

**Submitted by: Charlotte Levy, Aleutians East Borough Natural Resources Department**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you today and thank you for all of your work. My name is Charlotte Levy, and I am the Natural Resources Assistant Director for the Aleutians East Borough. There has been a great deal of testimony regarding the burden of conservation, and the purpose of my testimony is to explain how Area M shares in this burden. First of all, it is important to note that the Chignik sockeye salmon do not belong to Chignik but are shared by all stakeholders including historical area m fisheries.

The Area M Fisheries are fully managed under regulatory management plans that comport with the mixed-stock fishery policy. The management plans include important conservation measures even though they look different than the conservation measures used in terminal area fisheries. For example, Chignik and other terminal fisheries conservation is achieved by opening and closing fisheries based on escapements.

In contrast fisheries that catch a small amount fish going to many different places are subject to a different classes of conservation measures that don't necessarily look like those in a terminal fishery. For example:

- the June fishery used to open on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June but then over time has been shifted to later in the month on the 10th.
- There are specific openings and closures in the June and Post-June fisheries.
- The depths of nets originally were not restricted, but in 1990 regulations were passed to restrict those depths.
- The SEDM setnet fishery is heavily restricted with a variety of management measures.
- In addition, in years like 2018 emergency order authority is invoked to impose additional restrictions- including reduced fishing time and area closures.

These are all meaningful conservations measures on the mixed stocks that are migrating through the area.

The mixed-stock fishery policy clearly states that (and quote) "the boards preference in assigning conservation burdens in mixed stock fisheries is through the application of specific fishery management plans set out in the regulations. A management plan incorporates conservation burden and allocation of harvest opportunity" (end quote). Our Area M management plans incorporate allocation and conservation burdens that are appropriate to non-terminal fisheries.

This is clearly reflected by the fact that there is no declining trend in the Chignik sockeye harvest or escapement – the average harvest over the most recent 20, 10 and 5 years through 2017 are all very similar. The same is true of average escapements – all of which are within the escapement goal range. Please see attached.

To conclude, the fisheries in South Peninsula are subject to substantial conservation measures that are appropriate to that specific area, but which may not be recognized by a terminal fishery, because the conservation measures there are of a completely different nature.

# Chignik Management Area Escapements and Harvests

## 2018 Chignik Annual Management Report

Year	Early Run Escapement	Late Run Escapement	Total Escapement	Chignik Management Area Harvest
1998-2017 Avg (20-year)	426,109	326,065	752,175	1,381,726
2008-2017 Avg (10-year)	419,676	352,987	772,663	1,443,185
2013-2017 Avg (5-year)	430,560	387,537	818,096	1,373,913