

Committee Group 2 Considerations -- Matanuska Valley AC

Chairman Jensen and Board Members,

Please consider the following points on proposals from Group 2.

Please adopt a late-season large fish king salmon goal for the Kenai River. Large fish have the most reproductive potential, and in times of low king salmon production these larger fish need to be managed for. The user groups are interested in a goal range that most benefits them. Please adopt a goal range that best protects the resource, and provides for the needs of all user groups.

Economics from this group of proposals should be considered carefully. One-sided decisions, either way, would likely greatly reduce the economic impact generated from the commercial fishery / sport fishery. Combined economic impacts are greater than either stand alone fishery.

None of the salmon fisheries operate very well without a harvestable surplus of fish or the opportunity to harvest those fish.

Much of the input received in both committee Group 1 and Group 2 was not new information — but rather the same points already made in public comments, testimony, and committee, and often by the same individuals. To avoid devaluing public testimony, and public comments, and in fairness to all user groups — the board should follow the guideline of limiting committee opportunity to new information.

Andy Couch, Matanuska Valley AC

