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Dear Committee Members,

I am a 40 year Eastside Setnetter. My brother and I fish in the Kasilof Section just north of the Kasilof River itself. When we began our business in 1978 there were fewer fisherman in our area and most fisherman could make a yearly living while harvesting sockeye salmon.

Toward the end of the 1980's an influx of permits all along the Eastside occurred for a number of reasons, historically high sockeye runs, historical high prices per pound and a limited area in which folks could fish. And even though there was increased number of fishermen there was ample biomass for all to share in. As time marched on there has been less sockeye to be shared, in part due to a cessation of sockeye enhancement and demands from other Alaskan user groups. As a result our business has dwindled and its no longer possible to provide for a yearly income.

I strongly endorse SB90, my brother and I believe if there are less permits/nets that remaining fishermen will be able to make a sustainable living, as we used to.

As the bill is written we believe it's fair to everyone who may participate, with compensation the same for all. Another aspect that makes the program effective is the closed water provision. As fishermen we know that if our neighbor doesn't fish we benefit from their absence, though we don't catch every fish they might've caught, we do catch a portion. That's what this is about for us, financial viability.

Also we see some benefit in that less nets means less Chinook incidental catch which allow management needs to be satisfied resulting in more fishing opportunities for all user groups.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Manley