

SCOMM

#22:75

JIM REPINE

Cook Inlet

I spent a very pleasant day in Juneau recently and watched something happen that really restored the old faith. A group of folks met in what eventually became a spirit of willingness to give what it took to try and solve one of the longest arguments in all the Alaskan outdoor world. The infamous Cook Inlet commercial fishing versus sportfishing controversy.

Senator Mike Colletta called together the group consisting of interested parties from both sides in an informal and unofficial attempt to see if a potentially destructive dead-lock over the early run king salmon allocation could be circumvented. The Senator and others feel the legislature is the wrong place for these kinds of squabbles to be settled. Far better results should come from a cooperative decision between users, Fish and Game biologists and an appointed Board of Fisheries. So why hasn't that worked?

A young man from the commercial fishing side stood up and made it clear that if concessions were needed, he was willing to start the ball rolling, and he did. The gist of what he proposed was that the commercial interests would no longer oppose sportfishing for the early run king salmon in the 1978 season subject, of course, to Fish and Game evaluation of the strength of the run. That's more than concession; that's a man stepping out in good faith and putting action where his mouth is.

The problems of years are seldom solved in an afternoon and the Cook Inlet fishing problems aren't suddenly all healed but a vitally important first step was taken. There's still the matter of law suits on both sides and whether they can be stopped in time, the more important question of future

allocations, the make-up of the Fisheries Board, and a host of others. But at least once I've witnessed swords beat into fish hooks and now I know it can be done.

Assuming things go well and the sportfishers really are able to harvest some early kings, what's next?

As I see it, three main concerns not necessarily in the following order are paramount.

First we must search for some solid vehicle that will insure all user groups a reasonable share of the resource in any season that produces a harvestable surplus. Second, the numerical composition of the Board must be made more equitable and third, there is a great need for closer ties and positive dialogue between all user groups.

The problems facing all of Alaska's fisheries are not about to go away. It becomes more urgent everyday for all interested parties to get organized and prepared to meet the new challenges with the strength of unity.



Southeast Express 5/25/78



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

MAILING ADDRESS:
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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802

OFFICE:
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907 586-2820

Shari Gross

✓ UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA INC.

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Juneau, Alaska 99802

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Rick Lauber

PACIFIC SEAFOOD PROCESSORS ASSOC.

120 West 1st Street

Juneau, Alaska 99801

586-1324

✓ Floyd Heimbuch, General Manager

COOK INLET AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

Box 850

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

262-4441

✓ Tom Waterer, President

SALAMATOF SEAFOODS INC.

~~Box 1045~~ Drawer 4220

Kenai, Alaska 99611

✓ Tom Rollman, 1st V.P., U.F.A.

COOK INLET FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Box 778

Eagle River, Alaska 99577

688-2380

~~Tom E.~~

Hank Every

✓ COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN OF COOK'S INLET

Route 1, Box 970

Kenai, Alaska 99611

776-8603

The following is a list of UFA member organizations in Cook Inlet:

✓ Commercial Fishermen of Cook's Inlet

Box 2641

Kenai, Alaska 99611

✓ Cook Inlet Fishermen's Fund

Box 3

Ninilchik, Alaska 99639

North Pacific Fisheries Assoc.

Box 796

Homer, Alaska 99603

Cook Inlet Fishermen's Association

SRA Box 48T

Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Coop Assoc.

Route 2, Box 752

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Representing the Administration

Commissioner Ronald Skoog

✓ Director Carl L. Rosier

Division of Commercial Fisheries

Dept of Fish & Game

Director Rupert E. Andrews

Division of Sport Fish

*ADFG
Support Bldg., Juneau
Dept of Fish & Game*

*Support Building
Juneau 99601*

Representing Other Interests

✓ Jim Repine

① 274-3266

② 272-3456

511 W. 17th Ave

Alaska Outdoors ③ 243-8523

99501

✓ Sam McDowell

279-1923

3685 Arctic Blvd.
Ave 99503

✓ Evan Swensen 2917 W 100th Ave (Alaska Outdoors)

Mike White head

Malone

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Shari Gross
UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA INC.
P.O. Box 1352
Juneau, Alaska 99802
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Rick Lauber
PACIFIC SEAFOOD PROCESSORS ASSOC.
120 West 1st Street
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Floyd Heimbuch, General Manager
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Box 850
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262-4441

Tom Waterer, President
SALAMATOF SEAFOODS INC.
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Kenai, Alaska 99651

Tom Rollman, 1st V.P., U.F.A.
COOK INLET FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Box 778
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
688-2380

