



Submitted By  
Corey Roche  
Submitted On  
2/8/2022 6:20:51 AM  
Affiliation

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8026 queen Victoria drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99518

I strongly oppose proposal #283. It does not support preservation of late run king salmon. It benefits only one user group, while lowering objectives. Considering the last decade of king salmon spawning numbers, now is not the right time for non conservative measures.

Regards,

Corey Roche



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March 07, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I have been working on the Kenai river for 7 years now, and have been guiding for the last 3. In my time on the Kenai, I have personally seen the decline in big fish year after year. As a guide and a conservation minded angler I understand the importance of proper management. This river, and the king salmon that swim it are my livelihood. Seeing the continued mismanagement of this resource is extremely disheartening.

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Cory Felde

Helena  
59602



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February 26, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I was a commercial fisherman for nearly 20 years, mostly Kodiak swine and halibut but also fished the bay for a season. I live at the mouth of the Kenai and the roar of gillnettrrs coming and going in summer brings back memories! I am writing to ask that you vote down the proposal to allow more liberal commercial fishing for kings in any way. This unique fishery needs more, not less protection. We know what happens when fish numbers reach a critical low... please please don't allow it. Greed is a dangerous commodity, protect the Kenai my friends!

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Craig Baker

Kenai  
99611



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February 26, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I'm an Englishman living in NY. Each year I make a sport fishing trip to the Kenai, I spent in the range of \$10k.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Craig Smith



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February 20, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Cy Porwall

Brained  
56401



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February 25, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Cyndie Fox  
Anchorage  
99507



Submitted By  
Dale Ballard  
Submitted On  
2/13/2022 6:08:31 PM  
Affiliation  
Fishing guide

Phone  
5035519772

Email  
[idade052@gmail.com](mailto:idade052@gmail.com)

Address  
2244 SW McGinnis Ave.  
Troutdale, Oregon 97060

I am writing to vehemently oppose Proposal 283. Once again lowering the bar to allow the take of more Kings commercially is absolutely the wrong thing to do, especially in this period of low returns which is an extension of a long existing trend of diminishing returns of the Kings. This proposal needs to die, period.



Submitted By  
Dale Pedersen  
Submitted On  
3/3/2022 8:01:37 AM  
Affiliation

Here are the reasons why i am against proposal 282

Our communities and people depend on fishing to survive,we all know that the Chigniks also need fisheries to survive too. But to close down the whole Alaska Peninsula for a lake system that has, according to Chignik aquaculture Association, has experienced a substantial loss of lake volume doesn't seem like the prudent thing to do.

ADFG has all the tools they need to manage SAP fisheries and have used them when needed. From what i read the Board will have much more information about escapement goals and habitat management for Black lake system at regular 2023 meetings

The sockeye we caught last june were so small i would be embarrassed to call them a Chignik fish. With Bristol Bays big run last year, it was the first june we actually caught sockeye in june in a long time.

Chignik is forecast to meet escapement goals this coming summer. We should not do anything drastic until we see what ADFG has in mind for black lake before shutting more areas down. We should wait for regularly sheduled in cycle meeting for area m and area L.

Thank you,

Dale Pedersen .



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March 08, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The protection of the Kenai King Salmon should be of utmost priority not only in protecting the species, but helping it recover. This is a world renowned resource that can only be found here.

The standard should remain that meeting the conservation needs of the weakest stocks is more important than avoiding the upper limit of another species. Passing 283 would indicate that the Board has abandoned weak-stock management principles.

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

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Dan Graham

Wasilla  
99654



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February 18, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The kings are pretty much gone, STOP overfishing Kings and STOP by catch

you might see a calif address but Ive been fishing the kenai for 19 years.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Dan Periat  
pescadero  
94060



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February 27, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I've lived in Anchorage for 40 years and make weekly trips to fish the Kenai from May 7th to September 7th every year! I have witnessed the decline of the King Salmon fishery over the years and am **STRONGLY OPPOSED** to Proposal #283 which would increase the risk of yet additional incidental by-catch of Kings by Commercial fishing! **PLEASE DO NOT RISK ANY MORE HARM TO THIS TREASURED FISHERY!!!**  
DB

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Dana Bertolini

Anchorage  
99516-1425



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February 19, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The Board of Fisheries has been a failure for the last three or four decades. SAVE the Kenai!!!!!!  
Shut it down for at least 5 years.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Daniel Adams

Kasilof  
99610



To whom it may concern,

I am a young fisherman and subsistence user who lives in the Chignik Area and I support Proposal 282 because I believe it's a step forward in conserving and protecting our salmon runs that these communities so heavily rely on. I think ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries need to start taking more actions like this. Not only in the area that I live in but in all areas that are struggling to catch fish for food in these rough times. Stop putting politics over the science and common sense that could potentially reverse many years of damage done to our state's resources and communities. I appreciate you taking time to read my letter.

