

Gordon Scott statement, **CORRECTION TO ORAL TESTIMONY** on 3/27.

After giving oral testimony, I was asked by a board member if I thought the PWS shrimp fishery was sustainable with the current fishery management plans.

After a few seconds of thought I said "Yes", intending to qualify that answer. And was immediately told "Thank you", and "Thank you for your testimony".

I was quite concerned that my answer to this was not as complete as I intended, and that the result of that was that the Board did not get the correct message from me.

What I intended to qualify that with was "if the management plan can be followed".

And much of my just stated public testimony was focused on the fact that the noncommercial management has NOT performed as intended, allowing some consistent and very large overfishing by the noncommercial fleet. (See RC-49 - orange highlights)

In retrospect, If I had known I was going to be limited to a one word answer, it would have been "NO."

It must be understood, that much of my trust of the management plan is based upon blind faith of the surplus production model. I have been told that this is the best available tool to keep a sustainable biomass for shrimp.

This surplus production model is explained on page 4, section title "Population Dynamics Model" of: Special Publication 22-10: Prince William Sound Shrimp Pot Fisheries 2010-2020, which is on the meeting website.

In previous board cycles I have seen this model explained with 6 pages of calculus.

Do I understand it ?? Quite simply NO WAY. I am relying on the experts at ADFG to use the right tools to keep the population healthy and sustainable.. I have BLIND FAITH that this is the correct model, and is used correctly.

However I am NOT Blind to the fact that the department has NOT demonstrated the ability to manage the non commercial fishery to its GHL, and I find it hard to believe them when they say that is OK - that the surplus production model will correct for the overfishing, and it is not damaging the resource.

I believe that if you heard my oral testimony, it was clear that I am deeply concerned about this overfishing and what its long term effects will be on the biomass.