Hank Every
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Kenai, Alaska 99611
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Anchorage, Alaska 99507
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Coop Assoc.
Route 2, Box 752
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Tom Rollman	Box 778 Eagle River AK.	Cook Inlet Fishermen's Assoc.
Tom Waterer	Drawer 4220, Kenai AK	Salamatof Seafoods Inc-Kenai
Floyd Heimbech	Box 850 Soldotna,	Cook Inlet Agvaculture
Jim REPINIE	511 W. 17 Anch	ALASKA OUTDOORS
EVAN SWENJEN	2917 W. 100TH ANCH	ALASKA OUTDOORS
Shari Grace	Box 1352 Juneau	UFA
LLOYD T. NAWARD JR.	5281 D Canon, Eielson AFB.	Observing ~~Adm~~ / AFA.
BILL WAGENER	SR Box 80312 FBKS	OBSERVING
~~Robert~~ Robert Holt	SR Box 90214 FBKS	Observing
MIKE WHITEHEAD	Governors Office	
Carl L. Rosier	ADF&G	
Ivan E. Every	Support Building, Juneau.	Dept of Fish & Game.
Malone	Route 1 Box 970	C.F.C.I. & C.L.A.A.

June 8, 1978

Evan Sevenson
Alaska Outdoors
2917 West 100th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Evan,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the time and expense you incurred in attending the meeting in Juneau regarding the Cook Inlet King Salmon. I firmly believe that the positive steps taken by the group of individuals in attendance will point the way for a more effective solution to the problem in the future.

Although I am disappointed that the suits could not be withdrawn, I am confident that the groups involved are aware of the good faith effort to do so, and I do not view this as a step backward. However, it will take a continued and joint effort by all concerned, in order to maintain the spirit of cooperation that developed at the meeting.

I would again like to point out that legislative intervention is not the way to resolve differences of opinion with issues of this nature, and although, one side could win, they could lose in future years. In fact, I can think of no greater disaster to the resource, than to have the legislature attempt it's management.

I am hopeful that any future push for legislation dealing with the Fish & Game Board and other related matters will reflect a consensus of the groups and be a joint effort. As you know, adversary positions create a win/lose situation.

Again, thank you for attending the meeting and for your cooperation in this matter.

Best wishes,

Mike Colletta
Senate Floor Leader

ms

June 8, 1978

Sam McDowell
3685 Arctic Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Sam,

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Alaska Outdoors
511 West 17th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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June 8, 1978

Ivan E. Every
Commercial Fisherman of Cook's Inlet
Route 1, Box 970
Kenai, Alaska 99611

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Senate Floor Leader

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Tom Rollman
Cook Inlet Fishermen's Association
Box 778
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

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Mike Colletta
Senate Floor Leader

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Tom Materer, President
Salamatof Seafoods, Inc.
Drumner 4220
Kashfi, Alaska 99611

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Best wishes,

Mike Colletta
Senate Floor Leader

ms

June 8, 1978

Sheri Gross
United Fishermen of Alaska Inc.
P. O. Box 1352
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Sheri,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the time you took to attend the recent meeting in Juneau regarding the Cook Inlet King Salmon. I firmly believe that the positive steps taken by the group of individuals in attendance will point the way for a more effective solution to the problem in the future.

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Best wishes,

Mike Colletta
Senate Floor Leader

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June 8, 1978

Floyd Heimbach, General Manager
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Box 850
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Dear Floyd,

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Mike Colletta
Senate Floor Leader

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June 8, 1978

Carl L. Rosier, Director
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Department of Fish and Game
Support Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

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Again, thank you for attending the meeting and for your cooperation in this matter.

Best wishes,

Nike Colletta
Senate Floor Leader

ms

EXPEDITERS RESEARCH SUPPLY INC.

3885 ARTIC BLVD.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
PHONE (907) 279-1923

Smith
6/2/78

Helle Mike:

If our Legislators
don't help we sports fishermen
this session, I'm convinced
we will defeat all Bond
issues this November and
get the attention of all Alaskan
Commercial fishermen!

Your assistance will
truly be appreciated.

Sam McDowell

FROM THE DESK OF ; SAM E. McDOWELL

CONFIDENTIAL COPY

CJV

02106 NL ANCHORAGE ALASKA 139 05-31 1025P ADT
PMS SEN KAY POLAND

JUN

CONFIRMING OUR PHONE CONVERSATION 5-30-78 WITH REFERENCE TO
SB346 TO RESTRUCTURE THE COMPOSITION OF THE ALASKA BOARD
OF FISHERIES.