Thank you

Daniel C Grunert



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March 10, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live in Anchorage and enjoy the abundant fishing resources offered to residents for sports fishing. It is imperative that Alaska fisheries is represented in a balanced manner between residential and commercial fisherman.

The standard should remain that meeting the conservation needs of the weakest stocks is more important than avoiding the upper limit of another species. Passing 283 would indicate that the Board has abandoned weak-stock management principles.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Daniel McCue

Anchorage  
99507



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February 15, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I work at Home Depot. Fish the Kenai and the Swanson river's most of the summer. My favorite fish to eat is the king salmon but have not kept one in five years just to let them breed.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

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Daniel Meyer

Kenai  
99611



Submitted By  
Daniel Norma  
Submitted On  
3/11/2022 6:04:17 PM  
Affiliation

Phone  
9073500885

Email  
[akdanimal79@gmail.com](mailto:akdanimal79@gmail.com)

Address  
36045 Reef Dr  
Kenai , Alaska 99611

Board members,

I support proposal 283. The ESSN fishery has shouldered more than its share of the burden of conservation due to low king salmon abundance. This proposal allows for a limited and targeted fishery to harvest surplus sockeye salmon while significantly reducing the catch rate of king salmon. This proposal allows for an additional tool for the managers to use to allow for some harvest opportunity while still managing to biological goals.



Submitted By  
Darius Kasprzak  
Submitted On  
3/11/2022 5:55:50 PM  
Affiliation

March 11, 2022

BOF Comments

Boards Support Section

PO Box 115526

Juneau, AK 99811

### **Proposals 264 & 265- OPPOSE**

### **Proposals 266, 268, & 270- SUPPORT**

Hello Chair Carlson-Van Dort and BOF members,

I'm Darius Kasprzak, of home port Kodiak. I own and operate the 46' jig vessel F/V Marona, and hold a Kodiak area tanner Bairdi permit which I have utilized on multiple vessels.

I am opposed to proposals 264 & 265- I believe that amending the 14 day Dungeness gear operation period will lead to more "mudded down" partially buried and lost pots.. hence more ghost fishing, and additionally more lost gear on the sea floor to entangle the anchor flukes, of all vessels.

I support proposal 266; **as regarding the 750 pot limit portion of said proposal-** For the last several decades, I have commercially jigged rockfish and Pacific cod in the Kodiak Archipelago. Over the past several summers, the amount of Dungeness gear crowding nearshore anchoring locations (especially on the East side of island) has become downright hazardous.

After a hard day of fishing, it has become challenging to thread my way through Dungeness gear and anchor for the night. Almost every bay and cove with good holding bottom on the East side, has become absolutely saturated with Dungeness gear.

For instance, to seek refuge from strong southwesterly winds at Knoll Bay, I often have a difficult time now finding enough space between pots, to anchor with adequate anchor line scope angle (so as not to drag anchor in heavy wind). This is with a heavy anchor and chain, and a powerful hydraulic windlass to lift it.

Recreational vessels and sailboats with hand or electric windlasses may need to deploy more anchor line ( and thus more scope angle) to compensate for lighter anchors.. which results in a larger swing radius and more space required between pot gear- in order to minimize entanglement risk with vessel propellers, and underwater hull protrusions.

A scope angle of approximately 5 to 1 is considered customary for the safe anchoring of most vessels in normal conditions; therefore a swing radius of at least about 5 times water depth (plus setting/ maneuvering margin) is necessary for safe anchoring between pot gear. This availability of spacing between Dungeness pot gear, is getting scarcer every season, in the most important "blowhole" anchoring sanctuaries on the East side.

**I wish to state ADAMANTLY that safe, near shore anchoring locations are a resource to be shared, enjoyed, and depended on**

by all Mariner stakeholders and their vessels operating in the Kodiak Archipelago- not just crab fishers.



