

Good Morning Madame Chair and Board,

My name is Clarissa Devine. I was born and raised in Sand Point. I have family ties that lead back to the 1890s. I'm a 6th generation fisherman and I hope my son will be the 7th generation. I have subsistence fished all my life and have participated in commercial fishing. Our culture and way of life are of significance also. For as long as I can remember, we have been having to defend our area, our culture, our way of life & livelihood.

Myself and all members of Area M strongly oppose proposal 140 and any and all proposals that pose a threat to cutting fishing time. I believe we should let Area M self manage as we have been, the captains have already proved 100% their willingness to help let chum salmon pass.

I believe the areas that haven't been able to make their escapement goals are due to poor ocean conditions and the concerns with the ecosystems have been the number one factor. I don't believe shutting down or reducing fishing time in areas that aren't having problems to be the solution.

Science is simply presented to us to help us make these decisions.

With our areas voluntarily standing down we are facing hardships as well. We, too, have no subsistence fish left in our freezers.

I am currently pregnant and still fishing to keep up with the cost of living in our area and putting food on the table.

How can our fishery pose as the number one threat for the AYK region when the largest mixed stock fishery in the state lies between us? We are not the only mixed stock fishery in the area. We are actually quite small in comparison.

If the board chooses to adopt these harmful proposals, our communities and generations to come will suffer.

Please consider the science when making these decisions. I will be participating in a committee of the whole. Thank you.