I WISH TO GO ON RECORD AND ONCE AGAIN REQUEST YOU ALLOW THIS
EXTREMELY IMPORTANT LEGISLATION PASS OUT OF YOUR COMMITTEE
AND ASSIST IN PASSAGE DURING THIS SESSION. IN CASE OUR
LEGISLATORS DONT REALIZE IT WE 167,000 LICENSED ALASKA SPORT
FISHERMEN NO LONGER WILL SET IDLY BY AND ALLOW OUR POLITICAL
LEADERS TREAT US AS SECOND CLASS CITIZENS. YES, WE FULLY
INTEND TO OPPOSE ANY AND ALL STATEWIDE GENERAL BONDING AND OR
FUNDING FOR SALMON HATCHERIES AND ENHANCEMENT PROPOSED DURING
THIS NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION UNLESS OUR LEGISLATORS PASS
LEGISLATION BEFORE ADJOURNMENT TO RESOLVE THESE SERIOUS COOK
INLET ALLOCATION PROBLEMS AND RESTRUCTURING OF OUR BOARD OF
FISHERIES. WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE ACTION ITS A CLEAR CUT CASE
OF TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.

- SAM E MCDOWELL, CHAIRMAN,
ALASKA FISHERIES RESOURCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 5/2/77
Referred: Resources

BY BRADLEY, HACKNEY, RODEY, HUBER,
FERGUSON, ORSINI, WILLIS, BUTROVICH,
COLLETTA, HOHMAN AND SACKETT

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 346

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the composition of the Board of
7 Fisheries."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 16.05.221(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) For purposes of the conservation and development of the
11 fishery resources of the state, there is created the Board of Fisheries
12 composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confir-
13 mation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session.
14 The appointed members shall be residents of the state and shall be
15 appointed without regard to political affiliation or geographical loca-
16 tion of residence. Three members shall be representative of commercial
17 fishermen, three members shall be representative of sport fishermen, and
18 one member shall be representative of subsistence fishermen. One member
19 shall be elected by the membership as chairman. No member representa-
20 tive of sport or subsistence fishermen may have held a commercial
21 fishing license or an entry permit under ch. 43 of this title before
22 taking office, and, as a condition of appointment, members representa-
23 tive of sport and subsistence fishermen shall agree not to hold such a
24 license or permit until at least three years after termination of office.

25 * Sec. 2. A board member serving on the effective date of this Act may be
26 reappointed or replaced for remainder of his term, so long as the repre-
27 sentation required by this Act is established.

Homer News 2/23/78

Two bills would limit Inlet fishing

Salmon fishing in Cook Inlet would be restricted to July 1 - August 15 under a bill introduced in the state House by Rep. Kris Lethin (R-Anchorage) and 20 co-sponsors. And in the state Senate, a bill to limit commercial fishing to ensure that 10 per cent of the total catch in Cook Inlet be reserved for sport and subsistence fishermen is before the Senate Resources Committee.

The Senate bill, introduced by Sen. Joseph Orsini (R-Anchorage), is a more refined version of his original effort, which would have halted all commercial fishing in Cook Inlet.

However, Speaker of the House Hugh Malone (D-Kenai) told the Homer News Tuesday he was "certain" that the legislature would not step into a managing role of the fisheries. According to Mr. Malone, many of the co-sponsors of Mr. Lethin's bill, HCR 105, are not committed to supporting the bill on the floor. Several of the co-sponsors are commercial fishermen, he said.

In a letter to the Homer Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Orsini defended his new bill, SB 491, arguing that the average sports fisherman in the Cook Inlet area last year spent an average of three days to catch one fish each. The 102,000 anglers spent more than \$54 million on their pastime, Mr. Orsini estimated.

Mr. Orsini said sports fishermen caught less than two per cent of the salmon run in 1977.

The Homer Chamber of Commerce recently passed a

See "Salmon," Page 3.



ts and shorts over at KBBI from the Birds with the words, here's
rite called 'Don't Give Em Money.' "

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issions will provide a
unity that is not now
a will be appreciated

Dave Becker, Member
Board of Directors
Village Missions, Inc.

estling?

Fishing statistics

Dear Editor:

Everybody knows how people can misconstrue statistics to suit their own needs — and this is what Sam McDowell has done so cleverly, in my opinion.

It seems that he keeps saying that all they want to have is 5 per cent of the 5 per cent of the state's salmon stocks. This is a farce and has been used to mislead the public, when in reality the following is really what is happening in much of Cook Inlet and area H.

Sportsfishermen get:

100 per cent of Early Russian River Reds at the cost of the Kenai Reds which are fished by no one.

