

SB

42

<TARGET><BILL>SB 42</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
42</SUBJECT><COMM>SRES29</COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Chair:
Senate State Affairs Committee

Member:
Resources Committee
Health & Social Services Committee
Finance Subcommittees on:
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Administration
Department of Public Safety



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Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 42

By Senator Bill Stoltze

"The Alaskans-First Fishing Act"

"An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal."

Ensuring that residents have access to Alaska's fisheries resources is vitally important as we continue to grow as a state. The number of Alaskans seeking to access our commonly owned fishery resources are continually increasing. However, one thing all Alaskans can agree on is that we should have a priority over people coming from elsewhere in the country and the world to utilize and harvest our fisheries resources. Fisheries that are restricted to residents only are meant to enable Alaskans to access their fisheries resources for their personal use and consumption.

Currently, there are several personal use fisheries throughout the state. Excluding the priority that is already contained within statute for subsistence, SB 42 directs the Board of Fisheries to place restrictions on sport and commercial fisheries before putting restrictions on personal use fisheries when the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve an escapement goal. Food security has been identified by Alaskans, and by Governor Walker as a critical issue.

I ask for your consideration and support of SB 42 so Alaskans can be assured that they will continue to have access to their fisheries resources to the benefit of themselves and their families.

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

TO: SB 42

1 Page 1, line 1:

2 Delete **"to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are"**

3 Insert **"for the imposition of fishing restrictions"**

4

5 Page 1, lines 5 - 6:

6 Delete "Except as provided for subsistence uses of fish stocks in AS 16.05.258, when
7 the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve a management goal, the Board of
8 Fisheries shall place restrictions on all other fisheries"

9 Insert "When the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve a management
10 goal, the Board of Fisheries may not place restrictions on commercial fisheries"

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 42
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB042-DFG-CO-03-06-15
Title: PERSONAL USE FISHING PRIORITY
Sponsor: STOLTZE
Requester: Senate State Affairs Committee

Department: Department of Fish and Game
Appropriation: Administration and Support
Allocation: Commissioner's Office
OMB Component Number: 2175

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2016 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2016 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial version.

Prepared By:	Ben Mulligan, Legislative Liaison	Phone:	(907)465-6137
Division:	Commissioner's Office	Date:	03/06/2015 02:08 PM
Approved By:	Sunny Haight, Administrative Services Director	Date:	03/06/15
Agency:	Department of Fish & Game		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 42

Analysis

Senate Bill 42 directs the Board of Fisheries to place restrictions on all other fisheries before restricting personal use fisheries when the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve a management goal. The priority for subsistence use and allocation of fish and game (AS 16.05.258) is exempted from the proposed prioritization laid out in SB 42.

It is assumed that any regulations that may need to be promulgated would occur during the Board of Fisheries normal board cycle and therefore would not have a fiscal impact upon any of the department's programs and/or operations.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 42
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB042-DFG-CO-4-15-16
Title: PERSONAL USE FISHING PRIORITY
Sponsor: STOLTZE
Requester: Senate State Affairs Committee

Department: Department of Fish and Game
Appropriation: Statewide Support Services
Allocation: Commissioner's Office
OMB Component Number: 2175

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2017	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2017 Request	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2017	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Updated form.

Prepared By: <u>Carol Petraborg, Director</u>	Phone: <u>(907)465-6077</u>
Division: <u>Administrative Services</u>	Date: <u>04/15/2016 10:15 AM</u>
Approved By: <u>Kevin Brooks, Deputy Commissioner</u>	Date: <u>04/15/16</u>
Agency: <u>Fish and Game</u>	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 42

Analysis

Senate Bill 42 directs the Board of Fisheries to place restrictions on all other fisheries before restricting personal use fisheries when the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve a management goal. The priority for subsistence use and allocation of fish and game (AS 16.05.258) is exempted from the proposed prioritization laid out in SB 42. It is assumed that any regulations that may need to be promulgated would occur during the Board of Fisheries normal board cycle and therefore would not have a fiscal impact upon any of the department's programs and/or operations.

SB 42-Personal Use Priority

Prepared for: Senator Bill Stoltze

Prepared by: ADF&G, Division of Sport Fish.

Source Document: Alaska Fish and Game Laws and Regulations Annotated

General information on Personal use fisheries:

Definitions(Sec. 16.05.940): 1) **personal use fishing** means the taking, fishing for, or possession of finfish, shellfish, or other fishery resources, by Alaska residents for personal use and not for sale or barter, with gill or dip net, seine, fish wheel, long line, or other means defined by the Board of Fisheries;

2) **Resident:** means a person who for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the time when the association of residence is made has maintained the person's domicile in the state and who is neither claiming residency in another state, territory, or country nor obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another state, territory, or country.

5 AAC 77.001. Intent and application of this chapter.

(a)(1) before the enactment of the states subsistence priority law in ch.151, SLA 1978, an individual could fulfill that individuals personal use needs for fish under subsistence fishing regulations; (2) the states subsistence priority law changed the definition of subsistence in a manner that now precludes some individuals from participating in customary and traditional subsistence fisheries and efficiently harvesting fish for their personal use; (3) there are presently areas of the state with harvestable surpluses of fish in excess of both spawning escapement needs and present levels of subsistence, commercial and sport uses; and (4) it is necessary to establish a fishery classified as "personal use" because

(A) since the sale of fish is not a customary and traditional use; this fishery cannot be classified as commercial; (B) since the use is not a customary and traditional use, this fishery cannot be classified as subsistence; and (C) since the gear for this fishery is often different from that historically associated with sport fishing, this fishery should not be classified as a sport fishery to prevent confusion among the public.

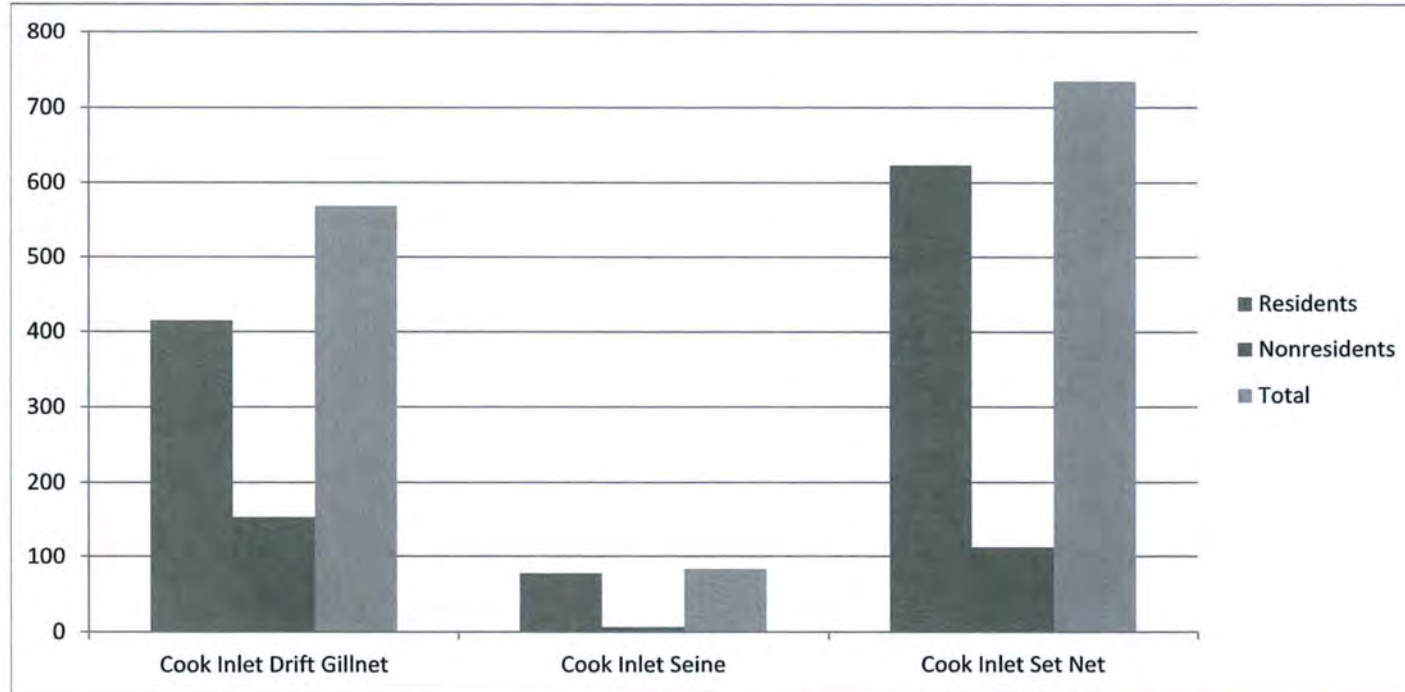
General aspects:

- Personal use fisheries are for providing Alaskan residents with a variety of opportunities to harvest fish and shellfish resources for personal household consumption. They have been established around the state as a means to accommodate the desire of residents to harvest and enjoy consumption of the renewable natural resources which belong to all Alaskans.
- Generally speaking, Chapter 77 (5 AAC 77.001-77.699) offers a wide array of information on personal use fisheries around the state: statewide provisions, gear, seasons, bag and possession for each area and fishery.

- Personal use fisheries exist in both freshwater and marine environments statewide of which there are about 80 fisheries identified encompassing (salmon, crab, shrimp, bottom fish, scallops and clams) from Norton Sound to Ketchikan.
- Generally the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial fisheries manages the marine personal use fisheries and Sport Fish Division manages the freshwater fisheries.
 - Most of the personal use fisheries in SE Alaska are managed by Commercial Fisheries Division, and those in SC and Interior Alaska are managed by Sport Fish Division.
- Three of the more prominent personal use fisheries are Chitina (Copper River), Kasilof and Kenai where harvests are largely sockeye salmon.
 - Participation in the Chitina fishery averages about 9–11,000 households with harvests averaging around 135,000 sockeye annually (5-year average; 2009-2013). In 2013, 11,539 household permits were issued and 9,300 returned with an estimated harvest of about 165,000 fish.
 - Participation in the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fisheries averages approximately 30,000 – 35,500 households with harvests averaging approximately 537,000 sockeye (5-year average; 2009-2013). There were 35,211 household permits issued for Cook Inlet personal use fishing in 2013 of which 27,180 were returned. A total of 457,581 salmon (all species) were harvested. 102,854 of these were from the Kasilof, and 354,727 were harvested from the Kenai. There was no retention of king salmon allowed in either the Kenai or Chitina fisheries during 2013.

Commercial Fishing Permit Holders

	Statewide	Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet	Cook Inlet Seine	Cook Inlet Set Net
Residents	12,390	415	78	623
Nonresidents	3,964	154	6	112
Total	16,354	569	84	735
% Residents	76%	73%	93%	85%
% Nonresidents	24%	27%	7%	15%



Data pulled from CFEC 2013/2014 Annual Report and CFEC website

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

CHAPTER 77. PERSONAL USE FISHERY.

Article 1. Statewide Provisions.

5 AAC 77.001. Intent and application of this chapter. (a) The Board of Fisheries finds that

(1) before the enactment of the state's subsistence priority law in ch. 151, SLA 1978, an individual could fulfill that individual's personal use needs for fish under subsistence fishing regulations;

(2) the state's subsistence priority law changed the definition of subsistence in a manner that now precludes some individuals from participating in customary and traditional subsistence fisheries and efficiently harvesting fish for their personal use;

(3) there presently are areas of the state with harvestable surpluses of fish in excess of both spawning escapement needs and present levels of subsistence, commercial and sport uses; and

(4) it is necessary to establish a fishery classified as "personal use" because

(A) since the sale of fish is not appropriate or permissible, this fishery cannot be classified as commercial;

(B) since the use is not a customary and traditional use, this fishery cannot be classified as subsistence; and

(C) since the gear for this fishery is often different from that historically associated with sport fishing, this fishery should not be classified as a sport fishery, to prevent confusion among the public.

(b) It is the intent of the board that the taking of fish under 5 AAC 77 will be allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest.

(c) Regulations in 5 AAC 77 apply to the taking of finfish, shellfish and aquatic plants for personal use. The regulations in 5 AAC 77.001 – 5 AAC 77.049 apply to the taking of finfish, shellfish and aquatic plants in all waters of Alaska.

(d) The regulations in 5 AAC 77 do not prohibit the personal use of finfish, shellfish or aquatic plants legally taken under the subsistence, commercial and sport fishing regulations in 5 AAC 01 – 5 AAC 75.

(e) The definitions of legal gear in 5 AAC 39.105(d), unlawful possession of fish in 5 AAC 39.197, definitions in 5 AAC 39.975, and abbreviations and symbols in 5 AAC 39.997 apply to the regulations in 5 AAC 77.

(f) In this chapter, "personal use fishing" has the meaning given in AS 16.05.940.

5 AAC 77.002. Liability for violations. Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, or in AS 16, a person who violates a provision of this chapter is strictly liable for the offense, regardless of that person's intent.

5 AAC 77.005. Personal use fishing permitted. Finfish, shellfish, and aquatic plants may be taken for personal use only as provided in 5 AAC 77.

5 AAC 77.007. Criteria for the allocation of fishery resources among personal use, sport, and commercial fisheries. Before adopting regulations that allocate fish among personal use, sport, and commercial fisheries, the board will, as appropriate to particular allocation decisions, consider factors such as those set out in AS 16.05.251(e).

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

5 AAC 77.010. Methods, means, and general restrictions. (a) Finfish, shellfish, and aquatic plants may be taken for personal use only by a holder of a valid resident Alaska sport fishing license or by an Alaskan resident exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400.

(b) It is unlawful to buy, sell, trade or barter fish or their parts taken under the regulations in 5 AAC 77.

(c) It is unlawful to take fish within 300 feet of any dam, fish ladder, weir, culvert or other artificial obstruction.

(d) Each personal use fisherman shall plainly and legibly inscribe the fisherman's first initial, last name, and home address on a keg or buoy attached to a gillnet, pot, or ring net. A keg or buoy attached to a pot or ring net must also be inscribed with the name or the division of motor vehicles boat registration number, issued under 2 AAC 70, of the vessel used to operate the pot or ring net.

(e) The gillnet web in a gillnet used for personal use fishing for salmon must contain

(1) at least 30 filaments, each of which must be of equal diameter; or

(2) at least six filaments, each of which must be at least 0.20 millimeters in diameter.

(f) A person may not possess salmon taken under the authority of a personal use salmon fishing permit unless both tips of the tail fin have been removed from the salmon before the salmon is concealed from plain view or transported from the fishing site.

(g) It is unlawful to take female king, Tanner, or Dungeness crab.

(h) No person may mutilate or otherwise disfigure a crab in any manner that would prevent determination of the minimum size restrictions in 5 AAC 77, until the crab has been processed or prepared for consumption.

(i) No more than five pots, regardless of type, per person with a maximum of 10 pots, regardless of type, per vessel may be used to take shellfish at any time, except that in the Southeastern Alaska and Yakutat Areas, no more than 10 shrimp pots per person with a maximum of 20 shrimp pots per vessel may be used in addition to pots, other than shrimp pots, in the taking of shrimp at any time.

(j) The harvest, bag, possession, and pot limits for shellfish in this chapter are not in addition to those allowed under subsistence fishing regulations contained in 5 AAC 02.

(k) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, gear used in the personal use taking of shellfish is limited to the following:

(1) shrimp may be taken only with pots and ring nets;

(2) crab may be taken only with pots, ring nets, diving gear, dip nets, hooked or hookless handlines, or by hand; a line attached to a pole or rod may be used in the Bering Sea only when fishing a line through the ice;

(3) clams may be taken only by hand or with rakes, shovels, and manually operated clam guns;

(4) abalone may be taken only with abalone irons, diving gear, or by hand.

(l) In the personal use taking of shellfish not otherwise specified in this chapter

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) there is no bag and possession limit;

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

(3) trawls, hand jigging, hand-operated dredges, and all gear specified in (k) of this section may be used, except that in the waters described in 5 AAC 38.140(k) (Southeastern Alaska) sea cucumbers may not be taken with the use of diving gear.

(m) Pots used for personal use fishing must comply with the escape mechanism requirements in 5 AAC 39.145.

5 AAC 77.015. Personal use fishing permits and reports and display of personal use fish. (a) A permit is not required to take fish unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 77.

(b) Permits for the taking of finfish will be issued only to holders of a valid resident Alaska sport fishing license and Alaska residents exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400. Permits for the taking of shellfish and aquatic plants will be issued only to holders of a valid Alaska sport fishing license and persons exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400.

(c) When a personal use fishing permit is required, the following permit conditions apply unless otherwise specified by the regulations in 5 AAC 77:

(1) the numbers of fish taken may not exceed the limits set out in the permit;

(2) the permit must be obtained from a local representative of the department before taking fish;

(3) the permit and the permittee's sport fishing license must be retained in the possession of the permittee and be readily available for inspection upon request by a peace officer of the state while taking or transporting the species for which the permit is issued;

(4) the permit may designate the species and numbers of fish to be harvested, time and area for taking, the type and amount of fishing gear and other conditions necessary for management or conservation purposes;

(5) if specified on the permit, each fisherman shall keep accurate daily records of the catch involved, showing the number of fish taken by species, location and date of the catch, and such other information as the department may require for management or conservation purposes;

(6) personal use fishing reports must be completed on forms provided by the department and submitted to the department office from which the permit was issued at the time specified by the department for each particular area and fishery;

(7) if applicable, the total annual possession limit for the permittee will be entered on each permit by the department representative issuing the permit; and

(8) if applicable, the department representative issuing the permit will require from an applicant documented proof of residency or other criteria required by regulation, or in the absence of such documentation, a signed affidavit setting forth duration of residency or other criteria required by regulation, to determine the applicable type of permit, annual possession limit and residency of the applicant.

(d) If the return of catch information necessary for management and conservation purposes is required by a personal use fishing permit, a permittee who fails to comply with such reporting requirements is ineligible to receive a personal use permit for that activity during the following calendar year, unless the permit applicant demonstrates to the department that failure to report was due to unavoidable circumstances.

(e) Repealed 5/31/98.

(f) Upon request by an employee of the department, a person must show to the employee

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- (1) that person's record of catch taken under this chapter; and
- (2) fish taken and possessed by the person in a personal use fishery.

5 AAC 77.016. Personal use fishing by proxy. (a) Finfish, shellfish, and aquatic plants may be taken by personal use fishing by proxy only as provided in AS 16.05.405 and in this section.

(b) Any species of finfish, except halibut, shellfish, or aquatic plant that may be taken by personal use fishing under this chapter may be taken by personal use fishing by proxy.

(c) Before a proxy may take, attempt to take, or transport finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants taken under this section, on behalf of a beneficiary, the proxy or the beneficiary shall obtain and complete a proxy fishing information form available from the department. The proxy or the beneficiary shall take or mail the completed form to any ADF&G office for validation. The department shall return the validated form and retain a copy for the department's records. In addition to the requirements of AS 16.05.405(c), the proxy must have in possession a validated proxy fishing information form when taking, attempting to take, or transporting finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants taken under this section, on behalf of a beneficiary. A personal use fishing permit issued by the department may be substituted for the proxy fishing information form if the information requested on the personal use fishing permit is essentially the same as the information requested on the proxy fishing information form.

(d) As provided in AS 16.05.405, a proxy who takes or attempts to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants by personal use fishing on behalf of a beneficiary may, at the same time, fish for the proxy's own use, except that the proxy may not

(1) take more than twice the bag limit, and may not possess more than twice the possession limit of a species, as established in this chapter, for the waters in which the fishing occurs; and

(2) fish with more than one legal limit of gear, as established in 5 AAC 77.

(e) A beneficiary may not authorize more than one proxy to take or attempt to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants on the beneficiary's behalf at one time. A beneficiary may not personally take or attempt to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants at the same time that a proxy is taking or attempting to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants on the beneficiary's behalf.

(f) A person may not give or receive remuneration in order to obtain, grant, or influence the granting of an authorization to take or attempt to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants by proxy on behalf of a beneficiary.

(g) In this section,

(1) "beneficiary" means a resident

(A) who is blind, is a person with physical disabilities as defined in AS 16.05.940, or is 65 years of age or older; and

(B) on whose behalf finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants are to be taken or attempted to be taken under AS 16.05.405;

(2) "proxy" means a resident who holds a valid resident sport fishing license and who wishes to take or attempt to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants on behalf of a beneficiary under AS 16.05.405;

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(3) "fishing site" means the location where the finfish is removed from the water and becomes part of the beneficiary's specified limit.

(h) A proxy fishing information form is valid for the remainder of the calendar year during which it is issued, unless the beneficiary specifies an earlier ending date on the proxy information form.

(i) Before concealing the finfish or shellfish from plain view or transporting the finfish or shellfish from the fishing site, a proxy must record, in ink, on the proxy fishing information form, or a personal use permit if allowed under (c) of this section, the date, location (body of water fished), species, approximate weight, and number of the finfish or shellfish taken by the proxy on behalf of a beneficiary.

(j) Within 30 days after taking finfish or shellfish for a beneficiary under this section, a proxy must personally deliver the finfish or shellfish to the beneficiary.

5 AAC 77.019. Prohibitions on shellfish pot gear. A person may not disturb, tamper with, or retrieve another person's shellfish pot gear without prior permission of the owner of that pot gear.

5 AAC 77.025. Use of commercially licensed or registered vessels. (a) Limitations on the use of personal use shrimp gear by vessels and participants in commercial shrimp fisheries are contained in 5 AAC 31.

(b) Limitations on the use of personal use Dungeness crab gear by vessels and participants in commercial Dungeness crab fisheries are contained in 5 AAC 32.

(c) Limitations on the use of personal use king crab gear by vessels and participants in commercial king crab fisheries are contained in 5 AAC 34.

(d) Limitations on the use of personal use Tanner crab gear by vessels and participants in commercial Tanner crab fisheries are contained in 5 AAC 35.

5 AAC 77.027. Prohibitions for use of personal use-taken shellfish. (a) An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or other enterprise that furnishes food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services may not furnish to a client or guest of that enterprise, shellfish that has been taken under this chapter, unless the

(1) shellfish has been taken with gear deployed and retrieved by the client or guest;

(2) gear has been marked with the client's or guest's name and address, as specified in 5 AAC 77.010(d); and

(3) shellfish is to be consumed by the client or guest or is consumed in the presence of the client or guest.

(b) The captain and crewmembers of a charter vessel may not deploy, set, or retrieve their own gear in a personal use fishery when that vessel is being chartered.

5 AAC 77.035. Width of shell measurement for king and Tanner crab. In this chapter, the width of shell measurement for king and Tanner crab is the greatest straight-line distance across the carapace at a right angle to a line midway between the eyes to the midpoint of the posterior portion of the carapace, including the spines.

Article 2. Arctic-Kotzebue Area.

5 AAC 77.050. Description of area. The Arctic-Kotzebue Area includes all waters of

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Alaska north of the latitude of the westernmost tip of Cape Prince of Wales and west of 141° W. long., including those waters draining into the Chukchi Sea and Arctic Ocean.

5 AAC 77.055. Fishing districts. Districts are described in 5 AAC 03.200.

5 AAC 77.058. Gear for shellfish. In the personal use taking of shellfish, only pots and ring nets may be operated.

5 AAC 77.060. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds onboard the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.062. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits for male Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.064. Personal use king crab fishery. In the personal use taking of king crab there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits for male king crab.

5 AAC 77.066. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits for male Tanner crab.

5 AAC 77.080. Personal use herring fishery. Herring and herring roe may be taken for personal use in accordance with the subsistence herring fishing regulations in 5 AAC 01.110 – 5 AAC 01.125.

Article 3. Norton Sound–Port Clarence Area.

5 AAC 77.100. Description of Norton Sound–Port Clarence Area. The Norton Sound–Port Clarence Area includes all waters of Alaska between the latitude of the westernmost tip of Cape Prince of Wales and the latitude of Point Romanof, including the waters of Alaska surrounding St. Lawrence Island and those waters draining into the Bering Sea.

5 AAC 77.105. Fishing districts. Districts are described in 5 AAC 04.200.

5 AAC 77.108. Gear for shellfish. In the personal use taking of shellfish, only pots and ring nets may be used.

5 AAC 77.110. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds onboard the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

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(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.112. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. Repealed 7/1/2006.

5 AAC 77.114. Personal use king crab fishery. Repealed 8/14/2005.

5 AAC 77.116. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. Repealed 8/14/2005.

5 AAC 77.130. Personal use herring fishery. Herring and herring roe may be taken for personal use in accordance with the subsistence herring fishing regulations in 5 AAC 01.160 – 5 AAC 01.175.

Article 4. Yukon Area.

5 AAC 77.150. Description of Yukon Area. The Yukon Area includes all waters of Alaska between the latitude of Point Romanof and the latitude of the westernmost tip of the Naskonat Peninsula, including those waters draining into the Bering Sea.

5 AAC 77.155. Fishing districts. Districts are described in 5 AAC 05.200.

5 AAC 77.158. Gear for shellfish. In the personal use taking of shellfish, only pots and ring nets may be used.

5 AAC 77.160. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds onboard the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.162. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits for male Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.164. Personal use king crab fishery. In the personal use taking of king crab there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits for male king crab.

5 AAC 77.166. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits for male Tanner crab.

5 AAC 77.171. Lawful gear for personal use finfish fishing. (a) In Subdistrict 6-C, finfish may be taken for personal use only by set gillnets and fish wheels as follows:

(1) a person may not operate more than one type of gear at the same time for commercial, personal use, and subsistence purposes;

(2) the aggregate length of a set gillnet may not exceed 150 fathoms;

(3) a person may not set or operate personal use fishing gear within 200 feet of other operating commercial, personal use, or subsistence fishing gear;

(4) a gillnet or fish wheel may not obstruct more than one-half the width of any

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fish stream and any channel or side channel of a fish stream;

(5) a household, as defined in 5 AAC 39.975(20), may not operate more than one fish wheel.

(b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, during times when the commissioner determines it to be necessary for the conservation of chum salmon, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the Yukon Area Subdistrict 6-C personal use salmon fishing season and immediately reopen the season during which the following gear limitations apply:

(1) a gillnet used to take salmon

(A) must be of four inches or less in mesh size or eight inches or greater in mesh size;

(B) that is four inches or less in mesh size, may not exceed the length and depth specified by the commissioner; and

(C) that is eight inches or greater in mesh size, may not exceed the length and depth specified by the commissioner;

(2) for fish wheels:

(A) a fish wheel used to take salmon must be equipped with a live box that is constructed so that it contains no less than 45 cubic feet of water volume while it is in operation;

(B) the live box of a fish wheel must be checked at least once every six hours while the fish wheel is in operation, and all chum salmon caught in the livebox must be returned to the water alive;

(C) a person may operate a fish wheel without a livebox only if

(i) the fish wheel is equipped with a chute that returns fish captured by the fish wheel to the water alive;

(ii) the person closely attends the fish wheel while it is in operation; and

(iii) the person returns all chum salmon caught to the water alive;

(3) dip nets may be used, however all chum salmon caught must be released to the water alive; notwithstanding (a)(3) of this section, a person may operate a dip net within 200 feet of another person operating a dip net.

(c) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, during times when the commissioner determines it to be necessary for the conservation of king salmon, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the Yukon Area Subdistrict 6-C personal use salmon fishing season and immediately reopen the season during which the following gear limitations apply:

(1) a gillnet used to take salmon

(A) must be six inches or less in mesh size;

(B) may not exceed the length and depth specified by the commissioner;

(2) for fish wheels:

(A) a fish wheel used to take salmon must be equipped with a live box that is constructed so that it contains no less than 45 cubic feet of water volume while it is in operation;

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(B) the live box of a fish wheel must be checked at least once every six hours while the fish wheel is in operation, and all king salmon caught in the livebox must be returned to the water unharmed;

(C) a person may operate a fish wheel without a livebox only if

(i) the fish wheel is equipped with a chute that returns fish captured by the fish wheel to the water alive;

(ii) the person closely attends the fish wheel while it is in operation; and

(iii) the person returns all king salmon caught to the water alive;

(3) dip nets may be used, however all king salmon caught must be released to the water alive; notwithstanding (a)(3) of this section, a person may operate a dip net within 200 feet of another person operating a dip net.

(d) For the purposes of this section, "livebox" means a submerged container attached to a fish wheel that will keep fish caught by the fish wheel alive.

(e) In Subdistrict 6-C, notwithstanding any other provision of this section that allows a person to take salmon with a gillnet that has a mesh size greater than seven and one-half inches, a person may not take salmon with a gillnet that has a mesh size greater than seven and one-half inches.

5 AAC 77.172. Personal use salmon fishing permits and reports. (a) In Subdistrict 6-C, an annual permit is required to take salmon for personal use. Only one permit per household is allowed annually. The annual possession limit per permit holder is 10 king salmon and 75 chum salmon for periods through August 15, and 75 chum and coho combined for periods after August 15.

(b) Personal use salmon harvest limits in Subdistrict 6-C are 750 king salmon and 5,000 chum salmon taken through August 15, and 5,200 chum salmon and coho salmon combined taken after August 15. When either the king or chum salmon harvest limit for the period before August 16 has been taken, the personal use salmon fishing season in Subdistrict 6-C will close. A later season will open after August 15 to allow the taking of the harvest limit for the period after August 15. If the chum salmon harvest limit has not been obtained through August 15, the remaining harvest will not be added to the chum salmon harvest level for the period after August 15.

5 AAC 77.173. Personal use salmon fishing seasons and periods. (a) Unless altered by emergency order, personal use salmon fishing periods are from 6:00 p.m. Friday until 12:00 noon Sunday, and from 6:00 p.m. Monday until 12:00 noon Wednesday.

(b) Salmon fishing seasons or periods may be altered by emergency order for conservation purposes or to prevent harvest limits from being exceeded.

(c) In Subdistrict 6-C, salmon may be taken only by set gillnet or fish wheel. A person may not operate a set gillnet with a mesh size greater than six inches after a date specified by emergency order issued at some time between July 5 and July 25.

5 AAC 77.174. Waters closed to personal use fishing. (a) Waters of the Tanana River drainage are closed to the personal use taking of pike above the mouth of the Kantishna River.

(b) The following waters are closed to personal use fishing:

(1) the Delta Clearwater River (Clearwater Creek at 64° 06' N. lat., 145° 34' W. long.), Richardson Clearwater Creek (Clear Creek at 64° 14' N. lat., 146° 16' W. long.),

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Goodpaster River, Chena River, Little Chena River, Little Salcha River, Blue Creek, Shaw Creek, Bear Creek, McDonald Creek, and Moose Creek, within 500 feet of their mouths;

(2) the Salcha River upstream of a line between ADF&G regulatory markers at its mouth;

(3) Bollo, Birch, Lost, Harding, Craig, Fielding, Quartz, and Little Harding lakes;

(4) Piledriver and Badger (Chena) sloughs;

(5) repealed 6/17/98;

(6) the Delta River.

5 AAC 77.180. Personal use herring fishery. Herring and herring roe may be taken for personal use in accordance with the subsistence herring fishing regulations in 5 AAC 01.210 - 5 AAC 01.230.

5 AAC 77.190. Personal use whitefish and sucker fishery. (a) Whitefish and suckers may be taken for personal use only in the Fairbanks Nonsubsistence area described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(4) under the authority of a permit issued under 5 AAC 77.015.

(b) The department shall adhere to the following when issuing personal use whitefish and sucker permits:

(1) the fishing effort may be permitted only in places and during times when resource abundance will allow a harvest without jeopardizing sustained yield and in a manner that will provide for an orderly fishery;

(2) permits may be issued for spears and set gillnet, beach seine, dip net, fyke net, and fish wheel gear;

(3) finfish other than whitefish and suckers must be immediately returned to the water unharmed.

Article 5. Kuskokwim Area.

5 AAC 77.200. Description of area. The Kuskokwim Area consists of all waters of Alaska between the latitude of the westernmost tip of the Naskonat Peninsula and the latitude of the southernmost tip of Cape Newenham, including the waters of Alaska surrounding Nunivak and St. Matthew Islands and those waters draining into the Bering Sea.

5 AAC 77.205. Fishing districts. Districts are described in 5 AAC 07.200.

5 AAC 77.207. Personal use fishing permits. Shellfish may be taken for personal use purposes only under authority of a permit issued by the department.

5 AAC 77.208. Gear for shellfish. In the personal use taking of shellfish, only pots and ring nets may be used.

5 AAC 77.210. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds on board the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

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(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.212. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.214. Personal use king crab fishery. In the personal use taking of king crab

(1) crab may be taken only from June 1 through January 31;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is six male king crab.