PC117  
2 of 2

**I consider a 750 Dungeness pot limit to be a satisfactory proposal- to address the burgeoning (Dungeness gear) congestion problem around Kodiak Island.**

I support Proposal 268- I believe that the current tanner Bairdi harvest strategy, is ready to be updated.

I support proposal 270- as a Kodiak area tanner Bairdi permit holder/ harvester, I am proud of the sustainability potential of this fishery when prosecuted with the current 20 pot maximum. I believe that the Kodiak area fleet has adequately demonstrated it's catching power with a 20 pot limit, and I prefer to fish at that same limit, even in the event of a higher than 2 million pound GHL.

Thank you for considering my comments!

- Darius Kasprzak



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February 17, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live in Anchorage and my folks have a place on the Kenai River that we have used for over 30 years. I have done a lot of Kenai King fishing over those years and am seriously concerned about the run being wiped out. I am more than happy to give up the ability to fish for Kings on the Kenai in order to preserve them long into the future.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Daryl Romo



Submitted By  
Dave Liwery  
Submitted On  
2/15/2022 12:38:03 PM  
Affiliation

Phone  
907-953-5202

Email  
[lowerydb@yahoo.com](mailto:lowerydb@yahoo.com)

Address  
34715 Keystone drive  
Soldotna , Alaska 99669

I would like to see the board of fish to vote NO On proposition 283.  
The Excapement needs to be increased not reduced.



Submitted By  
Dave Maternowski  
Submitted On  
2/23/2022 4:31:13 PM  
Affiliation

I write this comment in regards to Prop 283, which calls for a new tool for fisheries managers to capitalize on harvest of excess sockeye in Upper Cook Inlet. As a conservation minded resident and someone whose livelihood is centered around productive Kenai sport fisheries, I am compelled to encourage the Board to vote 'no' on prop 283 and support regulations that are fully dedicated to the overall health of Kenai king salmon.

If I read the proposal correctly, 13,500 kings would have to escape before this new tool could be used, putting setnetters out to harvest sockeye, provided the Kenai and Kasilof runs can support it. **I would argue that the opener for setnetters should not be available until the bottom end of the OEG, or 15,000 late run kings have escaped.**

This would still offer another tool in the tool box for managers to use, and help harvest excess sockeye later in the king and sockeye runs, and still allow for a more conservative escapement number.

I urge the Board to vote no, unless the proposal is changed to account for the passage of 15,000 kings past the mile 14 sonar before any openers are granted to setnetters provided the other criteria listed.



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March 12, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

i am against Proposal 283, don't mismanage our fisheries!

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Dave Zerda



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February 25, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live in Anchorage. My Grand parents have had a home stead along the Kenai River since the late 60's. We drive the funny river road ever single summer to go fishing with our family.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Chadwick

Anchorage  
99504



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March 08, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Kenai has great fishing and the Kings are not the numbers I'd like to see.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

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David Datteri

Fort Bridger  
82933



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March 12, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I have commercial fished and am a current guide on the Kenai River. With the economic value of sport fishing and the subsistence value of fish to local residents we should be talking about doing away with set nets in Cook Inlet, but instead you are talking about reducing the escapement of king salmon into the Kenai river. That is the craziest idea I have heard in many years. If your goal is to kill the king salmon run in the Kenai river then lowering the escapement goal. You should consider raising the goal.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Goggia

Kenai  
99611



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February 17, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live in Whittier and have lived in Alaska for close to 50 years. During that time I've fished in many places in the State of Alaska and have operated a charter business in Prince William Sound. Responsible management of our fisheries have, and continue to be, a concern to me. Lowering the escapement threshold is the wrong proposal...at the wrong time! Please don't pass Proposal 283. Thanks in advance,  
Dave Goldstein  
Whittier, Alaska

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Goldstein

Whittier  
99693



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February 16, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

46 year resident, fish the Kenai. If we keep on this path, we are going to end up with no salmon in Cook Inlet period.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Hubbard

Anchorage  
99517



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February 24, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I don't think that the Kenai river king salmon should even be tampered with from all fishing, sports fishing, commercial fishing and subsistence harvesting. They have been declining for years now and once they are gone, they are gone for good! Sure there is ways of stocking king salmon but they are nothing like wild. With catch and release that has been happening just shows that the might buck takes precedence over protecting wild stocks and when I have brought up problems with catch and release, I have had some show me the data proving that but I tell them my eyes are enough proof on seeing kings played to the point that they get hooked again to just let someone pull them in and of course, some will also have to take the king out for pictures. Not only that, some play fish way too long and when they are turning on their sides before being landed is not a good thing at all.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

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David Johnson

Anchorage  
99504



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February 16, 2022

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The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Kuper

Big Lake  
99652



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February 24, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live in Washington state. I have been coming to Alaska for the last decade to fish and hunt. I follow the fish counts closely and clearly see the difference when the commercial fishing is active. last year was more balanced and would like to see it continued. I strongly oppose proposal 283.