100 per cent Kings in the Anchor Point, Deep Creek and Ninilchik Rivers.

100 per cent of the Silvers in Resurrection Bay at the cost of a Red salmon run.

100 per cent of the Silvers that go into the Anchor Point River.

They get (of the Kings' run to Kenai from June 15 to Aug. 15) 1440 hours of fishing time on Kenai Kings and Reds and Silver.

They get 24 hours a day for the entire time silvers run to the west side of Cook Inlet and anything north of Anchor Point including the Kenai River.

There is not one fishery in Cook Inlet where the Commercial Fishermen get sole use of any stock of fish.

We as commercial fishermen get from 216 hours to a max. of 312 hours. We already have been cut 1296 hours of fishing time and now this man wants to cut us down to 168 hours of fishing.

The fact of the matter is this type of cutting would not get one more sports fish in the freezer. It would just cost the commercial fishermen and the state valuable commercial fish.

Last year during the time that McDowell wants closed there were 187,259 fish caught commercially, but out of this amount there were only 1612 Kings and 14,734 silvers. These are the fish that he

See "Letters," next page.

Continued from Page Four.

wants to save at the cost of reds, dogs and pink salmon that sports fishermen do not take, as they do not bite a hook. In fact it would cost us 170,913 fish at a value of well over a million dollars. That is a lot of revenue for this area. For at that time the fleet is made up of Peninsula and Anchorage residents so the loss will be felt by all fishermen and businesses alike.

Rosaleen "Snooks" Moore
Sec. North Pacific Fisheries Assn. Inc.

Intimidation?

Dear Editor and Beautiful Citizens
of this Fishing Hamlet by the Sea:

As President and Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Fisheries Resources, I am very concerned with the letter from Mr. Sam E. McDowell, President of the Anchorage Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, that appeared in last week's Homer News:

"I highly recommend all Alaskan Commercial fishermen take a close look at these facts with reference to these very serious Cook Inlet salmon allocation conflicts before this small brush fire explodes into a statewide conflict affecting all commercial fishermen and enhancement funding!"

My concern in the last paragraph is specifically the threat of a small brush fire exploding into a state wide conflict affecting all fishermen and fisheries enhancement funding. The Ad Hoc Committee concludes this paragraph and specific statement to be an act of intimidation against the commercial fishermen of the state of Alaska as well as a threat of political harassment against our senators and legislators. This threatening implication necessitates a closer and serious view as to Chairman Sam McDowell's intent and motives regarding both commercial and sportsfishing endeavors in the state of Alaska.

The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee on Fisheries Resources relates to Senate Bill 278 "so that greater public participation in the formation of Fish and Game regulations will be assured." Some of the principles of the Ad Hoc Committee are to assure that public input is 1) honest, 2) based on untwisted facts, 3) scientifically and economically feasible and factual, 4) free of political implications, from either commercial or sportsfishing endeavors, that could prove disastrous to the necessity of biological and scientific control of this natural resource, and 5) to work diligently to expose and challenge any organization or persons that make effort through devious and subversive methods to inhibit the efficiency and function of the management of this resource.

Brother Asaiah
Chairman of the Ad Hoc
Committee on Fisheries Resources

Letters To The Editor

King Harvest

Dear Editor:

The letter by Ronald Wild dealing with the Cook Inlet king salmon controversy and published by The Times April 27 prompts my letter.

Mr. Wild's philosophy of "let's all harvest the kings" is interesting. It is interesting because it is that same philosophy which was employed by the old Board of Fish and Game to manage the then-plentiful king salmon stocks of Cook Inlet. The end result is now history — nearly complete decimation of the runs and complete closure of king salmon fishing for five years in upper Cook Inlet and its tributaries for all user groups.

As a result of the above-mentioned closures, the once-decimated king stocks have now begun to replenish. An intense effort on the part of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game of monitoring the runs and stream census studies document this fact.

During the December 1977 meeting, the Board of Fisheries was confronted with two significant and pertinent factors regarding the management of our Cook Inlet salmon resources. The first factor is that the Anchorage area is now the home of more than 100,000 sport fishing enthusiasts representing 45 percent of the total statewide sportfish effort; state projections show over 400,000 anglers in Cook Inlet waters by 1985. The second issue is that only 5 percent of the state's commercial harvest comes from Cook Inlet waters.

The board, after careful deliberation on these two factors, adopted a new, comprehensive management policy for Cook Inlet. In brief, that policy states:

"Stocks which normally move in Cook Inlet to spawning areas prior to June 30 shall be managed primarily as a non-commercial resource."

