



Southern SE Regional Aquaculture Association

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March 4, 2021

Honorable Representative Geran Tarr, Chair
House Fisheries Committee, Alaska State House of Representatives
By electronic mail only

Re: HB 80

Dear Representative Tarr and members of the Committee,

Facts about SSRAA programs are available to whomever is interested and asks. Because this information can be detailed and complex, it is especially helpful for interested parties to make contact with us so that incorrect information isn't circulated. In the interest of providing accurate information, we offer the following:

- ADFG owns Crystal Lake Hatchery (CLH).
- SSRAA operates CLH on year-to-year contract amendments with ADFG.
- ADFG pays SSRAA for chinook salmon on a per-smolt basis, no more no less.
- ADFG-paid production is intentionally directed towards sport and charter use.
- CLH has the capacity for additional production, which SSRAA utilizes.
- SSRAA pays for all of its own production costs at CLH.
- There is no cost recovery to boost revenue at CLH.
- Chinook are the most expensive fish that SSRAA produces.
- Commercial ROI value of CLH chinook is \$.17 for each dollar SSRAA spends.
- Positive ROI for chum salmon at other SSRAA sites pays for SSRAA's CLH chinook.
- Sport and charter catch of SSRAA-paid CLH production is substantial (for example, chinook released at Port St. Nicholas near Craig).
- ADFG Sportfish funding does NOT subsidize commercial use of CLH chinook.

You may ask yourself: why do commercial fishermen support chinook production at Crystal Lake? The answer is: there are three commercial salmon gear groups (troll, gillnet and seine) and only troll is existentially dependent on chinook, but there is an allocation agreement between gear groups that governs SSRAA production. Troll is behind in their allocation, and consequently sport and charter also benefit.

Thank you for your consideration, and please let me know if you have questions.

David Landis, General Manager of SSRAA