5 AAC 77.216. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Tanner crab.

5 AAC 77.230. Personal use herring fishery. Herring and herring roe may be taken for personal use in accordance with the subsistence herring fishing regulations in 5 AAC 01.260 – 5 AAC 01.275.

5 AAC 77.240. Personal use Pacific cod fishery. Pacific cod may be taken for personal use in accordance with the subsistence bottomfish fishing regulations in 5 AAC 01.260 – 5 AAC 01.275.

Article 6. Bristol Bay Area.

5 AAC 77.250. Description of Bristol Bay Area. The Bristol Bay Area consists of all waters of Bristol Bay enclosed by a line from the westernmost tip of Cape Newenham to the westernmost tip of Cape Menshikof.

5 AAC 77.255. Description of districts. Districts and sections are described in 5 AAC 06.200.

5 AAC 77.257. Personal use shellfish permit. Shellfish may be taken for personal use purposes only under authority of a permit issued by the department.

5 AAC 77.260. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds on board the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.262. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab,

(1) there is no closed season;

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(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Dungeness crab;

(3) only male Dungeness crab six and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

5 AAC 77.264. Personal use king crab fishery. In the personal use taking of king crab,

(1) crab may be taken only from June 1 through January 31;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is six male king crab;

(3) only male king crab six and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

5 AAC 77.266. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Tanner crab;

(3) only male Tanner crab five and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

5 AAC 77.270. Personal use herring fishery. In the personal use taking of herring and herring roe on kelp,

(1) herring and herring roe on kelp may be taken at any time;

(2) herring may be taken by drift and set gillnets only;

(3) during closed commercial herring fishing periods, gillnets used for the personal use taking of herring may not exceed 25 fathoms in length;

(4) herring spawn on kelp may be taken by hand picking and hand operated rakes only;

(5) herring may not be taken in those waters described in 5 AAC 27.850;

(6) there are no bag and possession limits for the taking of herring and herring roe on kelp;

(7) herring taken under personal use fishing regulations may not be used for bait in any commercial fishery.

5 AAC 77.280. Nushagak District personal use gillnet salmon fishery. Salmon may be taken for personal use in those waters of the Nushagak District open to subsistence salmon fishing south of a line from Snag Point to Picnic Point only as follows:

(1) salmon may be taken only under the authority of a personal use salmon fishing permit issued through the ADF&G office in Dillingham;

(2) salmon may be taken only from July 1 through July 31 during fishing periods open for subsistence salmon fishing;

(3) salmon may be taken only with set gillnets; a person may not operate more than 10 fathoms of gillnet; a gillnet may not have a mesh size larger than five and three-eighths inches and must be staked and buoyed; the requirement for the minimum distance between set gillnets is specified in 5 AAC 01.310 and 5 AAC 01.320;

(4) a person may not operate or assist in operating personal use salmon fishing gear under this section at the same time that person is operating or assisting in operating commercial salmon fishing gear;

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(5) the annual harvest limit is 70 salmon, of which only five may be king salmon; this limit is not in addition to the limits in 5 AAC 67.020 and 5 AAC 67.022.

5 AAC 77.285. Naknek River Personal Use Sockeye Salmon Fishery Management Plan. (a) The department shall allow the taking of salmon by dip nets and gillnets in the Naknek River from its terminus upstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located near Savonski from when the department has estimated that 900,000 sockeye salmon are in the river through July 25.

(b) During the open season, salmon may be taken by dip nets seven days per week and by gillnets during open subsistence salmon fishing periods for the Naknek River.

(c) Salmon may be taken only under the authority of a permit issued through the department's King Salmon office.

(d) The annual limit is 75 salmon not in addition to the limits in 5 AAC 67.020(a).

(e) No set gillnet may exceed 10 fathoms in length and five and three-eighths inches in mesh size. No set gillnet may be set or operated within 300 feet of another set gillnet.

Article 7. Aleutian Islands Area.

5 AAC 77.300. Description of area. The Aleutian Islands Area includes all waters of Alaska in the Aleutian Islands west of, and including, Unimak Pass.

5 AAC 77.305. Fishing districts. Districts are

(1) as described in 5 AAC 12.200; and

(2) Atka-Amlia Islands District: the waters described in 5 AAC 11.101.

5 AAC 77.307. Personal use fishing permits. Shellfish may be taken for personal use purposes only under authority of a permit issued by the department.

5 AAC 77.310. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds on board the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.312. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Dungeness crab;

(3) only male Dungeness crab six and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

Article 8. Alaska Peninsula Area.

5 AAC 77.350. Description of area. The Alaska Peninsula Area includes all waters of Alaska

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from Cape Menshikof to Cape Sarichef Light and from Scotch Cap Light to Kupreanof Point.

5 AAC 77.355. Fishing districts. Districts are described in 5 AAC 09.200.

5 AAC 77.357. Personal use fishing permits. Shellfish may be taken for personal use purposes only under authority of a permit issued by the department.

5 AAC 77.360. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp there is no closed season, and no daily bag and possession limits, except that the operator of a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel used in the personal use taking of shrimp during a closed commercial shrimp fishing season or within a closed commercial shrimp district, section, or subsection

(1) may not possess more than 500 pounds on board the vessel; and

(2) shall, before taking shrimp, obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department specifying

(A) the area the operator intends to fish; and

(B) the dates the operator intends to fish.

5 AAC 77.362. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Dungeness crab;

(3) only male Dungeness crab six and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

5 AAC 77.364. Personal use king crab fishery. In the personal use taking of king crab,

(1) crab may be taken only from June 1 through January 31;

(2) from July 15 through January 31, king crab may not be taken in waters 25 fathoms or greater in depth, unless the commercial red king crab fishing season is open in the location;

(3) the daily bag and possession limit is three male king crab;

(4) only male king crab six and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

5 AAC 77.366. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) from July 15 through February 10, Tanner crab may not be taken in waters 25 fathoms or greater in depth, unless the commercial Tanner crab fishing season is open in the location;

(3) the daily bag and possession limit is six male Tanner crab;

(4) only male Tanner crab five and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

Article 9. Chignik Area.

5 AAC 77.400. Description of area. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.405. Fishing districts. Repealed 7/16/2011.

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5 AAC 77.407. Personal use fishing permits. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.410. Personal use shrimp fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.412. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.414. Personal use king crab fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.416. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

Article 10. Kodiak Area.

5 AAC 77.450. Description of area. The Kodiak Area includes all waters of Alaska south of a line extending east from Cape Douglas (58° 51.10' N. lat.), west of 150° W. long., north of 55° 30.00' N. lat., and east of the longitude of the southern entrance of Imuya Bay near Kilokak Rocks (156° 20.22' W. long.).

5 AAC 77.455. Fishing districts. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.457. Personal use fishing permits. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.460. Personal use shrimp fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.462. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.464. Personal use king crab fishery. Repealed 8/14/96.

5 AAC 77.466. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. Repealed 7/16/2011.

5 AAC 77.468. Personal use salmon fishery. In the personal use taking of salmon in the Kodiak Area,

(1) salmon may be taken only in the waters of Settler Cove west of 152° 50.80' W. long., including all fresh water below the falls of Crescent Creek;

(2) there is no closed season;

(3) there is no bag or possession limit; and

(4) salmon may be taken only by dip net.

Article 11. Cook Inlet Area.

5 AAC 77.500. Description of Cook Inlet Area. The Cook Inlet Area consists of all waters of Alaska enclosed by a line extending east from Cape Douglas (58° 51.10' N. lat.) and a line extending south from Cape Fairfield (148° 50.25' W. long.).

5 AAC 77.505. Description of districts and subdistricts. Districts and subdistricts are described in 5 AAC 21.200.

5 AAC 77.507. Personal use permit for shellfish. A person must obtain a personal use shellfish permit described in 5 AAC 77.015, from the department before harvesting shellfish with pots in the Cook Inlet Area. Upon taking shellfish and before concealing the shellfish from plain view or removing the shellfish from the fishing site, the person must enter, in ink, the catch information requested on the personal use permit.

5 AAC 77.508. Personal use permit for shellfish. Repealed 7/1/2006.

5 AAC 77.509. Lawful gear and gear specifications for shellfish. (a) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 77.010(i), no more than two pots per person, regardless of type, with a maximum of two pots per vessel, regardless of type, may be used to take shellfish at any time, except that in the waters of the Outer and Eastern Districts between the longitude of Gore Point (150° 57.85' W. long.) and the longitude of Cape Fairfield (148° 50.25' W. long.), no more than

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two pots per person with a maximum of six pots per vessel may be used to take Tanner crab.

(b) Each pot, other than shrimp pots, used to take shellfish in the Cook Inlet Area must have a minimum of two escape rings that are at least four and three-eighths inches in inside diameter.

(c) Shrimp pots are pots with tunnel eye openings that individually are not larger than 15 inches in perimeter.

(d) A pot used to take shellfish may not have any portion of the line attaching the pot to a buoy or buoys floating on the surface of the water at any time, except for that portion of the line connecting the main buoy to any auxiliary buoy or buoys.

5 AAC 77.511. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp,

(1) shrimp may be taken only from April 15 through September 15 in the waters of Cook Inlet between the longitude of Gore Point and the longitude of Cape Fairfield, including the waters of Resurrection Bay;

(2) a person may only take shrimp under this section under a permit issued by the department under 5 AAC 77.015;

(3) notwithstanding 5 AAC 77.010(i) and 5 AAC 77.509(a), no more than five pots per person, and no more than five pots per vessel, may be used to take shrimp;

(4) in addition to the requirements of 5 AAC 77.509(c), all shrimp pots must have at least two adjacent vertical sides, or near-vertical sides, excluding tunnels, completely composed of uncovered net webbing or rigid mesh; pots that do not have a definable side, including round pots, must have net webbing or rigid mesh panels covering a minimum of 50 percent of the vertical, or near-vertical, surface area of the pot; the net webbing or rigid mesh on all pots must be large enough to allow the unaided passage of a maximum 12-inch long, seven-eighths inch diameter, round wooden peg without deforming the opening, except for the selvage.

5 AAC 77.512. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. There is no open fishing season in the Cook Inlet Area for the personal use taking of Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.514. Personal use king crab fishery. There is no open fishing season in the Cook Inlet Area for the personal use taking of king crab.

5 AAC 77.516. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab,

(1) male Tanner crab may be taken only from July 15 through March 15, except that

(A) in Kachemak Bay, east of a line from Point Pogibshi to Anchor Point, male Tanner crab may only be taken from September 1 through December 31 and from January 15 or the beginning of the commercial Tanner crab season, whichever is later, through March 15; and

(B) when the personal use fishery in the Kamishak District or Barren Islands District is closed to the taking of Tanner crab, the personal use fishery in the Eastern, Outer, and Central Districts shall also remain closed as specified under 5 AAC 35.410(c);

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is five male Tanner crab;

(3) repealed 6/1/90;

(4) only male Tanner crab five and one-half inches or greater in width of shell

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may be taken or possessed;

(5) a person may not mutilate or otherwise disfigure a Tanner crab in any manner that would prevent the determination of the minimum size and sex restrictions in this section while the crab is uncooked and in possession aboard a vessel; only whole crab, cooked or uncooked, may be taken off a vessel.

5 AAC 77.518. Personal use clam fishery. In the personal use taking of clams,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) there are no bag, possession, or size limits for clams, except that

(A) from the mouth of the Kenai River to the southernmost tip of the Homer Spit, the bag limit for razor clams is the first 60 clams harvested and the possession limit is 120 clams;

(B) the combined bag and possession limit for littleneck clams and butter clams is 80 clams and the minimum size for littleneck clams is one and one-half inches in length across the widest part of the shell; and for butter clams is two and one-half inches in length across the widest part of the shell;

(C) repealed 7/13/2012;

(3) repealed 7/1/2006.

5 AAC 77.520. Areas closed to personal use fishing for shellfish. The following areas are closed to the personal use taking of all shellfish:

(1) the intertidal beach along Shipwreck Cove in China Poot Bay enclosed by a line from 59° 34.34' N. lat., 151° 18.11' W. long., to 59° 34.26' N. lat., 151° 17.96' W. long., to 59° 34.20' N. lat., 151° 17.94' W. long., to 59° 34.19' N. lat., 151° 17.81' W. long., to 59° 34.13' N. lat., 151° 17.75' W. long., to 59° 34.13' N. lat., 151° 17.77' W. long., to 59° 34.19' N. lat., 151° 17.96' W. long., to 59° 34.26' N. lat., 151° 17.98' W. long., to 59° 34.33' N. lat., 151° 18.14' W. long., as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers located in the upper intertidal area;

(2) the intertidal beach by Otter Rock in Peterson Bay enclosed by a line from 59° 34.78' N. lat., 151° 17.84' W. long. to 59° 34.70' N. lat., 151° 17.68' W. long., to 59° 34.79' N. lat., 151° 17.68' W. long., as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers located in the upper intertidal area.

5 AAC 77.525. Personal use salmon fishery. (a) Only one personal use salmon fishing permit may be issued to each household per year.

(b) Repealed 7/21/91.

(c) In the personal use taking of salmon, unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 77.500 – 5 AAC 77.548, the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is 25 salmon for the head of a household and 10 salmon for each dependent of the permit holder.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision in 5 AAC 01 – 77, in the Cook Inlet Area, a person may possess sport-caught and personal-use caught salmon on the same day.

5 AAC 77.527. Personal use smelt fishery. In the personal use taking of smelt,

(1) there are no bag or possession limits;

(2) smelt may be taken

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(A) in salt water from April 1 through May 31;

(B) in fresh water from April 1 through June 15;

(C) with dip nets; and

(D) with a drift gillnet only from April through June 15, as follows:

(i) a drift gillnet may be used only in the Kenai River downstream of an ADF&G regulatory marker at Cunningham Park;

(ii) a drift gillnet may not be more than 20 feet in length, four feet in depth, and one and one-half inches in mesh size; and

(iii) a drift gillnet must be attended by the person operating the gillnet at all times that the net is fishing.

5 AAC 77.531. Personal use herring fishery. In the personal use taking of herring,

(1) there are no bag or possession limits;

(2) herring may be taken

(A) in the Northern and Central Districts from April 1 through May 31;

(B) in the Southern, Kamishak Bay, Barren Island, Outer, and Eastern Districts from January 1 through December 31; and

(C) only with the following gear:

(i) gillnets or dip nets may be used;

(ii) gillnets may not be used in Turnagain Arm east of a line from Point Possession to Point Campbell;

(iii) no gillnet may exceed 20 feet in length and two inches in mesh size, except in the Southern District no gillnet may exceed 50 feet in length and two inches in mesh size;

(iv) cast nets may be used only in the Southern, Kamishak Bay, Barren Islands, Outer, and Eastern Districts;

(3) each gillnet must be attended by the fisherman at all times when it is being used to take fish.

5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. (a) Salmon may be taken for personal use under this section only under a personal use permit issued under 5 AAC 77.015 and 5 AAC 77.525; in addition to the requirements under 5 AAC 77.015, a person

(1) shall, before a permit may be issued, show the person's resident sport fish license, or proof, satisfactory to the department, that the person is exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400; the person's sport fish license number shall be recorded on the permit;

(2) shall record all fish harvested on the permit, in ink, immediately upon harvesting the fish; for the purpose of this paragraph, "immediately" means before concealing the salmon from plain view or transporting the salmon from the

(A) shoreline or streambank adjacent to waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon were removed from the water when fishing from shore; or

(B) waters open to personal use fishing when fishing from a boat;

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- (3) shall return the permit to the department by the date specified on the permit.
- (b) Salmon may be taken with a set gillnet in the Central District as follows:
- (1) from June 15 through June 24;
 - (2) fishing periods will be daily from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.;
 - (3) repealed 6/22/2002;
 - (4) salmon may be taken only from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the mouth of the Kasilof River to ADF&G commercial fishing regulatory markers located approximately one mile from the mouth on either side of the Kasilof River; fishing is prohibited beyond one mile from the mean high tide mark and is also prohibited within the flowing waters or over the stream bed or channel of the Kasilof River at any stage of the tide;
 - (5) salmon may be taken only by set gillnets as follows:
 - (A) a set gillnet may not exceed 10 fathoms in length, six inches in mesh size, and 45 meshes in depth;
 - (B) no part of a set gillnet may be operated within 100 feet of another set gillnet;
 - (C) a person may not operate more than one set gillnet; the permit holder shall attend the set gillnet at all times when it is being used to take fish;
 - (D) only one set gillnet may be operated per household;
 - (6) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525.
- (c) Salmon may be taken by dip net in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:
- (1) in the Kenai River, as follows:
 - (A) from July 10 through July 31, seven days per week, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.; the commissioner may extend, by emergency order, the personal use fishery to 24 hours per day if the department determines that the abundance of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon is greater than 2,300,000 fish;
 - (B) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that only one king salmon may be retained per household;
 - (C) from a boat, in the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge, except that salmon may not be taken from a boat powered by a two-stroke motor other than a motor manufactured as a direct fuel injection motor;
 - (D) from shore, in the area from ADF&G regulatory markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge, except dipnetting is closed on the north shore from an ADF&G regulatory marker located below the end of Main Street, upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock;
 - (2) in the Kasilof River, as follows:
 - (A) from June 25 through August 7, 24 hours per day;
 - (B) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that king salmon may not be retained and any king salmon caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

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(C) from ADF&G regulatory markers located on the Cook Inlet beaches outside the terminus of the river upstream for a distance of one mile.

(d) Salmon may be taken by dip net in Fish Creek only as follows:

(1) the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the personal use dip net fishery in Fish Creek from July 10 through July 31, if the department projects that the escapement of sockeye salmon into Fish Creek will be more than 50,000 fish;

(2) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that no king salmon may be retained and any king salmon caught must be returned to the water unharmed;

(3) from a boat or shore, in those waters upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located on both sides of the terminus of Fish Creek, to ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately one-quarter mile upstream from Knik-Goose Bay Road.

(e) Repealed 6/22/2002.

(f) A person may retain flounder incidentally caught when fishing for salmon in the Cook Inlet Area under this section. A person may retain up to 10 flounder under this subsection per year and must record those flounder retained by the person on that person's permit specified in (a) of this section.

(g) In the Beluga River, salmon may taken by dip net only as follows:

(1) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only by a person 60 years of age or older; a person authorized to take salmon under this subsection may not authorize a proxy to take or attempt to take salmon on behalf of that person under 5 AAC 77.016 and AS 16.05.405;

(2) from July 10 through August 31, the fishery is open 24 hours per day from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile upstream of the Beluga River Bridge, downstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile below the bridge;

(3) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that within the total annual limit one king salmon may be retained per household;

(4) the commissioner will close, by emergency order, the fishery when 500 salmon, other than king salmon, have been harvested;

(5) a permit holder for this fishery shall report weekly to the department as specified in the permit.

5 AAC 77.545. Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery Management Plan. (a) In China Poot Creek, upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers, sockeye salmon may be taken by dip net from July 1 through August 7, with a bag and possession limit of six fish. King, pink, chum, and coho salmon caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed.

(b) A person may not possess salmon taken under this section unless both tips (lobes) of the tail fin have been completely removed from the salmon before the person conceals the salmon from plain view or transports the salmon from the

(1) shoreline or streambank adjacent to waters open to personal use fishing where the salmon were removed from the water when fishing from shore; or

(2) waters open to personal use fishing when fishing from a boat.

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5 AAC 77.549. Personal Use Coho Salmon Fishery Management Plan. (a) In the Southern District, only in a year in which a subsistence fishery is not conducted in the same area, salmon may be taken for personal use under the plan set out in this section from August 16 through September 15, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday. The commissioner shall close this fishery by emergency order when a guideline harvest range of 1,000 – 2,000 coho salmon have been taken. Coho salmon taken under 5 AAC 01.560(b)(8)(B) will be counted toward the guideline harvest range established under this subsection.

(b) Salmon may not be taken in the following waters:

(1) between the terminus of Troublesome Creek and the terminus of the Anchor River;

(2) from the north entrance to the Homer Small Boat harbor northwest along the Homer Spit to a department marker located approximately 200 yards northwest of the entrance to the enhancement lagoon on the Homer Spit;

(3) those waters described in 5 AAC 21.350(d)(1), (d)(3) – (d)(8), (h), and (i);

(4) west of a line from an ADF&G regulatory marker at "Green Timbers" at 59° 37.67' N. lat., 151° 28.38' W. long. on the Homer Spit to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards east of the Homer airport access road at 59° 38.35' N. lat., 151° 28.71' W. long.

(c) Salmon may be taken only with a set gillnet. No set gillnet may exceed 35 fathoms in length, six inches in mesh size, and 45 meshes in depth. No part of a set gillnet may be operated within 600 feet of another set gillnet. No person may operate more than one set gillnet. No part of a set gillnet may be set or operated more than 500 feet from the mean high water mark. No set gillnet may be set seaward of another set gillnet.

(d) Salmon may be taken only under authority of a permit issued through the department's Homer office.

(e) The annual limit is set by 5 AAC 77.525(c).

Article 12. Prince William Sound Area.

5 AAC 77.550. Description of the Prince William Sound Area. The Prince William Sound Area includes all waters of Alaska between the longitude of Cape Fairfield and the longitude of Cape Suckling.

5 AAC 77.553. Personal use shrimp fishery. (a) The department will manage the personal use shrimp fishery in Prince William Sound as specified in 5 AAC 55.055. In the personal use taking of shrimp,

(1) shrimp may only be taken from April 15 through September 15;

(2) repealed 7/1/2006;

(3) no more than five pots per person, with no more than five pots per vessel may be used;

(4) shrimp may be taken only under a permit issued by the department as specified in 5 AAC 77.015.

(b) All shrimp pots must have at least two adjacent vertical sides, or near-vertical sides, excluding tunnels, completely composed of uncovered net webbing or rigid mesh.

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Pots that do not have a definable side, including round pots, must have net webbing or rigid mesh panels covering a minimum of 50 percent of the vertical, or near-vertical, surface area of the pot. The net webbing or rigid mesh on all pots must be large enough to allow the unaided passage of a maximum 12-inch long, seven-eighths inch diameter, round wooden peg without deforming the opening, except for the selvage.

5 AAC 77.556. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. There is no open fishing season in the Prince William Sound Area for the personal use taking of Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.557. Personal use king crab fishery. There is no open fishing season in the Prince William Sound Area for the personal use taking of king crab.

5 AAC 77.558. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. There is no open fishing season in the Prince William Sound Area for the personal use taking of Tanner crab.

5 AAC 77.559. Personal use clam fishery. (a) In waters east of 146° W. long. and south of a line from the southernmost tip of Point Bentinck to the southernmost tip of Point Whitshed

(1) razor clams may be taken only under the authority of a personal use razor clam fishing permit;

(2) only razor clams four and one-half inches or longer in length of shell may be taken or possessed.

(b) In the personal use taking of clams, other than razor clams, there is no closed season and no bag or possession limits.

5 AAC 77.570. Waters closed to personal use fishing. The waters of the Prince William Sound Area are closed to the personal use taking of finfish, except that salmon may be taken in the Chitina Subdistrict, as described in 5 AAC 77.591.

5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan. (a) Salmon may be taken in the Chitina Subdistrict only under the authority of a Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing permit. Only one Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing permit may be issued to a household per calendar year. A household may not be issued both a Copper River subsistence salmon fishing permit and a Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing permit.

(b) Salmon may be taken from June 7 through September 30. The commissioner shall establish a preseason schedule, including fishing times, for the period June 7 through August 31 based on daily projected sonar counts at the sonar counter located near Miles Lake. This abundance-based preseason schedule will distribute the harvest throughout the season. The commissioner may close, by an emergency order effective June 7, the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishing season and shall reopen the season, by emergency order, on or before June 15 depending on the run strength and timing of the sockeye salmon run. Adjustments shall be made to the preseason schedule based on actual sonar counts compared to projected counts. If the actual sonar count at Miles Lake is more than the projected sonar count, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the season and immediately reopen it during which additional fishing times will be allowed. If the actual sonar count at Miles Lake is less than projected sonar count, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the season and immediately reopen it during which fishing times will be reduced by a corresponding amount of time.

(c) Salmon may be taken only with dip nets.

(d) A personal use salmon fishing permit holder shall record all harvested salmon on

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the permit, in ink, before concealing the salmon from plain view or transporting the salmon from the fishing site. Permits must be returned to the department and the conditions specified in 5 AAC 77.015(c) must be met. For the purposes of this subsection, "fishing site" means the location where the salmon is removed from the water and becomes part of the permit holder's bag limit.

(e) The annual limit for a personal use salmon fishing permit is 15 salmon for a household of one person and 30 salmon for a household of two or more persons, of which no more than one may be a king salmon. However, when the department determines that a weekly harvestable surplus of 50,000 or more salmon will be present in the Chitina Subdistrict, the commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, weekly periods during which the department shall issue a supplemental permit for 10 additional sockeye salmon to a permit applicant who has met the annual limit. King salmon may not be taken under the authority of a supplemental permit. A supplemental permit will be valid from Monday to the following Sunday of the week in which the surplus salmon are expected to be present in the Chitina Subdistrict. The department may specify other conditions in a supplemental permit. The department may issue an additional supplemental permit to a permittee who has met the limits of a previously issued supplemental permit.

(f) The maximum harvest level for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishery is 100,000–150,000 salmon, not including any salmon in excess of the inriver goal or salmon taken after August 31. If the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery is closed for 13 or more consecutive days, the maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict is reduced to 50,000 salmon.

(g) Rainbow or steelhead trout incidentally taken may not be retained and must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed.

(h) For the purposes of this section, the Chitina Subdistrict consists of all waters of the mainstem Copper River from the downstream edge of the Chitina-McCarthy Road Bridge downstream to an east-west line crossing the Copper River as designated by ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of Haley Creek.

Article 13. Yakutat Area.

5 AAC 77.600. Description of Yakutat Area. The Yakutat Area includes all waters of Alaska between the longitude of Cape Suckling (144° W. long.) and a line projected south-west from the westernmost tip of Cape Fairweather.

5 AAC 77.605. Fishing districts. Districts are described in 5 AAC 30.200.

5 AAC 77.610. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use shrimp fishery,

- (1) there is no closed season;
- (2) there is no daily possession limit; and
- (3) a pot used to take shrimp under this chapter must have
 - (A) no more than four tunnel eye openings; no tunnel eye opening may exceed 15 inches in perimeter;
 - (B) a bottom perimeter of no more than 153 inches; and
 - (C) a volume of no more than 25 cubic feet.

5 AAC 77.612. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab,

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- (1) there is no closed season;
- (2) the daily bag and possession limit is 20 male crab;
- (3) the minimum legal size for male Dungeness crab is six and one-half inches in shoulder width; male Dungeness crab less than the minimum legal size and female Dungeness crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed; for the purposes of this paragraph, the shoulder width measurement of Dungeness crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace immediately anterior to the tenth anterolateral spine, not including the spines;
- (4) live holding facilities used to accumulate or pool multiple bag limits by an individual or individuals are not allowed;
- (5) a pot used to take Dungeness crab under this chapter must have at least two escape rings that each are not less than four and three-eighths inches, inside diameter; the escape rings must be located on opposite sides of the pot and the upper half of the vertical plane of the pot;
- (6) no more than 10 ring nets per person, with a maximum of 20 ring nets per vessel, may be used to take Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.614. Personal use king crab fishery. In the personal use taking of king crab,

- (1) red and blue king crab may be taken only from July 1 through March 31;
- (2) the daily bag and possession limit is two male king crab; only male red and golden king crab seven inches or greater in width of shell, and male blue king crab six and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed; male king crab less than the minimum legal size and female king crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed;
- (3) an operator of a commercially licensed and registered king crab fishing vessel shall obtain a permit from the department before taking king crab for personal use purposes in waters of Yakutat Bay enclosed by a line from the westernmost tip of Ocean Cape to the easternmost tip of Point Manby during the open commercial king crab fishing season; the department may set out requirements in the permit for the conservation of the king crab resource and to ensure compliance with other applicable fishing laws;

(4) a pot used to take king crab under this section must have at least two escape rings on opposing vertical or sloping sides of the pot that each are not less than six and one-quarter inches inside diameter;

(5) no more than 10 ring nets per person, with a maximum of 20 ring nets per vessel, may be used to take king crab;

(6) a person may not utilize a live holding facility to accumulate or pool multiple bag limits of king crab.

5 AAC 77.616. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Tanner crab,

- (1) there is no closed season;
- (2) the daily bag and possession limit is 30 male Tanner crab; only male Tanner crab five and one-half inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed; male Tanner crab less than the minimum legal size and female Tanner crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed;

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(3) a pot used to take Tanner crab under this section must have at least two circular escape rings on opposing vertical or sloping sides of the pot that each are not less than four and three-quarter inches inside diameter;

(4) no more than 10 ring nets per person, with a maximum of 20 ring nets per vessel, may be used to take Tanner crab;

(5) a person may not utilize a live holding facility to accumulate or pool multiple bag limits of Tanner crab.

5 AAC 77.617. Personal use scallop fishery. In the personal use taking of scallops,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily possession limit is

(A) five rock scallops (*Hinnites sp*);

(B) 50 weathervane scallops (*Pecten sp*);

(3) there is no possession limit for bay scallops.

5 AAC 77.618. Personal use clam fishery. In the personal use taking of clams,

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) there are no daily bag and possession limits.

5 AAC 77.620. Personal use herring fishery. In the personal use taking of herring and herring spawn,

(1) herring may be taken at any time;

(2) herring and herring spawn may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010;

(3) there is no annual possession limit for herring or for herring spawn which is not on kelp;

(4) herring spawn-on-kelp may only be taken under the authority of a personal use fishing permit; when issuing a personal use permit for the taking of spawn-on-kelp, the department will, in its discretion, specify on the permit the times and locations for harvesting and the species of kelp which may be taken; the annual possession limit for herring spawn-on-kelp is 32 pounds for an individual or 158 pounds for a household of two or more persons; the department will, in its discretion, issue an additional permit for taking spawn-on-kelp above the annual possession limit if harvestable surpluses of herring spawn-on-kelp are available;

(5) herring taken under personal use regulations may not be used as bait in a commercial fishery.

5 AAC 77.622. Personal use bottomfish fishery. In the personal use taking of bottomfish,

(1) bottomfish may be taken at any time, except lingcod may not be taken from December 1 through May 15;

(2) bottomfish may be taken for personal use only by longline or hand held line; unattended gear must be marked as described in 5 AAC 77.010(d);

(3) there are no daily bag or possession limits;

(4) bottomfish taken under personal use regulations may not be used as bait in a commercial fishery.

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5 AAC 77.624. Personal use halibut fishery. In the personal use taking of halibut,

- (1) halibut may be taken from February 1 through December 31;
- (2) halibut may be taken only by a single line which is operated by hand with not more than two hooks attached to it; no person may operate more than one line and the line must be marked as described in 5 AAC 77.010(d);
- (3) the daily bag limit is two fish and the possession limit is two daily bag limits;
- (4) no person may possess personal use-taken and sport or subsistence-taken halibut on the same day.

5 AAC 77.626. Personal use smelt fishery. Smelt may be taken for personal use at any time and there are no bag or possession limits.

5 AAC 77.628. Personal use salmon fishery. (a) Salmon may only be taken under the authority of a personal use fishing permit.

(b) The department shall adhere to the following when issuing personal use salmon fishing permits:

- (1) the fishing effort must be allowed in places and during times when resource abundance will allow a harvest without jeopardizing the sustained yield of the stock and in a manner which provides for an orderly fishery;
- (2) a permit is valid for the entire season in which it is issued;
- (3) the department may require the permit holder to report daily harvests on the catch calendar which accompanies the permit.

(c) The department will not issue a permit for the taking of king salmon, but king salmon taken incidentally by gear operated under the terms of a personal use permit for other salmon are legally taken and possessed for personal use purposes. The holder of a personal use salmon permit shall report any king salmon taken in this manner on that permit holder's permit calendar. The possession limit for king salmon is two fish, and king salmon taken in excess of this limit must be released without further harm.

(d) Salmon, trout, or char taken incidentally by gear operated under the terms of a personal use permit for salmon are legally taken and possessed for personal use purposes. The holder of a personal use permit shall report any salmon, trout, or char taken in this manner on his or her permit calendar.

(e) The total annual limit of sockeye salmon for a personal use salmon fishing permit is 15 salmon for a household of one person and 25 salmon for a household of two or more persons. The total annual limit of coho salmon for a personal use salmon fishing permit is 15 salmon for a household of one person and 25 salmon for a household of two or more persons. The total annual limit of king salmon for a personal use salmon fishing permit is two salmon.