The policy further states:

"Stocks which normally move in Cook Inlet after June 30 shall be managed primarily as a non-recreational resource until Aug. 15; however, existing recreational target fish shall only be harvested incidental to the non-recreational use."

In short, for the first time in the history of the Cook Inlet fishery, the recreational anglers were recognized and an effort was being made to accommodate them.

Consistent with the newly adopted management plan, the board ruled to open eight upper Cook Inlet drainages to four weekends of sport fishing for king salmon. In addition to this limited sport fishery, the board also opened the northern district to the two 12-hour commercial fishing periods of which Mr. Wild makes mention. This action was inconsistent with its own newly adopted policy and was opposed by

the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and its area biologist because they felt that it was premature to reopen any commercial fishery without more data on returning stocks. The resulting opposition to its actions influenced the board to reopen the issue during the April 28 meeting.

Mr. Wild refers to the attitude of two men — myself and Sam McDowell. He further refers to my influence on the other six members of the Board of Fisheries. It is a compliment to think that Mr. McDowell and myself control the destiny of fishing in Cook Inlet; however, it is absurd.

The fact that I proposed that the two 12-hour commercial fishing periods be disallowed is true. My decision for this proposal was founded on sound biological data presented by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisheries' own policy and the will of the majority of people affected by the fishery, namely the recreational user.

Mr. Wild makes mention of the fact that I am a person "who commercializes in sporting goods." I am proud to verify that fact and I can assure him that I would have sold a hell of a lot more king salmon sport fishing gear this season had I gone along with the majority of the board and voted to allow the "let's all harvest the kings" attitude.

In closing, I wish to make one comment: My first concern is the welfare of the resource; my second concern is the primary user; last, I will consider those few selfish people like Mr. Wild.

Chris F. Goll
Member
Board of Fisheries

Letters To The Editor

King Harvest

Dear Editor:

The letter by Ronald Wild dealing with the Cook Inlet king salmon controversy and published by The Times April 27 prompts my letter.

Mr. Wild's philosophy of "let's all harvest the kings" is interesting. It is interesting because it is that same philosophy which was employed by the old Board of Fish and Game to manage the then-plentiful king salmon stocks of Cook Inlet. The end result is now history — nearly complete decimation of the runs and complete closure of king salmon fishing for five years in upper Cook Inlet and its tributaries for all user groups.

As a result of the above-mentioned closures, the once-decimated king stocks have now begun to replenish. An intense effort on the part of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game of monitoring the runs and stream census studies document this fact.

During the December 1977 meeting, the Board of Fisheries was confronted with two significant and pertinent factors regarding the management of our Cook Inlet salmon resources. The first factor is that the Anchorage area is now the home of more than 100,000 sport fishing enthusiasts representing 45 percent of the total statewide sportfish effort; state projections show over 400,000 anglers in Cook Inlet waters by 1986. The second issue is that only 5 percent of the state's commercial harvest comes from Cook Inlet waters.

The board, after careful deliberation on these two factors, adopted a new comprehensive management policy for Cook Inlet. In brief, that policy states:

the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and its area biologist because they felt that it was premature to reopen any commercial fishery without more data on returning stocks. The resulting opposition to its actions influenced the board to reopen the issue during the April 28 meeting.

Mr. Wild refers to the attitude of two men — myself and Sam McDowell. He further refers to my influence on the other six members of the Board of Fisheries. It is a compliment to think that Mr. McDowell and myself control the destiny of fishing in Cook Inlet; however, it is absurd.

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In closing, I wish to make one comment: My first concern is the welfare of the resource; my second concern is the primary user; last, I will consider those few selfish people like Mr. Wild.

Chris F. Goll
Member

**Age Breakdown of Chinook Salmon in Selected Streams
of Upper Cook Inlet: 1976-77**

<u>1976</u> <u>EAST SIDE STREAMS</u>	<u>1973</u> <u>Brood</u>	<u>1972</u> <u>Brood</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>Brood</u>	<u>1970</u> <u>Brood</u>
Prairie Creek (sample of 339 carcasses)	1.2%	26.3%	23.0%	49.5%
Willow Creek (sample of 261 carcasses)	-	1.5%	20.3%	78.2%
Montana Creek (sample of 146 carcasses)	-	4.0%	19.9%	76.1%
Chulitna River (Middle Fork)- (sample of 82 carcasses)	-	2.0%	41.8%	56.2%

WEST SIDE STREAMS

Deshka River (sample of 772 carcasses)	1.4%	9.5%	33.8%	55.3%
Alexander Creek (sample of 165 carcasses)	0.6%	22.4%	63.7%	13.3%

