SCOMM

#36:4

HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON FISHERIES
February 8, 1983
2:55 p.m.

Members Present: Rep. Herrmann, Chairman
Rep. Grussendorf
Rep. Goll
Rep. Fuller, Vice-Chairman
Rep. Bussell
Rep. Zharoff
Rep. McBride

Members Absent: None

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

U.S./Canadian Salmon Treaty Hearing (Teleconference)

WITNESS REGISTER

Rep. Wendte
Behrends Room 206
Juneau, Alaska 99811
465-4944

Lee Alverson
Teleconference
Seattle, Washington

Bob Anderson
Teleconference
Yakutat, Alaska

Leo Land
Teleconference
Haines, Alaska

Matthew Luck
Teleconference
Cordova, Alaska

Gordon Peterson
Teleconference
Hoonah, Alaska

Bruce Eagle
Teleconference
Wrangell, Alaska

Marilyn George
Teleconference

Petersburg, Alaska

Martin Fredrickson
Teleconference
Sitka, Alaska

Steve Pennoyer
Director
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Department of Fish & Game
P.O. Box 3-2000
Juneau, Alaska 99802
465-4210

Dick Sunde
Teleconference
Sitka, Alaska

Stephanie Parker
Teleconference
Washington, D.C.

Henry Mitchell
Teleconference
Anchorage, Alaska

Nevan May
Teleconference
Ketchikan, Alaska

Jim Wilde
Elfin Cove, Alaska

Jim Kowalski
Teleconference
Fairbanks, Alaska

Paul Johnson
Elfin Cove, Alaska

Hank Porter
Teleconference
Yakutat, Alaska

Leonard Davisson
Teleconference
Ketchikan, Alaska

David Nanney
Teleconference
Haines, Alaska

Wilbur James, Sr.
Teleconference

Hoonah, Alaska

George Wood
Teleconference
Petersburg, Alaska

Zig Ziegler
Teleconference
Ketchikan, Alaska

Alan Stein
Teleconference
Juneau, Alaska

Lee Bird
Teleconference
Wrangell, Alaska

Greg Howe
Elfin Cove, Alaska

Ed Wojek
Alaska Trollers Association
205 North Franklin Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
586-9400

PREVIOUS ACTION

No previous action.

ACTION NARRATIVE

TAPE#4 Recording Number 0034	Meeting called to order by Chairman Herrmann at 2:55 p.m.
Number 0057	Rep. Wendte: Stated that the U.S./Canada Treaty is totally unacceptable as written and would be in the interests of the State of Alaska and the United States to reject it. Rep. Wendte said there should be input from the people of Alaska and the Legislature into developing the State's position on the proposed treaty. Suggested that the committee make tapes available to Senators Stevens and Murkowski; and U.S. Representative Young.
Number 0215	Lee Alverson: Made his testimony from Hawaii. The content of the treaty consists

of conservation of common stock and a way to minimize or stabilize interceptions. The documents are being reviewed by the Executive Management of the Department of State, and other affected government agencies that deal with the treaty. The agreement is for a two year period. If it doesn't work out, the United States or Canada can pull out or make adjustments.

Number 0412 — Discussion with Rep. Wendte and Lee Alverson concerning different user groups supporting the treaty.

Number 0492 — Discussion with Rep. Grussendorf and Mr. Alverson concerning a floor level on catches of chinook salmon; and areas in Canada that aren't covered by the treaty.

Number 0538 — Discussion with Rep. Goll and Mr. Alverson concerning competency of the Canadian Government in reporting their seasonal catches.

Number 0571 — Discussion with Rep. McBride and Mr. Alverson on what the impact would be to the Alaskan fishermen if there isn't a treaty.

Number 0594 — Discussion with Rep. Goll and Mr. Alverson concerning Alaskan fishermen paying the price because of bad management on the part of Canada and the State of Washington.

Tape 5
Recording
Number 0001 — Discussion continued with Rep. Goll.

Number 0023 — Testimonies from individuals around the state.

Number 0025 — Dick Sunde, Assemblyman from the City and Borough of Sitka; have sent a resolution 83-224 to the Governor asking him to reject the proposed treaty.

Number 0095 — Bob Anderson, Yakutat fisherman; the treaty affects those who have no other means of support.

Number 0120 — Discussion with Rep. Grussendorf and Bob Anderson concerning the king salmon fishermen going up to the coho area after they filled the king salmon quota.

