

My Name is Dan Suprak and I own and operate Alaska Chinook Charters in Wasilla

I normally can start guiding fishing trips on May the 18th. But due to the low runs of King Salmon to Mat-su Valley rivers I now have to wait until about July 14th to sell trips. This has put a big strain on my income. I roughly lose 2 months of income. I would like to see the Board vote on Proposals that would allow more fish the chance to return to their natal streams to spawn here in the Mat-su Valley. While we are restricted to fishing in the Mat-su Valley; people are allowed to continue to fishing in the salt water for king salmon. In some places in the salt water the limit is 2 fish per person per day no annual limit. No matter if it is King , sockeye, coho, chum, or pink salmon if we do not let them return to their natal rivers we will only keep watching our salmon stocks keep depleting.

I have been told that only 4.5% of the kings caught out of the Kodiak area are bound for the Upper Cook Inlet. I also asked a biologist why we could not do catch and release and the answer I got was everyone of those fish count. Yet we continue to allow taking of Kings in the salt waters; and in some areas no annual limits? If the fish are not making back to the streams we need to not just manage the fresh water streams in which they spawn; we need to manage the harvest of the fish while they are feeding in the salt in preparation for their return to their spawning streams.

So if there are restrictions put on the natal rivers I think that the Board should keep in mind that the rest of the fisheries should share in the effort of getting our salmon stocks back to where everyone can share the salmon. We need to manage not just the rivers because it seems to me the fish are not getting there; so the problem laves elsewhere. If we don't come up with a management plan that works; local, sport, guided sport and commercial fisherman will all suffer.

I think that if we rename the central district ( drift Gillnet area 2 ) a sanctuary area and restrict the fishing within this area, the fish will have a chance at returning to their natal streams to spawn. #123 #133

I also think that if restrictions are put on the king salmon fishing in the Northern District streams we should share the restrictions with Kodiak and Lower Cook Inlet fisheries.  
#9 and #37

Thank you for your time  
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Proposal #9 Establish a season limit of five king salmon from Oct. 1 thru April 30

Proposal # 37 new section, create a king salmon management plan paired restrictions in Kodiak and Cook Inlet

Proposal # 123 Rename Drift Gillnet Area 2 as the Conservation and Northern District Allocation Sanctuary Area

Proposal #133 Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management