<u>1977</u> <u>EAST SIDE STREAMS</u>	<u>1974</u> <u>Brood</u>	<u>1973</u> <u>Brood</u>	<u>1972</u> <u>Brood</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>Brood</u>
Willow Creek (sample of 140 carcasses)	-	2.1%	9.3%	88.6%
Montana Creek (sample of 156 carcasses)	3.2%	18.6%	13.5%	64.7%
<u>WEST SIDE STREAMS</u>				
Deshka River (sample of 416 carcasses)	3.6%	9.1%	50.5%	36.8%
Alexander Creek (sample of 210 carcasses)	1.4%	8.6%	73.3%	16.7%

Table . Salmon catch, by species, Northern District Cook Inlet, 1951-1977.

Year	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
1951 ^{1/}	56,120	176,839	113,000	4,665	63,686	414,310
1952	21,418	159,688	91,777	204,297	113,960	591,140
1953	32,086	261,795	104,002	4,904	90,591	493,378
1954	22,585	120,508	139,464	347,040	84,571	714,168
1955	20,522	52,927	46,365	3,226	40,321	163,361
1956	18,457	114,612	80,322	398,851	169,545	781,787
1957	21,422	90,431	44,416	1,678	101,454	259,401
1958	9,308	69,222	100,813	408,043	92,227	679,613
1959	13,226	135,211	41,230	2,348	50,699	242,714
1960 ^{2/}	8,218	148,247	144,377	442,185	117,739	860,766
1961	7,755	77,374	40,975	10,765	61,103	197,972
1962	9,785	133,545	172,883	280,433	144,033	740,679
1963	7,345	109,463	63,540	8,940	43,694	232,982
1964	168	160,264	167,928	586,386	126,958	1,041,704
1965	300	31,575	21,902	4,914	16,906	75,597
1966	1,422	131,105	80,568	372,667	35,637	621,399
1967	184	118,065	43,854	8,460	38,384	208,947
1968	471	140,575	156,648	534,839	58,454	890,987
1969	2,904	38,065	20,425	7,620	11,836	80,850
1970	1,460	66,419	82,529	173,694	22,493	346,595
1971	9,598	40,533	22,094	8,423	16,603	97,251
1972	4,912	85,737	19,346	90,830	19,780	220,605
1973	170	45,614	23,951	137,250	30,851	237,836
1974	169	41,563	47,038	42,876	36,490	168,136
1975 ^{3/}	129	65,526	33,051	90,953	30,787	220,446
1976 ^{3/}	401	69,565	38,523	148,618	14,297	271,404
1977 ^{3/}	515	103,415	20,083	107,661	25,397	257,071
Total	271,050	2,787,883	1,961,104	4,432,566	1,658,496	11,111,099
27-year average	10,039	103,255	72,633	164,169	61,426	411,522
Even year average	---	---	101,709	310,058	79,706	---
Odd year average	---	---	45,635	28,700	44,451	---

1/ 1951-1959 data - Fish and Wildlife Service Statistical Digest 50.

2/ 1960-1975 data - Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish ticket summary.

3/ 1976-1977 data - Preliminary from Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish tickets.

Table . Salmon catch by species, Central District Cook Inlet, 1951-1977.

Year	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
1951 ^{1/}	124,108	1,936,952	133,671	25,134	144,132	2,363,997
1952	51,739	1,289,880	124,719	1,055,428	192,617	2,714,383
1953	55,734	1,173,857	111,724	28,103	345,386	1,714,804
1954	41,195	1,086,538	182,061	1,842,267	425,497	3,577,558
1955	25,404	974,601	124,412	98,454	208,022	1,430,893
1956	46,518	1,144,177	117,867	1,196,524	612,506	3,117,592
1957	20,831	553,281	81,018	19,550	900,016	1,574,696
1958	13,419	408,170	138,952	1,240,505	379,470	2,180,516
1959	19,425	477,465	65,082	10,179	249,620	821,771
1960 ^{2/}	19,294	775,067	167,084	969,420	536,183	2,467,048
1961	11,982	1,084,929	76,803	23,252	288,525	1,485,491
1962	10,425	1,013,993	177,036	2,422,505	826,549	4,450,508
1963	10,191	833,470	133,600	21,496	343,333	1,342,090
1964	4,363	809,723	284,726	2,646,041	952,126	4,696,979
1965	9,441	1,380,775	131,717	19,049	299,538	1,840,520
1966	8,118	1,720,885	209,122	1,633,224	496,979	4,068,328
1967	7,675	1,261,997	133,875	23,769	258,453	1,685,769
1968	4,065	964,329	313,802	1,743,358	1,060,660	4,086,214
1969	9,494	654,189	80,527	25,802	258,019	1,028,031
1970	6,887	664,795	192,644	640,201	752,674	2,257,201
1971	10,167	595,770	78,542	27,201	310,426	1,022,106
1972	11,174	794,087	61,587	537,750	610,368	2,014,966
1973	5,024	624,411	80,469	188,934	636,722	1,535,560
1974	6,427	455,622	153,087	440,854	360,350	1,416,340
1975 ^{3/}	4,661	619,292	194,321	245,406	921,009	1,984,689
1976 ^{3/}	10,220	1,573,524	178,447	1,110,092	457,450	3,329,733
1977 ^{3/}	12,857	1,921,828	166,907	438,314	1,223,575	3,763,481
Total	560,838	26,793,607	3,893,802	18,672,812	14,050,205	63,971,264
27 year average	20,772	992,356	144,215	691,586	520,377	2,369,306
Even year average	---	---	177,010	1,344,474	589,494	---
Odd year average	---	---	113,762	85,332	456,198	---

