

Board of Fisheries / UCI public meeting
Chair, John Jensen

RC 197

Re: Proposal 171, RC 127, RC 107, RC 117
RE: Complaint on actions under RC 107

Date: March 4, 2017

Board members:

I offer the following on information to the record to consider:

The Kasilof Section low harvest level on large fish (Kenai kings) and the catch per unit effort (CPUE) information during the season and comparison to East Forelands and Kenai Section follows.

First of all, the low harvest on the numbers of Kenai bound king salmon in the Kasilof Section has been consistent and represented in past and present Mixed Stock Analysis along the Eastside (age / size / greater than 75 cm): Eskelin and Barclay Regional Info. Report 2A17-03).

2015 comparison: (see ADFG hours fished and RC 117)

The CPUE per hour / 12-hour period has the Kasilof Section harvest of 17 large Kenai kings in a 12-hour opening. The CPUE on permits operating in the Kasilof Section has 237 permits with a corresponding per net per 12 hour catch rate of .02 large kings during the season; i.e., 667 large fish / 711 nets / 373 hours and 78 hours (600 ft. openers). The results are less than 1 king per net per season (.89 of one large king). Less than 3% harvest in Kasilof Section of Kenai large king run.

The East Forelands has 31 permits and 88 large kings with 269 hours. Note: The catch per unit of gear per 12-hour opening is .04 large kings CPUE hour / CPUE net; i.e. 1.6 Twice the rate than Kasilof nets operating; i.e. .02 Kasilof Section vs. .04 East Forelands.

2019 large Kenai kings and 90 large kings per 12 opening (7.7 large kings per hour) with 117 permits / 351 nets operating / 269 hours season 2015. Note: .25 CPUE large Kenai kings per net per 12- hour opener. (Kenai: Section minus East Forelands)

Escapement goal (Kenai king goal achieved).

2016 season:

Kasilof Section: 359 hours in-season / 824 large Kenai kings. Escapement goal achieved. **Once again the catch per unit of gear for the entire season was only 1 large king per unit of gear and compares to the East Forelands Section 1 large king per unit of gear during the entire season (80 large kings and 31 permits).**

Kenai Section (minus East Forelands harvest): 2004 large Kenai kings with 234 hours (season). 124 permits / 372 nets. 8.4 large kings per hour CPUE or 102 per 12 hour opening.

The Eastside set gillnet fishery is a mixed stock fishery. The incidental harvest of Kenai bound kings has remained consistent by Section. However, due to hourly restrictions the "burden" has been displaced by Section even during better Kenai king runs (2015 and 2016 years).

The Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement (BEG) goal has been grossly exceeded 4 out of the last 5 years. Mr. Willette ADFG Research biologist Commercial Fisheries Div. stated on the record exceeding the upper BEG above 340,000 fish causes on average Yield loss of over 230,000 fish and exceeding the "upper OEG" of 390,000 causes an average Yield loss of 330,000 to occur. We have experienced such over escapement Risk on Yields. Average returns are approx. 900,000 fish and knowing or accepting such Risk affects the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishermen who depend on this resource as well as Drift, personal use. Proposal 171 intent was for reasonable measures be considered to meet Kasilof BEG goals and harvest available. The Kasilof River sockeye run earlier than Kenai sockeye or Kenai king salmon run timing. *PROTECT FUTURE KASILOF SOCKEYE RUNS!*

My intent on this RC is to illustrate the Kasilof Section harvest rate based on FACTS instead of not placed on the record from actions taken by Mr. Ruffner substitution with RC 107 and without any discussion during the deliberation process on proposal 171. Kasilof and East Forelands information on this matter reinforces my objections under RC 127.

Sincerely,

Jeff Beaudoin

Hours fished in the ESSN fishery by Section, 1999-2016*data do not include hours fished in the KRSHA*

Year	Kasilof	Kenai/EF
1999	454	188
2000	191	128
2001	257	60
2002	373	216
2003	415	242
2004	605	332
2005	688	420
2006	441	228
2007	633	302
2008	385	74
2009	382	124
2010	473	319
2011	413	265
2012	85	60
2013	140	66
2014	154	72
2015	373 ^a	269
2016	359	234
Avg	379	200

^a does not includes 78 hrs in 600' fishery;
if 600' fishery included, Kasilof average increases to 383

ADF&C DATA (SHIELDS, PAT)