Number 0153	Stephanie Parker, Washington, D.C.; a Cordova fishermen who opposes the treaty.
Number 0213	Leo Land, Haines; opposes the treaty.
Number 0268	Henry Mitchell, Anchorage; Bering Sea Fisherman's Association. The Canadians had requested that the Yukon River be included in the negotiations, but they know nothing about the upper Yukon River and it is our opinion that they will not spend money for the Cooperative Research Programs. A panel was formed and their recommendation was that the Yukon River be treated separately.
Number 0306	Matthew Luck, Cordova, Director of the Cordova Independent Gillnetters Association and Chairman of the South River Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Board. We find it difficult to see the trollers or any gear group looking at massive reductions in harvest catch. If quotas are to be set before a given troll season, there is no latitude for opening or closing a season based on over fishing or under fishing. The last thing we want to lose is state management of our fisheries.
Number 0350	Nevan May, Ketchikan; 17 year troller. "No Alaskan fishermen favors the treaty as written."
Number 0366	Gordon Peterson, Hoonah, Icey Straits Trollers Association and Hoonah's Board of Fish and Game Advisory Committee. It's not fair to Alaskan Trollers to conserve when the Canadians aren't. Certain changes should be made to make it acceptable.
Number 0400	Jim Wilde, Elfin Cove; 10 year troller, opposes the present treaty but feels a treaty must happen.
Number 0450	Bruce Eagle, Wrangell, Stikine River Gillnetters Association; opposes the treaty. Both sides must cooperate if a treaty is to be acceptable. According to the treaty, our fishing periods will be cut drastically.
Number 0490	Jim Kowalski, Fairbanks, Tanana Chief's Conference; have no official position on treaty, but do support concepts of treaties. There is very little information on the Yukon and if a treaty is to be developed,

more information is required.

Number 0518 — Marilyn George, Petersburg; 26 year troller, hopes the U. S. will not ratify the treaty. Our Alaskan stocks are doing well due to conservation. Canadian stocks are having problems due to continued overfishing.

Number 0542 — Chairman Herrmann stated the way the Fisheries Committee conveys concerns to U. S. Congress is by a resolution.

Number 0548 — Paul Johnson, Elfin Cove. "Our conservative efforts have gone to waste." Opposes the treaty.

Number 0584 — Martin Fredrickson, Sitka, President of Sitka Gillnetters Association. "The treaty has too many inequities and should be rejected."

Number 0604 — Hank Porter, Yakutat, Representing the Village Corporation; the trollers have taken as much cuts as they can and questions the figures given by Canada as to how many fish were caught.

Number 0637 — Steve Pennoyer, Department of Fish and Game; stated that the department has put out a date report booklet.

Tape 6
Recording
Number 0001 — Steven Pennoyer, discussion continued.

Number 0036 — Hank Porter: We should not accept this treaty.

Number 0041 — Leonard Davisson, Ketchikan: Has talked to some Canadian fishermen and they are catching very small king salmon. They are able to make their season trolling for sockeye.

Number 0088 — David Nanney, Haines: Officer in the Haines Chapter of the United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and serves on the local Fish and Game Advisory Board. Voted unanimously against the treaty. The Stikine River Gillnetters will be forced up to Haines for fishing if their quota takes anymore cuts. "We are willing to take part in trying to develop an acceptable treaty."

Number 0131 — Alan Stein, Juneau, Secretary and former Treasurer of United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters Association. Mr. Stein stated he was a 10 year fisherman and said "don't let negotiations force changes in Fish and Game managements, we will take no more cuts in our quota."

Number 0185 — Wilbur James, Sr., Hoonah, member of the State Fish and Game Hoonah Advisory Board: All restrictions seem to be on the Alaskan fishermen. We are opposed to the treaty as written.

Number 0209 — Lee Bird, Wrangell: Gillnetter in the Stikine Wrangell area for 25 years, and against the treaty as written.

Number 0229 — George Wood, Petersburg: Am not in favor of the percentages set forth in the treaty.

Number 0255 — Greg Howe, Elfin Cove, Commercial Salmon Troller. The Alaska fishermen shouldn't suffer any further cuts and feels there is a definite need for a West Coast management plan. Have taken cuts in the past to conserve and the Canadians haven't.

Number 0271 — Zig Ziegler, Ketchikan; there is no support for Southeast fishermen until some inequities in the treaty are addressed.

Number 0291 — Ed Wojek, Director of Southeast Trollers Association; in total opposition of the treaty. We are not responsible for the Canadian depressed salmon stocks. We have had total lack of support from Washington, Oregon and the Treaty Indians along the Columbian River. Through evaluation of the treaty there will be a direct loss of 62 - 67 million dollars over the next ten years. We must work out a draft that provides adequate protection for Alaskan Fishermen.

Number 0329 — In closing Chairman Herrmann stated that Senator Eliason does have a resolution drafted in opposing the treaty.

Steve Pennoyer then stated that Don Collingsworth, who is serving on the Governor's Task Force to evaluate the proposed treaty, is to review all the pertinent public testimony, records, data base, history of the negotiations and then

make a recommendation to the Governor for an Alaskan position on the treaty. Don Collingsworth will be present for the next hearing.

Number 0362

Chairman Herrmann then thanked all of the teleconference sites and individuals for participating in the hearing and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.