

Greetings

I worked for the ADFG, enhancement and rehabilitation division, FRED , as a fish culturist and habitat rehabilitator over a 21 year period and am now a seafood processor, market retailer and internet sales for the past 32 years at [welovefish.com](http://welovefish.com). Our Alaskan Corporation Pioneer Alaskan Fisheries has been in business since 1965.

While well-meaning bills such as HB 295 HB 169 and SB 210 attempt to force help, these do not provide adequate oversight, or monitoring for Alaska's collapsing salmon fisheries. Unfortunately these bills unwittingly promote grave potential to adversely affect and jeopardize the future of wild fisheries in Alaska. Sometimes the cure can be worse than the disease.

To make sound policy decisions regarding Alaska's important salmon resources, the many adverse hatchery/ wild interactions deserve a much more comprehensive approach rather than piecemeal fragmented hatchery or enhancement bills based on narrow council and opinion.

A comprehensive approach would first consider best available information, with continual update, not based on whim or opinion but on comprehensive reviews.

**First, please consider** the (attached) Executive Summary of the Legislative Review on Salmon Enhancement by the Senate Special Committee on Domestic and International Fisheries in 1992. This took almost two years to prepare to impart what was known through 1992. This comprehensive document needs to be updated to bring the best available information to the legislature to ensure sound policy decisions are not based on whim.

**Second, consult** the (attached) State Policy for Sustainable fisheries 5AAC 39.222. This Alaska policy took four years to create and warns with clear caution of enhancement interaction.

**Third, Evaluation** of the (attached) hatchery interaction by the Environment and Natural Resources Institutes University of Alaska Anchorage.

**Fourth, observe results** of the current Alaska Salmon Research Task Force with its final report due out June 27, 2024.

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/ecosystems/alaska-salmon-research-task-force>

**Fifth, keep up to date on the most recent science**, for instance February 14, 2014 NOAA posted

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/cracking-code-scientists-use-dna-examine-differences-between-hatchery-and-wild-chinook>

(attached is the actual paper) last week's collaborative research provides some of the strongest and most fine-scale evidence to date suggests that hatchery rearing can inadvertently select for traits that may be disadvantageous in the wild. This could have

downstream implications for native stocks conducted by scientists from the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Texas Christian University. This new genetic study shows hatchery salmon's adaptation to their environment can lead to potentially adaptive genetic differences between hatchery and wild salmon populations in only a few generations.

There is a weight of knowledge showing caution. To have what the above Senate Committee called legislative "working documents", can provide a focus for the Legislature and others to work together to make sound policy decisions.

Without comprehensive "working documents" of the best available information as 5 AAC 39.222 asserts, we place further stress on our fisheries and add stress not cure problems.

Thank you for considering comprehensive knowledge and a more broad council for sound policy. Please advise if I may help in any way.

Kind Regards and respect

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