(f) No person may possess personal use-taken and sport-taken salmon on the same day.

(g) A gillnet used for personal use fishing may not exceed 50 fathoms in length, and may not block more than two-thirds of any stream width and any channel or side channel of a stream.

(h) Salmon may not be taken by means of a line attached to a rod or pole.

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(i) Salmon may be taken by set gillnets only. The personal use fishing permit holder shall attend his or her gillnet at all times while it is in operation.

(j) Salmon may be taken only during periods open to subsistence fishing from July 1 through September 30, and only in Yakutat Bay and in waters upstream from the terminus of streams and rivers in the Yakutat Area which are open to commercial fishing, except as may be restricted under the terms of a personal use fishing permit.

(k) Salmon or trout taken for personal use or under personal use regulations may not be subsequently used as bait for commercial fishing purposes.

5 AAC 77.649. Prohibitions. Repealed 7/1/2006.

Article 14. Southeastern Alaska Area.

5 AAC 77.650. Description of Southeastern Alaska Area. The Southeastern Alaska Area consists of all waters of Alaska between Cape Fairweather and Dixon Entrance.

5 AAC 77.655. Description of districts and sections. Districts and sections are as described in 5 AAC 33.200.

5 AAC 77.660. Personal use shrimp fishery. In the personal use taking of shrimp,

- (1) there is no closed season and no bag and possession limits;
- (2) a commercially licensed and registered shrimp fishing vessel may not be used to take shrimp in Districts 6 – 8 and 10 from February 15 through April 30;
- (3) shrimp may be taken only with pots, ring nets, or trawls;
- (4) unless otherwise provided for in this chapter, pots operated to take shrimp may be longlined; a buoy is not required for each pot, but at least one buoy on the longline must be marked as required in 5 AAC 77.010(d);
- (5) a pot used to take shrimp under this chapter must have
 - (A) no more than four tunnel eye openings; no tunnel eye opening may exceed 15 inches in perimeter;
 - (B) a bottom perimeter of no more than 153 inches; and
 - (C) a volume of no more than 25 cubic feet;
- (6) before using a trawl to take shrimp, a person must first obtain a personal use fishing permit from the department; the permit will include the following conditions:
 - (A) the area where the fishing will occur;
 - (B) the dates that the fishing will occur;
 - (C) the type of trawl to be used;
 - (D) the length of the beam if a beam trawl is used;
 - (E) the length of the footrope if a otter trawl is used;
 - (F) any other pertinent gear specifications if a trawl other than a beam trawl or otter trawl is used;
 - (G) the total poundage by species of all shrimp taken.

5 AAC 77.662. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery. In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab,

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(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is 20 male Dungeness crab except that, in waters of Thorne Bay west of the longitude of the southernmost tip of Thorne Head, the daily bag and possession limit is five male Dungeness crab;

(3) the minimum legal size for Dungeness crab is six and one-half inches in shoulder width; male Dungeness crab less than the minimum legal size and female Dungeness crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed; for the purposes of this paragraph, the shoulder width measurement of Dungeness crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace immediately anterior to the tenth anterolateral spine, not including the spines;

(4) live holding facilities utilized to accumulate or pool multiple bag limits by an individual or individuals are not allowed;

(5) a pot used to take Dungeness crab under this chapter must have at least two escape rings that each are not less than four and three-eighths inches, inside diameter; the rings must be located on opposite sides of the pot and the upper half of the vertical plane of the pot;

(6) except in Section 11-A as specified in 5 AAC 77.664(c), no more than 10 ring nets per person, with a maximum of 20 ring nets per vessel, may be used to take Dungeness crab.

5 AAC 77.664. Personal use king crab fishery. (a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this section, or if the commissioner closes the applicable portion of the Southeastern Alaska Area because of conservation concerns for king crab, in the personal use taking of king crab,

(1) the daily bag and possession limit is six male crab per person; if the region-wide harvestable biomass of mature red and blue king crab is below 200,000 pounds, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reduce the bag and possession limit of red and blue king crab;

(2) the king crab seasons are as follows:

(A) red and blue king crab may be taken only from July 1 through March 31;

(B) golden king crab may be taken only from July 1 through June 15;

(3) the king crab size limits are as follows:

(A) only male red and golden king crab seven inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed; and

(B) only male blue king crab six and one-half inches or larger in width of shell may be taken or possessed.

(b) In the waters described in 5 AAC 33.200 as Sections 12-B, 15-B, and 15-C, in the personal use taking of king crab, the daily bag and possession limits are three male crab per person, except that the commissioner may close and immediately reopen, by emergency order, a personal use red and blue king crab season during which there is a reduced bag and possession limit for red and blue king crab.

(c) In the waters described in 5 AAC 33.200 as Section 11-A, in the personal use taking of king crab,

(1) red and blue king crab may only be taken under the authority of a permit issued

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under 5 AAC 77.015;

- (2) the daily bag and possession limit is three male king crab per person;
- (3) the commissioner may close and immediately reopen, by emergency order, a personal use red and blue king crab season during which one or more of the following conditions applies:
 - (A) a reduced bag and possession limit;
 - (B) a seasonal limit for king crab;
 - (C) a reduced pot and ring net limit.
- (d) Male king crab less than the minimum legal size and female king crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- (e) A person may not utilize a live holding facility to accumulate or pool multiple bag limits.
- (f) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 77.010(i), no more than four pots or 10 ring nets per vessel may be used to take king crab. A pot used to take king crab under this section must have at least two escape rings on opposing vertical or sloping sides of the pot that are not less than six and one-quarter inches inside diameter.

5 AAC 77.666. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. (a) Except as provided in (b) of this section, in the personal use taking of Tanner crab,

- (1) Tanner crab may be taken only from July 1 through June 15;
- (2) the daily bag and possession limit is 30 male Tanner crab;
- (3) notwithstanding 5 AAC 77.010(i), no more than four pots or 10 ring nets per vessel may be used to take Tanner crab; a pot used to take Tanner crab under this section must have at least two circular escape rings on opposing vertical or sloping sides of the pot that each are not less than four and three-quarter inches inside diameter;
- (4) only male Tanner crab 5.5 inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed;
- (5) male Tanner crab less than the minimum legal size and female Tanner crab that have been taken must be immediately returned unharmed to the sea;
- (6) a person may not utilize a live holding facility to accumulate or pool multiple bag limits.

(b) In Section 11-A, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, in the personal use taking of Tanner crab, reduced pot and ring net limits are the same as authorized under 5 AAC 77.664(c)(3)(C) for red and blue king crab.

5 AAC 77.667. Personal use scallop fishery. In the personal use taking of scallops,

- (1) there is no closed season;
- (2) the daily possession limit is
 - (A) five rock scallops (*Hinnites sp*);
 - (B) 10 weathervane scallops (*Pecten sp*);
- (3) there is no possession limit for bay scallops.

5 AAC 77.668. Personal use clam fishery. In the personal use taking of clams,

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

- (1) there is no closed season;
- (2) there are no daily bag and possession limits for clams, except that for

- (A) geoducks, the daily bag and possession limit is six;

- (B) razor clams on western Kruzof Island beaches between Cape Edgcombe and Cape Georgiana, the bag and possession limit is 50 clams; all damaged razor clams are part of the bag limit;

- (C) unless opened by emergency order, the Sitka Sound Special Use Area described in 5 AAC 77.674(3)(A)(i) is closed to the harvest of razor clams;

- (3) in addition to the gear specified in 5 AAC 77.010(k)(3), geoducks may be taken with a hydraulic clam digger.

5 AAC 77.670. Personal use abalone fishery. In the personal use taking of abalone,

- (1) there is no closed season;
- (2) the daily bag and possession limit is five abalone per person;

- (3) the minimum legal size is three and one-half inches (89 mm) in greatest diameter of shell;

- (4) personal use fishing is prohibited while engaged in commercial abalone fishing; before engaging in the personal use fishery, commercial abalone fishermen must land the commercial catch in possession and return the commercial permit required under 5 AAC 38.133 to the Department of Fish and Game;

- (5) a diver using a compressed air system, such as scuba or hookah, may not take abalone.

5 AAC 77.672. Personal use herring fishery. In the personal use taking of herring and herring spawn,

- (1) herring may be taken at any time;
- (2) herring and herring spawn may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010;
- (3) there is no annual possession limit for herring or for herring spawn which is not on kelp;

- (4) herring spawn-on-kelp may only be taken under the authority of a personal use fishing permit; when issuing a personal use permit for the taking of spawn-on-kelp, the department may specify on the permit the times and locations for harvesting and the species of kelp which may be taken; the annual possession limit for herring spawn-on-kelp is 32 pounds for an individual or 158 pounds for a household of two or more persons; the department may, in its discretion, issue an additional permit for taking spawn-on-kelp above the annual possession limit if harvestable surpluses of herring spawn-on-kelp are available;

- (5) in the 72 hours before and 72 hours after an open commercial herring fishing period in the Southeastern Alaska Area, a vessel that, or crewmember or permit holder who participates in that commercial herring fishery opening may not take or possess herring under this chapter in any district in the Southeastern Alaska Area;

- (6) herring taken under personal use regulations may not be used as bait in a commercial fishery;

- (7) herring may not be taken in Auke Bay, east of a line from the mouth of

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

Waydelich Creek to a department marker located one-fourth mile south of the mouth of Auke Creek, from April 1 through May 31.

5 AAC 77.674. Personal use bottomfish fishery. In the personal use taking of bottomfish,

(1) bottomfish may be taken at any time, except lingcod may not be taken from December 1 through May 15;

(2) bottomfish may be taken for personal use only by longline or hand held line; unattended gear must be marked as described in 5 AAC 77.010(d);

(3) there are no daily bag or possession limits, except

(A) in the Sitka vicinity:

(i) in Sitka Sound Special Use Area, which is that area of Sitka Sound enclosed on the north by lines from Kruzof Island at 57° 20.50' N. lat., 135° 45.17' W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57° 22.05' N. lat., 135° 43' W. long., and from Chichagof Island at 57° 22.58' N. lat., 135° 41.30' W. long. to Baranof Island at 57° 22.28' N. lat., 135° 40.95' W. long., and on the south and west by a line running from the southernmost tip of Sitka Point at 56° 59.38' N. lat., 135° 49.57' W. long. to Hanus Point at 56° 51.92' N. lat., 135° 30.50' W. long. to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows to Baranof Island at 56° 49.28' N. lat., 135° 22.60' W. long., the daily possession limit for rockfish is three fish, of which no more than one may be a yelloweye rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*);

(ii) the waters off Cape Edgecombe enclosed by a box defined as 56° 55.5' N. lat. and 56° 57' N. lat., and 135° 54' W. long. and 135° 57' W. long., are closed to fishing for all species of bottomfish;

(B) in the Ketchikan vicinity: in all waters of Section 1-E south of the latitude of Bushy Point Light and in the waters of Section 1-F north of lines from Point Alava to the southernmost tip of Ham Island, from Cedar Point to Dall Head, and from Dall Head to a point on the District 1 boundary in Clarence Strait at the latitude of Dall Head, the bag and possession limit for rockfish is three fish, no more than one of which may be yelloweye rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*);

(4) a person on board a vessel from which a longline was used to take bottomfish for personal use in the Northern Southeast Inside or the Southern Southeast Inside sections is subject to the restrictions in 5 AAC 28.180;

(5) bottomfish taken under personal use regulations may not be used as bait in a commercial fishery;

(6) a personal use fishing permit issued by the department under 5 AAC 77.015 is required to take sablefish; the department will issue only one sablefish personal use fishing permit per household per year; a permit holder shall record sablefish harvest information on harvest recording forms provided by the department.

5 AAC 77.676. Personal use halibut fishery. In the personal use taking of halibut,

(1) halibut may be taken from February 1 through December 31;

(2) halibut may be taken only by a single line which is operated by hand with not more than two hooks attached to it; no person may operate more than one line and the line must be marked as described in 5 AAC 77.010(d);

(3) the daily bag limit is two fish and the possession limit is two daily bag limits;

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

(4) no person may possess personal use-taken and sport or subsistence-taken halibut on the same day.

5 AAC 77.678. Personal use smelt fishery. Smelt may be taken for personal use at any time and there are no bag or possession limits.

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery. (a) Salmon may only be taken under the authority of a personal use fishing permit.

(b) The department shall adhere to the following when issuing personal use salmon fishing permits:

(1) the fishing effort must be allowed in places and during times when resource abundance will allow a harvest without jeopardizing the sustained yield of the stock and in a manner which provides for an orderly fishery;

(2) any gear must be allowed which is efficient and economical in light of local circumstances and which provides for an orderly harvest without waste of the resource;

(3) possession limits may be established if resources are limited relative to anticipated harvest levels;

(4) the department may not set any possession limit which jeopardizes the sustained yield of a stock;

(5) a permit is valid for the entire season in which it is issued;

(6) the department may require the permit holder to report daily harvests on the catch calendar which accompanies the permit.

(c) The department shall not issue a permit for the taking of king or coho salmon, but king and coho salmon taken incidentally by gear operated under terms of a personal use permit for other salmon are legally taken and possessed for personal use purposes. The holder of a personal use salmon permit shall report any king or coho salmon taken in this manner on that permit holder's permit calendar. The possession limit for king salmon is two fish and the possession limit for coho salmon is six fish.

(d) Salmon, trout, or char taken incidentally by gear operated under the terms of a personal use permit for salmon are legally taken and possessed for personal use purposes. The holder of a personal use permit shall report any salmon, trout, or char taken in this manner on his or her permit calendar.

(e) No person may possess personal use-taken and sport-taken salmon on the same day.

(f) In the Taku River drainage, the total annual limit for each personal use sockeye salmon permit is five sockeye salmon for a household of one person and 10 sockeye salmon for a household of two or more persons.

(g) Salmon may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010(a) except as may be restricted on a personal use fishing permit and except as follows:

(1) in District 13, Redoubt Bay, gillnet or seine gear may not be used to take salmon in any waters of the bay closed to commercial salmon fishing;

(2) set gillnets may not be used to take salmon except

(A) in the mainstream and side channels, but not the tributaries, of the Chilkat River from the terminus to one mile upstream of Wells Bridge;

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

(B) in the Taku River drainage from the Taku River Lodge upstream to the United States/Canada border, salmon may be taken by set gillnets only;

(C) in District 5 in Shipley Bay, within 100 yards of the terminus of Shipley Creek;

(D) set gillnets may be used in Yes Bay north of a line from Bluff Point to Syble Point, except within 500 yards of the terminus of Wolverine Creek; the personal use permit holder shall be physically present at the gillnet while it is in operation;

(3) in the Chilkat and Taku rivers and in Shipley Bay and Yes Bay, the personal use permit holder shall be physically present at the net while it is in operation;

(4) a gillnet may not exceed 50 fathoms in length, except in the Taku River a set gillnet may not exceed 15 fathoms in length;

(5) salmon may not be taken by the use of a line attached to a pole or rod.

(h) Salmon may be taken at any time except

(1) as may be restricted under the terms of a personal use fishing permit;

(2) from July 7 through August 7, sockeye salmon may be taken in the waters of Klawock Inlet enclosed by a line from Klawock Light to the Klawock Cannery Dock, the Klawock River, and Klawock Lake only from 8:00 a.m. Monday until 5:00 p.m. Friday;

(3) in the Taku River drainage, sockeye salmon may be taken only in waters from the Taku River Lodge upstream to the United States/Canada border and only from July 1 through July 31.

(i) The following waters are closed to the personal use taking of salmon:

(1) in District 13, Sitkoh Bay and the Sitkoh River drainage are closed to the taking of sockeye salmon;

(2) in District 15, Lynn Canal including Chilkat, Chilkoot and Lutak inlets, during the closed periods of the commercial salmon net fishery in the district.

(j) Salmon taken for personal use or under personal use regulations may not be subsequently used as bait for commercial fishing purposes.

5 AAC 77.683. Personal Use Fishery Management Plan for the Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, Sitka, and Ketchikan Road Systems. Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the road systems of Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, Sitka, and Ketchikan support only limited runs of salmon. Harvestable numbers of salmon in excess to the spawning escapement needs for those streams are normally of such a small magnitude that these numbers alone are not sufficient to support the consumptive demands of those communities. Therefore, the department shall not issue permits which allow the use of nets for streams along the road systems of those communities.

5 AAC 77.684. Vessel specifications and operations. In the waters of Klawock Inlet enclosed by a line from Klawock Light to the Klawock Cannery Dock, a person may operate personal use salmon gear from a vessel that is powered by hand or an outboard motor of no greater than 50 horsepower.

5 AAC 77.685. Personal Use Hatchery Salmon Management Plan. (a) The purpose of the personal use hatchery salmon management plan set out in (b) – (e) of this section is to allow the personal use taking of hatchery salmon in terminal locations when those salmon

PERSONAL USE FISHERY

have not been taken in other authorized fisheries.

(b) Fishing times and locations are established by emergency order.

(c) Fishing gear is limited to beach seines, hand purse seines, gillnets, cast nets, and dip nets. Fishing seasons by gear type are established by emergency order.

(d) The daily bag and possession limits are the same as for the sport fishery specified in 5 AAC 47 and are not in addition to those limits. The department may, by commissioner's announcement, increase the bag and possession limits when conditions, such as number of fish available for harvest and effort levels, warrant.

(e) The heads of all adipose-fin-clipped salmon must be turned into ADF&G.

5 AAC 77.699. Prohibitions. (a) An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or other enterprise that furnishes food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services as defined in 5 AAC 75.995, may not furnish to a client or guest of that enterprise, shellfish that has been taken under this chapter for personal use, unless the

(1) shellfish has been taken with gear deployed and retrieved by the client or guest;

(2) gear has been marked with the client's or guest's name and address, as specified in 5 AAC 77.010(d); and

(3) shellfish is to be consumed by the client or guest or is consumed in the presence of the client or guest.

(b) The captain and crewmembers of a charter vessel may not deploy, set, or retrieve their own gear in a personal use shellfish fishery when that vessel is being chartered.

(c) Repealed 7/1/2006.

Rec. 16.05.251 - Regulations of the Board of Fisheries

- (a) The Board of Fisheries may adopt regulations it considers advisable in accordance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) for
- (1) setting apart fish reserve areas, refuges, and sanctuaries in the waters of the state over which it has jurisdiction, subject to the approval of the legislature;
 - (2) establishing open and closed seasons and areas for the taking of fish; if consistent with resource conservation and development goals, the board may adopt regulations establishing restricted seasons and areas necessary for
 - (A) persons 60 years of age and older to participate in sport, personal use, or subsistence fishing; or
 - (B) persons under 16 years of age to participate in sport fishing;
 - (3) setting quotas, bag limits, harvest levels, and sex and size limitations on the taking of fish;
 - (4) establishing the means and methods employed in the pursuit, capture, and transport of fish;
 - (5) establishing marking and identification requirements for means used in pursuit, capture, and transport of fish;
 - (6) classifying as commercial fish, sport fish, guided sport fish, personal use fish, subsistence fish, or predators or other categories essential for regulatory purposes;
 - (7) watershed and habitat improvement, and management, conservation, protection, use, disposal, propagation, and stocking of fish;
 - (8) investigating and determining the extent and effect of disease, predation, and competition among fish in the state, exercising control measures considered necessary to the resources of the state;
 - (9) prohibiting and regulating the live capture, possession, transport, or release of native or exotic fish or their eggs;
 - (10) establishing seasons, areas, quotas, and methods of harvest for aquatic plants;
 - (11) establishing the times and dates during which the issuance of fishing licenses, permits, and registrations and the transfer of permits and registrations between registration areas is allowed; however, this paragraph does not apply to permits issued or transferred under AS 16.43;
 - (12) regulating commercial, sport, guided sport, subsistence, and personal use fishing as needed for the conservation, development, and utilization of fisheries;
 - (13) requiring, in a fishery, observers on board fishing vessels, as defined in AS 16.05.475 (d), that are registered under the laws of the state, as defined in AS 16.05.475 (c), after making a written determination that an on-board observer program
 - (A) is the only practical data-gathering or enforcement mechanism for that fishery;
 - (B) will not unduly disrupt the fishery;
 - (C) can be conducted at a reasonable cost; and
 - (D) can be coordinated with observer programs of other agencies, including the National Marine Fisheries Service, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission;
 - (14) establishing nonexclusive, exclusive, and superexclusive registration and use areas for regulating commercial fishing;
 - (15) regulating resident or nonresident sport fishermen as needed for the conservation, development, and utilization of fishery resources;
 - (16) requiring unlicensed fishing vessels present in or transiting the waters of the state to report to the department the quantity, species, and origin of fish on board; in this paragraph, "unlicensed fishing vessel" means a fishing vessel that is not licensed under AS 16.05.490 - 16.05.530;
 - (17) promoting fishing and preserving the heritage of fishing in the state.
- (b) [Repealed, Sec. 12 ch 52 SLA 1986].
- (c) If the Board of Fisheries denies a petition or proposal to amend, adopt, or repeal a regulation, the board, upon receiving a written request from the sponsor of the petition or proposal, shall in addition to the

Rec. 16.05.251 - Regulations of the Board of Fisheries

requirements of AS 44.62.230 provide a written explanation for the denial to the sponsor not later than 30 days after the board has officially met and denied the sponsor's petition or proposal, or 30 days after receiving the request for an explanation, whichever is later.

(d) Regulations adopted under (a) of this section must, consistent with sustained yield and the provisions of AS 16.05.258, provide a fair and reasonable opportunity for the taking of fishery resources by personal use, sport, and commercial fishermen.

(e) The Board of Fisheries may allocate fishery resources among personal use, sport, guided sport, and commercial fisheries. The board shall adopt criteria for the allocation of fishery resources and shall use the criteria as appropriate to particular allocation decisions. The criteria may include factors such as

- (1) the history of each personal use, sport, guided sport, and commercial fishery;
- (2) the number of residents and nonresidents who have participated in each fishery in the past and the number of residents and nonresidents who can reasonably be expected to participate in the future;
- (3) the importance of each fishery for providing residents the opportunity to obtain fish for personal and family consumption;
- (4) the availability of alternative fisheries resources;
- (5) the importance of each fishery to the economy of the state;
- (6) the importance of each fishery to the economy of the region and local area in which the fishery is located;
- (7) the importance of each fishery in providing recreational opportunities for residents and nonresidents.

(f) Except as expressly provided in AS 16.40.120 (e) and 16.40.130, the Board of Fisheries may not adopt regulations or take action regarding the issuance, denial, or conditioning of a permit under AS 16.40.100 or 16.40.120, the construction or operation of a farm or hatchery required to have a permit under AS 16.40.100, or a harvest with a permit issued under AS 16.40.120.

(g) The Board of Fisheries shall consider a request of the commissioner for approval of a petition to the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission to establish a moratorium on new entrants into a commercial fishery under AS 16.43.225 at the board's next regular or special meeting that follows the receipt by the board of the request for approval of the petition and that allows time for the notice required under this subsection. The board may consider the request of the commissioner for approval of the petition only after 15 days' public notice of the board's intention to consider approval of the petition. The board shall consider whether the commissioner, in support of the request for approval of the petition, has adequately shown that the fishery meets requirements for a moratorium on new entrants under AS 16.05.050. The board by a majority vote of its members at the meeting when the petition must be considered shall approve or disapprove the petition.

(h) The Board of Fisheries shall adopt by regulation a policy for the management of mixed stock fisheries. The policy shall provide for the management of mixed stock fisheries in a manner that is consistent with sustained yield of wild fish stocks.

(i) Notwithstanding AS 16.43.140 (c)(5), the board may adopt, at a regularly scheduled meeting at which the board considers regulatory proposals for management of a specific salmon fishery, a regulation to allow a person who holds two entry permits for that salmon fishery an additional fishing opportunity appropriate for that particular fishery.

(j) Except as provided in AS 16.05.258, when the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve a management goal, the Board of Fisheries shall place restrictions on all other fisheries before restricting personal use fisheries. In this subsection, "management goal" means the escapement or estimated population size of the exploited stock that provides the greatest potential for sustained yield as established by the board.

Daniel George

From: Doug & Bruce <foam@mosquitonet.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:49 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Fw: HB 42

Senator Stoltze,

I am writing to ask you to support the passage of HB42. For way too long the high dollar commercial interests have been able to trump Alaskans when it comes to fish allocations. The resources of our great state belong to the citizens first and foremost. I know commercial fishing is important to our state, but I also know it's really b.s. when I hear of all the bycatch that is just wasted and the kings harvested by sockeye boats and my family and friends haven't been able to keep a king at Chitina or the Gulkana. In times of shortage personal use has to come first, it states that in our constitution and it's the right way to do things. Please help keep salmon on the plates of Alaskan citizens first, where they belong! Thank you for your attention and thanks for your service to our great state.

Respectfully,

Douglas Scott
Fairbanks

Daniel George

From: Gary Stevens <garyatsls@cs.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:40 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Bill in Committee

Senator Stoltze,

Just a quick note of support for SB42. I strongly agree that personal use fisheries should have a higher allocation preference than commercial fishing. Please keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Gary Stevens
PO Box 672145
Chugiak, AK 99567

garyatsls@cs.com

Daniel George

From: Milton Wright <milton@keystonemeded.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 9:45 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Support for SB42

Dear Senator Stoltze,
Please support SB42! This so very important for the livelihood of my family and other Alaskans who depend on our fisheries for subsistence living. We have voted for you to protect our interests rather than commercial fishing industries.
Sincerely
Milton Wright, D.O.
Fairbanks, AK
Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Paul Carnicelli <pacalaska@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 9:58 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Personal Use Salmon

Bill: Been an Alaskan for 45 years, and support yourself and your support for us regarding our personal use salmon...Many Thanks...Paul

Daniel George

From: Shauna <shaunakwright67@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:03 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Support SB42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Senator Stoltze,
Please support SB42! This so very important for the livelihood of my family and other Alaskans who depend on our fisheries for subsistence living. We have voted for you to protect our interests rather than commercial fishing industries.

Sincerely

Shauna Kennedy Wright
Fairbanks, Alaska

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Hull, Ben <Ben.Hull@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:12 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB42

I have been taking advantage of this resource since the beginning and wholeheartedly support your efforts to prioritize the “personal use fishery.”

Ben Hull

Anchorage

Daniel George

From: andrew r. zajac <zajac@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:30 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB-42

Dear Senator Stoltze,

I believe that Alaskan residents should have priority over fish and game resources in times of diminished populations. Therefore, I urge you to support HB-42. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Andrew R. Zajac
Eagle River

Daniel George

From: Betsy Sharp <babsharp@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 7:42 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB 42

I fully support your efforts on Hb42 it's the highest priority to assure use of this resource for Alaskans and their families. any way I can help please let me know. Your friend and ex colleague, Sen. Bert Sharp

Sent from B&B's iPad.

Daniel George

From: Bill Folsom <billfolsom@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:01 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO HELP PUT FISH IN THE HOUSE HOLDS OF
ALASKA LATER BILL

Daniel George

From: bdoyle@mtaonline.net
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 5:40 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze

I support personal use fisheries and support SB 42. Thanks for what you are doing. I also support the efforts of our local fish and game advisory group to get more genetic testing done on salmon coming back to the upper cook inlet and the current restrictions on the kenai drift fleets to stay out of the conservation corridor and target fish closer to the mouth of the rivers to prevent intercepting our Mat Valley fish in kenai commercial nets. Efforts to replace old culverts that prevent fish passing up or down streams is important, too.

Bob Doyle
1900 E Porcupine Trl
Wasilla AK 99654

Daniel George

From: Bruce Carter <brucec@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:31 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Hello Senator Stoltze,

I am writing to show my support for SB 42 and encourage you to fight to get it passed.

Thanks for your time,
Bruce Carter

Daniel George

From: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.

From: Bruce R Morgan [mailto:sampson@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:07 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Cc: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: [Fwd: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.]

Senator Bill Stoltze and Senator Cathy Giessel,

I am in full support of HB42, this Act in "providing a priority to personal use fishing when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal" are exactly what Alaska was built on.

Thank you for your efforts,

Bruce Morgan
Anchorage, Alaska

Daniel George

From: H. E. "Budd" Goodyear, MSM, MLA <bg@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:14 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Rep. Lynn Gattis; Rep. Wes Keller
Subject: Opinion: SB 42 - "An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries..."

Good Morning,
I favor this Bill. It is a high priority. Do pass!
Sincerely,
Budd Goodyear
Wasilla Area

Daniel George

From: Carol & Norma Christiansen <ccnpchris@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:38 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42 (HB42)

Hi Bill Stoltze;

I have used Fish wheel, Set net and Dip net over the last 55years or so to get fish for our freezer, and would like to continue to do so when ever any restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goals.

Carol Christiansen

Daniel George

From: ben_carolonjanlk@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:50 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Senator Bill Stoltze,

HB42

I would fully support HB 42. Just makes sense! How many fish does a subsistence user take as compared to the commercial takes. If need be F&G could limit subsistence quantity to so much per family in case of need for complete closer.

Thank you for introducing this bill!

Carol Compton
Glennallen, AK

Sent from Windows Mail

Daniel George

From: Christopher & Janet Wright <kaskae1@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 6:16 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB 42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

We have lived on a river in Alaska for several decades and salmon is a large part of our diet and our economics considering our advancing ages. Please pass this bill for us.

Christopher & Janet Wright

--

I returned, and saw under the sun,

*that the race is not to the swift,
nor the battle to the strong,*

*neither yet bread to the wise,
nor yet riches to men of understanding,
nor yet favour to men of skill;*

but time and chance happeneth to them all.

Ecclesiastes 9:11

Daniel George

From: Chuck <jrsmom@ptialaska.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:39 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB42

All of my family members are in total support of SB42. During times of shortage, the needs of individual Alaskans should always be met before commercial exploitation is allowed. The fisheries belong to all Alaskans, not just to those who hold commercial permits.

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
<http://www.avast.com>

Daniel George

From: Clemens M. Clooten <cmclooten@ci.fairbanks.ak.us>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: support of SB 42

SB 42 - "An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal."

Senator Bill Stoltze,

I support SB 42 which will provide priority to personal use fisheries when other restrictions are implemented. Alaskans need and should have priority to feed their families the great salmon of this state. It is written in the State Constitution that the fish and game should be managed for the best use of the people of Alaska.

Thank you for your support.

Clemens M. Clooten

1163 Linda Lou Lane

Fairbanks Alaska 99712

Daniel George

From: Curtis Watkins <cwatkins58@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:25 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: resent the commercial fishermen and oil people living out of state

When the commercial fishermen are out in Cook Inlet, dipping on the Kenai River is dismal and it seems that they were out much more last summer than in years past. Another irritation is that most of the commercial fishermen are from out of state and they take their money out of Alaska leaving little here. Part of our budget deficit could be helped by addressing this issue and the same goes for those working in the oil industry who live out of state.

Thank you for your time

Curtis Watkins
915 Skyline Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

Daniel George

From: Madeline Kelleyhouse <mkelleyhouse@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 5:20 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Fw: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.

We support SB 42 - "An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal."

Please make personal use of our fisheries a higher priority than Commercial use. It should have always been that way!

Dave and Madeline Kelleyhouse
PO Box 478
Tok, AK 99780

Daniel George

From: Dave Sullivan <Dave@jdinteriors.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:21 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB-42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I totally agree with your bill SB-42. Thank you, Dave Sullivan

Daniel George

From: Dennis lavey <lavey@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:04 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB 42

Dear Senator Stoltze:

Please add my name and my wife's name in support of HB 42. We are both in our 70's, and on a fixed income. My wife has had two heart operations over the past ten years, and we depend on the personal use fishery, because of the health benefit, for many of our meals. Thank You for your concern, and assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

Dennis and Sandra Lavey

330 East 4th Ave

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Daniel George

From: Dennis G. LaRoche <bretonnak@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:10 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Dear Senator,

Thank you for the fight for SB 42 a long time awaited bill to protect the priority of personal use fisheries when shortages occur.

I am a long time Alaskan and my family use to enjoy the 5 king limit on the copper river dip net season. As you know that is a thing of the past and I believe should be returned to the people of the state supplying wild food for their families. All the rivers, and ocean territory under state jurisdiction should be managed so Alaskan residents have the the right and opportunity to harvest food before other for profit interests.

