

NORTHERN



SOUTHEAST REGIONAL AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION, INC.

(907) 747-6850
FAX (907) 747-1470
EMAIL steve_reifenstuhl@nsraa.org

1308 Sawmill Creek Road Sitka, Alaska 99835

Board of Fisheries Testimony

Mr. Chairman and board members, thank you for this opportunity to testify. My name is Steve Reifenstuhl; I am the general manager for Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association. NSRAA has an elected board of directors that represents gillnet, troll, and seine permit holders in southeast Alaska.

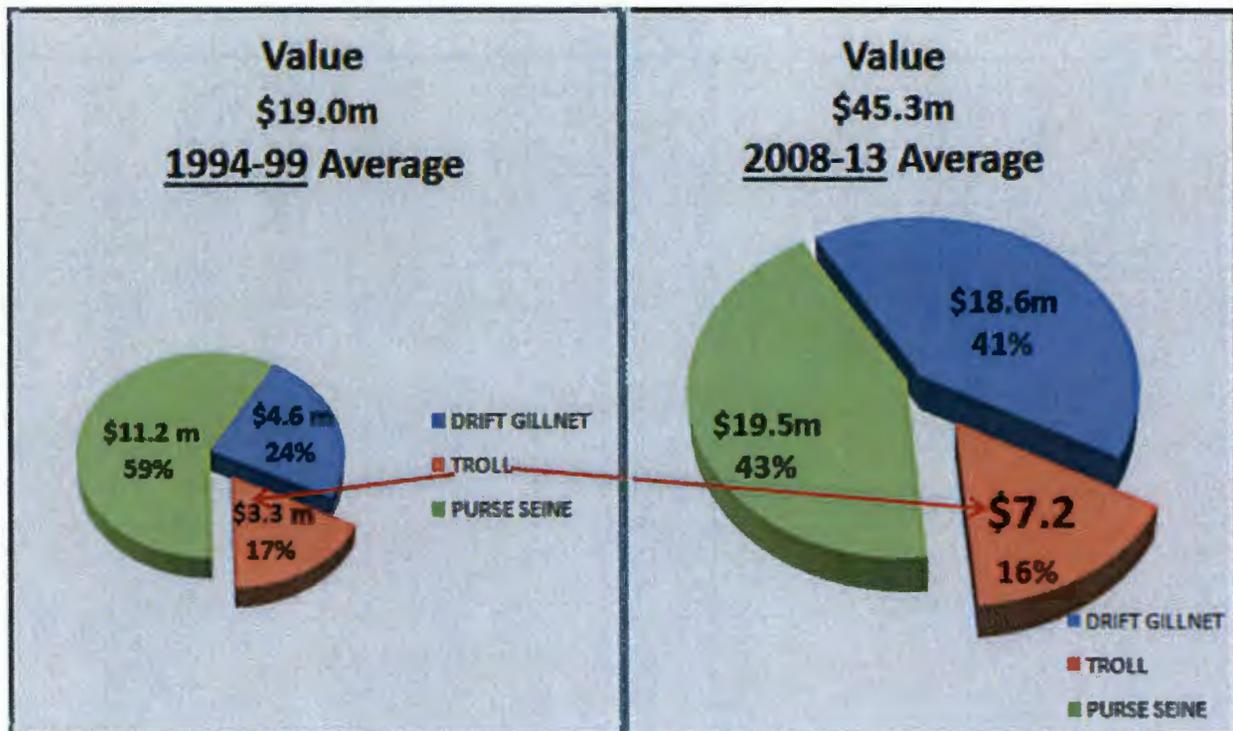
I'd like to reference Public Comments #49 & JRPT PC #80

