

PROPOSAL FOR BRISTOL BAY 2015

RC 129

Bristol Bay 1976 - 2015

HISTORY:

F/V White Knight 1986 - 1998 Bristol Bay Fished Bristol Bay barely holding on to the vessel and Permit through out the harsh years and families financial help held on to vessel and permit then in 1998 a devastating loss to vessel as sailing towards Bristol Bay losing the vessel to shallow water and reef.

F/V Dynamic 1989 - 1992 Vessel was lost to banks due to Mega Seafood corporations suppressing the market driving out cash buyers as prices plummeted down and fish was over escaped in the rivers as mass fish was caught then seafood buyers couldn't keep up with sockeye salmon so fisherman where forced to toss fish in the ocean as too much escapement was killing off smelt due to too much fish in the rivers suffocating the food resource.

F/V Ocean Ranger 1989 - 2015 Bristol Bay sockeye fishing then losing vessel to foreclosure due to Mega Seafood corporations suppressing the market driving out cash buyers as prices fell and fish was over escaped in the rivers. devastating the previous owner and jeopardizing the family, the hardship was so overwhelming that the previous owner had to recover from therapy and family hardships barley hanging on from financial losses as the fishing was their main income repercussions were devastating. Then vessel was bought back from the foreclosure investing vast amounts of money investing back into Bristol Bay hoping to see the future of fishing in Bristol Bay fixed by the damage done in the past.

F/V Victory 1986-2015 Previous owner fished in the Bristol Bay suffering the bad years with help of family's financial backing held on to the vessel and permit with prices being so low the vessel didn't fish for a few years due to the fact that it cost more to up keep buying nets, fuel, maintenance etc. then a few years later the vessel fished again by another owner for a few years. Being sold again as it was just barely covering expenses and the new owner hoping that the Bristol Bay would recover from the dramatic past for a better future in Bristol Bay...

BRISTOL BAY HISTORY continued...

With prices dropping and commercial fisherman getting pressured to stand down by the seafood processors, not having enough seafood processors in the Bristol Bay in one of the only largest wild sockeye runs in the world, Bristol Bay begins one of the biggest over escapements of sockeye salmon, hurting the conservation and the ecology and devastating the largest wild sockeye runs in the world. as more and more fish escape into the rivers over escapement hurting the ecology. as commercial fisherman grind their teeth sitting waiting for the fish processors to catch up and the ADF&G getting frustrated with the processors as rivers get over escaped devastating the food resource. Promises by seafood processors every year to keep up and not holding there promises. Promising every year that they are going to keep up and not to bring any additional processors to process the sockeye. Holding on the commercial fisherman loses money by every minute they sit as the harvest of sockeye salmon run not lasting more than a month in Bristol Bay. Once the sockeye escape into the rivers the fishing season is done. With the frustration and deliberation with the the fish processors year by year we finally got tired of sitting and losing our seasons. The huge corporations that control the markets and commercial fisherman. Finally in Bristol Bay Alaska in 2014 **Wild Legacy Seafoods** was born.

Being a commercial fisherman since 7years old and a third generation commercial fisherman in Bristol Bay remembering the years when the cash buyers were in Bristol Bay paying a fare price for our sockeye salmon the huge mega seafood buyers out bidding the small seafood processors, as the gullible commercial fisherman went for the big money not realizing that not only was the commercial fisherman hurting the small fish buyers and the future sockeye runs but giving the advantage to the mega corporate seafood buyers, one by one the small seafood buyers started leaving, as it was not profitable for them to stay because not one commercial fisherman supported the small seafood company so there it was once the small buyers left. The mega corporate seafood buyers dropped the price so low that the commercial suffered greatly as bad as to losing boats and permits to the banks. as more and more fish came and mega corporate seafood buyers not keeping up again, as more and more sockeye escaped into the rivers again hurting the ecology for the future years for the sockeye salmon, is because the smelt died of starvation as food abundance was not enough for the sockeye to survive and year by year losing abundance of sockeye runs in Bristol Bay due to the fact of greed and pride by the mega corporate seafood companies, The sockeye runs got so low in abundance and price being so low, that the commercial fisherman never went fishing as the expense was more than the sockeye was caught. for the next few years the sockeye got to its normal runs and the escapement goals were meet again. it was worth for the commercial fisherman to go fishing again. as price went up and more seafood buyers started coming in again, and so it started happening again, the mega corporate seafood buyers buying out the small seafood buyers giving them a substantial amount of money but to never return to Bristol Bay to ever buy