Some one has to say it out loud but the State of Alaska and its resources owes no one a commercial enterprise. If surpluses allow it and is sustainable than wonderful. If not the gifts of our state should go to the people who live and work here. To me that is what the founders of our country outlined, that is what our state constitution really means after all who would write the constitution to benefit the commercial needs of non residents, and is a stewardship granted to us by god to care for the place he gave us.

Thank you for your time

Respectfully

Dennis LaRoche

Nikiski Alaska

Daniel George

From: Denny Cooper <drc338x@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:45 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB 42

My family and I support prioritizing personal use fisheries, and support SB 42.

Thank You, Dennis R. Cooper

Daniel George

From: Dickie Byrd <dbyrd@mosquitonet.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:02 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB-42 support

Senator:

Thank you for supporting personal use of Alaska's natural resources for individuals. I have used the Chitina Dipnet facilities since 1965 almost yearly. (I am sure I have missed a year or two somewhere along the way.)

I fully support your effort with HB42.

I received notice of this bill via the Alaska Outdoor Council. They talk about the HB42 but near the end of their message they mention SB 42. (For public comment.) In either case - - I support the bill and hope you are able to get it passed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

I do watch Gavel-to-Gavel quite frequently, but not all the time. Senator Bill Stoltze has always impressed me with his efforts in Juneau. I do not agree with everything you have done or attempted to do, but feel you try hard to do what is right for the State and its people.

Dickie L Byrd

Daniel George

From: Erik Sundsten <esundsten@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:57 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42 Support

I chose to gather a supply of salmon to feed my family and I support HB42.
Erik Sundsten

Daniel George

From: Gary Miller <gmiller.juneauak@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:23 PM
To: Rep. Cathy Munoz; Sen. Dennis Egan; Rep. Sam Kito
Cc: Sen. Cathy Giesel; Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42 - priority to personal use fisheries

I like SB42, giving priority to sports fisher over commercial fishers during times of small salmon runs. If my memory serves me right, sports fishers take less than one-half of one percent of the salmon caught. Salmon belong to everyone in Alaska. I think that people who catch fish for their families should take priority over the commercial fisher who are taking public resources and selling them.

I hope you are holding up under the crazy hours it takes to make a 90 day session work. I support going back to a 120 day session.

Thank you.

--
Gary Miller
20135 Cohen Dr
Juneau, AK 99801-8211
(907) 789-3757

Daniel George

From: Glenda Smith <scarlett.ak@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 2:36 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Personal use comment

For public comment on SB 42 - "An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal."

I would like to submit my comment that personal use should ALWAYS be given a priority over commercial use. Commercial users of our fisheries are many times from Outside our state and don't provide jobs or food for our residents. We MUST stop being a colony for other states and countries and allow our own residents to care for themselves and their families FIRST.

I support personal use for Alaska residents regardless of the reason or "management goal."

Thank you for your consideration.
Glenda Smith

Daniel George

From: Greg <gsvendsen@gci.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:22 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Fishing

I whole heartily support your bill.

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: wleder@acsalaska.net
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:52 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Personal use fisherman - Salmon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Bill in Committee

Senator Bill Stoltze,

I want to thank you for your efforts to make personal use in salmon fishing a higher priority than commercial fishing for salmon.

In the last few years our family has been unable to catch a king salmon. The only way that we can put king salmon on our table is to buy it at the grocery store at \$20 a pound where it is supplied by commercial fisherman who are able to catch somewhere around 10,000 kings. That is wrong on so many levels.

I appreciate all you're doing to help personal use be a priority in this state.

Sincerely,
Jean I. Leder

Daniel George

From: James Spangler <jrspang@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:18 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: PERSONIAL use fishing by rod or net

BILL, keep up the struggle against the WEST coast fish unions, as their groups already get 95% or more of the harvest.

Thanks for your work, JIM



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Daniel George

From: Joe and Karen Rookard <rookard@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:23 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Cc: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Salmon harvest

I am asking you to please make personal use a priority over commercial harvest.

Thank you
JMR

Daniel George

From: John Braham <john@midstatealaska.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:18 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Support for HB42

Thank you for you efforts to prioritize personal use of fisheries over commercial use. I support HB42.

--

John Braham

Midstate Equipment Inc.
2120 Badger Road
North Pole, Alaska 99705
Ph: (907) 488-4106
Fax: (907) 488-4099

Daniel George

From: Meghan <jmdatta217@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:11 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Cc: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Alaska Outdoor Council
Subject: HB-42

Dear Senators,

Our family depends on subsistence usage moose and salmon mostly. We support HB- 42 if it indeed favors Alaska families to have a chance at gathering salmon. I would like to mention also looking at a different way we can hunt for moose. Our two girls have hunted for the past two years during the whole hunting season. We've had them get to within shooting distance to 12 bulls each season , only to tell them they cannot shoot. The moose were not of "legal" size. We put our girls in for the maximum drawing permits and they did not receive one. Can it be considered to charge a fee, say \$200, for an any bull permit, or more of a fee for any moose permit, for Alaska residence, so my girls can get a moose and not continue to be discouraged going hunting.

Have a great day – John L. Datta

Daniel George

From: John James <johnej@gci.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:20 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Hi Bill,

Thank you for looking out for the majority of the people in hard times as SB 42 will do. Also for wise managemnet and conservation of our natural resources which this bill will also do.

Again, thank you for all the hard work you do for the people of Alaska.

John James

Daniel George

From: John Macgirvin <jmacgirvin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 6:13 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Salmon

Senator Stolze,

I'm a Alaskan that needs to be able to catch salmon for personal use. I live in the Trapper Creek area and I would not eat well without a supply of smoked salmon. Please make sure that the needs of Alaskans are meant.

Warmest Regards,

John D Macgirvin
PO Bx 13463
Trapper Creek, AK
907-841-0338

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Ken Mears <kmears5@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 6:50 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Cc: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB & SN 42

After 53 years in AK we highly approve of this priority over commercial fishing and non-resident sport fishing. Thanks for supporting our State Constitution!!

Ken&Choy Mears

Daniel George

From: lee.connie@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:22 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Dear Sen. Stoltze,

I am in support of SB 42 and hope you will do everything in your power to shepherd it to a successful outcome during this session.

Respectfully,

Lee Browning
Anchorage, AK

Daniel George

From: Les Palmer <les.palmer@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:07 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42

Dear Senator Stoltze,

You have my family's strong support for HB42. If salmon stocks ever reach the point where it comes to pitting commercial use against Alaskans personal use, the personal use should definitely have priority and be allowed to continue for as long as there is a harvestable surplus. It's not that I don't think commercial fishermen should be allowed a share of this commonly owned resource, but the most important salmon is the one on Alaskans' tables. Let's not forget that commercial hunting went out of vogue more than a century ago.

Sincerely Yours,

Lloyd L. (Les) Palmer
PO Box 631
Sterling, AK 99672

Daniel George

From: Linda <linjim@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB 42

Dear Senator Stoltze and Senator Giessel:

As a resident of Alaska for almost 45 years, it is important to know that Alaskan's have the opportunity to fish to have food for their families. I hope you continue the battle for this opportunity. I understand HB 42 will prioritize personal harvest for salmon over any commercial harvest when the salmon returns are low. This is the right thing to do.

I feel that the more the resource can be distributed to help 'Alaskans' the better. Commercial fishermen's nets catch every salmon no matter what type it is and it is my opinion that they have contributed to low salmon returns over the years. That along with the fact that most commercial fishermen are from the lower 48. How much do they spend in Alaska to help the economy. It seems most of their fish income goes south with them when the leave.

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Linda Page

linjim@mtaonline.net

907 376-7721

Daniel George

From: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: I support HB42

From: Elyce Santerre [mailto:santerre@mtaonline.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:30 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: I support HB42

Keep up the good work. I'm glad to hear you are looking out for those of us who prefer to catch our own salmon.
— Elyce (Lisa) Santerre

Daniel George

From: mlsommer@mtaonline.net
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:38 PM
To: Daniel George
Subject: SB42

As a life long Alaskan (50 years), I am in full support of SB42.

Sincerely,

Matthew L. Sommer

Daniel George

From: M Byers <akjetrx@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 3:10 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Fisheries

Hi Bill,

Thanks for your hard work down in Juneau. Linda and I have noticed you never have a problem putting hard-working Alaskans first.

We support your efforts to provide a priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are necessary to maintain healthy fish populations.

We're sure, added up, sport and subsistence fisheries bring far more to Alaska's economy and quality of life...for more Alaskans than commercial fishing ever will.

Best Regards,

Maurice & Linda Byers
Chugiak

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Melvin Grove <mbgrove@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 5:31 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB42

I fully support SB42. Please pass for all Alaskan's!

Mel Grove
Halibut Grove Valdez Charters
907-440-9148/907-200-2202
2281 East Sun Mountain Ave. Ste B.
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
www.alaskan-adventures-unlimited.com

Daniel George

From: m gavin <mdgavin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 4:57 PM
To: Daniel George
Subject: RE: SB42

I support SB 42 - "An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal, Please work to get it passed --Thank You, Mike Gavin, Fairbanks, Alaska

Daniel George

From: Paul HARRELL <harrellp1@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:19 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Chuck Derrick
Subject: SB42 Priority to Personal Use

Senators Stoltze and Giessel,

As an Alaskan, personal use dipnetter and Vice-Chair of the Chitina Dipnetters Board, I appreciate any efforts in properly securing our rights to use the resources for feeding our families.

I support your efforts as do the our constituents.

Paul

Daniel George

From: Peggy Wilson <woodnpeg@gci.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 5:27 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Yes "IF"

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Bill in Committee

I would be for this ONLY if the personal harvest folks would be willing to count what they get! That is the only way we will really be able to ensure there is Salmon left for our children and grandchildren! We have to know what the true counts are!!!!!!

Peggy Wilson

Daniel George

From: Rick Hammond <akrhammond@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:54 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Bruce Morgan
Subject: SB 42 "An Act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal"

I support SB-42. As an Alaskan resident since 1991, I have personally witnessed a significant reduction of the Kenai River 'in river' salmon population. As an avid fly fisherman, I raised my kids having a deep respect for the river and harvest of fish, not to take more than I need and to use all that I take. Fishing provided me the venue to teach my kids environmental stewardship of our natural resources. To this day, we always joke that if we pick up trash along our way, the fishing gods will be good to us. The opportunity for families to have similar experiences is under attack!

Since 2004, I can tell you that from "boots in the water" during the 1990's we would see countless salmon in the river beginning in July, thousands massed in their journey to spawn. In contrast, since 2004 in late July we've counted less than 10 observed fish during our float trip; shame on those that lie, cheat, and excuse the numbers of returning salmon for the benefit of themselves. Since there are less fish in the river, we are experiencing more pressure on the 'subsistence' fishery. More Alaskans congregate in Kenai creating a greater impact on the environment, and less tolerance from the local community. This is a travesty and again we are now only beginning to react.

Most of the Alaskan population resides in the south-central and unfortunately our State needs to deal with that. We need to decide what is important to our population, our environment, and our commerce. As an Alaskan, and as a father who has had the opportunity to raise fine adults, I support SB-42 to provide priority to personal use fisheries to put more fish in-river available to Alaskan families which will have a positive affect on the environment. Having more fish in-river will also improve commerce by increasing visitors to our state which, like me, tend to pay much more into the Alaskan economy than 'by the pound' paid from commercial use.

--

Rick Hammond

Daniel George

From: Paula & Robert Caywood <cmmgen@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:28 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB 42

Honorable Senators Stoltze & Giessel,

Please pass this critically needed measure. The states constitution requires that the resources of Alaska be managed to the highest yield and we should be managing for the people that utilized the resource and not for the commercial fishermen where many of them are not even Alaska residents.

Robert Caywood

CMM General Contractors, LLC

907-317-0231

Daniel George

From: Susan Coyner <rc2ak@gci.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:49 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: personal use fisheries SB 42

Senators,

I request you support the priority of the personal use fishery. As a participant of the harvest of personal use Copper River dipnet fishing and member of the Chitina Dipnet Association since the mid '90s, this resource has been a significant portion of my family's diet annually. Thank you.

V/r

Robert Coyner

Daniel George

From: Ron Dukes <rondukes@gci.net>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:56 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Regarding SB 42

Good morning Senator Stoltze,

Please continue to fight for the Alaskans who chose to gather a supply of salmon to feed their families each year with the personal use program. We have been life-long Alaskan's who utilize this program each year. Please help assure a future supply by this bill.

Kindest regards,

Ron

Ron Dukes

1555 Flat Mountain Rd.

Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

(907) 457-5717

(907) 865-2444 fax

(907) 322-6855 cell

ASTRA MEMBER

Daniel George

From: Carol Hurtley <bajahurtleys@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

As we all know most commercial fishing is from out of state people & companies it only makes since that true Alaska residents get priority over state resources. Thanks for thinking of Alaskan,s first Ron Goodwin.

Daniel George

From: Ron Johnson <ronjohnson@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 9:04 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42
Categories: Notable

Thanks Senator Stoltze,

SB 42 reaffirms the intent of the Alaska State Constitution. I know you are taking on some powerful lobbyist with this one.

Thanks,

Ron Johnson

Butte

Daniel George

From: Ron Smith <ronsmithsr@alaska.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:00 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: I am in favor of personal use fishery

Thanks, Ron

Daniel George

From: rslempusa@aim.com
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:28 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I support HB42. It's long overdue!

Roy Slemp
Anchorage,AK

Daniel George

From: Ron Dukes <rondukes@gci.net>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:59 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Regarding SB 42

Good morning Senator Stoltze,

Please continue to fight for the Alaskans who choose to gather a supply of salmon to feed their families each year with the personal use program. We have been life-long Alaskan's who utilize this program each year. Please help assure a future supply by this bill.

Kindest regards,

Sally Dukes

Sally Dukes

1555 Flat Mountain Rd.

Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

(907) 457-5717

(907) 865-2444 fax

Daniel George

From: Sara Sundsten <saraalisonsundsten@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:47 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42 Support

I chose to gather a supply of salmon to feed my family and I support HB42.
Sara Sundsten

Daniel George

From: Tom Knox <tknox@gci.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:55 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB 42

Dear Senator Stolze:

I am in complete support of HB 42 prioritizing subsistence harvest of salmon to citizens of Alaska over commercial salmon harvesting in times of predicted and true salmon run shortages. My personal information:

Thomas W Knox
4521 Snowcup Cir.
Anchorage, AK 99516

I am an Alaskan resident since 1972 and a Kenai River subsistence salmon harvester.

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 2015.0.5856 / Virus Database: 4306/9300 - Release Date: 03/14/15

Daniel George

From: Tim White <whitertim@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:33 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Support for sb 42

Sent from my iPad

Daniel George

From: Timothy Shine <snowshoeshine@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:34 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42

Senator Stoltze,

I strongly support efforts to prioritize personal use over commercial use in the allocation of salmon stocks in Alaska's fisheries. Please do all you can to support passage of HB42.

Timothy Shine
Wasilla

Daniel George

From: Todd E. Fitzgerald <TEFitzgerald@gvea.com>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:29 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Personal use fisheries

Thank You for fighting for Alaskan family's that use this precious Salmon resource to for food. I have gone dipnetting at Chitina every year for 32 years. Its been a complete blessing for our family. I fail to understand why commercial fishermen get priority over families like mine when the salmon run is lower or allowing out of state commercial fisherman to sell King Salmon when personal use people can keep none. I SUPPORT this bill.

Todd Fitzgerald, Fairbanks

Daniel George

From: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.

From: Tom and Danita Martin (Anchorage, AK) [mailto:yooperak@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:51 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Fwd: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.

Senators,

I am submitting this email in support of HB42. It is vitally important that Personal use fisheries are a first priority over any commercial use!

Tom Martin
3601 Taiga Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516

Daniel George

From: tparagi@alaska.net
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:55 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Please support SB42 Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans
Attachments: untitled-[2]

Dear Senator Giessel,

I ask you to please support SB 42 to prioritize personal use harvest of salmon over commercial harvest when salmon returns are low. I used to fish for personal use king salmon in the Yukon near Galena, but now the king season there is closed. I moved to Fairbanks in the late 1990s and began to fish for kings in the Tanana River, but now that season is closed, even though it is not part of the Yukon stock. I continue to fish for fall chums and silvers in the Tanana right before freeze up, typically setting a net for 1 night with a friend. We share 20-30 fish each for our winter take.

Tom Paragi
1271 Lowbush Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Daniel George

From: Tom <tomwellman10@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:15 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB 42 Support

Senators,

I strongly encourage your support for the personal use fishery having priority over the commercial harvest when salmon runs are limited. I was born and raised in Anchorage but moved my permanent residence to the Kenai Peninsula in 2011 to be closer to what I really love to do, sports fish and to participate in the personal use fishery. In my case, I can usually catch enough fish with rod and reel to feed my family but I support those who depend on the dip fishery.

Anyone who has fished the Kenai River for as long as I have (since 1975) can attest to the fact that all too often, commercial interests are given priority again and again over other users, oftentimes to the detriment of resource sustainability. Unfortunately, our ADFG has found themselves overly influenced by commercial interests and our fish managers have made some horrible management decisions, making it necessary for Alaska citizens to try and constrain their ability to fill the commercial nets while playing russian roulette with the survival of the salmon runs. Witness the terrible shape the king runs are in on the Kenai. Both runs should be shut down entirely for 4-5 years to let them rebuild but it won't happen due to the lobby by sports fishing guides and commercial fishermen, who know that will constrain their ability to catch reds. What is more important? Catching some reds today and wiping out the kings or everyone sharing the bounty and rebuilding key salmon runs? It's an easy answer for me.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Tom Wellman
34635 Eagle Circle C-5
Sterling, Alaska 99672

Daniel George

From: Wayde or Jean Leder <wleder@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:10 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Honorable Senator Bill Stoltze,

Thank you for the work you are doing on SB42, trying to prioritize personal use fishing over commercial harvest. I was born and raised in Alaska and our family has been using Salmon for a main component of our diet for all 57 years of my life.

It used to be easier to obtain, but growing restrictions have made it harder.

I can no longer go to Chitina and harvest a King Salmon, but I can go to Fred Meyer and pay \$20 a lb and buy it from one of the commercial fishermen who are allowed to take 50,000 Copper River Kings.

Thank you for your efforts to change this and I wish you luck.

Sincerely,

Wayde Leder

Fairbanks, Alaska

Daniel George

From: Wayne Heimer <weheimer@alaska.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:55 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: I support SB 42

Senator Stoltze,

I support SB 42 prioritizing Alaskan use of salmon over commercial uses. Thank you for your interest in this priority.

Wayne Heimer
1098 Chena Pump Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Daniel George

From: Willy <fishtales@alaska.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 4:27 PM
To: Daniel George

SB42 is long overdue please proceed Thank you Wilfred Blais Delta Junction AK

Daniel George

From: Glennon James <ggillette@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:43 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB 42

Greetings, I am in total support for this bill as the fish and game are the property of the residents first and the surplus is to be sold. This should really be the case in the bush as I have witnessed the Native villages being told no fishing because the commercial catch was too big and that Canada had a treaty for so many fish. None of the Natives at Fort Yukon can remember being at any treaty discussions. The other alternative is to have the commercial fishers provide free Salmon and halibut to all Alaskans. I bet that idea would get some attention for what should be the rights of Alaskans.

Thanks for your time and service.

Myself and my wife Julie have been long time supporters of you both

Glenn Gillette
P.O. Box 60163
Fairbanks, AK 99706



Chitina Dipnetters Association
1002 Pioneer Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Chuck Derrick, Pres.

March 15, 2015

Senator Bill Stoltze,

Thank you for continuing to draft and sponsor bills such as SB42 that seek to give Personal Use fisheries a priority, second only to subsistence, when the harvest of a stock or species is limited to achieve a management goal.

The Chitina Dipnetters Association, representing the thousands of Alaska residents who annually partake in the Chitina Personal Use Dip Net Fishery, enthusiastically supports the concept addressed in this bill that the best and most important use of sustainably managed Alaska wild resources is to feed Alaskan families.

The Chitina dip net fishery, a resident only fishery, has existed since the early 1900's and was always managed and considered a subsistence fishery until new "customary and traditional" criteria excluded the fishery from subsistence classification and placed it into the new "personal use" category. The end result of the harvest by dip net of salmon from the Copper River, that of supplementing Alaskans yearly food supply, has not changed in importance with this change in classification. The ability to harvest fresh Copper River sockeye, chinook and coho for family food supply remains a tradition for many interior and south central Alaska residents.

We realize the importance of commercial fishing to the economy of Alaska but also know that we all work to support our families and those residents who rely on commercial fishing for their paycheck also have the means to harvest our annual needs for salmon for their own families whether through "home pack", qualifying for a subsistence permit, or participating in a personal use fishery. With a priority given first to "subsistence" and secondly to "personal use" we are guaranteeing all Alaska residents would have the means, when abundance allows, to supplement their annual food supply. Thank you for your continued support of Personal Use Fisheries

Sincerely,

Chuck Derrick
President
Chitina Dipnetters Association
907 488-3093
cderrick@chitinadipnetters.com



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

Mailing Address: PO Box 20229, Juneau AK 99802-0229
Physical Address: 410 Calhoun Ave Ste 101, Juneau AK 99801
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March 29th, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801
Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

RE: OPPOSE SB 42, PERSONAL USE PRIORITY

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 35 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters. UFA members are also avid personal use, sport, and subsistence harvesters who care about the sustainability of Alaska's fishing resources above all else. The commercial fishing industry in Alaska is made up of small, family-owned businesses, many of which have been operating in the state of Alaska for generations.

UFA opposes SB 42 the personal use priority bill, which pits Alaskans against Alaskans. Although the most well-known personal use fisheries are the salmon dipnet fisheries on the Kenai, Kasilof and Chitina, this bill also impacts more than 100 established personal use fisheries throughout the entire state. Personal use fisheries occur from Ketchikan to Norton Sound and include species such as salmon, crab, shrimp, groundfish, scallops and clams.

A personal use priority would trump the existing sport and commercial fisheries that resident Alaskans utilize to help feed their families. Reducing the predominantly resident commercial harvests would also have a negative impact on Alaskan consumer's ability to access the resource. It is important to allow the Board of Fisheries, working with ADF&G, to enact conservation measures based on the facts surrounding an issue, including each user group's impact on a stock of concern.

All Alaskans benefit when ADF&G has the flexibility to manage fishing resources. Adding additional layers to complex management plans can reduce the ability of ADF&G to manage based on run strength, timing and escapement. A personal use priority will help to perpetuate the fish wars and the loser will likely be Alaska's fishing resources. Adopting a priority for a major user group can increase the expectation for harvest which decreases the likelihood of users taking responsibility for the health of Alaska's fishing resources especially in times of conservation.

Sustainability & Statehood

Alaska's fishery management program is renowned and Alaskans are recognized worldwide for our commitment to sustainability. While most of the world has lost their historic runs of wild salmon, Alaska shows a remarkable history of restoring salmon runs throughout the state after a long period of decline before Alaska gained statehood.

The guiding issue behind Alaska achieving statehood was commercial salmon harvest. With statehood, Alaska took control over the management of salmon therefore protecting Alaskans' dependence on our most prized renewable resource. Alaska has worked hard to develop our reputation for having the best managed fisheries in the world. Starting at statehood, sustainability was even built into our constitution:

"Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses (Alaska Constitution, Article 8 - Natural Resources, Section 4, sustained yield)."

Alaska is the only state to have written such conservation language into its constitution. This attention to sustainability started with salmon and Alaska continues to set the gold standard worldwide for sustainably managed fisheries. In order for Alaska to continue to enjoy sustainable fisheries resources, all of our harvesters must feel responsible for the health of the resource.

Pitting Alaskans vs. Alaskans

Alaska is currently home to over 736,000 people. Residents harvest Alaska's fishing resources either through personal use, sport, commercial or subsistence methods. However, most Alaskans do not have the time, resources or ability to harvest their own fish. The commercial harvesting sector provides the majority of Alaskans with critical access to the resource. This access occurs in fish markets, grocery stores, and restaurants throughout the state.

According to ADF&G data, participation in the Chitina personal use salmon fishery averages about 9–11,000 households and participation in the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fisheries averages approximately 30,000 – 35,500 households. Using the highest estimation and assuming there is no overlap between the two areas by personal use (which is unlikely) the maximum household participation in the three major personal use salmon fisheries is 46,500. Assuming there are five individuals to a household, which would indicate that 232,500 individuals participate in Alaska's three major personal use fisheries. That leaves over 500,000 Alaskans that access seafood outside of the three major personal use harvest methods.

Alaskans are proud of our deep history as a commercial fishing state. Commercial harvest of salmon has been recorded in Alaska since 1878 and is still a thriving industry today. Commercial fishing permit holders live in 189 communities throughout the state with commercial salmon harvesters living in over 160 communities.

According to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC): “The percentage of limited entry permits held by Alaska residents continues to remain relatively stable. After 40 years, Alaskans hold nearly 77% of all limited entry permits. At the end of 2013, Alaskans held nearly 11,000 permanent limited entry permits, with rural Alaskans holding more than half of that number.”¹

In Cook Inlet, the resident salmon permit holder percentages for 2014 are as follows: Cook Inlet setnet, 85%; Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet, 73%; and Cook Inlet Seine, 93%. A five-year analysis in Cook Inlet shows that salmon fishery permit holders are increasingly Alaskan. A 10 year analysis of the Cook Inlet commercial fisheries indicate that harvest of sockeye and other salmon species has generally decreased.

Given most commercial fishing permits and permit holders are Alaskans and most Alaskans access fishing resources through commercial harvest, this bill would take harvest opportunity and access away from Alaskans to give it to other Alaskans without the benefit of a review of the data and a reasonable management and allocation plan. This action will undoubtedly increase tension amongst Alaskans.

Food Security

The commercial harvesting sector is also avid comprised of personal use, sport, and subsistence harvesters who depend on a healthy resource in order to feed their families, feed Alaskans, and to make their living. Alaska’s seafood is arguably one of the best protein sources in the world. **All Alaskans should be able to access fishing resources either by harvesting themselves, through markets, by ordering in restaurants, or by a combination of these methods as countless Alaskans do. Food security in Alaska can be furthered by ensuring that sport, commercial, and personal use harvesters continue to have equal status.**

Similar to the personal use salmon dipnet fisheries, the commercial harvesting sector is capable of efficiently harvesting Alaska’s fishing resources. It is important to Alaska’s food security that we are able to sustainably harvest seafood for consumption by residents. The commercial harvesting sector is critical to providing Alaskans with access to the resource, and particularly shelf-stable products such as canned seafood that is produced in many Alaskan-based canneries.

It is also for the maximum benefit of Alaskans that seafood harvested in this state is served in local restaurants and is available in local grocery stores. It is discouraging and disappointing to see imported seafood, including farmed salmon, on store shelves and in restaurants. Alaskans should always be able to find Alaska harvested seafood when shopping or when ordering out.

We urge the legislature to refrain from taking action that would automatically place a higher priority on the harvests of personal use fishermen who have the time, resources and access to Alaska’s fishing resources over those who do not. There is reasonable opportunity currently granted for personal use harvest, and most feel that their needs are

¹ CFEC Annual Report, 2013/2014 page 7 http://www.cfec.state.ak.us/annrpts/2013-2014_AR.pdf

being met. With salmon, some personal use harvest limits exceed what many Alaskans consider necessary for basic sustenance.

One theme that emerges during personal use discussions is that no Alaskan should have to buy fish. While well-meaning, this statement presents several challenges and ignores the basic scale and scope of Alaska. The majority of Alaskans do not have the access to harvest their own fishing resources, would have to travel great distances, and in many cases Alaskans don't have the equipment to harvest various species of seafood. When it comes to salmon specifically, although some Alaskans can harvest in designated in-river personal use fisheries, other Alaskans choose to utilize charter vessels or harvest outside of designated personal use fisheries such as the sport fishery. A personal use priority would favor those Alaskans that have the ability to harvest in a personal use fishery over those Alaskans who participate in sport fisheries.

Reasonable Expectations

We strongly caution against creating a priority for personal use fisheries, because it will shift allocation and opportunity away from commercial fisheries that provide income to state and local governments, to fisheries that do not. It also would increase the perception of entitlement to fisheries resources that are limited by nature. Sustainability relies on the premise that resources have limits, and setting reasonable expectations helps perpetuate our commitment to sustainability.

There are over 100 personal use fisheries established throughout the state. Personal use fisheries are open to all Alaska residents, with only the requirement to hold a resident sport fishing license and in many cases a personal use permit. It is important to establish reasonable expectations, not create perceived entitlement to personal use fisheries. As the population grows in one area of the state, it is likely that people will travel from areas without personal use fisheries to those that do, as we have already seen in some of the dipnet fisheries. This could pit one region's users against another and would be contrary to the Board of Fisheries intent when establishing personal use fisheries:

5 AAC 77.001 (4) (b)... "allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest."

Although the original intent was for personal use fisheries to not negatively impact the other uses, we are fully supportive of the continued practice of personal use, sport and commercial fisheries occurring on equal footing.

Since the time personal use fisheries were established in 1981, Alaska has seen extreme population growth primarily in one area of the state and can expect this trend to continue. Human population impacts on salmon-bearing rivers, tributaries, streams and lakes are currently unknown. If a personal use priority is established over all uses but subsistence, it would place the burden of conservation on the commercial harvesting sector and ultimately the Alaskan consumer who accesses fishing resources through commercial harvest.

A personal use priority would also handcuff the Board of Fisheries in their ability to allocate and would also further tie ADF&G's management of Alaska's fisheries. A personal use priority may also leave many allocative and management decisions open to lawsuit based on a perception of interference with a personal use fishery. We strongly urge the legislature to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations within the Board of Fisheries, and the sustainable management of fisheries resources within ADF&G.

Establishing a personal use priority will not ensure that salmon run upstream on the weekend when the most individuals choose to participate in the three popular salmon dip net fisheries. A personal use priority will not ensure that fish run directly past a personal use fishery or that an individual will be in the right place at the right time to harvest the resource. A personal use priority cannot control run strength or timing. In short, a personal use priority will not guarantee harvest, however it will create the expectation of harvest.

Fisheries Management Decisions

Alaska's constitutional mandate to manage fisheries for the maximum benefit of its citizens requires careful consideration of the range of benefits that fisheries provide. This includes nutritional needs, history and usage by residents and nonresidents, importance to the economy of the state, region and local area, and recreational opportunity. These factors are considered for each regulatory proposal in the deliberative process of the Board of Fisheries, as well as management decisions of ADF&G.

Among the most important tools that have helped Alaska restore and retain healthy salmon populations are the Board of Fisheries process by which allocative actions are made on a case by case basis based on science and public input, and real time management by ADF&G based on scientifically established escapement goal ranges.