I have 3 slides to show

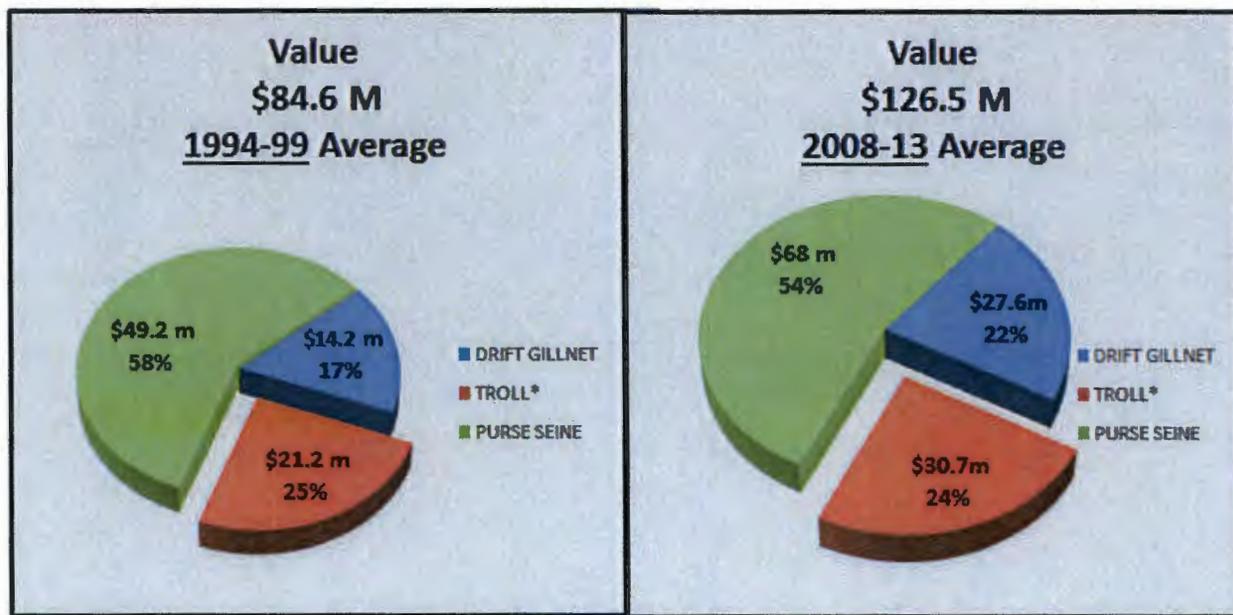
I will comment on 175 & 176 the Allocation proposals together. These proposals are not supported by Alaska Trollers Association, United Gillnetters, SE Seiners, NSRAA, and the JRPT, that is all the salmon fishing groups in SE Alaska, except for one small, narrowly focused splinter group. Representatives of the three gear groups spent from 1991 to 1994 to arrive at a consensus agreement for SE Allocation. These same representatives agree they do not want to open up the allocation plan.

Could the consensus group know the outcomes for 2014, back in 1994? Of course not. You will hear that the trollers are below their allocation. This is true, but it is also true these groups do not want to renegotiate the plan. There is a reason for that. Faulty assumptions, Pacific Salmon Treaty, differential harvest efficiencies among the gear, and many more factors have a role in the explanation. It is extremely complicated. Here is what isn't complicated, the enhanced value for the troll fleet is three times what it was in 1994, and they were in their range in 1994. NSRAA spends 46% of its annual \$6.5 million on troll Chinook and coho programs.

S.E. Enhanced Salmon Allocation



S.E. All Salmon Allocation



NSRAA also opposes proposals 193, 199, and 200

These proposals would shut down much of Chatham Strait, Peril Strait and surrounding seine fisheries. The boundaries and particulars of each proposal differ somewhat, but the effect is the same, it shuts down fisheries, wholesale, and importantly it is based on a fallacy. Kanalku Lake sockeye.

Genetic stock identification was conducted on Kanalku sockeye and other nearby sockeye systems. In 2012, 2013, & 2014, seine fisheries were sampled for sockeye for genetic stock of origin. 2012 and 2014 were low pink salmon years and few Kanalku sockeye were identified. However, in 2013 the largest pink salmon year on record 236 Kanalku sockeye were identified in the seine catch. This represents 9% of the total return.

ADF&G does a good job of limiting the catch of sockeye stocks by time and area closures, virtually no fishing in June and early July, and once or twice a week fishing through the third week of July.

