

Madam Chair and Board members, thank you for this opportunity. My name is Josephine Augustine-Edmund and I support proposal 140.

It does not shut down fishing in area M, it only decreases their fishing time. My people and the people on the west coast and Yukon River are in great distress because our subsistence needs are not being fulfilled.

Area M can fish for multiple kinds of species and make more than a decent living, while my people are kept from preparing fish that would sustain us throughout the winter.

Area M is allowed many hours on the water - greatly decreasing the percentage of fish to reach our waters. This causes not only a lack in our subsistence needs, but also:

- A lack in our physical health needs that subsistence fishing provides - which is nutrition, exercise, and healthy activities.
- A lack in our mental and emotional health needs that subsistence fishing provides such as: teaching our way of life and how to be, accomplishments, security and essential connections.
- A lack in our spiritual health needs that subsistence fishing provides like: purpose, balance, psychological and social aspects as in relationships and love.

area M flourishes and thrives, and discards or fish that get caught in their non- salmon gear, while over 50% of our communities are under the poverty level.

Subsistence fishing is a must for My people to survive, subsistence fishing helps bring balance and healing, it will put food on the table.

Please pass proposal 140 and reduce area M's commercial fishing times so there can be enough escapement of salmon to reach my people.

You may not be able to do anything about global warming, but you have the power to allow escapement so that our children and grandchildren have the foods that our old people had to sustain themselves.

Thank you for your time.

Josephine Augustine-Edmund