It is imperative that fisheries management decisions including allocations remain in the Board of Fisheries process. The Board process is deliberative, incorporates science, and is capable of disseminating the views of most users of Alaska's fishing resource. Utilizing the Board process will help ensure that each individual personal use fishery is analyzed and decisions regarding harvest and allocation can be made on a case by case basis instead of using a one-size-fits-all approach.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Julianne Curry
Executive Director

Commercial Fishing Permit Holder Data, Cook Inlet Salmon (and statewide)

Commercial Fishing Permit Holdings

2014	Statewide	Statewide	Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet	Cook Inlet Seine	Cook Inlet Set Net
Permit code	Permit HOLDERS	Total PERMITS	S03H	S01H	S04H
Resident	no data for 2014	15,065	414	78	623
Nonresident	no data for 2015	4,419	155	6	112
Total	no data for 2016	19,484	569	84	735
% Resident	71%	77%	73%	93%	85%

Commercial Salmon Fishing Permits, Cook Inlet

2013	Statewide	Statewide	Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet	Cook Inlet Seine	Cook Inlet Set Net
Permit code	Permit HOLDERS	Total PERMITS	S03H	S01H	S04H
Resident	9,933	15,406	408	78	622
Nonresident	3,564	4,528	161	5	114
Total	13,497	19,934	569	83	736
% Resident	74%	77%	72%	94%	85%

Commercial Salmon Fishing Permits, Cook Inlet

2012	Statewide	Statewide	Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet	Cook Inlet Seine	Cook Inlet Set Net
Permit code	Permit HOLDERS	Total PERMITS	S03H	S01H	S04H
Resident	9,975	15,712	409	77	619
Nonresident	3,562	4,593	160	6	117
Total	13,537	20,305	569	83	736
% Resident	74%	77%	72%	93%	84%

Commercial Salmon Fishing Permits, Cook Inlet

2011	Statewide	Statewide	Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet	Cook Inlet Seine	Cook Inlet Set Net
Permit code	Permit HOLDERS	Total PERMITS	S03H	S01H	S04H
Resident	10,007	15,623	409	77	609
Nonresident	3,613	4,670	160	6	127
Total	13,620	20,293	569	83	736
% Resident	73%	77%	72%	93%	83%

Commercial Salmon Fishing Permits, Cook Inlet

2010	Statewide	Statewide	Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet	Cook Inlet Seine	Cook Inlet Set Net
Permit code	Permit HOLDERS	Total PERMITS	S03H	S01H	S04H
Resident	9,963	15,592	407	75	604
Nonresident	3,632	4,682	162	7	132
Total	13,595	20,274	569	82	736
% Resident	73%	77%	72%	91%	82%

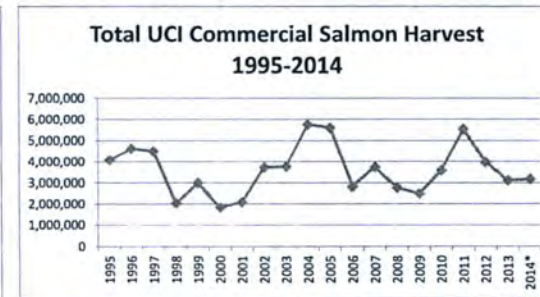
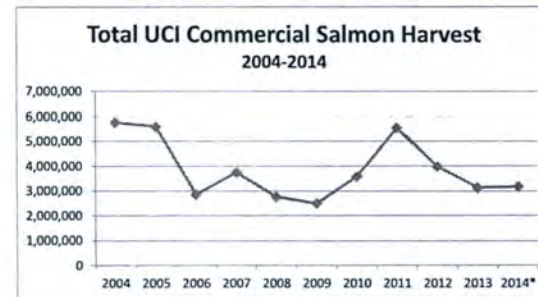
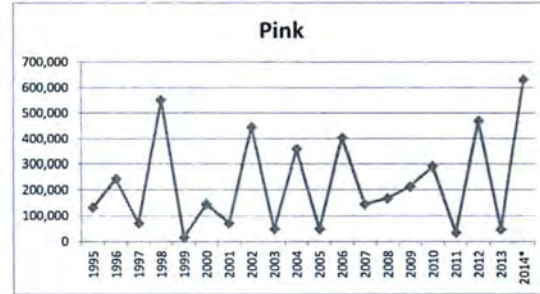
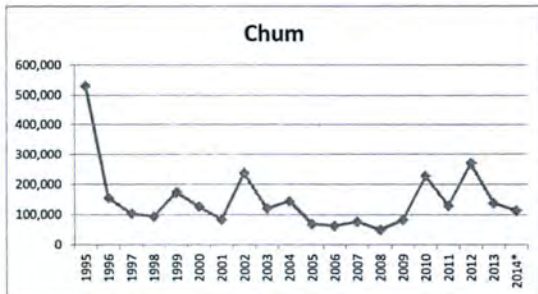
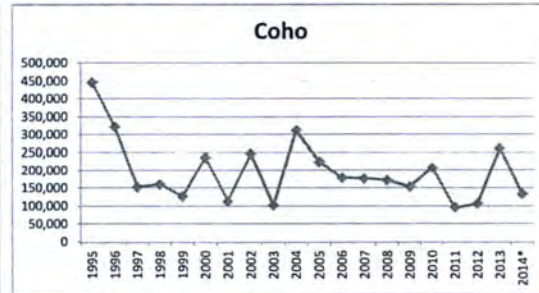
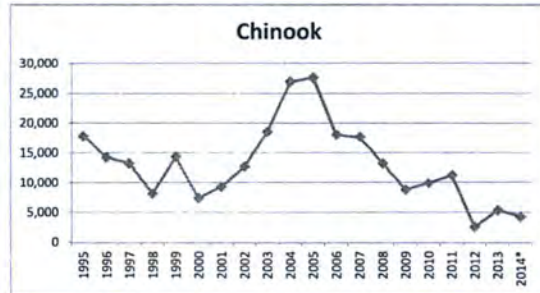
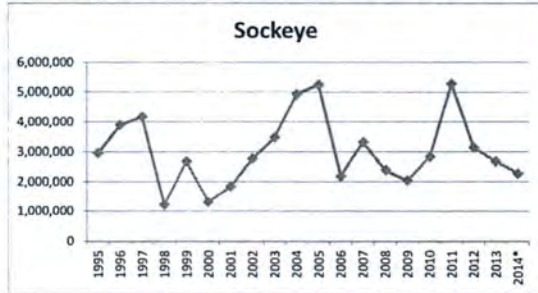
Data compiled from CFEC	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Active Resident Permits	15,065	15,406	15,712	15,623	15,592
Active Nonresident Permits	4,419	4,528	4,593	4,670	4,682

<http://www.cfec.state.ak.us/pstatus/14052014.htm>

Permit HOLDERS
<http://www.cfec.state.ak.us/gpbycen/2013/MenuStat.htm>

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Salmon Harvest, ADF&G Data

Year	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*
Chinook	17,893	14,306	13,292	8,124	14,383	7,350	9,295	12,714	18,503	26,922	27,667	18,029	17,625	13,333	8,750	9,900	11,248	2,526	5,398	4,331
Sockeye	2,952,096	3,888,922	4,176,995	1,219,517	2,680,518	1,322,482	1,826,851	2,773,118	3,476,161	4,927,084	5,238,699	2,192,730	3,316,779	2,380,135	2,045,794	2,828,342	5,277,995	3,133,803	2,683,224	2,291,725
Coho	447,130	321,668	152,408	160,688	126,105	236,871	113,311	246,281	101,756	311,058	224,657	177,853	177,339	171,869	153,210	207,350	95,291	106,775	260,963	134,232
Pink	133,578	242,911	70,945	551,737	16,176	146,482	72,560	446,960	48,789	357,939	48,419	404,111	147,020	169,368	214,321	292,706	34,123	469,598	48,275	632,289
Chum	529,428	156,520	103,036	95,704	174,554	127,069	84,494	237,949	120,767	146,165	69,740	64,033	77,240	50,315	82,811	228,863	129,407	269,733	139,365	115,094
Total	4,080,125	4,624,327	4,516,403	2,034,940	3,011,516	1,840,254	2,106,492	3,717,022	3,765,976	5,769,168	5,609,182	2,856,756	3,736,003	2,785,020	2,504,886	3,567,161	5,548,064	3,982,435	3,137,225	3,177,671



KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Karen & Richard McGahan
REPRESENTING: Self
BILL # or SUBJECT: SB 42
COMMITTEE: SSTA DATE: 3-10-15

Personal Use Fishing should not be the priority for Cook Inlet.

We are against this bill.

KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Karen & Richard McGahan
REPRESENTING: Self
BILL # or SUBJECT: SB 42
COMMITTEE: SSTA **DATE:** 3-17-15

Dear Senate State Affairs Committee Members and Senator Stoltze,
Please allow the biologists, who are hired to manage the fisheries, to do their jobs.
Please do not allow the politicians, who are trying to please their voters, to continue
to meddle with the fisheries, and tie the biologists' hands. The dip netters are not complaining
and are certainly getting their fish.

Karen and Richard McGahan

KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Richard & Karen McGahan
REPRESENTING: self
BILL # or SUBJECT: SB 42
COMMITTEE: SSTA **DATE:** 3-17-15

Dear Senators:

Please do not be taken in by Sen. Bill Stolze's not quite veiled attempt at curtailing, again, the commercial fishermen of Cook Inlet. Have any one of you heard of any dip netter not having fish available? Have any of you heard of the set netters or drift fishermen trying to get rid of the dip netters? I think not. This bill has no sponsors from the Kenai Peninsula. If any one of you think there has been a shortage of dip netting of fish, please come and visit the City of Kenai, and the Kenai Airport. Take a look at the amount of fish being flown out of state during the dip netting season. Go to Fred Meyers and look at the fish boxes going through check out. Take a look at the photos of the waste the City Manager of the City of Kenai has been showing to anyone who will pay attention.

This bill has nothing to do with the health of the river or with dip netters needing more fish. This is a bill for Sen. Stoltze to thank his campaign contributors and to pander to his voting block.

There are already mandatory closures for commercial fishing to cater to the week end crowds of dip netters that descend on the Kenai River.

Why do we even hire biologists to manage Fish and Game? Here's a budget cut idea for you.....cut out the whole Fish and Game Dept. and just let the politicians continue to manage it according to the ones they listen to, the loudest paid lobbyists and largest campaign contributors. This is exactly what Sen. Stolze is attempting to do.

Thank you for considering our testimony,
Karen McGahan (51 year resident)
Richard McGahan (60 year resident)
Nikiski, Alaska

907 252 1136

907 252 1134

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Name: DAN ANDERSON
Representing: SELF
Bill No./Subject: SB 42 Personal Use Fishing Priority
Committee: Senate State Affairs
Date of Hearing: 3/16/15

I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF THIS BILL
IN ANY FORM OR SHAPE AS IT DEGRADES
THE CURRENT HARVEST PRACTICES
~~FISHING~~



Daniel George

From: Jamie O'Connor <oconnorjamiea@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:10 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Response to bill prioritizing personal use fishermen

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello Senator,

I was disappointed to read about your bill prioritizing personal use in our state fisheries. I am a fourth generation fisherman and spend every summer in Bristol Bay. I hope to continue to fish well into old age as my great-grandfather did before me.

Through this grueling work, that I love, I was able to put myself through university without student loans. The commercial fishery is important to our Alaska culture and the many families like mine that rely on fishing. Fishing is a part of our identity, our culture and our livelihood.

To hear that you would like to prioritize personal use fisherman, a shocking number of whom do not know the first thing about this resource or how to respect it, is disturbing. Look at what has happened to the Kenai. I do not dispute that there are lifelong personal use fisherman who know what they're doing. However, they are a dwindling minority compared to the tromping urban hoards flocking to our State's rivers without bothering to educate themselves first.

I see that you are committed to the protection of our resources. But, this proposed method is misguided. Instead, I suggest you work toward the following:

- Find more budget for wildlife troopers to enforce the protective regulations we already have. The blatant disregard of regulations on the Kenai by many personal use fisherman would be slowed with more enforcement. If disregard continues, increase penalties for misuse of our resource. The penalties for commercial operations who misuse the resource are steep. So, too, should be the penalties for disregarding the laws of personal use fishing.
- Pass requirements for fisherman to educate themselves before receiving a fishing license. This would lessen the damage to resource by fishermen who can't tell a red from a pink from a king salmon. With the ease and cost effectiveness of online classes this would not be an unreasonable burden.
- Enforce protections to keep crushing boots off of the spawning grounds. The number of boots in the riverbeds of populated areas in recent years is highly damaging.

I hope you will reconsider your position.

Respectfully,

Jamie O'Connor



March 20, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Resources
State Capitol, Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: OPPOSE SB 42 – Personal Use Fishing Priority

Dear Chairman Giessel and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Cordova District Fishermen United Board of Directors, our membership and their families to oppose SB 42 – “Personal Use Fishing Priority”.

CDFU has been the voice of commercial fishermen since 1935 and currently represents over 800 fishing families in the Prince William Sound and Copper River region of Alaska. It is our mission to preserve, promote and perpetuate the commercial fishing industry and fishing resources of our region for the mutual benefit of both current and future generations of fishermen. The majority of our members are Alaskans living in Cordova, a small coastal Alaska community whose economy depends almost entirely on the commercial salmon industry. It is our position that SB 42 is not a bill that serves the best interests of all Alaskans.

The general understanding of the state's commercial fisheries appears nearsighted with focus only on the number of harvesters. Yet that number does not illustrate the true impacts of Alaskans whose livelihoods are connected to commercial fishing, it includes all families throughout the industry, folks employed in supporting businesses and tax contributions to community infrastructure, urban and rural. Equally numerous and also overlooked are the urban Alaskan consumers whose access to Alaska's sustainable natural resources depend on healthy commercial fisheries, illustrating that not all Alaskans are Personal Use participants.

Alaska has set the world standard for sustainable management of its fishery resources and has achieved a delicate balance that provides opportunity and access for a multitude of users. It has done so through the establishment of a unique multi-tier system of management that delegates authority to make allocation and management decisions that **ensure the health and vitality of our fishery resources for maximum benefit of Alaska.**

When the Alaska legislature established the Board of Fisheries (BOF), it granted the authority to manage allocation of Alaska's fishery resources among all users. The Board makeup includes a panel of Alaskan representatives chosen based on their ability to represent all fishery user groups and make balanced decisions using sound judgment. The BOF has the authority and expertise to make decisions in the best interest of the State of Alaska to protect, preserve and develop Alaska's fishery resources.

The Copper River, as an example, is a unique area in which the Personal Use fishery occurs before both Federal and State Subsistence fisheries. The BOF has taken this situation into consideration in allocation decisions and development of the Commercial and Personal Use management plans. **It is our concern that SB 42 attempts to undermine that authority and dismantle this balance.**



Cordova District Fishermen United
PO Box 939 | 509 First Street | Cordova, AK 99574
phone. (907) 424 3447 | fax. (907) 424 3430
web. www.cdfu.org

CDFU respects the importance and value of Personal Use fisheries in the state of Alaska, however feels it significant to point out why this special category was originally developed. In 1982 under statutory authority, the BOF developed language to provide a special opportunity for Alaska residents to harvest salmon *when surplus fish stocks were available and "...when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest"*. Since this time, Personal Use fisheries have evolved into an important part of the Alaskan lifestyle affording residents significant opportunity to supplement food they purchase at the store with locally harvested seafood.

Our organization does not believe that Personal Use fisheries should be managed with any degree of priority over Alaska's long established and economically significant Commercial and Sport fisheries. Commercial, Personal Use & Sports fisheries EQUALLY provide Alaska and its residents economic opportunity and food security. ***The need for all users to share in the conservation burden to ensure our fishery resources are sustainable into the future is lost in the fever of the moment. Throughout our history we have managed to work together to address the health of the resource as the priority and THIS has allowed for maximum opportunity for ALL Alaskans over time.***

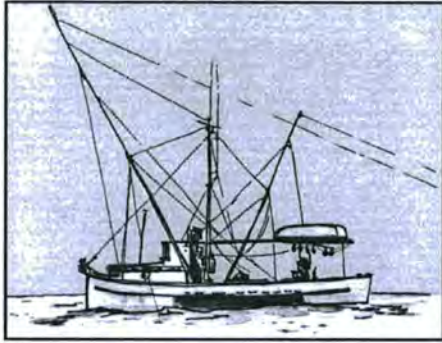
Both Commercial and Sport fisheries are economically significant to Alaska. These fisheries create jobs. They stimulate Alaska's economy. They bring small communities to life, and support thousands of families across the State. The proposed legislation attempts to circumvent the existing priority classification structure, the significance of which dilutes the state's recognized Subsistence priority.

Legislative intervention is unnecessary and only serves to disrupt well-established and effective fishery management systems already in place. This is a solution looking for a problem and we urge this committee to leave the authority of fishery allocation and regulatory decisions within the Board of Fisheries and preserve the ADF&G system of science-based management.

Sincerely,

Alexis Cooper
Executive Director

CC: *Senator Gary Stevens*
Representative Louise Stutes
Commissioner Sam Cotten
Senate Resources Committee



Alaska Trollers Association

130 Seward #205
Juneau, AK 99801
(907)586-9400
ata@gci.net

March 16, 2015

Senator Bill Stoltze
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Oppose SB 42 Personal Use Priority

Dear Senator Stolze and Committee Members:

The Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) opposes SB 42, which seeks to provide a priority for personal use fisheries second only to subsistence. Our members do not believe that such a priority is necessary or reflects the true nature of most personal use fisheries, nor does it allow for the orderly and sustainable management of our state's fisheries resources.

ATA represents the Southeast commercial troll fleet. Our members are professional hook and line salmon fishermen. The troll fleet is one of the largest salmon fleets in the state and is 85% resident. A large number of troll permit holders live in rural communities. Many of our members participate in other commercial, sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries.

The most significant problem with SB 42 is that it ties the hands of the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) and could confound sustainable fisheries management. Personal use fisheries are conducted inriver and can have a significant impact on spawning stocks. While personal use fishermen may harvest fewer fish compared to commercial, they still bear a responsibility to conserve the resource. It is important to realize that the Board of Fish has rarely, if ever, significantly restricted personal use fisheries.

The BOF is the best forum to analyze with ADFG and the public the biological reasons for dips in salmon production, and then distribute the conservation burden proportionate to the impact of the fishery. From there, a system exists to allocate surplus production when stocks rebound. Allocation by the BOF is governed by a policy that has been in place since the early 90's.¹ The policy recognizes history of use and dependence by residents, and also allows for distinctions between guided and unguided harvesters, as approved by the legislature in 1992, which should

¹ AS 16.05.251(a)(17)(e) Board of Fisheries Allocation Criteria

address the sponsors concern about folks coming from outside Alaska to harvest fish. This policy provides ample opportunities for the BOF to protect important personal use needs for residents, while at the same time avoiding undue hardship on all other fisheries of importance to local communities. A full set of BOF policies can easily be found online.²

A troublesome aspect of the bill is that it would hold personal use fisheries above sport and commercial for regulatory and allocation purposes, no matter what the circumstance, which has never been the intent.

Subsistence fisheries have been granted highest priority in times of resource shortages, because they are intended to provide the basic necessities of **life** for rural residents.

Personal use fisheries allow individuals to take finfish, shellfish, or aquatic plants, often at higher levels than sport fisheries, for use as food or bait by that individual or their immediate family. Ostensibly, the higher bag and possession limits reflect the food and bait needs of residents who, for one reason or another, do not qualify for subsistence.

While our association supports the intent behind true personal use fisheries – to feed Alaskans - we question whether or not the current conduct of some of these fisheries actually meets the intended goal, which is to provide food and bait for individuals who need more than a basic sport license can provide.

Of the personal use permit holders, those who would appear to most need the liberal harvest limits are not necessarily the ones removing high volumes of fish. Let's look at the Chitina personal use fishery as an example.

The 2000 census counted 123 people, 52 households, and 30 families residing in the Chitina area. The Alaska Subsistence Fisheries 2003 Annual Report (ADFG, 2005), states that just 29 personal use permits were issued to Copper Basin residents. Of those, 19 fished, with a harvest of 232 fish and just 0.3% of the total Chitina personal use harvest (Table XII-5).

The vast majority of the fish caught in the Chitina personal use fishery were harvested by people traveling from the urban areas of Fairbanks (2,034 permits issued/ 28,949 fish caught) and Anchorage (1,475 permits issued/ 19,443 fish caught). Rounding out the top five communities harvesting in the Chitina personal use fishery were Delta Junction, Eagle River, and Eilsen Air Force Base (Table XII-5). Most of these communities can hardly be described as subsistence in nature, much less lacking significant opportunities to secure the basic **necessities of life**. **Yet that is essentially what granting a personal use priority would imply.**

What justifies granting urban personal use fishermen more protection than resident sport and commercial fishermen and their resident customers, who all rely on the same stocks?

Most fishermen who travel to Chitina from urban communities, often at great expense, are not low income. Not only do they pay the cost of traveling a long distance to this remote community, they often secure the services of guides, water taxis, and custom process facilities.

² Board of Fisheries Findings and Policies

Those services are not cheap, particularly when compared to purchasing salmon at their local store. This makes the need for personal use by such fishermen questionable to other Alaskans. There are personal use opportunities closer to Fairbanks and Anchorage, so the methods and means of harvest are neither efficient nor economic in terms of effort and cost. Obviously, these folks simply enjoy going to Chitina and bringing back lots of fish and the Board of Fish is allowing that. Not a problem, but also not worthy of a higher priority than is granted to sport and commercial fishermen.

The regulatory history of the Chitina dipnet fishery clearly shows that the Board of Fisheries considered it an area worthy of personal use designation, not special priority.

Over time, the BOF has established specific parameters around personal use fisheries, to delineate this use from subsistence and protect both the resource and other, longstanding fishing interests. When establishing the personal use category in 1981, the BOF made its intent quite clear with respect to personal use priority:

7. ...It is the intent of the Board that subsistence, commercial, and sport users have a reasonable opportunity to take any surplus before a personal use fishery is allowed.

While the BOF intended that personal use fisheries would not harm sport and commercial fisheries, they also provided ample opportunity for personal use fishermen when developing regulatory measures. This is revealed in harvest limits that far exceed what many Alaskans consider necessary for basic sustenance. The Board's intention to be liberal in the application of personal use is also revealed in a memo to ADFG Commissioner Frank Rue dated March 21, 1996 from Assistant Attorney General Stephen Daugherty indicating that (*emphasis added*):

...although the proposal for creation of personal use fisheries presented to the Board of Fisheries was very restrictive, the board adopted a much less restrictive regulatory scheme for personal use fisheries. As originally proposed, personal use fisheries could only be conducted where they would not negatively impact an existing resource use, and initial bag limits were proposed at very low levels. The board modified the proposed regulations to allow for the provision of personal use fisheries if they were in the broad public interest, and it also adopted bag limits based on amounts taken under subsistence regulations. The board explicitly rejected some uses permissible under subsistence regulations and provided that it was illegal to buy, sell, trade, or barter fish taken in a personal use fishery, but the board did not provide an explicit prohibition on sharing. See Board of Fisheries Proposal 107 (Apr. 1982); 5 AAC 77.010(b).

The legislature also took up personal use fisheries, as noted by Daugherty, and clearly stated that personal use fisheries were to be granted status equal to – not higher or lower than - other fisheries (*emphasis added*):

The record indicates that although personal use fisheries were not intended to have a priority over sport and commercial fisheries, they were also not considered lower in priority. The legislation treated personal use fisheries on the same basis as sport and commercial fisheries and subjected them to the same allocation criteria.

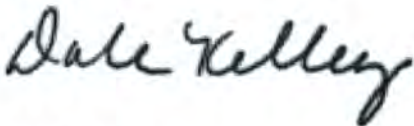
Unfortunately, what is obvious to many of us around the state is that despite extremely liberal management of personal use fisheries by the BOF, it's still not enough for some personal use fishermen from urban areas who seem more interested in putting their wants over the needs of the resource and fellow fishermen, Alaska consumers, and Alaska communities.

While we do not deny that the personal use fishery is important to many Alaska residents, including some that we represent, please note that giving personal use fisheries priority over other uses of the resource could negatively impact a great many more Alaskans than it will help. Sport and commercial fisheries and the consumers served by the seafood industry, are part and parcel of the 'broad public interest'. Our fisheries provide thousands of jobs and significant economic value to the state overall; for instance, through substantial general fund assessments on seafood landings. The impacts of initiatives like this, which chronically erode commercial fishing access, are felt by ALL of the state's citizens.

ATA opposes priority status for personal use fisheries and considers such a designation to be contrary to sound resource management; potentially harmful to other Alaskan residents; and, out of sync with the true intent that underpinned establishment of personal use fisheries.

Thank you for considering ATA's point of view. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information on this or other issues of concern to the commercial fishing industry.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Kelley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Dale Kelley
Executive Director



United Cook Inlet Drift Association

43961 K-Beach Road, Suite E • Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 260-9436 • fax (907) 260-9438
• info@ucida.org •

Date: March 30, 2015

Addressee: Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: **OPPOSE SB 42, PERSONAL USE PRIORITY**

Dear Senator Giessel and committee members,

I am writing on behalf of the United Cook Inlet Drift Association Board of Directors, we represent the 585 drift gillnet permit holders in Cook Inlet, our members and their families, to oppose SB 42- "Personal Use Priority".

It is our position that SB 42 is not in the best interest of Alaskans, it actually does just the opposite, it will harm more Alaskan's than it may benefit. All users of our fishery resources must share in the conservation burden to ensure that our fishery resources are sustainable into the future. The items below are just a partial list of problems that we can foresee if SB 42 is allowed to pass.

Passage of SB 42 would create an administrative burden for ADF&G and the BOF

The Alaska State Legislature delegated the authority to the State Board of Fisheries for the allocation of fishery resources. Fishery management plans need to be biologically based and integrated to ensure sustainability while allowing the greatest possible harvest. Decisions regarding allocation of these resources needs to follow certain criteria to allow management plans to be effective. Priority status for a single user group would require that wherever Personal Use fisheries are allowed, the BOF must rewrite all the management plans for every stock or specie that would be affected. Currently there are about 80 Personal Use fisheries on both finfish and shellfish.

Unintended consequences

Many fisheries around the State are mixed stock fisheries. Fishery managers and management plans utilize time and area restrictions to reduce the harvest of a particular stock or to increase the harvest of a particular stock. Some management plans have specific fishing restriction language written into them. With those restrictions already in place, would SB42 automatically assign a priority to Personal Use before the season even starts, or would a Personal Use priority only be triggered by additional in-season restrictions?

Would a Personal Use priority create an influx of new requests for PU fisheries across the State, on every fish stock and specie?

SB42 uses a term "management goal" and then offers a constrained definition for that term. What effect would this new definition have on existing fishery management plans?

Allocation overrides science

Personal Use fisheries have little value as a management tool as there is very little real-time data available regarding number of participants and harvest levels on any given stock at any given time. Assigning a priority status to a user group, when there is currently no method for real-time enumeration of harvest data for such a user group, is contrary to the principles of Alaska Fisheries Policy; both the Sustainable Salmon Fishery Policy(5 AAC 39.222) and the Policy for the Management of Mixed Stock Fisheries(5 AAC 39.220) and the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Alaska State Constitution, Article 8, Section 15

No exclusive right or special privilege of fishery shall be created or authorized in the natural waters of the State. This section does not restrict the power of the State to limit entry into any fishery for purposes of resource conservation, to prevent economic distress among fishermen and those dependent upon them for a livelihood and to promote the efficient development of aquaculture in the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David Martin
UCIDA President

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

9369 North Douglas Highway

Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907-586-6652

Email: seafa@gci.net

Fax: 907-523-1168

Website: <http://www.seafa.org>



March 31, 2015

Alaska State Legislature
Senate Resources Committee
Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Oppose SB 42

Senator Giessel, Chair and Senate Resource Committee Members,

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) appreciates this opportunity to express our concerns regarding SB 42 which mandates a personal use priority after subsistence. Our association has over 300 members and is comprised of 85% Alaskan residents, who participate in personal use and sport fisheries in addition to their commercial fishing livelihood. Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance has always supported the importance of personal use fisheries to the residents of the State of Alaska as is evidenced by our testimonies to the Board of Fish. However, personal use fisheries also need to have limits and share in the burden of conservation along with commercial and sport fishermen.

This legislation as written is flawed. The subsistence priority statute AS 16.05.258 (f) clearly states that the subsistence priority is to provide for a reasonable opportunity. This legislative language mandates development of a personal use priority without any qualification. Further, it does not provide language, as the subsistence priority does, to share the resources with other users. As the Alaska population continues to grow, the language as written will ultimately close commercial and sport fisheries, regardless of the economic harm to the state or local communities, without any express concern over conservation in order to provide a personal use priority.

This legislation as written severely ties the hands of the Board of Fish preventing their ability to fulfill the obligations listed in AS 16.05.251. This legislation contradicts with the allocation criteria between commercial, sport and

personal use fisheries As written this legislation creates an elevated right for personal use fishermen, which can very easily be used in court to challenge any allocations that the Board of Fisheries makes in which they feel any restrictions at all during any part of the lifecycle. Clearly this violates fundamental precepts embedded in the Alaska Constitution, regarding Uniform Application, and Common Use.

Does this legislation even allow the Board of Fish to set limits or develop management plans that include the personal use fisheries?

At what point can management decisions affect the personal use fishermen and still allow commercial and sport fisheries to exist?

Would ADFG have to stand by and allow a system to fail to meet their management target because a commercial fishery had an opening so therefore the personal use fishery could not be restricted? In many fisheries it is not possible to allow a commercial fishery to wait until escapement is met and all personal use needs are met because by then the fish have swam past the point a commercial fishery can be conducted. Do we in these situations in order to provide for a personal use priority, forgo economic opportunity and close the commercial and sport fisheries? The current State of Alaska management system is considered superior to all other regions due to the public process through the board of fish and the end mandate for maximum sustained yield provided for in the State Constitution. Are we now going to ignore what has worked and take away the Board of Fish authority to allocate and ADFG flexibility to manage the resource in real time allowing for all users to share in the burden of conservation?

Commercial fishing is an important industry to the State of Alaska ranking third behind Oil & Gas and Federal Government in generating basic economic activity in Alaska with a total economic contribution of \$5.8 billion to Alaska's economic output and over 78,500 jobs. In addition, the raw fish taxes paid into the general fund and shared with the local coastal communities are critical to their economy.

For many residents of coastal Alaska, their only access to our sustainable fishery resources to provide healthy protein to their diet is through the commercial fishery. Is it fair to take away their primary access?

There are allegedly businesses being built to supply, outfit and provide transportation for personal use fisheries. This seems to be in conflict with the original intent during development of the personal use fishery. We believe the original intent of the personal use fishery was to allow Alaskans access to fishery

resources in non-subsistence areas, or access to fisheries with negative C&T findings by providing differential bag limits than non-residents, because it was acknowledged that in many cases these Alaskans were using the resource to provide for their own family consumption.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this legislation. If you have any questions about our testimony or points raised in the testimony, please contact the office, we would be glad to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Hansen" followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director

March 28, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Resource Committee
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99811
Email: Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

RE: PVOA Oppose SB42-Personal Use Fishing Priority

Dear Chair Giessel and Committee Members,

Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association is composed of almost 100 members participating in a wide variety of species and gear type fisheries. An additional thirty businesses supportive to our industry are members. Our members fish throughout Alaska from Southeast to the Bering Sea. Targeted species include salmon, herring, halibut, sablefish, cod, crab, and shrimp.

PVOA's mission statement is to:

"Promote the economic viability of the commercial fishing fleet in Petersburg, promote the conservation and rational management of North Pacific resources, and advocate the need for protection of fisheries habitat."

As our mission statement reads, PVOA's main focus is on the conservation and management of our states fishery resources. **Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association is opposed to SB 42 – Personal Use Fishing Priority.** We believe all three user groups; subsistence, personal, and commercial need to work together to ensure the continuance of our fisheries resources. All three groups need to share in the burden of conservation through fair allocations.

It is the state mandated obligations of the Alaska Board of Fisheries to allocate Alaska fishery resources amongst the three user groups. The Board is made up of representatives of all three-user groups in order to ensure balanced policies are formed. This legislation would gift priority to personal users and restrict the Board of Fisheries ability to fulfill their obligations. It would also restrict the Alaska Department of Fish and Games ability to manage and sustain fisheries through science based management.

Personal use fish is an important aspect of the livelihood of Alaskans. PVOA supports allocations going to this important user group. However, SB42 could reduce the economies and jobs that have traditionally been available to the commercial and sport user group. The Board of Fisheries works hard to maintain a balance between the needs of subsistence, personal use, and commercial every cycle. This legislation would

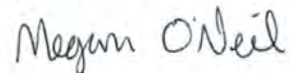
Oppose SB42-Personal Use Priority
PO Box 232, Petersburg AK 99833

Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association
email: pvoa@gci.net 907-772-9323

eliminate the balance between the three groups created by the educated efforts of the Board members.

In closing, the Board of Fisheries is already charged with the concerns of allocating subsistence, personal use and commercial fish and has been very successful at their job. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important legislation.

Respectfully,



Megan O'Neil
Executive Director

cc: Senator Stedman
Representative Kreiss-Tomkins



COPPER RIVER SEAFOODS

Main Administrative Office

1118 E 5th Avenue · Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: (907) 522-7806 · (888) 622-1197 · Fax: (907) 274-0348

www.CopperRiverSeafoods.com

March 27, 2015

Representative Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Building, Rm 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: SB42 Senate Resources Committee Hearing

Dear Madam Chair,

As a lifelong Alaskan and one whose primary recreational activity is sport fishing and who annually fills his freezer through personal use fisheries but earns his living in the commercial fishing industry I wish to express my, and my company's opposition of SB42.

Using legislation as a tool to regulate our fisheries is a very slippery slope that undermines the ability for ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries to effectively manage a sustainable fishery. In addition, while the personal use fisheries provide a number of people with the opportunity to harvest salmon, it is clearly the commercial harvest that provides the vast majority of Alaskans' with the seafood they consume annually by means of their local retailers and food service establishments.

Now is not a time to restrict industries that are so key to the financial health of Alaska. Alaska needs to find a balance between personal use fisheries and commercial fisheries and this legislation will prove to be detrimental to this.

Copper River Seafoods and company's like us are vital to the success of the State of Alaska, especially in future years when the oil industry will be unable to carry the burden. We employ between 600-750 people annually, pay a lot of money in state taxes and are currently expanding our operations. Bills like SB42 will do nothing but jeopardize this ability and thus the health of the State of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and we would love to offer you or any of your fellow lawmakers a tour of our operations to learn more.

