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February 22, 2023

Board of Fisheries
ADF&G
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Madam Chair, Honorable Members of the Board of Fisheries

My name is Francis Thompson, I was (am) a Subsistence and a Commercial Fisherman from the Lower Yukon village of St. Mary's. I am also here representing the Algaaciq Tribal Council where I serve as Vice Chairman for the council.

It is for many, whom could not be here to plead with you to implement equitable Sustainable management strategies for return our AYK salmon, as our parents testified in this forum starting 50 years ago now we the second generation are now testifying before you not to save our salmon but to return it to us, we have sacrificed and lost so much bearing all the conservation efforts solely on our backs, while Intercept Salmon Fisheries and Salmon Bycatch in the Pacific Pollack industry continue to fish. There is Alaska, it has its constitution, there is a Governor elected by the people, He has his commissioner and finally the governor appoints you the Honorable Members of the Board of Fish that is given a constitution mandate to manage the salmon fisheries for Sustained Yield in the River Systems in the State of Alaska

Listening to the staff reports given to, you I envy the final harvest report and I tell myself, In the good old days if I grossed 25,000.00 annually it would take me 28 years to meet one fishers \$700,000 earnings for one summer season of fishing.

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The loss of our Salmon returns and the loss of our way of life around Salmon has brought human harm and grief nothing you will or can imagine, much of this if not most all would not happen if only if the constitutional mandate to manage Alaska's resources under Sustained Yield, State of Alaska having a voice in the Dual management of the Pacific pollack industry Reducing Chinook and Chum salmon bycatch, and meeting salmon treaty obligations with Canada, maybe life would be a little better and bearable.

Enclosed in this rc is my brothers testimony He said it well and I forward it to you What is the compromise right now is supporting proposal 140 a management plan that was in place during 2001 to 2003 in the Alaska Peninsula Fishery This is not a new plan and it has been implemented before. In three years', time we will get a glimpse of what and how this experiment saved some salmon.

WINDOWS: Implement longer windows closures to allow salmon to migrate thru the districts

Corridors: Establish False Pass as a No fishing corridor allowing migrating salmon to pass unmolested

GEAR RESTRICTIONS: Reduce Mesh Depth to conserve chum bycatch

CHINOOK SALMON Chinook salmon harvest increase need point of origin study scale analysis's

Other Restriction: protect the river systems like Kasilof other wise they become like Yukon and keep closed and just manage for escapement

Finally: My knuckles and hands are not laced with gold and diamonds but bruised from beating life's challenges and praying for equity and asking for normalcy to return to our lives.

It has been 50 years fighting this fight, I can not give no more other than to burn my 4 in x 60 ft long net to be allowed to use to harvest non salmon species.

It has been three years, going on four that i have not been able to harvest salmon to satisfy my amount needed for subsistence, if no action is taken for an intercept fishery to share in the burden of conservation, then I will become like you the board not following mandates I will fish and satisfy my subsistence needs I guess unlawfully.

Lastly give voice for us with the North Pacific Fisheries Councils regarding Salmon Bycatch I have been listing but Alaska's silence has been deafening

Quyana



Francis Thompson