1/ 1951-1959 data - Fish and Wildlife Service Statistical Digest 50.

2/ 1960-1975 data - Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish ticket summary.

3/ 1976-1977 data - Preliminary from Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish tickets.

King Salmon Escapement Counts, Northern District Cook Inlet, 1966 - 1977.

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>
Deshka	933	1,535	3,318	4,836	4,441	<u>161</u> ^{1/}	1,780	2,381	5,279	4,737	21,693	39,642
Alexander Creek	248	388	563	663	491	<u> </u> ^{2/}	202	875	2,193	1,878	5,412	13,385
Lake Creek	147	723	653	770	189	119	920	761	535	281	3,375	7,391
Chuit	-	-	-	13	54	-	417	149	171	629	1,984	1,891 ^{4/}
Lewis	-	-	-	-	12	-	7	173	135	75	380	454
Theodore Creek	11	-	-	8	36	-	79	205	205	95	1,032	2,263
Ship Creek	50	200	500	710	1,746	221	121	165	146	120	806	1,011
Campbell Creek	15	300	125	<u> </u> ^{3/}	63	102	37	201	79	<u> </u> ^{3/}	210	349
S.F. Eagle River	49	50	28	<u> </u> ^{3/}	81	<u> </u> ^{3/}	<u> </u> ^{3/}	61	<u> </u> ^{3/}	<u> </u> ^{3/}	81	313

1/ Count made only on East Fork Deshka

2/ No count made due to poor water conditions

3/ No count available

4/ Incomplete count--poor water conditions

Return on Aug 67

**COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT POLICY
FOR THE UPPER COOK INLET**

The dramatically increasing population of the Cook Inlet area has resulted in increasing competition between recreational and commercial fishermen for the Cook Inlet salmon stocks. Concurrently, urbanization and associated road construction has increased recreational angler effort and may adversely affect fisheries habitat. As a result the Board of Fisheries has determined that a policy must now be determined for the long-term management of the Cook Inlet salmon stocks. This policy should rest upon the following considerations:

1. The ultimate management goal for the Cook Inlet stocks must be their protection and, where feasible, rehabilitation and enhancement. To achieve this biological goal, priorities must be set among beneficial uses of the resource.
2. The commercial fishing industry in Cook Inlet is a valuable long-term asset of this state and must be protected, while recognizing the legitimate claims of the non-commercial user.
3. Of the salmon stocks in Cook Inlet, the king and silver salmon are the target species for recreational anglers while the chum, pink, and red salmon are the predominant commercial fishery.
4. User groups should know what the management plan for salmon stocks will be in order that they can plan their use consistent with that plan. Thus, commercial fishermen must know if they are harvesting stocks which in the long-term will be managed primarily for recreational consumption so that they may plan appropriately. Conversely, as recreational demands increase the recreational user must be aware of what stocks will be managed primarily for commercial harvest in order that he not become overly dependent on these fish for recreational purposes.
5. Various agencies should be aware of the long-term management plan so that salmon management needs will be considered when making decisions in areas such as land use planning and highway construction.
6. It is imperative that the Department of Fish and Game receive long-range direction in management of these stocks rather than being called upon to respond to annually changing Board directives. Within the Department, divisions such as F.R.E.D., must receive such long-term direction.

stocks north of Anchor Point. In so doing it is not the Board's intent to establish exclusive uses of salmon stocks; rather its purpose is to define the primary beneficial use of the stock while permitting secondary uses of the stock to the extent it is consistent with the requirements of the primary user group.