Regards,

Martin Weiser
Corporate Development Officer
Copper River Seafoods

ANCHORAGE PLANT

1400 E 1st Ave · Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907) 522-7806 · Fax: (907) 222-0348

COPPER RIVER SALES

7195 Wagner Way, Suite 102 · Gig Harbor, WA 98335
Phone: (253) 851-1164 · Fax: (253) 851-1165

CORDOVA PLANT

P.O. Box 158 / 300 Cannery Row · Cordova, AK 99574
Phone: (907) 424-3721 · Fax: (907) 424-7435

NAKNEK PLANT

0.5 Peninsula Hwy · Naknek, AK 99633
Phone: (907) 522-7806 · Fax: (907) 274-0348

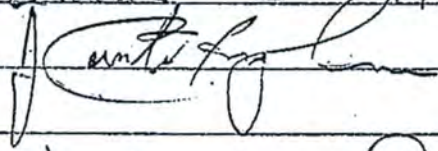
KOTZEBUE PLANT

PO Box 489 · Kotzebue, AK 99752
Phone: (907) 522-7806 · Fax: (907) 274-0348

March 27, 2015

To those considering SB42,
I am a salmon troller and resident
of Sitka. I am opposed to SB42
which ~~which~~ makes a priority for
personal use fishing. The personal
use fisheries, urban subsistence
fisheries, have been managed ~~to~~
through the Board of Fisheries.
I would like it to remain there.

James C. Hughes.



carterhughes@hotmail.com

c.o. SPC 507 Katlan St.
Sitka, AK 99835

907-738-3273



120 N. Willow St. PO Box 586 Kenai, AK 99611
907.929.0388
accrabak@earthlink.net
www.aksalmonalliance.org

March 26, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Opposing Comment on SB 42 Personal Use

Dear Senator Giessel:

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Salmon Alliance (ASA), Kenai Peninsula and Anchorage-based seafood processors, Great Pacific Seafoods, Icicle Seafoods, Snug Harbor Seafoods, Pacific Star Seafoods and Fishhawk to register our opposition to SB 42, legislating Personal Use Priority. Our member companies are intimately familiar with the complexities and growth in the State of Alaska's most widely used Personal Use fisheries on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers.

We note the heavy overplay in the Sponsor Statement of the need to protect the needs of Alaska residents as a rationale for establishing a personal use priority in allocating fishery resources. You should be aware that the personal use salmon needs of Alaska residents are already provided for - up front - when ADF&G calculates its annual harvest forecasts for commercial, personal use and subsistence fisheries based on Kenai and Kasilof River stocks. In addition, as these personal use fisheries open on particular dates regardless of run timing or abundance, there already is a de-facto priority in place.

Thus it is not necessary to create legislation, unless the goal is to further exacerbate the divisiveness between user groups and undermine the state's ability to manage these salmon stocks. Legislating fisheries in the manner of SB 42 inevitably leads to a cascade of unintended consequences that will create additional management problems.

As there are dozens of Personal Use fisheries on different stocks and different species across the State the singular focus of SB 42 would create significant chaos and disruption in many management plans.

The Legislature should also be aware that in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fisheries, which will bear the brunt of further restrictive allocations under a Personal Use Priority scenario, there are in excess of 5,000 persons employed in our industry. The harvest sector of the industry represented by over 1,000 fishing families are comprised of over 70% residents of mostly South Central Alaska.

We ask you to oppose this onerous and unnecessary legislation.

Regards,

Arni Thomson
Executive Director

cc: Bill Walker, Governor of Alaska
Byron Mallott, Lt. Governor of Alaska



Alaska Longline

FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 1229 / Sitka, Alaska 99835 / 907.747.3400 / FAX 907.747.3462

March 24, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801
Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

Re: OPPOSE SB42 – Personal Use Fishing Priority

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

The Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA) opposes SB42, which seeks to provide a priority for Personal Use fisheries second only to subsistence. Our 100+ members believe SB42 will undermine sustainable management of our State's fisheries and destroy the existing management process that has so successfully rebuilt and protected Alaska's salmon stocks since Statehood. In addition, ALFA recognizes the potential for SB42 to significantly reduce the economic and employment benefits Alaska's commercial and sport fisheries currently provide to the State. Our concerns are described in more detail below.

ALFA is a non-profit association of vessel owners and deckhands dedicated to sustainable fisheries and strong fishing communities. Most of our members live in the rural communities of Southeast Alaska. Our members participate in commercial, sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries. ALFA recognizes the importance of Personal Use fisheries to the residents of this State; however, because fishery resources are limited, we recognize that Personal Use fisheries must also be limited.

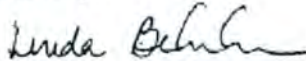
The Alaska legislature has granted the Board of Fisheries the authority to manage Alaska's fisheries. The Board makeup includes representatives confirmed by the legislature based on their ability to represent all fishery user groups through sound judgment and careful consideration of the full range of benefits that fisheries provide, including nutritional needs; history and usage by residents and non residents; importance to the economy of the state, region and local area; and recreational opportunity. The Board follows a deliberative process to make conservation and allocation decisions based on science and public input. The Department of Fish and Game follows the Board's direction to achieve management goals that protect and preserve Alaska's fishery resources. *SB42 attempts to undermine this process and the authority of both the Board and the Department.*

The intent by the Board of Fisheries in establishing Personal Use fisheries is clear in 5 AAC 77.001 (4) (b), namely that personal use fisheries are: "...allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest." ALFA supports this intent. Based on this intent, ninety-five Personal Use fisheries have been established in Alaska. These fisheries are open to all residents. If SB42 were to pass as proposed, population growth and expanding Personal Use harvest in one region of the State will have detrimental impacts on existing harvesters and historic patterns of use in other regions, which is in direct violation of the Personal Use intent stated above.

Finally, Personal Use fisheries for salmon are conducted in-river and can have a significant impact on spawning stocks. While Personal Use fishermen may harvest fewer fish compared to commercial harvesters, they still bear a responsibility to conserve the resource. SB42 threatens to take away one of the tools that managers need to do their jobs: the use of commercial harvest data from early season fishery openers to assess run strength and timing.

In closing, ALFA opposes priority status for Personal Use fisheries and considers such a designation to be contrary to sound resource management, potentially harmful to some Alaskan residents, and contrary to the true intent of Personal Use fisheries. We strongly urge this Committee, and the Alaska State Legislature, to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations with the Board of Fisheries and the implementation of those decisions with the Department of Fish and Game.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Behnken".

Linda Behnken
(Executive Director, ALFA)

I wanted to let you know that I personally support SB42 that would place personal use harvest for Alaskans as a priority over commercial fisherman.

Alaskan's should be able to put fish in their freeze before commercial interests in times of shortage. Many of us depend on our fish and game as our principal source of nutrition.

I live a "subsistence" lifestyle but use the normal fish & game rules to do that. I take a moose, a caribou and many salmon on a yearly basis for me and my extended family. I share with my elders and those around me that are not as fortunate as I. Just an interesting note, I was born here in Alaska in the Territory of Alaska. I have put in for hunting permits around the state my whole life and have never received one yet. Thankfully there are still area's around the state that do not require a permit but just a general hunting license.

Thank You,

Bill Iverson

President

Alaska Outdoor Council

I am in support of SB42. The freezers of us Alaskans should always be priority over the money machine of commercial fishing. There is certainly more that could be said, however I believe this bill sums it up. People of Alaska before the pockets of industry, (which most of the pockets don't even reside here!)

Again, I SUPPORT SB42.

Thank you for your diligence of the cause.

Richard Neumann

We support SB42.
Dennis and Dora Wheeler, Palmer

Dear Senator Giessel,

As an Alaskan resident and one who's family depends on personal use fisheries in Alaska, I ask that you please support SB42 which puts priority over personal use fisheries above commercial interests. While I recognize the value of our commercial fisheries, the people of Alaska and our communities depend on these resources and pump millions of dollars directly into the economy.

Please put "people" first!

Thank You
W.R. Reed
Eagle River, Alaska

My family & I support the proposed bill SB42

Andria Neumann

I would like to add my support to SB42. It's high time that the commercial fishing fleet shares the burden of depleted salmon stocks.
Jack Timm

I Support Personal Use Fisheries SB42 - personal use fisheries is a priority over commercial harvest whenever harvest restrictions are necessary to achieve management goals on the fishery.
-Sara Sundsten

Senator, Stoltze

I would like to thank you for the introduction of SB42.

As a board member of the Alaska Outdoor Council and the Delta Sportsman Association I get the unique opportunity to talk to fellow club members as well as the General Public about pieces of legislation that impact hunting and fishing. I can honestly say this bill is widely supported by all that I have talked to.

The challenge as I see it will be getting this bill past the Commercial Fishing industry, so I would like to extend to you the support of the Delta Sportsman Association as you move through the process of passing this bill into law.

Sincerely,

Rob Mathews

Dear Senator Giessel...

Please support SB42 as it provides an assurance that Alaskan families will come first and won't be without opportunity to fish should stocks become depleted. A personal use fishery is really the equivalent of a subsistence allocation for the rest of us who live in the wrong zip codes to qualify for subsistence.

Thanks so much for supporting Alaskan food on Alaskans' tables first.

Karen Gordon

Fairbanks

Please support SB 42 so that Alaskans get access to the fish they once had.

-Craig Compeau

My husband I gather salmon to feed our family. HB42 will prioritize our personal use harvest of salmon over commercial harvest when salmon returns are low. I ask you to support HB42.

Sincerely,
Paul and Sharon Harris

Please pass Sb42 it is long overdue. Thanks Wilfred Blais Delta Junction

Senator Giessal

I support SB-42. I urge you to support it also and pass it out of your committee. Sport fishing in places like the Kenai produce much more economic benefit to the State through sport fishing. Commercial fisherman have not paid their fair share to the people of Alaska for the fish they catch. In these tough economic times they need to start!

John Sturgeon

Frontier Building Products

John Sturgeon, CEO/President

STRONGLY support SB42.

Please give the personal use fishermen a better chance at the fish that belongs to all Alaskans.

Thanks for your help!

Yves Bresse

Ma'am,

I have lived in Alaska for 18 years (12 of which were spent in service on the Fairbanks & Minto-Nenana Fish and Game advisory committees). I have watched the allocations for personal use take a back seat year after year to commercial fishing interests. The makeup of the Fish Board has always been in favor of the commercial fishing industry. We have attempted for years to pass meaningful proposals that would ensure responsible fisheries management, but the glutinous commercial interests would always win out. It took 10 years of telling them the king salmon on the Yukon were in jeopardy, but it wasn't until run strengths fell off and retention of king salmon had to be stopped before the Board of Fish listened. Even then the commercial fishing industrial kept denying a problem existed.

The people who engage in the personal use fisheries are Alaskan's attempting to gather enough fresh salmon for their families yearly subsistence needs. For the record all Alaskans are

subsistence users, some just participate in an urban setting (these are the ones we call personal use when the same activity in the bush is called subsistence) and typically they spend the market value of the catch or better to gather their subsistence needs. I don't believe it is asking too much that after a long cold Fairbanks winter I should be able to (as an Alaskan) go out and gather fresh fish, berries, and game meat for my families subsistence needs! I think SB42 is constitutionally supported, and it simply is the right thing to do.

While resident allocations are being cut the commercial fishing fleet is taking home packs (a subsistence means for taking 100 quart coolers full of commercially caught fish home instead of selling them or have them count against their quota), and taking massive holds full of by catch to Seattle for distribution at homeless shelters (because they can no longer pitch it over the side and it must be salvaged). We have watch as the responsible fishing practices of the commercial fleet have cut the king salmon returns to the point where no sport, personal use, or subsistence retention of king salmon is allowed in much of Alaska's fisheries.

I apologize, I have gotten off topic. Please give serious consideration to supporting SB42. It could mean the difference of an Alaskan future with salmon vs an Alaskan future without salmon! This bill will force more responsible management of the resource and ensure more fish are allowed in the upper river escapement (roughly translated, more salmon on the spawning grounds means larger salmon returns). Thanks for your time and consideration.

Raymond H. Heuer

Thanks for considering sport fishing by supporting SB42.

--

Debra McGhan

Please put ALASKANS first by supporting this important bill. Thank you. Paul & Robin Barrett

Dear Legislators,

I support the bill.

T. Kelly Corrigan
Tenakee Springs, Alaska

Cathy --

please note my support for Bill Stoltze's bill, SB42, pertaining to personal use fisheries -- I strongly feel this is a very fair step in the right direction for all Alaskans who use our wildlife resources -- thanks --

Dr. Jim Hagee

Please help insure that Alaska family's will be able to get their fish before the commercial fishermen get theirs .

Hoagie and Rabbit

I support SB 42 for better management of fish for the residents of Alaska.

Patrick O'Connor
Palmer

Alaskans feeding their families should be the last to be restricted in times of salmon resource shortage.

Bill H Swift

Fairbanks Alaska

Currently, there are 80 personal use fisheries statewide.

Ramifications of this bill are neither explained nor rationalized.

It is very premature and misguided to initiate a dialogue about who gets to catch the last fish.

Therefore, I cannot support SB 42.

John McCombs,

Kenai

Good morning Senator Giessel and fellow committee members.

I am strongly opposed to SB 42

This bill will divide Alaskans and is not needed. The allocations for the PU fisherys are in the escapement goals and the commercial fishery is managed to meet these goals. It does not matter if the run is strong or weak. So there is no reason to believe that the PU fisherys will not have a fair opportunity to harvest salmon.

Since the inception of the PU fishery the Board of Fish has been very attentive to making sure these fisherys are managed to get fish into the dip nets of Alaskans. The Board of Fish just increased the bag limit for the PU on the Copper river this winter.

If Alaskans truly want to own the resource then they should truly want to share in the conservation of that resource if at some point it is needed to fulfill escapement goals and for sport fishing users up river. Not Alaskans are PU fisherman, Alaskans are sports fishermen and they are commercial fishermen.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with my thoughts on this issue.

Michael Bowen

hello, my name is Anthony Matveev And I reside at 6955 w.moose ridge circle ,wasilla AK 99654. I have commercially fished for over 16 years .i strongly oppose SB 42 the Personal Use Priority bill

My name is John Johnson and I am a life long resident of Cordova for 58 years. My sole income comes from commercial fishing on the Copper River and Prince William Sound and I have been on a commercial fishing boat for 54 years and owned my own commercial fishing business for 46 years.

I Oppose SB 42 for many reasons. I see SB 42 as another re-allocation of our fishing resources while putting the burden of conservation of these resources on the commercial fishing fleet.

The conservation of our fishing resources should be shared by all user groups that are taking the fishing resources.

I am completely Opposed to SB 42.

John Johnson

Senator Giessel,

I live on the Hillside in South Anchorage and am a constituent of yours. I have been a commercial salmon fisherman here in AK since 1978. My deckhand and family live in Girdwood. I am writing to strongly oppose SB42 granting Personal Use fisheries priority over other users. If SB42 becomes law it will negatively impact my small Alaska business and thousands of others throughout the State.

Personal Use seafoods harvesters by number are DWARFED by other Alaskan consumers who buy their salmon and other Alaska seafood in the grocery store and specialty seafood outlets like 10th and M Seafoods, New Sagaya, Costco, and Copper River Seafoods just to name a few of the Anchorage retail seafood outlets let alone the many other commercial outlets throughout the State supplying hungry Alaskans that are not Personal Use consumers. Should their access to the resource be trumped by the minority in the Personal Use fishery?

I am licensed by the State to sell part of my catch that has been processed by a certified facility to my own customers. Fee's Custom Seafoods in Whittier (also in your district) processes up to 10,000 pounds of my catch every year that I sell as vacuum packed frozen fillets to largely Alaskan home pack customers who buy 15 to 100 pounds of fillets for their personal use year after year. One customer tells me every year that he reminds his friends that he can't afford to go dip-netting on the Kenai or Copper Rivers when he can buy professionally caught, and cared for vacuum packed fillets of salmon for \$11.00 per pound. Again , should these Alaskans take a back seat to PU Alaskans?

SB 42 not only negatively affects small business producers like me but also Alaskan processors, transporters and wholesale and retail outlets throughout the State. Should all of us and the thousands of jobs that are dependent on commercially caught salmon and other seafood resources be forced to stand behind PU fishers?

Many in the PU fishery complain year after year that they need more fish, more fish, ever more fish. But I am here to tell you that there is rampant waste in that fishery. For years I worked as a volunteer at the Bird Treatment and Learning Center in Anchorage as a volunteer during the winter when I was not fishing. In the spring around this time of year it was time to clean out the freezer. Cooler after cooler of ill processed, freezer burned and inedible salmon would come through the doors, some of it so bad we had to reject it as not even fit for eagle food. Got to get rid of the old for a fresh batch that we won't fully use! Bird TLC's massive storage would fill to the brim until we had to turn away donors and I can only assume that it then went to the dump. A call by your staff to Bird TLC and the Alaska Zoo will easily confirm this waste of a precious Alaska resource.

Please consider that SB42 pits one Alaskan user group, a vocal minority, against other Alaskan consumers and reject this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Steve Aberle

My name is C. Scott Thomas, I am an Alaska resident, born and raised here. I have been fishing for over 40 years in the state. I have participated in sport, guided sport, commercial, personal-use, and subsistence fisheries throughout the state. My wife and daughters were also born and raised in the state and have also been "fishermen" for more years than we have fingers/toes. **I strongly oppose SB 42.**

Fishing is paramount to our family, friends, community, and State. It is my understanding that the Alaska State Legislature is currently considering a personal use priority for Alaska's fishing resources. I believe this would place personal use fisheries above all other users except subsistence. This bill undermines the state's recognized subsistence priority and pits user groups against each other. Furthermore in times of scarcity all should share the burden of conservation. Alaskans as a whole need to be responsible for the health of Alaska's fishing resources, this means working together on a level playing field to protect what is important to all of us.

Dear Senator Giesel,

My name is Dan Bilderback, I am a commercial salmon fisherman who fishes on the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound. This has been my livelihood for 45 years. I also sport fish for salmon and enjoy it immensely. I currently live at 4623 Campus Circle, Anchorage, AK with my wife Christine.

I would like to strongly urge you not to support SB 42 which would give the State of Alaska Personal Use category an equal access priority with the Subsistence users over the Sport and Commercial user groups. SB 42 is devisive legislation for Alaskan Residents.

Fish and Game has to Manage for brood stock and subsistence as a mandated priority. If the Personal User group is thrown into this mix it makes Management much more complicated for ADF&G to achieve.

Personal use was created by the Board of Fisheries to give the people of Alaska access to fish resources for recreational and household personal consumption. As such, Personal Use has been given a generous quota and access that has, due to its popularity, only increased with time. I believe that to circumvent the Board of Fish's authority to allocate resources within fisheries would be a detrimental to all users.

As I said, I have been in the fisheries for a long time and frankly I'm tired of seeing that some people feel that they are ENTITLED to the resource because they have the political clout at the moment.

I would be glad to clarify any of the points I have made.

Thank You Senator

I Oppose any priority of fish allocation to any fishery. I believe Fish and Game Management should be left to THE Department of fish and Game and the Board of Fish. And the Game Board. The people set by our states current laws to manage such resources. I believe changes in HB 42 would cause unfair distribution of states assets.

Gary Swan, Anchorage, Ak.

Sen. Giessel:

Please consider the long term negative consequences of establishing an additional group priority for utilization of fishery resources. While the subsistence priority is constitutionally mandated, placing one group--personal use--in a category that supersedes other uses is a recipe for unnecessary conflict between user groups who presently have ample opportunity to plead their cases at the Board of Fish level. Personal use fisheries have expanded with higher levels of participation indicating that the alleged problem of access is not the critical issue that proponents of the measure allege. There is little evidence that would convince me that diligent personal use harvesters cannot get a catch. It is also important to realize that waste of the resource can easily occur when a priority would make the access to the resource less restrictive.

My personal experience and observation of others leads me to believe that there is a covert market for trade of personal use fish that undermines the state's efforts to effectively manage resources. I have friends who consistently catch more personal use fish than they and families can possibly use. Lots of it gets shipped outside to family and friends. Is it in the states interest to provide people in other states--I don't think so! A personal use priority would encourage more of that kind of activity.

Consider also that commercial harvest of fish resources returns various tax benefits directly to the state general fund while personal use costs the state in management and enforcement as well as siphoning off product from uses that are taxed directly. After all, the state has a constitutional mandate to manage its resources for the benefit of **all** citizens. We don't allow personal users to tap into the pipeline. Fishery resources are obviously different, but nonetheless, in these times of budget crisis, it is grossly irresponsible to further compromise the income of commercial fisheries for the specific benefit of a few.

As a commercial fisherman for nearly forty years and Anchorage resident with children all living here, I am requesting that you please do not allow SB42 to pass out of the resources committee.

Chip Treinen

Hello,

I am a life long Alaska, born in Anchorage and raised in rural Alaska. Now currently living in Anchorage attending college. Fishing is a huge part of my life. This bill will upset the balance we have currently set up between all the different types of fishing throughout our great state. Personal use fisheries should not take

priority over other user groups besides subsistence fisheries. The number of Alaskan's that participate in sport and commercial fishing outnumber the personal use fisherman by far. As Alaskan's we need to stick together in sharing our resources in times of low fish populations. The long term effects of this bill will be detrimental to the sustainability of our fish populations throughout the state.

Thank you,

Kari Gilman

Dear Senator Giessel, My name is Yakov Reutov I am a commercial fisherman ,have been since i was a young boy fishing with my dad ,this personal use priority legislation concerns me a lot, I rely on comm fishing as my only source of income to support my family and so do alot of my friends, I would like the state to support commercial fishermen as the priority fishery because there will always be enough fish for personal use if comm fish are the priority but not the other way around, i am afraid for me and my childrens future if this legislation passes ,please help us by voting no on the personal use priority bill ,Thank you

Senator Giessel

I want to let you know that as a 61 year resident of Homer I am very much opposed to SB 42. During my lifelong residency I have been a commercial, sport and personal use fisherman of Alaska's salmon resources. In times of low returns the responsibility for maintaining Alaska's resources should be borne by all user groups. We all have alternatives for harvesting during times of low abundance at other locations or species. This bill will create greater conflict among user groups.

Thank you -

Chris Moss

I am writing you this to tell you that our fishing family opposes SB 42. Please don't put Alaskans against Alaskans. Thank you.

Brooke Andrews

Jon Andrews

Nora Andrews

Josie Andrews

I totally oppose SB 42.

I have harvested fish in a lot of ways for the past 34 years In Alaska. I live in Sitka. I raised my kids there. I am a commercial fisher , owning halibut and black cod IFQ s. I love to sport fish and also harvest fish for personal and subsistence use too.

I feel every user group needs to be responsible for the health of the fisheries and fish resources.

Commercial harvest of all the fish resources is vitally important to all the towns in S E Alaska where I live. To have the management of this incredibly important resource be controlled by politics instead of fishery management is extremally alarming and dangerous to the health of all fisheries.

At this point in time nearly all personal use fishers have their needs met.

There is no reason to change it.

Please oppose SB 42. Thank you

Carolyn Nichols

I am an Alaskan resident, born and raised here and a US Coast Guard Captain and commercial fisherman since 1963. I have fished in PWS/Copper River since 1988. Prior to that, I held commercial permits in Cook Inlet, False Pass and Bristol Bay.

In addition to my career as a commercial fisherman, I have always been a sport and subsistence harvester and as such, I think it is important that we remember that harvesters be equally responsible for the health of our fishing resources. There is no point in pitting Alaskans against Alaskans!

In all fairness, personal use harvesters have been able to consistently meet their needs. Commercial fishing and the many small businesses and communities who depend on the economic benefits would be impacted.

Please do not support this bill. The last thing we need is to divide Alaskans further!

Thank you for your consideration!

Doug Heimbuch

Chair of Senate Resources Committee

I been a commercial fishing man for 35 years here in Alaska and I'm opposing SB 42. I do my "Personal Use" fishing by using my Sport Fishing License. It does just fine for me and I know all my friends are doing the same.

We don't need another priority group: We have Subsistence, Alaska Native, Sport and others groups like, Traditional Fishing, Fishing by Proxy, etc..

Ric Vrsalovic

Dear Senator Giessel,

My name is Nikolai Yakunin, we live in the community of Nikolaevsk, 9 miles from Anchor Point. My family and the community was established on commercial fishing, we have been fishing and living in Alaska since 1970. My wife and I raised a family on commercial fishing income, now our grandchildren are starting to get into commercial fishing, but will there be any commercial fishery for them to enter, especially in Cook Inlet?

I see this unfortunate bill pitting Alaskans against Alaskans and the end of too many peoples lively hood, starting with my own family!

Senator Giessel please remember us when you vote on this Bill!

God Bless You,

Nikolai Yakunin

Senator Giessel,

I am a 2nd generation commercial fisherman out of Petersburg Alaska, I have two kids also from Petersburg who are 3rd generation commercial fishermen. Between the 3 of us we employ 10 different individuals that depend on access to our historical fisheries. These our or livelihoods and they support the 10 families plus our family's as well as the support of services in Petersburg along with tax that helps our city.

We oppose SB 42.

Bill Connor

Dear Senator Giessel,

I strongly urge you to take any measures at your disposal to insure that our fisheries managers' jobs are not further complicated by prioritizing subsistence fisheries. Our resources should be managed on a strictly biological basis. Again, I urge you to NOT give subsistence fisheries priority.

Sincerely, Carl Tauriainen

Nikiski

Senator Giessel-

I am a commercial fisherman from Petersburg. I currently fish salmon, halibut, crab, and herring here in southeast. I am the president of the United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters, and serve on our local advisory committee to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I got my first job fishing when I was 11. I'm 54 now. 100% of my income comes from commercial fishing.

I am adamantly opposed to SB 42. Our current system of management of our resources already addresses all user groups. If there are conservation issues, the first user group to be affected is already commercial fishing. Management of our salmon resources is recognized as the best in the world. It also makes little sense to me to marginalize an industry during such a tough economic time in our state. The fishing industry remains vibrant and active through low oil prices, poor fish prices, poor tourism years, and just about anything you can throw at it. As you know, commercial fishing is the lifeblood of coastal communities. It provides jobs, fishing and processing, as well as service industries.

I have a wife and four children. Part of our family leisure time is personal use fishing. It is a wholesome fun activity, and gives me the opportunity to teach my children responsible use of our resources. Having grown up here in southeast, I know full well how blessed we are to have a well managed resource that provides not only personal use, but also enables a vibrant industry that has proven under current management to thrive. It will continue to thrive with current management practices. At no time in my life have I felt deprived or challenged by the commercial fishery.

Respectfully,

Max Worhatch

Sen. Giessel,

I am opposed to SB 42 the the Personal Use Priority bill. I feel that the current fish management structure is more than adequate for my community in Haines and the Northern Lynn Canal. The health of the runs should be prioritized over any user. The salmon runs should be managed with science and not politics.

The system works well in my town and my district. Subsistence and sport user's needs are currently met. Subsistence fishermen have special areas in the Chilkoot and Chilkat river systems where they can fish for salmon in both in the salt

water and in the river systems. Sport fishermen have ample time and area to fish for salmon. Currently commercial salmon fisherman are the only group that is actively managed to keep escapement in the rivers high.

Maybe there are some fishing runs in the state that could benefit from this. I personally feel that if a particular run of fish is not healthy enough for one group of fish to fish on, it is not healthy for any group to fish on. I am seeing this now with Chilkat River king salmon numbers. All harvesting groups are going to be managed with the intent of decreasing catches. The run is not healthy enough to fish on, therefore no one should fish for them.

I am an Alaska Native commercial fisherman who owns and fishes a drift gillnet boat near Haines. I have captained the boat for three years, having settled my family here to make our living. We have a good relationship with local subsistence and sport fishermen, primarily because of the way our local stocks are managed equally among the groups. I have fished commercially with my family my entire life - my father fished commercially his whole life and his father before him. I am able to carry on the third generation of this business in the community I love because there are still fish for me to responsibly fish. Please help continue that tradition for all commercial, subsistence and sport fishermen by opposing SB 42.

John Hagen

Dear Senator Giessel,

My name is Steve Merritt and I am a commercial fisherman living in Craig, Alaska. I oppose SB 42 which seeks to provide a priority for personal use fisheries second only to subsistence. I do not believe that such a priority is necessary or reflects the true nature of personal use fisheries.

The concern I have with SB 42 is that it undermines the confidence of the Alaskan people in the Board of Fisheries process. When issues develop concerning the sustainability of the fisheries resource in Alaska, I have every confidence that the Board of Fisheries process will handle it fairly and appropriately. Bills of the nature of SB 42 are just selfish attempts to micro manage that process which is world renown as being one of the best.

Ask yourself, why is it necessary for the personal use fishery to be treated on a level equal to that of the subsistence fisheries of this state? My answer is it shouldn't.

Subsistence fisheries have been granted highest priority in times of resource shortages, because they are intended to provide **the basic necessities of life** for rural residents.

Personal use fisheries are not in my opinion anywhere near the importance level of the subsistence fishery. There is no reason what so ever that the personal use fisheries can not be managed under the 8 allocation criteria standards used by the Board of Fisheries in managing sport, commercial and charter fisheries of Alaska.

Will someone starve if their sport bag limit is reduced? No. Commercial fisheries reduced? No. Charter fishery restrictions? No. Personal use limit? No. Subsistence? **YES!!** So why elevate personal use to a level it truly does not belong?

So in closing I ask you to oppose SB 42 and leave the management of the personal use fisheries in the hands of the Board of Fisheries. This process has proven itself capable and there are not any signs that it is beginning to fail. I urge you to keep your confidence in that process and do not fall prey to the inappropriate belief SB 42 is necessary!! IT IS NOT!!

Good Morning Sen. Giessel,

What a tough two years (and beyond) the 29th Legislature is having to endure. Between deficits, ensuing budget cuts, and marijuana regulation, where is the silver lining?

In my opinion Senator, one aspect of the silver lining is not passing SB 42. This is a one page bill fraught with future nightmares.

The current field as it exists: commercial, sport, and personal use, is balanced on a certain level. Not perfect perhaps but fairly balanced. To place 1 of these higher than the other 2, at this point in time, is a mistake.

No to Senate Bill 42.

Respectfully Submitted

Mike Peterson

Douglas

This bill does live up to its name of Alaskans -First Fishing Act. I am a personal use fisherman and lifelong Alaskan. The opportunities abound for All Alaskans to partake in our fisheries in many different forms. Please do not put one use other than subsistence as a priority over others. The numbers of Alaskans accessing their resources thru Sport and Commercial fisheries is equal in number if not greater than the participants in PU fisheries. Please do not upset the balance and culture of stewardship that comes with sharing in abundance and conserving in times of low populations swings. Alaskans know how to work together to keep our resources the envy of the world. Thank you, Darin Gilman

Dear Senator Giessel and Members of the Senate Resources Committee:

Please consider this as my public testimony and make it part of the record.

My name is Dennis Zadra and I live in Cordova, Alaska. I want to go on the record as being strongly opposed to SB 42 – The Personal Use Priority Bill. This is nothing more than an attempt by one user group to reallocate resources in fisheries that are 100% allocated. We have a Department of Fish and Game and a Board of Fish Process that is responsible for managing the salmon resources, and they do a very good job of it. This Bill is an attempt to go around the Board of Fish, and would be disruptive to that process.

I have been a commercial fisherman for 26 years as well as an Alaskan resident. Our community and many others around the State rely on commercial fishing as our economic backbone. SB 42 would take salmon away from the commercial sector and give them to the personal use sector. Currently the personal use fishers are allowed 45 salmon per year for a household of 2 with 10 additional salmon for each additional house member. That is 130 salmon fillets per year per family of 4, which is a lot more than is used by my family every year. Can you imagine what it would do to the commercial industry if every Alaskan family were allowed this much fish before we were allowed to harvest any excess?

This Bill does not represent all Alaskans will put Alaskan Fishing Families against other Alaskans and has the potential to destroy the commercial salmon fisheries, especially in Cook Inlet and the Copper River. This not only affects the fishing families, but the processing workers and all of the other infrastructure that is supported by these jobs. These are Alaskans also. Personal use fishers currently have an abundance of opportunity and salmon under the current management. All users need to be responsible for conservation at times of low abundance, and the mentality of just taking more from the commercial sector is not right. This is a complex issue and has been very well managed under the current allocation. Nothing needs to change.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my point of view.