sockeye salmon. So here we have established the seafood company to buy sockeye salmon and as there is never enough wild sockeye salmon in the world, and being the largest runs in the Bristol Bay for sockeye salmon and the world consumer wanting fresh and or frozen sockeye as there is never enough wild salmon in this world to sustain the world hunger. We as a small seafood company will not back down and let the mega corporate seafood companies take over again lets fight together keeping the small seafood companies alive keeping the competition against the mega corporate seafood buyers hoping the fisherman will learn from their past mistakes and support the small seafood companies as ourselves and keeping the ecology safe, conservation wild and abundant for years to come so even our great, great, great grandchildren can enjoy the Bristol Bay wild sockeye salmon.

COMMENTS:

1. Permit Stacking:

Being a Third Generation Bristol Bay Commercial Fisherman I have seen the highs and lows as a young small strong 7 year old to 36 years old now, remembering my dad holding me as the breakers in Ugashik broke on the vessel laughing saying see my son how we fish in Bristol Bay the biggest run with the best fish and the worlds largest sockeye salmon fishing in the world this is where to be. Remembering the racial humiliation we lived through as our vessels got shot at from rifles and once our vessel got hit hard intentionally as all my small brothers and sisters were on the vessel sleeping as our net was drifting. My Dad being a Strong, Generous, and a Forgiving man, forgiving the stupidity and proud fisherman. over the years things got better, people being more friendly and working together more and more.

But the intense fishing never got better, always too many fishing boats and to many permits there were so many permits issued that every river in Bristol Bay suffered cutting the sockeye off so bad that the local natives would complain that they could not get the sockeye up the river they needed to store and smoke for the winter. so ADF&G would close the fishing periods for the Drift fleet so the set netters and subsistence would catch there allowance and this has been going on for years.

1. stacking of permits has there benefits and it will help Bristol Bay Fisherman and having one owner own to permits is a need be, is because one individual can own two permits fish with 4 shackles eliminating one vessel and an additional 3 shackles in the water, and in the future when the individual and or family member (Son, Daughter, Heir etc.) or whomever the individual wants the permit to go too. The permit could be transferred, sold, or be gifted. Then the permit could stay in the fishing family for years to come, and would be very beneficial to any culture that want to keep there Bristol Bay Permits in there Families and or Communities.

2. Boundary Lines:

Boundary lines in Bristol Bay should be taken out once the escapement is met in a river or rivers is because there is still enforcement out there to book the commercial fisherman even after the escapement is met and a Bristol Bay fisherman would still get a ticket and or suspension even fishing later in the season trying to fish and then get a ticket fishing over the boundary, once there is no one around as only usually local natives or local villagers and or community members are left to fish for their winter smoke houses, or for extra income to selling salmon, marketing it themselves and hoping to make enough money to live through the winter as prices are getting lower and suppressed and processors couldn't take their fish due to limits and or pulling out of Bristol Bay hurting the local economy and then on top of that the state troopers ticketing a fisherman when there is not much need for the enforcement as there is enough escapement in the rivers.

I'm hoping that the 7 board members are looking at the overall evaluation and comments being submitted. And not only taking the local concerns over Bristol Bay, But the concerns of the whole Bristol Bay Commercial Fisherman, The Bristol Bay Commercial Fisherman brings in millions of dollars of revenue to the local Bristol Bay Economy each and every year. So not only do the locals of Bristol Bay contribute to the Bristol Bay, So do those that Commercial Fish in Bristol Bay and are not living in Bristol Bay, and without the majority there wouldn't be that revenue stream coming into Bristol Bay.

Thank you;

Kiril Z. Basargin, Permit Holder and Bristol Bay Fisherman for over 36 years.

Selivan K. Basargin (13 years old) Permit Holder and Bristol Bay Fisherman for over 2 years.

F/V Ocean Ranger

F/V Victory

Kiril Z. Basargin

P.O. Box 2395

Homer, AK 99603

(907) 226-2286

fv.oceanranger@gmail.com