1. Stocks which normally move in Cook Inlet to spawning areas prior to June 30, shall be managed primarily as a non-commercial resource.
2. Stocks which normally move in Cook Inlet after June 30, shall be managed primarily as a non-recreational resource until August 15; however, existing recreational target fish shall only be harvested incidental to the non-recreational use; thereafter stocks moving to spawning areas on the Kenai Peninsula shall be managed primarily as a non-commercial resource. Other stocks shall continue to be managed primarily as a non-recreational resource.
3. The Susitna coho, the Kenai king, and the Kenai coho runs cannot be separated from other stocks which are being managed primarily as non-recreational resources; however, efforts shall be made, consistent with the primary management goal, to minimize the non-recreational catch of these stocks.


Nicholas G. Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: December 13, 1977

VOTED: 5-0

APR 27 1978

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

BOARD OF FISHeries
C/O DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
SOUTHERN BUILDING, JUNEAU 99801

P.O. Box 1633
Kodiak, Alaska 98315
April 20, 1978

The Honorable Jay S. Hammond
Governor of Alaska
Pouch A
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond:

This is in reply to your letter of April 14 asking for the specific reasoning and rationale the Board used in making its decisions on the Cook Inlet king salmon seasons.

Several new pieces of information emerged from both the four hours of public testimony on April 11 and the staff reports on April 12.

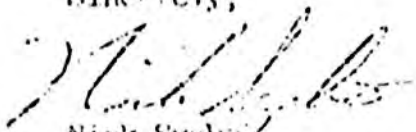
1. Average catch statistics of previous years indicate the possibility of a milling area in the lower portion of the Northern district which may contain king salmon bound for other systems. Having a commercial fishery in this area would compound the management problem in that it would be extremely difficult to know which systems were being exploited.
2. Anyone with a Cook Inlet set net permit may fish in the Northern district. The high commercial value of king salmon indicates a probable influx of set net gear of considerably greater numbers into the Northern district than those that usually fish in this area for other species. Even after all of the beach is used, it appears that those unable to locate on the beach will be staking their nets offshore.
3. Apparently the sport fishermen will be mounting an effort considerably greater than has been experienced in past years. Earlier access has been provided to many of the Situkna River tributaries and the prospect of a renewed fishery season to have generated substantial interest in participating as much as possible.

April 20, 1978

4. While it intended to monitor the catch and escapement of the Susitna streams, the Sport Fish Division appears to be taxed beyond its present capability to monitor both the new areas and the existing fisheries that would be occurring simultaneously.
5. The Susitna King salmon stocks are still in a rebuilding phase. Only the last two years have shown a significant increase in numbers of fish returning to the upper Inlet. These returns were attributed to abnormal survival rates which produced better than average returns per spawner. There is no reliable forecast for the number of fish returning in 1978. Neither is there good information on the escapement needs for the system. There was much concern expressed by ADWG staff, commercial fishermen and sports fishermen on the ability of the 1978 returns to support a harvest. Sen McDowell stated during the public hearing that because of the uncertainty of the 1978 returns, he would rather see the whole system closed for another year than to have the commercial fishery occur.

It appeared to the Board that the prospect of increased effort both by commercial and sports fishermen coupled with the uncertainty of the size of the run, that the most prudent course would be to wait another year before any harvest is allowed on the Susitna system. I would be happy to discuss these points in more detail with you on the phone when your schedule permits. In addition Carl Rosier, who was in attendance at the meeting, is available in Juneau to elaborate on the management problems of upper Cook Inlet.

Sincerely,


Nick Szabo
Chairman

cc: Commissioner Skoog
Board Members

1172

20 April 1978

1172

Original sponsor: Malone

Referred: Finance

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 807

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Fish and Game, division of sport fish; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. The sum of \$200,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Fish and Game, division of sport fish, for the management of the Cook Inlet king salmon sport fishery.

* Sec. 2. The unexpended and unobligated portion of this appropriation lapses into the general fund June 30, 1979.

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-070(c).

Introduced: 2/10/78
Referred: Resources and
Finance

IN THE HOUSE

BY MALONE

HOUSE BILL NO. 807

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to a fee punch card system for king
salmon sport fishing."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 16.05.251 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(13) establishment of a fee punch card system, using the fee
schedule established in sec. 340 of this chapter, to be used in place of
the license issuance system for king salmon sport fishing.

* Sec. 2. AS 16.05.940 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(26) "license" includes fee punch cards issued and punched for
the current fishing season by the Board of Fisheries for king salmon
sport fishing.