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Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Rep. Daniel Ortiz <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB128

Please be very cautious with this bill so all facts and figures are on the table. Present salmon legislation is 42 years old. These multiple statutes and regulations are obsolete in many ways because they do not reflect what we have learned over these 4 decades of time.

In the 1976 ADFG Annual Report, the then Commissioner admitted that we had been over harvesting crab and shrimp. The harvest levels take populations over the thresholds of sustainability to withstand other mortality factors like predation, female male size restraints, etc.

Another danger especially with our budget as it is. Monitoring is scanty and there is no money to perform sustainably. All oversight rests on one man...the ADFG commissioner. There needs to be an unbiased oversight Board that can see all angles of this biological introduction into our ecosystems.

Before we "just add fish"...Preliminary information is required. We first need information on all interacting limiting mortality factors of wild shellfish in their nursery grounds. For instance

- what are the predators in these near shore nurseries?
- Have we identified and mapped the critical shellfish nurseries in Alaska?
- are there introduced magnitudes of hatchery pink salmon in these nurseries?
- do the introduced magnitudes of hatchery fish draw in or cause a "swamping" of additional depredation creating a predator pit on shellfish larvae and megalops?

There has been concern in California that hatchery coho held some responsibility in the crash of their Dungeness crab fishery in San Francisco.

The Barents Sea had an introduction of King Crab that created competition with traditional fisheries.

Thank-you kindly. I hope to be able to help give insight to prevent costly mistakes with this legislation.

With Kind Regards,

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