Dennis Zadra

Senator Giessel,

My name is Mike Stockburger from Homer, Alaska. I am writing in opposition to SB 42, the Personal Use Priority Bill. As a long time Alaskan fisherman (36 years), I have participated in commercial, sport and personal fisheries across the state and currently own and operate Homer Boat Yard in Homer. I believe it would be a mistake to give priority to personal use fishing. Commercial fishing provides more residents availability to the state's fish than is true with personal use or sports fishing. Many of our residents just do not have access to the resource either because of physical or financial reasons. The commercial sector also provides jobs, either directly or indirectly to a majority of our citizens. Most of our coastal communities would not exist were it not for revenues provided by commercial fishing. I feel that personal use access to our resources for the residents of the State of Alaska are currently being met by sports and personal use harvesting regulations.

At this point in time, population control of many of the states fish species is predicated on commercial fishing openings and closures. Fish biologists have developed strategies to ensure proper escapement goals are met by controlling fishing time. The health of our fisheries must be protected and all users should be involved in guaranteeing our fish are available to our children and grandchildren. Please take note that our fish populations are, for the most part, very stable and there are enough to go around. The tools to ensure this continues are in place.

Please do not pass this bill, it endangers our most important resource, our fish!

Thank You,

Mike Stockburger

Dear Senator Giessel,

As a lifelong second generation Alaskan and third generation Area E commercial drift net fisherman I would like express my concern with the sb 42 Alaskans first bill. I was born in Cordova and alternated summers in Cordova and winters living a subsistence type lifestyle in the upper Copper River basin near McCarthy for most of my childhood. I am currently 24 and have been gillnetting on my own since I was 18. Currently I have 4 uncles, my father, and two brothers who also own and fish Area E drift permits as well as a sister and brother in law who setnet. To say that salmon is the lifeblood of my family would be understatement. At a time when Alaska's economy is struggling to push forward a bill that would potentially hurt the economy of a region, the state, and the many Alaskans to whom gillnetting is a source of income and way of life while mislabeling said bill "Alaskans first" seems wrong to say the least.

Sincerely yours,

Trae William Lohse

My name is

Mark Niver

I oppose SB 42 on the personal use priority....

Thank You. Mark

Hello!!! My name is Erik Kokborg , a 40 year resident of Alaska and commercial fisherman for the last 7 or so years. I live in Cordova with my wife and 13 year old son and we rely on commercial fishing for our income as well as putting food on our table. I used to be a personal use fisherman out of Fairbanks and can see both sides of the coin now. My family is much more reliant on our fishing resource now then it ever had been as a Chitina dipnetter...The majority of the households in Cordova rely on the commercial fishing industry in one form or another and the personal use fishery

should not take priority over an industry that supports so many Alaskans as well as the economic well being of the state.
Thank you for your consideration, Erik Kokborg,

Please oppose Senate Bill 42 . As a 45 year resident of Alaska I take issue with the wording and intent of the Alaskans-First Fishing Act. This act does nothing but pit Alaskans against each other and will favor access for Alaskan Personal use fisherman over an equal if not greater number of Alaskans who access the same resources through either the Sport or Commercial Fisheries and fails to consider the Alaskan consumer whose sole access is through food service and retail outlets. Our resources and the balanced management we have through the sometimes rancorous Board of Fish process is envied throughout the world . Please do not politicize this issue and throw Alaska onto the road of forgetting that the resource comes first. Destabilizing the management system will only lead to less resource and less opportunity over time for All . Thank you, Shawn Gilman

Hello, I just wanted to point out that commercial fishing is a very financially risky business. Thousands of dollars, and weeks of preparation go into getting ready for a salmon season in the hope that there will be enough harvest to cover those expenses and provide for the fishermen, crew, and their families.

Though we participate in the personal use fishery each year it does not require nearly the investment or risk of commercial fishing. I realize that more people are affected by a personal use closure in years of low abundance but it is not nearly as devastating as it is to the families and crew who have so much time and money invested in the commercial fishery. As things stand without this bill all user groups take less fish on years of low abundance which is much more fair to all involved.

Thank you Aaron Nolan

Hi my name is Jason Metz I live in Soldotna AK. I believe most people who participate in personal use fisheries end up with more fish than they eat already. Please oppose SB 42 thank you and have a nice day. Commercial fisherman help put food on the table and support AK business

RE: Oppose SB 42, Personal Use Priority

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

I'm an Alaskan resident and I've been supporting my family commercial fishing for 21 years. I oppose SB 42. My small, local, family-run fishing business supports not only my family, but my crew and their families, the workers and tenders of my processor, and the many marine trades business.

Under the current ADF&G management plans personal use already has a priority when there is a short fall of fish, and to set in statute a personal use priority will reduce ADF&G's ability to manage fisheries. Creating a personal use priority will make management plans even more complicated, which reduces flexibility. It would also remove the Board of Fisheries ability to set allocations on a case by case basis based on science and public input. There are over 100 personal use fisheries in the state and the long term effects of SB 42 to this broad range of fisheries are unknown.

This bill would limit access to fish for the many Alaskans who get their seafood from sport fishing, grocery stores and restaurants. It pits Alaskans against Alaskans. The intent by the Board of Fisheries establishing Personal Use fisheries is clear in SACC 77.001 (4) (b) which states "...allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest." **Although the original intent was for personal use fisheries to not negatively impact the other uses, I fully support personal use fisheries, but on an equal footing with sport and commercial fisheries.** When there is low abundance all user groups should share in the responsibility of conservation.

Establishing a personal use priority will do nothing to ensure run strength or timing, and does not guarantee that fish will be in the rivers when people want to catch them. I urge you to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations within the Board of Fisheries, and the sustainable management of fisheries resources within ADF&G.

Thank you for your time,
Matthew Alward & family

Owner Alward Fisheries LLC

Dear Chair Giessel and Committee Members, March 28th, 2015

I respectfully oppose SB 42. I am resident of Alaska and have worked in the seafood industry for over 20 years. My small, local fishing business supports not only my family, but supports the workers and tenders of my processor, and the many local maritime support sector businesses.

Under the current ADF&G management plans, personal use already has a priority when there is a shortfall of fish, and to set in statute a personal use priority will reduce ADF&G's ability to manage fisheries. It would also remove the Board of Fisheries ability to set allocations on a case by case basis based on science and public input. The intent of the Board of Fisheries in establishing personal use fisheries is clear in 5ACC 77.001 (4) (b), which states "...allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest."

I support personal use fisheries (my family participates in personal use fisheries), but on an equal footing with sport and commercial fisheries. ***When there is low abundance, all user groups should share in the responsibly of conservation.***

Establishing a personal use priority will do nothing to ensure run strength or timing, and does not guarantee that fish will be in the rivers when people want to catch them. ***I urge you to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations within the Board of Fisheries, and the sustainable management of fisheries resources within ADF&G.***

Thank you for your service.

Julie Decker

Dear Senate Resources Committee, I live in Spenard, Alaska, part of the big village of Anchorage, District I, when I do not reside on my vessel out of Cordova making a living commercial fishing. I have lived in my home since 1981. I came to Alaska 1980. I have been part of the fishing industry since my arrival. I started out sport fishing. I have personal use fished, and I have subsistence fished. I have been a part of the commercial fishing industry since 1984.

Fishing is how I support myself and family. It also provides an important part of my diet. The Landing taxes in each fishing community is important part of the income which helps to provide the necessary infra- structure to support Alaskan communities and provide income to its citizens.

I OPPOSE SB42. Personal use should never be precedent-ed above subsistence use, that is why it is protected by the Alaskan constitution. Alaskans who do not already harvest fish by sport, personal or subsistence are able to access fishing resources through commercial harvest. The commercial management of Alaska Fisheries has assured escapement to provide fish for future generations, when necessary, mostly at the expense of commercial harvest times. All Harvesters need to be responsible for the health of Alaska's fishing resources, this includes sharing the burden of conservation.

Please honor your pledge to uphold the Alaska Constitution by opposing SB 42.

Thank you, William Evans

I am opposed to SB 42, this appears to be another unnecessary economic jab at the residents of Alaska that make their living from commercial fishing, not to mention pitting Alaskans against Alaskans. Apparently the ADF&G and BOF are not doing their job satisfactory enough for senator stoltze and others, I'm told that this is the seventh year in a row this legislation has been introduced by Senator Stoltze from Chugiak who is chairman of the push this time around, I don't see the need for this legislation and wonder who has what to gain from this especially after trying for so long to get this Bill introduced and passed into a law. I disagree with the senator and his supporters and think the senators should be putting their efforts towards Alaska's economic problems, after all who's going to pay the bills if you keep trying to put me and the like out of business. I know SB 42 will further economically impact both of my businesses as a Marine Surveyor and commercial fisherman. I am writing to you our senators, legislators and commissioner Cotton about my concerns over why we need for this new legislation.

I believe that this is another attempted power grab by the Sportfishing organizations under the guise of the **personal use fishery**. They want to kill the Cook Inlet commercial fishery and continue to profit from our rivers at all costs. Imagine my surprise to learn that the President of SCADA (the Southcentral Dipnetter's Association) Dennis Gease is also on the board of Bob Penney's new organization (AFCA), which seeks the abolition of setnets (and likely after that, all forms of commercial fishing in Cook Inlet). Oh, yeah, and the vice president of SCADA is also the vice president of AFCA (and the father of the Kenai River Sport fishing Association's Executive Director). So safe to say, the leadership of SCADA is actively seeking to eliminate other user groups and is directly linked to KRSA and AFCA. These are all facts that can be looked into this not a conspiracy theory, this game has been going on since the 1970s in Cook Inlet and has spread to Prince William Sound.

Yes my family members and I do commercial fish in Alaska and have done so for the last forty some years and yes I do presently drift gillnet in upper Cook Inlet so you can say I'm biased if you like. My point is that we have already have a system in place that has been working well so what is the need for this legislation other than to further the agenda of local sports fishing organizations. Alaska's fishery management program is renowned and Alaskan's are recognized worldwide for our commitment to sustainability of our fisheries resources, in order for Alaska to continue to enjoy sustainable fisheries resources we need to keep the politics out of our resource management.

In this time of economic uncertainty should we not be working to bring Alaskans together not pit them against each other. I am tired of people with lots of money and lobbyist making the rules to best their interests, this resource is how our family's survive and pay taxes in Alaska. I ask you to please not support SB 42 and allow our current Alaska State management process to continue doing the good job they are presently doing, we do not need more self interest laws we need unity and common goals.

Sincerely,

Paul C. Fleenor, AMS® #1101

I do use the Personal Use Fishery myself but am opposed to making this a priority. The two rivers impacted here on the Kenai Peninsula on the east side of the Inlet are already trampled through and through. Even so, they do not harvest enough of the red salmon during the peak of the run to prevent overescapement which leads to smaller return runs for that years spawn. Also, the amount of salmon allowed per person only makes sense if you are living in an isolated village and the only source of meat or protein is salmon. Last year one of the older retired men "dippnetting" (with a gillnet--which the Fish and Game has approved) on the Kenai said he caught 90 yesterday and was back for another 90 that day. What is he going to do with 90 fish??? or 180 fish???? He shouldn't have to fish again for another couple of years if he cans or freezer packs correctly.

If personal use if made a priority, then all other gear types would have to wait until all people in the State have gotten enough salmon for their tables. There will be no other harvest because the salmon will be done running. This bill is intended to stop all fishing on the East Side of Cook Inlet and to stop the Drift Fleet Inlet-wide. Nor does this bill address sport fishing on the Inlet or in the Rivers. All other fishing activity will be in obeisance to "Personal Use".

Thank you for listening to my request

Kathy Wallace

Dear Senator,

I have been a drift gill net fisherman in Cook Inlet since 1971. I strongly oppose Personal Use Priority Bill, SB 42. Please see that this monster dies now.

Reuben Sublett
46 year resident of Sterling, AK

Dear Senator Giessel:

I appreciate your service to our State.

I wanted to let you know that I oppose the Personal Use Priority Bill, SB 42. I am a Commercial Fisherman and I have invested over \$300,000.00 in my boat and permit. There has been a lot of talk in the news about Alaskan's who are not invested in the Commercial Fishing Industry wanting to catch and keep as many fish as a Commercial Fisherman. I say to them "Become a Commercial Fisherman". Let them invest their hard earned money to attempt to make a living in the Fishing Industry.

Most Alaskan's know that the Commercial Fishing Industry provides a significant amount of jobs for Alaskans. If the Board of Fish continues to restrict Commercial Fisherman then pretty soon there will not be any Commercial Fisherman and the jobs that we provide will be lost forever.

Please support Commercial Fishermen.

Thank you,

Ty Wickline

Senator Giessel:

This brief note is to urge most strongly that you do not support SB 42 which seeks to establish a priority for personal use fishing over sport or commercial fishing in Alaska.

I am a commercial fisherman, 45 years in southeast Alaska while residing in Juneau, and a participant in the personal use fishery over those years. I oppose SB 42 for the following reasons:

It creates a problem where none really exists. Current fishery management policies provide adequately for the respective fisheries while maintaining the health of the marine resources.

Personal use needs typically are met. More effort may be required to cover those needs in some circumstances, but that is not in itself unreasonable and does not justify restricting other user groups.

The personal use fishery is not, and must not be misconstrued as, a subsistence fishery for urban dwellers.

Responsibility for contributing to the health and sustainability of the resource must continue to be shared by all users whenever resource levels demand harvest restrictions.

Asserting personal use priority in order to restrict commercial fishing obviously implies restricting jobs and coastal Alaskan economies without a clear compensating benefit.

The impetus for SB 42 appears to be nothing more than an extension of narrow regional differences between sport and commercial fishing interests. That is a terrible basis for statewide legislation.

SB 42, if enacted, will pit Alaskans against Alaskans as partisans in political one-upsmanship games regarding an issue that has little or no legitimate content.

It is truly offensive that issues such as this priority designation and time zone manipulations consume legislative time and attention in this year when real problems, such as revenue, are not open to discussion.

Thank you for your attention.

Jev Shelton

Please add my name to the list of people in strong opposition to SB 42. I have been an Alaska resident for almost 35 years. I have spent much of that time using the resources of Alaska's wonderful coast. Our coastal communities depend on the commercial fisheries which would be put at risk by this bill. There is a rich personal use fishery that co-exists well, and in some ways benefits from the hatcheries and management paid for by the commercial industry. I am supportive of both subsistence and personal use, but please allow the State Board of Fish to do their mandated job and manage the fisheries. This should not be legislated. Thank you, Pat Kehoe

Dear Sen. Giessel,

I write to ask you to not support the above referenced bill. The bill is overly broad and harmful to the local areas in which these fisheries are prosecuted.

It appears from interviews in which the sponsor has participated in that this bill is specifically directed at the Kenai River fishery.

Please consider;

*The PU fisheries are already treated differently than all other fisheries, it's already managed as though it has priority. Both sport and commercial have been restricted or closed while the PU fishery on the Kenai remained open. People are getting their fish, their harvests continue to increase.

*This Kenai fishery has the highest non-compliance rate of any fishery in the state. The latest statistics offered by the State(2013) show 35,211 permits issued....8,031 permit holders never returned their permits, even after two reminders. Why....because the Dept. Of Fish and Game and the Dept. Of Public Safety are afraid of the public outcry if 8,031 folks get \$200 citations as mandated by regulation.

*In speaking with Fish and Game enforcement officers, they maintain that one in two fishers contacted on the beaches and in river are out of compliance with regulations and refuse to follow rules. Many, as they say, are belligerent, mostly due to alcohol use.

*Should the City of Kenai and private landowners shoulder the burden of the PU fishers who have no respect for their property? Out of town PU fishermen leave their trash behind and actually defecate in landowners yards. As the Kenai City Manager recently commented at the Upper Cook Inlet Fish Board hearings, " I have three words to describe this fishery, OUT OF CONTROL".

*What would be the effect of a priority? Would every management plan in the State have to be rewritten? After all, the priority will be Statewide, and for all species of fish. Imagine if I'm a PU fisher and I'd rather have my priority be catching Chinook salmon for my plate rather than sockeye? As this bill is written all other gear groups would have to shut down while my Chinook catch is prioritized! Using that scenario there would never be enough fish to go around and both the sport fishery and the commercial fishery would be devastated.

*The bill, as written, could effect shellfisheries, herring, and all saltwater fisheries within State waters. Taken literally, and as written, would this bill foster demands for PU fisheries all over the State? Surely, if adopted, the State would suffer unintended consequences that have the potential to curtail sport and commercial fisheries and be devastating to local economies that rely on them. Thanks again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ken Coleman

Kenai

63 year Resident

Dear Senator Giessel,

I am very concerned about SB 42. As a life long commercial fisherman and a third generation Alaskan fisherman i feel like this is an attack on a way of life and a culture.

My grandparents homestead here in the 50's because of the freedom, excitement, and connection to the land that commercial fishing brought to them. They were part of the movement that settled this great state and through the difficulties and hardships they overcame Alaska has become more accessible to those who came after. Both my father and i left the state for our college educations and had vast opportunists in the world outside of Alaska, but we returned to Alaska because of the culture and lifestyle of commercial fishing. We are here because of this culture, because of this freedom. We are land owners and small business owners and community members in this state. We are what makes Alaska strong. SB 42 is an attack on us!

My whole family has done its fishing in Cook Inlet where we have already given so much of our fishery to others. We gave to the sports fishery that came after we did. We gave to the burgeoning population of Mat-su valley that came after we did. We gave to the dip-net fishery that came after we did. We once fished the entire inlet it was efficient in every sense of the word, but now they force us to fish in restricted area's where the fish are not. Stuck mainly in the corridor we waste fuel, gear, our time, and our energy because it is intentionally inefficient. This is done under the shroud of conservation, but we all know its reallocation. I ask you where is truth? Where is honesty? Where is morality? I know that SB 42 may be popular, but is it any of these things? When you study the history and the faces of those who hold Alaska dear what does your conscience say?

I have never asked for priority over a farmers crops, a lumberjacks trees, or a miners sight. But, somehow it is seen as just to take away my ability to make my livelihood in the way that my family has since before Alaska was a state? Whether it is greed, ignorance, or political gain that motivates this assault it is unjust, immoral, and unconscionable.

I ask you to make a stand. SB 42 very well could spell the end of our fishery, which is already unjustly in decline. I ask you to do whats right; to stand up for truth and fairness. I am 25 years old i came back to Alaska for the freedom, the opportunity, and the adventure it offers. I saw what happened to the lower 48 (especially the western US) we have a chance to do it differently here. We have a chance to do it right. We have a chance for leadership rather than political gain. I love this state, this land, please don't let the Alaskan Dream die.

I would love to talk about this issue in more depth,

Taylor Evenson

Daniel George

From: Andi Neumann <raneumann@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:15 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: FW: Bill SB42

From: raneumann@hotmail.com
To: senator.cathy.giessel@akleg.gov
Subject: Bill SB42
Date: Tue, 31 Mar 2015 09:14:29 -0800

My family & I support the proposed bill SB42

Andria Neumann

Daniel George

From: arthur trenholme <artiii65@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:04 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Bill in Committee

Alaskans need to come first before commercial fisherman. Please support SB 43. art trenholme, kodiak

Daniel George

From: bill hanson <billbonh@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:49 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

I support SB42 Its about time!!!!!!!!!!!!

Daniel George

From: Bill Iverson - AOC <bill@alaskaoutdoorcouncil.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:49 AM
To: Senator.Cathy.Giessal@akleg.gov; Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Support Personal Use Fisheries

I wanted to let you know that I personally support SB42 that would place personal use harvest for Alaskans as a priority over commercial fisherman.

Alaskan's should be able to put fish in their freeze before commercial interests in times of shortage. Many of us depend on our fish and game as our principal source of nutrition.

I live a "subsistence" lifestyle but use the normal fish & game rules to do that. I take a moose, a caribou and many salmon on a yearly basis for me and my extended family. I share with my elders and those around me that are not as fortunate as I. Just an interesting note, I was born here in Alaska in the Territory of Alaska. I have put in for hunting permits around the state my whole life and have never received one yet. Thankfully there are still area's around the state that do not require a permit but just a general hunting license.

Thank You,

Bill Iverson

President

Alaska Outdoor Council

"Protecting your Hunting, Trapping, Fishing and Access Rights"

310 K Street, Suite 200

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 264-6645

Fax: (888) 932-3353

Email: president@alaskaoutdoorcouncil.com

Web site: www.alaskaoutdoorcouncil.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/www.alaskaoutdoorcouncil.org>

Daniel George

From: Bill & Anna Swift <bnaswift@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 1:04 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Alaskans feeding their families should be the last to be restricted in times of salmon resource shortage.

Bill H Swift

Fairbanks Alaska

Daniel George

From: Bruce Morgan <sampson@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:47 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB 42

Sen. Bill Stoltze,

Please know that the Alaskan's are in favor of this bill.

Just look on top of the 35,000 family's car's when they travel to the Kenai Peninsula to fill their freezer!

Bruce R. Morgan

President

Sampson Steel Company Inc.

1848 N. Post Road

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

(907) 561-5626 phone

(907) 561-5625 fax

Bmorgan@sampsonsteelco.com



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

Daniel George

From: Craig Compeau <craig@compeaus.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 28, 2015 8:55 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42

Hi Bill. This email is to urge passage of SB42 for the benefit of Alaskans that rely on Fish over a salmon shipped to an Albertsons in Racine Wisconsin.

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Craig Lance <craigblance@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 9:11 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Bill in Committee

I support your efforts in passing HB42.

Thanks

Craig Lance

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Dave Kennedy <valerie.kennedy@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:18 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Support of SB42

Senator Stoltze: I wish to express my support of SB42.

Thanks

Dave Kennedy
3913 Branch Ave.
North Pole, Alaska
907-488-6357

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: dszim44@reagan.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 1:57 PM
To: Senator.Cathy.Giessal@akleg.gov
Cc: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: RE: SB42- Support Personal Use Fisheries

TO: Senator Giessal and Senator Stoltze
FROM: David Zimmerman, Delta Junction, AK

REF: SB42

I am very much in support of SB42 because as an interior resident of Alaska since 1975 the local fishermen have seen their subsistence salmon harvest go down down down...

Several salmon streams and rivers are actually closed to king salmon harvest. Like the Kutina River and Gulkana River. You have my vote!

Daniel George

From: debramcghan@gmail.com on behalf of Debra McGhan <dmcghan@alaskasnow.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:54 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Thank you for helping and considering sport fisherman by supporting SB42

--

Debra McGhan
Alaska Avalanche Information Center
907-982-0332

'Safety Matters - Get Educated - Live to Ride Another Day!'

Daniel George

From: Dennis Wheeler <fishwheeler101@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:05 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

We support SB42. Dennis and Dora Wheeler, Palmer

Daniel George

From: Donald Quarberg <dmqlaf@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 8:08 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Senator Stoltze,

I would like to encourage your support of SB 42 and place Alaskans ahead of commercial interests in the harvest of our limited fisheries resources.

Thank you! Don Quarberg

Daniel George

From: Earl Lackey <elackey@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:38 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: FW: SB 42

From: Earl Lackey [mailto:elackey@mtaonline.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:37 AM
To: 'Sen.Bill.Stoltze@akleg.gov'
Subject: SB 42

Senator Stoltze,

Thank you for introducing SB 42 supporting our Sport Fisheries. This is great legislation for the benefit our Alaskan people from filling our freezers to helping the local tourist businesses.

Thank you,

Earl P Lackey, President

Mat-Valley Sportsmen, Inc.

Palmer, Alaska

Daniel George

From: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.

From: Netardus, Gregory M CIV USARMY ATEC (US) [mailto:gregory.m.netardus.civ@mail.mil]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 10:56 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: FW: Send an email supporting Personal Use fisheries for All Alaskans.

Senators Giessel & Stoltze,

I support you in your efforts to ensure that personal use fisheries remain open to myself & my family.

Thank You for your efforts.

Vr,

Greg Netardus

Greg Netardus

Chief Test Operations Division

United States Army Cold Regions Test Center

Commercial:(907)873-4219 DSN:(317)873-4219

Mobile:(907)388-4572 Fax:(907)873-1989

Email: Gregory.M.Netardus.civ@mail.mil

Daniel George

From: Greg Svendsen <gsvendsen@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

SB42 has my wholehearted support.

Greg Svendsen

Daniel George

From: Henry Springer <oksun@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:07 AM
To: Senator.Cathy.Giessal@akleg.gov; Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42, Personal use fisheries

Thank you for introducing this bill ; I am in full support of it.

Our wild fish stocks are a precious commodity desired by many. During my 55 year residence I have witnessed how many powerful special interests have managed to secure preferential treatment and benefits (limited entry, subsistence, permits). Many of these are none-residents. I have no problem with the subsistence priorities for native Alaskans. In addition more restrictions are placed on the use of wild fish stocks, due to the environmental laws and regulations, like the Endangered Species Act. The situation with the Cook Inlet belugas comes to mind. With diminished fish-resources these endangered species have priority over any human use and interference. There may be little the State can do, to counteract the provisions of such Federal laws. SB 42 will help to give the regular citizen a chance to participate in a resource owned by all. Thank you for introducing it and I hope for a speedy passage. Heinrich Springer, PO Box 232114, Anchorage, AK 99523

Daniel George

From: Jack Timm <jacktim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:12 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB42 Personal Use Dipnetting

I would like to add my support to SB42. It's high time that the commercial fishing fleet shares the burden of depleted salmon stocks.

Jack Timm

Daniel George

From: Jim Gallagher <jimmy.g@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 10:03 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HB42 YES

Dear Senator,

Please support HB42.

Thank you,

Jim E. Gallagher

Cell 907-242-5557

[Jimmy.g@acsalaska.net](mailto:jimmy.g@acsalaska.net)

Daniel George

From: Jim Hagee <jhhagee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:46 AM
To: Senator.Cathy.Giessal@akleg.gov
Cc: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Cathy --

please note my support for Bill Stoltze's bill, SB42, pertaining to personal use fisheries -- I strongly feel this is a very fair step in the right direction for all Alaskans who use our wildlife resources -- thanks --

Dr. Jim Hagee

"People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf." George Orwell

Daniel George

From: Frontiertradellc@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:23 AM
To: Senator.Cathy.Giessal@akleg.gov
Cc: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Senator

Senator Giessal

I support SB-42. I urge you to support it also and pass it out of your committee. Sport fishing in places like the Kenai produce much more economic benefit to the State through sport fishing. Commercial fisherman have not paid their fair share to the people of Alaska for the fish they catch. In these tough economic times they need to start!

John Sturgeon

Frontier Building Products
John Sturgeon, CEO/President
4450 Shoshoni Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99516
Office 907-562-3335
Cell 907-230-0072
frontiertradellc@aol.com

Daniel George

From: bearbaiter46@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:21 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB 42/SB 42

Senators Bill Stoltze and Cathy Giessel,

I very much appreciate your ongoing battle for Alaskan households who chose to gather a supply of salmon to feed their families. HB42 and SB 42 will prioritize our harvest of salmon over commercial harvest when salmon returns are low. Having relied on dipping reds in the Kenai for years, I find the commercial fishermen are given huge advantages with frequent unscheduled open days to net reds. When they net, they completely drain authorized areas for the private household members.

My sincere thanks to both you! Please keep up this much needed work.

Larry Sutterer

6221 Barry Ave.

Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Daniel George

From: Mark Simpson <Mark@denalicapital.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: SB 42

Senator Stoltze & Senator Giessel:

Please count me among the supporters of an act that will prioritize personal use of Alaskan fish over all commercial use.

Thank you for your work on this issue.

Mark Simpson

Denali Capital Management, LLC

315 Barnette St., Suite 201

Fairbanks, AK 99701

907 / 456-3361

907 / 456-3301 fax

www.denalicapital.com

Daniel George

From: Mike Combs <mike@combsinsurance.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:41 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Hello Bill, thank you for finally taking on the 900 pound Gorilla from Seattle.

All too often the Commercial Fishing industry is owned by entities from the lower 48 who basically take our resources, and leave. The personal use residents are left with the remaining limited stocks. Not a fair system at all.

Good Luck, Mike Combs

Daniel George

From: Mike Fox <foxhouse@gci.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 9:39 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Bill in Committee

Support for SB 42

Alaska residents are being denied a “fair and reasonable” opportunity to efficiently fulfill their personal use fish needs as required by statute. AS16.05.251 (d)

The state has banned personal use fishing for king and coho salmon in SE Alaska. (5AAC 77.682 c)

Commercial fishermen (including non residents) are allowed to catch kings and cohos for sale, and are also allowed unlimited amounts for personal use.

This management strategy is neither fair or reasonable and contrary to legislative intent.

We can continue to give most of our fish to industry, but we should also provide residents a fair and reasonable opportunity to efficiently fulfill our own personal use needs, as required by AS16.05.251 (d).

References.

AS.16.05.251 (d)...{shall} provide a fair and reasonable opportunity for the taking of fishery resources by personal use, sport, and commercial fishermen.

The following regulation is contrary to the above statute.

Article 14 SE Alaska - 5aac 77.682 (c) Personal use salmon fishery. The department will not issue a permit for the taking of king or coho salmon...

The following regulation allows every commercial fisherman, including non-residents, to efficiently fulfill their personal use needs without limits.

5AAC 39.010 (a) A person engaged in commercial fishing may retain finfish from lawfully taken commercial catch for that person’s own use.

M. Fox

Daniel George

From: Pat Turner <psturner@ak.net>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 2:52 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Dear Senator,

I am writing to you today to let you know that I am in full support of SB 42. As a 34 year resident of Alaska and a yearly user of the dipnet fishery in Chitina, I want you to understand the importance this fishery is to my family.

A major portion of the protein I feed my family comes from the salmon brought back from Chitina. This personal use fishery is a necessity to the welfare of my family and their annual food supply. My children were raised on salmon from Chitina. They are now grown and have families of their own. My son feeds his family, which include four wonderful children, with Chitina salmon. I continue to share my catch with my daughter and her son. I'm sure there are many other extended families that share this bounty, also.

This personal use fishery is vital to many Alaskan families. It is important that it be given the priority it deserves. It directly feeds the citizens of this fantastic state. I do not believe that the commercial industry should ever take priority over individual Alaskans. The welfare of Alaskan families should always be the most important priority to the legislators of this state and Alaskans feeding their families is critical.

Again, I fully support SB 42 and look forward to its passage.

Thank you for your time,
Patrick Turner
Fairbanks

Daniel George

From: O'Connors <arleta@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 12:09 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

I support SB 42 for better management of fish for the residents of Alaska.

Patrick O'Connor
Palmer

Daniel George

From: Sharon Harris <alaskas@gci.net>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2015 1:55 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB 42

My husband I gather salmon to feed our family. HB42 will prioritize our personal use harvest of salmon over commercial harvest when salmon returns are low. I ask you to support HB42.

Sincerely,
Paul and Sharon Harris

Daniel George

From: Pete <psevans@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:38 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Bill Please support SB42, Alaskans need it. thank you. Pete Evans

Daniel George

From: pete probasco <maryann@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 3:15 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB 42

Bill: I greatly appreciate your good work on SB 42 & the support SB 42 gives to our constitution. SB 42 insures priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal. This is much needed legislation. My compliments on this & all of your good work. I heard you on Rick Rydell this morning. Pete Probasco P.O. Box 861 Palmer. 907-745-3182. Email maryann@mtaonline.net



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

Daniel George

From: Ray Heuer <alaskan.tinman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:42 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Sir,

I have lived in Alaska for 18 years (12 of which were spent in service on the Fairbanks & Minto-Nenana Fish and Game advisory committees). I have watched the allocations for personal use take a back seat year after year to commercial fishing interests. The makeup of the Fish Board has always been in favor of the commercial fishing industry. We have attempted for years to pass meaningful proposals that would ensure responsible fisheries management, but the glutinous commercial interests would always win out. It took 10 years of telling them the king salmon on the Yukon were in jeopardy, but it wasn't until run strengths fell off and retention of king salmon had to be stopped before the Board of Fish listened. Even then the commercial fishing industrial kept denying a problem existed.

The people who engage in the personal use fisheries are Alaskan's attempting to gather enough fresh salmon for their families yearly subsistence needs. For the record all Alaskans are subsistence users, some just participate in an urban setting (these are the ones we call personal use when the same activity in the bush is called subsistence) and typically they spend the market value of the catch or better to gather their subsistence needs. I don't believe it is asking too much that after a long cold Fairbanks winter I should be able to (as an Alaskan) go out and gather fresh fish, berries, and game meat for my families subsistence needs! I think SB42 is constitutionally supported, and it simply is the right thing to do.

