye 4

Sockeye Chelatna Lake 0

Judd Lake 0

Larson

913

Escapements as of 7 A.M. 7/23/2012

Thank you

T Bruce Knowles

Chairman Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Game Commission

907-232-5873 Cell

907-495-4965 Home