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Lindenmuth

Lincoln  
99147



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February 16, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live on the Kenai River in Cooper Landing. The steady decline of our world-famous king salmon population is very troubling. Please do all you can to protect these amazing fish and our river!

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Lisi



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February 17, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I have fished and recreated on the Kenai River for over 50 years. In the past I have also guided for Kings and Silvers for many years. Due to poor return numbers and my personal choice I haven't fished a single day for Kings in the last 8 years.

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Pearce

Anchorage  
99515



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February 27, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I currently live in South Carolina, but lived in Florida for more than 40 years. I have seen the result of uncontrolled commercial fishing has done to the fish populations there. I believe the fish populations MUST be managed in a responsible manor to maintain a healthy fishery for generations to come.

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

Passing Proposal 283 prioritizes a small group of commercial fishing as one third of the set netters would qualify under the proposal. A vote in support of 283 gives a small group fishing preference, further risking the king salmon run in the Kenai River.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Peterson

Boiling Springs  
29316



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March 08, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Living up in Willow. Fish the rivers in this area as well as the kenai and Russian

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Rochlen



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February 17, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

My name is David Szott. I head a group of 10 guys from NJ that travel every year to fish Alaska. We have come to love, respect and cherish the incredible fishery.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Szott

Morristown  
07960



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February 22, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

My wife and I have a home in Soldotna and spend all summer fishing the Kenai River. We have friends and family that come up from the lower 48 to enjoy all that the area has to offer. Fishing the Kenai is at the top of everyone's list.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Thiede

EAGLE RIVER  
99577



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February 16, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Like most Alaskans I cherish the great Alaska wilderness and want it to continue to thrive. Fortunately the Alaska Constitution requires us to protect our natural resources by saying, "Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses. But we have failed to protect the king salmon and it is being rapidly depleted.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Vought

Sterling  
99672



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February 19, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Vote no. The river needs to heal

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

David Zaboroskie

Soldotna  
99669



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March 04, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I have lived in Chugiak and Willow for 44 years. I believe in a fair sharing of Alaska's resources, including fish. EVERYONE knows that the Kenai Kings and the Susitna River and tributary kings are in trouble. EVERYONE needs to share in cutting back not only the catching directly of kings in these watersheds, but the incidental catching of kings as a bycatch of reds. I have many friends that are commercial fishermen and all of them feel the same way. The future salmon runs depend on EVERYONE and all groups cutting back on not only the catch but the bycatch of king salmon. Don't kill the Holden goose. Thank you for reading and hearing this message.

Sincerely,  
Dean S Vogt  
Chugiak

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Dean Vogt

Chugiak  
99567



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March 09, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Living in Sterling, fish is a major food resource for our family. It is important for us to be able to have access to this resource on our own. We would struggle to purchase commercially harvested fish. Alaska resources for Alaskans.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Debbie Eckhardt

Sterling  
99672



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March 03, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

We haven't made escapement goals in years and we are losing our king salmon! Lowering the goal is not the answer :-)

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Debbie Imhof

Wasilla  
99687



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February 17, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Deborah Franklin

Rhineland  
54501



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February 24, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I live in Soldotna Alaska and have fished the Kenai River for king salmon since 1989. It is upsetting to see the once great fishery in the shape it has been for the last several years. We need to do whatever it takes to get it back to a sustainable fishery. Even if it means closing king salmon fishing for several years.

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

The OEG is the OEG for a reason. The escapement threshold was set because that is the minimum number of salmon that need to enter the river so that the fishery can rebuild. I am not willing to give up on the Kenai River king salmon. Please vote no on Proposal 283.

The standard should remain that meeting the conservation needs of the weakest stocks is more important than avoiding the upper limit of another species. Passing 283 would indicate that the Board has abandoned weak-stock management principles.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Del Hoagland

Soldotna  
99669



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February 28, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

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Deloris Houger

St George  
84770



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February 28, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

have lived in Alaska many years and have always been restricted in fishing until enough salmon got to spawning streams it is a good system and stay in effect

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

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Deloris Houger

St George  
84770



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February 27, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

We fish the Kenai River year round, especially enjoy fishing for Kings on drift boat Mondays, I have only caught 4 kings in the last 2 years, please don't make it harder to catch a few Kings by giving more fish to the commercial nets, it's tough enough these days to get a fresh King on the BBQ.

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

The standard should remain that meeting the conservation needs of the weakest stocks is more important than avoiding the upper limit of another species. Passing 283 would indicate that the Board has abandoned weak-stock management principles.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Denis Hippert

Sterling  
99672



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February 24, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Dennis Gease  
36701 v



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February 24, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

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DENNIS GEASE

KENAI  
99611



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February 15, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I have fished the Kenai Peninsula waters since 1968 and personally would like to see a 5 year moratorium on kings so the run can truly recover. This band aid approach does not appear to be working.

The standard should remain that meeting the conservation needs of the weakest stocks is more important than avoiding the upper limit of another species. Passing 283 would indicate that the Board has abandoned weak-stock management principles.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous “over escapement” issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Dennis Johnson

Eagle River  
99577



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February 17, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

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Dennis Morris

Wasilla  
99654



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February 15, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I'm retired, moved here from Fairbanks 5 years ago mostly for fishing opportunities. Kings have been declining for years, sport fishermen participate in king closures, commercials continue to want more kings. If we all take a break from kings, hopefully there will be a rebound of kings. It's not always about the selfish wants of the commercials, let's be fair to the resource.

Kenai River king salmon have not been meeting spawning objectives for years, and Proposal 283 potentially allows the commercial harvest of kings when we haven't clearly met the lower escapement goals.

The economy of the Kenai Peninsula relies on its salmon fisheries. However, the economics point to the sport-caught fisheries being the economic powerhouse, NOT the commercial fishery. Regardless, we need to rebuild the king salmon runs to support both economic engines. Are you willing to risk an entire species' survival to pull a few sockeye out of the water? Where is the logic in that?

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Dennis Nilsen

Soldotna  
99669



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February 16, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

I own and operate a sport fishing business on the Kenai and will be entering my 14 year, this proposal has nothing to do with the benefit for improving the king salmon which ultimately is EVERYONES goal but if you research between the lines it's beneficial for Commercial fishing and ultimately hurting the king salmon further in it's road to becoming nonexistent in the future of our prestigious river. I've never been one to comment on past discussions in this matter but I have to teenagers that I'd love to think they will have a opportunity to see what a Kenai king actually looks like when they become adults.

Currently ADF&G cannot reduce fishing restrictions until the OEG is achieved. If passed, Proposal 283 would allow projected escapements to be utilized rather than actual fish in the river. It's literally putting the cart before the horse; commercial fishing will be permitted before sufficient king salmon have actually made it into the river, based on the OEG.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Derek Gardner

Soldotna  
99669



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February 19, 2022

Dear Board of Fish,

Stop killing our non existence kings, STOP!

Passing Proposal 283 prioritizes a small group of commercial fishing as one third of the set netters would qualify under the proposal. A vote in support of 283 gives a small group fishing preference, further risking the king salmon run in the Kenai River.

The Optimal Escapement Goal (OEG) is a higher threshold intended to not only halt salmon decline but also allow the fishery to recover. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) is the absolute bare minimum number of fish needed for the species to survive and does nothing to improve the fishery. Ultimately, if Proposal 283 is passed, survival of the king salmon fishery in the Kenai River is further threatened.

Most sportfishers know what needs to be done to protect the Kenai River king salmon. When the escapement numbers are not being achieved, there is zero scientifically valid reason to risk a single king salmon's opportunity to spawn.

I thank the Board for the historic actions taken in 2020 to protect the Late Run Kenai River king salmon. Modifications like 283 threaten those protections and is the first step in a slippery slope to lighten the burden of conservation for some users, while maintaining restrictions on others. It disregards the principles of weak stock management and overemphasizes tenuous "over escapement" issues. Finally, this proposal promotes the financial interests of a few entities over the clear need to conserve a species. I oppose Proposal 283 and ask the Board of Fisheries to vote No on this proposal. Stay the course and protect the kings.

Deryl Beckel

Sterling  
99672