While resident allocations are being cut the commercial fishing fleet is taking home packs (a subsistence means for taking 100 quart coolers full of commercially caught fish home instead of selling them or have them count against their quota), and taking massive holds full of by catch to Seattle for distribution at homeless shelters (because they can no longer pitch it over the side and it must be salvaged). We have watch as the responsible fishing practices of the commercial fleet have cut the king salmon returns to the point where no sport, personal use, or subsistence retention of king salmon is allowed in much of Alaska's fisheries.

I apologize, I have gotten off topic. Please give serious consideration to supporting SB42. It could mean the difference of an Alaskan future with salmon vs an Alaskan future without salmon! This bill will force more responsible management of the resource and ensure more fish are allowed in the upper river escapement (roughly translated, more salmon on the spawning grounds means larger salmon returns). Thanks for your time and consideration.

Raymond H. Heuer
5420 Haystack Dr.
Fairbanks AK 99712
907-322-3136

Sent from my iPhone

Daniel George

From: Tammie Hemmen <hemmen@ak.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 1:25 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Personal Fisheries Bill

Richard and Rita Hemmen of North Pole, AK strongly support this bill.

Daniel George

From: Neumann, Richard (Anchorage) <Richard.Neumann@WorleyParsons.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: FW: SB42

I am in support of SB42. The freezers of us Alaskans should always be priority over the money machine of commercial fishing. There is certainly more that could be said, however I believe this bill sums it up. People of Alaska before the pockets of industry, (which most of the pockets don't even reside here!)

Again, I SUPPORT SB42.

Thank you for your diligence of the cause.

Richard Neumann
Electrical & Instrumentation Designer | NANA WorleyParsons LLC
Tel: +19073752538
3700 Centerpoint Drive | Anchorage | Alaska | 99503 | United States of America
Richard.Neumann@nanaworleyparsons.com | www.nanaworleyparsons.com

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Daniel George

From: Robert Mathews Jr <rmathewsjr3@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 7:48 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Cc: Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Rod Arno
Subject: Support for SB42

Senator, Stoltze

I would like to thank you for the introduction of SB42.

As a board member of the Alaska Outdoor Council and the Delta Sportsman Association I get the unique opportunity to talk to fellow club members as well as the General Public about pieces of legislation that impact hunting and fishing. I can honestly say this bill is widely supported by all that I have talked to.

The challenge as I see it will be getting this bill past the Commercial Fishing industry, so I would like to extend to you the support of the Delta Sportsman Association as you move through the process of passing this bill into law.

Sincerely,

Rob Mathews

Rmathewsjr3@gmail.com

Rob Mathews

Board Member, Alaska Outdoor Council

Board of Directors, Delta Sportsman's Association

Daniel George

From: Roger Frank <RFrank@sampsonsteelco.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:24 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze

Senator Stoltze just heard of a bill you introduced, SB42 it sounds like a breathe of fresh air to me and long overdue..... Thanks and keep the pressure on !

---- I've been an Alaskan resident for the past 35 years..... and have lived in Chugiak for the last 30 of those..... I've voted for you ever since you first ran for office back when you were in the House.....

--- As an avid fisherman, over the years I've witnessed firsthand the decline of "salmon in the river" in many drainages from Homer to Talkeetna..... a sorry thing to see for sure.....and tough to put fish in the freezer.....

--- Please do what you can to see that SB42 passes.....

Thank You,

Roger M. Frank

Estimator / Project Manager

Sampson Steel Company Inc.

1848 N. Post Road

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

(907) 561-5626 phone

(907) 561-5625 fax

RFrank@sampsonsteelco.com

Daniel George

From: Sara Sundsten <saraalisonsundsten@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 9:21 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: I Support SB42

I Support Personal Use Fisheries SB42 - personal use fisheries is a priority over commercial harvest whenever harvest restrictions are necessary to achieve management goals on the fishery.

-Sara-

Daniel George

From: steve doner <steveislucky@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 3:27 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Bill Stoltze; senator.bill.wieleckowski@akleh.gov
Subject: SB 42

Dear Senator Giessel

Please support SB 42. This appears to me to be a small step in a direction that would be closer to what our state constitution says regarding our resource management mandate. Please remember that our state constitution had to be amended to allow limited entry permit fishing. This limited entry fishery, particularly in the Cook inlet is an outdated management practice, and when the electorate finally wakes up to this fact, policy makers found to be on the side of special interest, limited entry permit holders, will be displaced by lawmakers with a populist mandate to let the people have their fish! Thank for your interest in this subject.

Steve Doner
907 841 1074
1112 E. Schwald rd.
Wasilla, Alaska
99654

Wasilla, Alaska
9965

Daniel George

From: Vern Aiton <v8n@wildak.net>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 4:46 PM
To: Sen. Click Bishop; jim colver; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Senator Stoltze

Thank you for introducing SB42 concerning personal use preference of our fisheries. For too long, commercial fishing interests have taken precedence in a resource so important to all Alaskans. Thank you!

Sincerely

Vern Aiton
Delta Jct, AK

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Alaska Outdoor Council
Delta Sportsmans Assn
SCI

CC

Rep Colver
Sen Dunleavy
Sen Bishop

Daniel George

From: W.R. Reed <wrreed@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:48 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Please support SB42- Personal Use Fisheries Bill!

Dear Senator Stoltze

As an Alaskan resident and one who's family depends on personal use fisheries in Alaska, I ask that you please support SB42 which puts priority over personal use fisheries above commercial interests. While I recognize the value of our commercial fisheries, the people of Alaska and our communities depend on these resources and pump millions of dollars directly into the economy at levels far greater than those from the commercial harvests. Our family of 4 spends an annual average of \$2,000 on personal use fisheries to include equipment, licenses, fuel, accommodations, processing, and food for our trips. And, we are not always successful due to the poor management of our fisheries by ADF&G allowing commercial interests to harvest most of the available resources.

Please put "people" first!

Thank You
W.R. Reed
Eagle River, Alas

Daniel George

From: Willy <fishtales@alaska.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:50 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Please pass this bill it is long overdue. Wilfred Blais Delta Junction

Daniel George

From: Bresse, Frenchy <Frenchy.Bresse@fhr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:14 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

I STRONGLY support SB42.

Please give the personal use fishermen a better chance at the fish that belongs to all Alaskans.

Thanks for your help!

Yves Bresse

3285 Storey Dr.

North Pole, AK 99705

907-322-4731

Yves.bresse@gmail.com

Daniel George

From: chris thomas <tessdad@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 9:06 PM
To: Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello
Subject: SB 42

Christopher Scott Thomas

1852 E. 24th Ave

Anchorage AK 99508

HOUSE DISTRICT 18-480

SENATE DISTRICT I

My name is C. Scott Thomas, I am an Alaska resident, born and raised here. I have been fishing for over 40 years in the state. I have participated in sport, guided sport, commercial, personal-use, and subsistence fisheries throughout the state. My wife and daughters were also born and raised in the state and have also been “fishermen” for more years than we have fingers/toes. **I strongly oppose SB 42.**

Fishing is paramount to our family, friends, community, and State. It is my understanding that the Alaska State Legislature is currently considering a personal use priority for Alaska’s fishing resources. I believe this would place personal use fisheries above all other users except subsistence. This bill undermines the state’s recognized subsistence priority and pits user groups against each other. Furthermore in times of scarcity all should share the burden of conservation. Alaskans as a whole need to be responsible for the health of Alaska’s fishing resources, this means working together on a level playing field to protect what is important to all of us.

Daniel George

From: Dan P Bilderback <danbilderback@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 4:40 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SENATE RESOURCE COMMITTEE: SB 42

Dear Senator Stoltze,

My name is Dan Bilderback, I am a commercial salmon fisherman who fishes on the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound. This has been my livelihood for 45 years. I also sport fish for salmon and enjoy it immensely. I currently live at 4623 Campus Circle, Anchorage, AK with my wife Christine.

I would like to strongly urge you not to support SB 42 which would give the State of Alaska Personal Use category an equal access priority with the Subsistence users over the Sport and Commercial user groups. SB 42 is devisive legislation for Alaskan Residents.

Fish and Game has to Manage for brood stock and subsistence as a mandated priority. If the Personal User group is thrown into this mix it makes Management much more complicated for ADF&G to achieve.

Personal use was created by the Board of Fisheries to give the people of Alaska access to fish resources for recreational and household personal consumption. As such, Personal Use has been given a generous quota and access that has, due to its popularity, only increased with time. I believe that to circumvent the Board of Fish's authority to allocate resources within fisheries would be a detrimental to all users.

As I said , I have been in the fisheries for a long time and frankly I'm tired of seeing that some people feel that they are ENTITLED to the resource because they have the political clout at the moment.

I would be glad to clarify any of the points I have made.

Thank You Senator,

Dan P Bilderback,

Ph#(907)632-0079

Daniel George

From: Suzie Kendrick <suzie.kendrick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 7:07 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Rep. Kurt Olson
Subject: SB 42: I oppose this bill!

I am an Alaskan resident, born and raised here and a US Coast Guard Captain and commercial fisherman since 1963. I have fished in PWS/Copper River since 1988. Prior to that, I held commercial permits in Cook Inlet, False Pass and Bristol Bay.

In addition to my career as a commercial fisherman, I have always been a sport and subsistence harvester and as such, I think it is important that we remember that harvesters be equally responsible for the health of our fishing resources. There is no point in pitting Alaskans against Alaskans!

In all fairness, personal use harvesters have been able to consistently meet their needs. Commercial fishing and the many small businesses and communities who depend on the economic benefits would be impacted.

Please do not support this bill. The last thing we need is to divide Alaskans further!

Thank you for your consideration!

Doug Heimbuch
P.O. Box 4502
Soldotna, AK 99669
907-394-5797

Area E Drift Permit Holder

Daniel George

From: Irv Carlisle <irvcarla@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 11:40 AM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: SB42

Senator Stoltze,

I am a 45 year Alaska resident that served a three year term on the Alaska Board of Fisheries during the Hickel Administration. I feel that you are overstepping the intent of the Alaska Legislature, when more than 40 years ago they founded a Board of Fish & Game to regulate and administer related issues in the State of Alaska. The initial board was later broken down into two separate Boards; one for fisheries and one for game. The process has worked well when political influence is not forced upon it and suffered when political influence is allowed to influence decisions. If fisheries issues are your priority, I would suggest that you resign from the Senate and seek a seat on the Board of Fisheries, where there are already criteria in place to deal with resource allocation in times of shortages. I know first hand that biological management will produce far greater results than political management and do so without making a mockery of the current Board process.

Irving R. Carlisle
PO Box 2349
Soldotna, AK 99669-2349
(907) 252-5389
irvcarla@gci.net

Daniel George

From: John Johnson <johnsonj1956@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:16 PM
To: Sen. Bill Stoltze
Subject: Oppose SB 42

My name is John Johnson and I am a life long resident of Cordova for 58 years. My sole income comes from commercial fishing on the Copper River and Prince William Sound and I have been on a commercial fishing boat for 54 years and owned my own commercial fishing business for 46 years.

I Oppose SB 42 for many reasons. I see SB 42 as another re-allocation of our fishing resources while putting the burden of conservation of these resources on the commercial fishing fleet. The conservation of our fishing resources should be shared by all user groups that are taking the fishing resources.

I am completely Opposed to SB 42.

John Johnson
Box 1179
Cordova, Alaska 99574
907-253-7243

Daniel George

From: Kari Gilman <kgilman12@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 11:29 AM
To: Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. John Coghill
Subject: Opposition SB 42

Hello,

I am a life long Alaska, born in Anchorage and raised in rural Alaska. Now currently living in Anchorage attending college. Fishing is a huge part of my life. This bill will upset the balance we have currently set up between all the different types of fishing throughout our great state. Personal use fisheries should not take priority over other user groups besides subsistence fisheries. The number of Alaskan's that participate in sport and commercial fishing outnumber the personal use fisherman by far. As Alaskan's we need to stick together in sharing our resources in times of low fish populations. The long term effects of this bill will be detrimental to the sustainability of our fish populations throughout the state.

Thank you,

Kari Gilman

Daniel George

From: Michael Bowen <copperdogfish@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 7:45 AM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. Bert Stedman
Subject: Opposition to SB 42

Good morning Senator Giessel and fellow committee members.

I am strongly opposed to SB 42

This bill will divide Alaskans and is not needed. The allocations for the PU fisherys are in the escapement goals and the commercial fishery is managed to meet these goals. It does not matter if the run is strong or weak. So there is no reason to believe that the PU fisherys will not have a fair opportunity to harvest salmon.

Since the inception of the PU fishery the Board of Fish has been very attentive to making sure these fisherys are managed to get fish into the dip nets of Alaskans. The Board of Fish just increased the bag limit for the PU on the Copper river this winter.

If Alaskans truly want to own the resource then they should truly want to share in the conservation of that resource if at some point it is needed to fulfill escapement goals and for sport fishing users up river. Not Alaskans are PU fisherman, Alaskans are sports fishermen and they are commercial fishermen.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with my thoughts on this issue.

Michael Bowen
2150 Innes Anchorage, AK 99515

Sent from Outlook

Daniel George

From: Mike Peterson <mp1@gci.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2015 12:08 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc: Sen. Dennis Egan; Sen. Bert Stedman; Rep. Munoz; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Rep. Sam Kito; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bill Wielechowski
Subject: SB 42

Good Morning Sen. Giessel,

What a tough two years (and beyond) the 29th Legislature is having to endure. Between deficits, ensuing budget cuts, and marijuana regulation, where is the silver lining?

In my opinion Senator, one aspect of the silver lining is not passing SB 42. This is a one page bill fraught with future nightmares.

The current field as it exists: commercial, sport, and personal use, is balanced on a certain level. Not perfect perhaps but fairly balanced. To place 1 of these higher than the other 2, at this point in time, is a mistake.

No to Senate Bill 42.

Respectfully Submitted
Mike Peterson
Douglas
907-723-8369

Daniel George

From: w evans <wose18@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 12:07 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giesse; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello
Subject: Opposition SB42

Dear Senate Resources Committee, I live in Spenard, Alaska, part of the big village of Anchorage, District I, when I do not reside on my vessel out of Cordova making a living commercial fishing. I have lived in my home since 1981. I came to Alaskan 1980. I have been part of the fishing industry since my arrival. I started out sport fishing. I have personal use fished, and I have subsistence fished. I have been a part of the commercial fishing industry since 1984.

Fishing is how I support myself and family. It also provides an important part of my diet. The Landing taxes in each fishing community is important part of the income which helps to provide the necessary infra- structure to support Alaskan communities and provide income to its citizens.

I OPPOSE SB42. Personal use should never be precedent-ed above subsistence use, that is why it is protected by the Alaskan constitution. Alaskans who do not already harvest fish by sport, personal or subsistence are able to access fishing resources through commercial harvest. The commercial management of Alaska Fisheries has assured escapement to provide fish for future generations, when necessary, mostly at the expense of commercial harvest times. All Harvesters need to be responsible for the health of Alaska's fishing resources, this includes sharing the burden of conservation.

Please honor your pledge to uphold the Alaska Constitution by opposing SB 42.

Thank you, William Evans
3411 willow Place
Anchorage, Alaska 99517

Matthew Alward & family
60082 Clarice Way
Homer, AK 99603

March 28th, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair

Senate Resources Committee

State Capitol Room 427

Juneau, AK 99801

Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

RE: Oppose SB 42, Personal Use Priority

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

I'm an Alaskan resident and I've been supporting my family commercial fishing for 21 years. I oppose SB 42. My small, local, family-run fishing business supports not only my family, but my crew and their families, the workers and tenders of my processor, and the many local marine trades business.

Under the current ADF&G management plans personal use already has a priority when there is a short fall of fish, and to set in statute a personal use priority will reduce ADF&G's ability to manage fisheries. Creating a personal use priority will make management plans even more complicated, which reduces flexibility. It would also remove the Board of Fisheries ability to set allocations on a case by case basis based on science and public input. There are over 100 personal use fisheries in the state and the long term effects of SB 42 to this broad range of fisheries are unknown.

This bill would limit access to fish for the many Alaskans who get their seafood from sport fishing, grocery stores and restaurants. It pits Alaskans against Alaskans. The intent by the Board of Fisheries establishing Personal Use fisheries is clear in 5ACC 77.001 (4) (b) which states "...allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest." **Although the original intent was for personal use fisheries to not negatively impact the other uses, I fully support personal use fisheries, but on an equal footing with sport and commercial fisheries.** When there is low abundance all user groups should share in the responsibly of conservation.

Establishing a personal use priority will do nothing to ensure run strength or timing, and does not guarantee that fish will be in the rivers when people want to catch them. I urge you to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations within the Board of Fisheries, and the sustainable management of fisheries resources within ADF&G.

Thank you for your time,

Matthew Alward & family

Owner Alward Fisheries LLC

Daniel George

From: POMS@akleg.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 2:25 PM
To: Daniel George
Subject: New Pom:SB 42 Personal Use Fishing Priority

Lillian Thompson-Person
24120 RAMBLER RD

CHUGIAK 99567,rlperson
rlperson@gci.net

I oppose SB42 the Personal Use Priority bill as there is already sufficient management for the various user groups accessing our state's wild fish stocks. As a life-long resident, I know of no one who is short of salmon when they endeavor to procure it.

April 1, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801
Senator.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

RE: OPPOSE SB 42, PERSONAL USE PRIORITY

Dear Senator Giessel and committee members,

I participate in all types of fisheries in the State of Alaska. I am writing to express my opposition to SB 42. All Alaskans have the opportunity to share in the abundance of our fishery resources and when, at times, they are not as bountiful, all Alaskans must share in the burden of conservation.

SB 42 is divisive among all Alaskans who participate in any or all of the various types of fisheries. This bill would upset the balance currently in place and unnecessarily remove needed management tools for area biologists. The language contained in the Bill is vague and if passed there would certainly be unintended consequences.

Please vote no on SB 42.

Sincerely,
Paul Warner
Sterling AK 99672

I oppose SB 42. I'm Marty Remund p.o. box 8147 Port Alexander, AK. 99836. I'm a 42 year AK. resident, commercial, personal use, subsistence, and sport fisherman. All harvestors need to be responsible for the health of AK. fish resources. Sincerely, Marty Remund

My name is Diana Riedel, I live at 305 Observation Ave Cordova , AK 99574, and I oppose SB 42. I was born and raised in Cordova and have been an Alaskan resident for 32 years. I have been commercial fishing for 25 years, since i was 7 years old. Commercial fishing is how my family makes a living, and is able to keep its roots in our hometown.

In addition to commercial fishing our family also fishes for subsistence and sport. My two daughters ages 9 and 7 months old love eating salmon. It is by far the most cooked food in our family. As a commercial harvester and subsistence harvester my needs for salmon are adequately met.

This action pits Alaskans against Alaskans at the expense of our fishing resources. All harvesters need to be equally responsible for the health of Alaskas fishing resources, this includes sharing the burden of conservation.

Thank you,

Diana R Riedel

March 31, 2015

Dear Chairman Giessel and Committee Members:

I am writing as a longtime resident of Cordova, AK and fourth generation Copper River / Prince William Sound commercial fisherman. My family has resided in Cordova, AK and has depended on the robust commercial fisheries on the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound in South Central Alaska since 1896.

The Board of Fish process and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game management tools are working. Moving SB 42 forward will greatly impact the rural and urban communities and their residents whose livelihoods and way of life depend upon the economic viability of the commercial fisheries; sustainability is of their utmost concern.

Personal Use needs to remain as what its initial intention was for under 5 AAC 77 --- to be allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest. (pg. 81 of ADF&G 2013-2014 Subsistence and Personal Use Statewide Fisheries Regulations)

I also support CDFU's testimony written on March 20, 2015 regarding the organization and its memberships **OPPOSITION** to SB 42.

Thank you all for your service to the Great State of Alaska and please **OPPOSE** SB 42.

Sincerely,

Eric Carleton Lian
Cordova, AK 99574

The Alaska Salmon Alliance (ASA) wishes to provide additional new technical information on the impacts of SB 42, Personal Use Priority for the Senate Resources Hearing, April 1, 2015.

· Implementation of SB 42, would be complex and impose significant costs for ADFG and the Board of Fisheries, as there are over 120 fisheries throughout the State with FMPs that would need to be changed.

· Significant economic impacts and disruption to Southcentral Alaska commercial fisheries are anticipated with further restrictive allocations and regulatory instability that will arise with Legislative approval of SB 42.

· Southcentral Alaska is home to over 2,300 Alaska residents that are commercial salmon permit holders that depend for their livelihoods on salmon and longline fisheries of cod and halibut.

New information soon to be published shows there are a total of 3,400 Anchorage and MatSu Borough workers directly employed in the commercial fisheries of Alaska, and 2,900 comparable FTE workers, at an average salary of \$49,500. The payroll in the region, derived from these fisheries is closely estimated at \$150 million per year, based on 2013 data.

For the Southcentral AK region as a whole, inclusive of the Kenai Peninsula, Cordova, Valdez, Anchorage and MatSu, there are 11,600 workers in fishing, processing, support companies and government employees, with an equivalent of 8,000 FTE jobs, and a total payroll of \$430 million.

Arni Thomson

Executive Director

Alaska Salmon Alliance

www.aksalmonalliance.org

Kenai and Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

My name is Clay Bezenek, and I live in Ketchikan Alaska. I am a 33 yr commercial fisherman.

My son graduated from the U of Idaho a couple years ago, and also bought into the drift gillnet fishery here. This letter represents our common interests, and the interests of one daughter who crews with us in the summer, paying for HER college education.

We OPPOSE SB 42.

In these times of everybodys budgets getting hit, why in the world would a bill like this be proposed anyway??

Proposed by a rail-belter, AGAIN, that really is about Cook Inlet problems, real or percieved.

Sorry to disappoint, the salmon world doesnt revolve around that little muddy inlet, neither should FLAWED laws that will affect the real salmon producing areas of the State!!!!

The author, and anyone else who even half-way believes this law is meaningful or necessary, should get to work on REAL issues.

Leave the management of the coasts resources to the coasts, and the people whos livlyhoods depend on them!!!

Manage the Moose and the Oil!

Thanks for your time.

Clay Bezenek

Ketchikan, Ak

Please know that I oppose sb42, the personal use priority bill. I am a 24 year Alaska resident and commercial salmon fish for a living and think this bill will be detrimental to my livelihood. Please do what you can to oppose it. Thank you, R. Scott Bottoms

Senator,

First, thank you for your work in our district and for the state.

I'm writing to urge you to oppose SB 42. (Personal use priority bill).

I have lived and worked in Seward for most of my life. Making a living through thick and thin as a commercial fisherman for 30 years, has been my main source of income to support my family. This bill jeopardizes small businesses, not just mine and other fishing families but also the businesses that support the fishing industry in many coastal communities, such as mechanical and gear suppliers, shippers big and small, processors big and small and all their workers, welders, mechanics, boatyard businesses and their workers, net builders, along with other general small businesses in these coastal communities that depend the fishing fleet and all the workers from the related businesses that support their business. The communities' tax base derived from the fishing industry is also jeopardized and with fiscal issues in out state government as they are, this is no time to threaten the financial health of these small communities even more. Fish runs will always fluctuate, and in times of smaller runs, all users groups need to be equally responsible for the health of the resource.

This bill is anti-industry, anti-resource development and most of all anti-small business and anti-family. Please vote NO.

Thank you,

Tom Missel

Seward

April 1, 2015

Dear Chairman Giessel and Committee Members:

I oppose SB 42 sponsored by Senator Stoltze. I am a lifelong resident of Alaska and subsistence user. This will be my 6th season running my own commercial fishing operation. Senate Bill 42, titled the Alaskans First Fishing Act seeks to reallocate an already fully allocated resource to Personal Use Fisherman. Alaska's fisheries are complex and allocation is already considered by the Alaska Board of Fisheries, which has been regulating fisheries allocation since statehood. There is no need for the legislature to do the job of the Board Of Fisheries.

The Board of Fisheries created personal use fisheries in 1982 so Alaska residents could harvest salmon when there was an available surplus of fish. There are ample opportunities for Personal Use fisherman to go fishing in various locations around the State of Alaska. It is not subsistence fishing, but a valuable opportunity that Alaskans are lucky to have when extra fish are available.

If SB 42 is enacted, it gives Personal Use fisherman an economic priority over commercial fisheries. Many Alaskan families rely on commercial fishing for their primary income. These jobs are very important, especially in rural areas where other work opportunities are scarce. This is very evident in my community of Cordova. The commercial fishing dollars made in waters here and in other coastal communities like it, fuel local economy as well as major hubs like Anchorage.

The danger of SB 42 is not when fisheries are strong, but when there is a conservation concern. Weaker runs are times that Alaskan families that rely solely on commercial fisheries especially need the income. This is also the time that SB 42 wishes to take our income away by putting personal use fisherman as a higher priority than commercial fisherman in times of shortage. Conservation should be shared by all user groups, and that is how Alaska's fisheries are currently structured. We have the best managed fisheries in the world.

Our Alaska Department of Fish and Game and our Board of Fisheries are working hard to keep our fisheries strong. Let's leave the job of fisheries management and allocation to those already tasked with it.

Sincerely,



Mike Mickelson
Cordova, AK

Cathy

As a 30 year alaskan that utilizes Alaskas natural resources we can not afford to put the management of them in the hands of the voters. Too many people are only interested in their immediate gratification. It is unfortunate but that is todays reality. This leads to ballot box biology which is not best for the resource. We need to keep management priorities(as much as it pains me to say it) to fish and game and their biologist.

I am a personal use person but too many people misrepresent recreation for personal use. Way too many resources rot in peoples freezers. Let fish and game decide when there is enough for that to happen. Not a person who only thinks about salmon when they are killing them or eating them. Resource management is a year around, long term science not a weekend warrior. Please consider what is best for the resource first and foremost. Bruce Petska Homer Ak

Hi my name is Dennis Reutov and I am a commercial fisherman from Wasilla,ak. I commercial fish for salmon in the prince William sound and the copper river flats. I have been fishing for 12 years and my father and grandfather have been commercial fishing for over 35 years. That is the only source of income that we have so we try an make the best of it every year. So I strongly oppose the bill SB 42, the personal use priority bill. Thank you

Cathy, I live in Hoonah and fish PWS. I strongly oppose SB 42.

Thank you,

Tom Hlavnicka

Hoonah, Ak 99829

Why do they think they deserve to catch the fish not use em ,I see them rotting in garbage dumps in the spring time. After sitting in the freezer not being used ,they just get the thrill of catching but not using any of it ,the other thing I think is ...25 fish per head house hold is way to much. That needs to be stopped. Pu ,have everything on their side. What more do they want. Stop sb42 is what I'm saying. And they call the commercial. Fishermen greedy. Talk about greed from matsu Seems like making a penny to feed your children is not priority. But dumping yur fish in the dumpster is. Do everything you can in your power to stop this nonsense. Nick. F/v. Reliance

My Name is Kenneth Carlson. I Live at 2172 Stanford Dr. Anchorage, AK. 99508. I am in Senate district I . I am in house district 17.

I oppose SB 42 The Personal Use Priority bill.

I am a Alaska Resident. I have been a commercial fisherman for forty years . Fishing contributes a significant amount to our family's income. My fishing business is based out of Cordova which greatly depends on commercial fishing.

Thank you, Kenneth Carlson

As an avid fly fisherman, personal use participant and commercial fisherman my entire life - PLEASE OPPOSE SB 42.

This bill is reckless, divisive and problematic. There is ample opportunity to obtain fish, but this bill could effectively destroy the balance of fisheries, livelihoods and communities

Respectfully, Brent Western - Anchorage

Senator Giessel,

As one of your constituents and an avid fly fisherman, personal use participant and commercial fisherman for my entire life — I request that you OPPOSE SB 42.

This bill is truly reckless, divisive and will only create more problems within our management plans. These management plans already provide for escapements and in-river users that are more than adequate, often excessively exceeding goals. The opportunity to obtain fish for the general public is wide spread and abundant, but this bill could effectively destroy the balance of fisheries, livelihoods and communities across the state.

The sponsors of this bill have an agenda that is not in the best interest of the state as a whole and I urge you NOT to support it.

I could speak more to this bill, but understand all our time is valuable, thank you for yours.

Respectfully,

Brent M. Western

13021 Montego Circle

Anchorage, AK 99516

Senator Giessel and Resource Committee Members,

I OPPOSE SB 42 the Personal Use Priority Bill

I was born in Cordova, AK. In 1957. I am an Alaskan resident and have commercial fished in PWS for over 48 years. My mother and father were also commercial fishermen, who raised there 6 children, working with them on their family fishing operation. Commercial fishing and living a Subsistence lifestyle was and still is a way of life for many coastal communities. I've raised 2 sons who fished with me while growing up. One is a commercial fishermen that lives in Anchorage with his wife and daughter. The other lives in Cordova and works for the ADFG on a research vessel. They both live a Personal Use , Commercial, and subsistence life style by harvesting fish and game to help supplement their income.

Commercial fishing is the main source of income for Cordova and like many other coastal communities, the city, relies on taxes from commercial fishing to operate school and city operations. Our city received 1.4 million in Commercial Fishing business and landing taxes and Commercial Fishing created 4.4 million in resident fish processing wages. Doesn't look like a great time to disrupt a renewable resource while oil revenues are plummeting!

I am a Personal Use, Sport, Commercial and Subsistence user. This bill parts Alaskans against Alaskans, because most Personal Use harvesters have there needs met currently. In Dec. 2015 the BOF gave Personal Use fishermen a 25% increase of fish allocation in Upper Copper river while leaving the Subsistence allocation the same. It is the only place in the state where the Personal Use allocation is higher that the subsistence allocation. How can that make sense when you have a lesser prioritized fishery receiving a larger share than a higher prioritized fishery. Something stinks and I am sure its not the fish! All users groups need to be equally responsible for the health of the Alaskan fishing resources.

The Management Plan now being used by ADFG is working in most places and has been working for many years. The primary goal of the Management Plan is to protect the sustained yield of the states fishery resources while at the same time provide equitable distribution of the available harvest between the various users.

Similar attempts have been made to over-prioritize the Personal Use fisheries have been voted down in the past and is the right thing to do because the Personal Use has really not suffered for its needs.

Senate Bill 42 has the ability to destroy rural communities and their families who depend on commercial fish for a way of life and a major source of income.

PLEASE VOTE NO on SB 42

Thank you for your time:

JOHN P. WIESE

Melissa DeVaughn

Eagle River, AK 99577

Dear Chair Giessel and Committee Members, April 1, 2015

I am a resident of Alaska, a commercial fisherman and my family takes part in the personal-use fishery. I oppose SB 42.

My small, family-owned fishing business supports my family and the many people with whom we work in the course of doing business. This includes fish buyers, truck drivers, mechanics, cannery workers and the owners and staff of the stores and markets where we shop throughout the salmon season.

My business also helps to provide salmon to the vast majority of Alaskans who do not take part in the personal-use fishery by selling to processors who provide salmon to Alaska restaurants and markets.

Under the current ADF&G management plans, personal use already has a priority when there is a shortfall of fish, and to set in statute a personal-use priority will reduce ADF&G's ability to manage fisheries. It would also remove the Board of Fisheries' ability to set allocations based on science and public input. The intent of the Board of Fisheries in establishing personal-use fisheries is clear in 5ACC 77.001 (4) (b), which states "...allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest."

I support personal-use fisheries – as I said, my family takes part in the personal-use fishery. However, the fishery must stand on equal footing with sport and commercial fisheries. That way, all users will share in the responsibly of conservation.

Establishing a personal-use priority pits Alaskans against Alaskans, does

not guarantee that fish will be in the rivers when people want to catch them and does not consider sound science above all else. I urge you to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations to the Board of Fisheries, and the sustainable management of fisheries resources within ADF&G.

Sincerely,

Melissa DeVaughn Hall

Chugiak, Alaska

Senator Giessel-

My Name is Paul Hearn from Cordova, AK and I urge you to oppose SB42. The State has a clear recognition of the subsistence priority already and this bill seeks to change that. There is no need to revisit this again. Thank you...

Paul Hearn

March 31, 2015

Dear Senator Giessel and Senate Resource Committee Members,

I strongly urge you to vote in OPPOSITION to SB 42, the Personal Use Priority Bill. In my decade as a resident of Alaska, I have made a living commercial fishing (as a seiner in Kodiak waters and a halibut longliner in 3A), I have regularly enjoy sport fishing throughout the state, and I have also participated in personal use fisheries (Kasilof gillnetting, China Poot dipnetting). My wife is a lifelong Alaskan, grew up in a fishing family, and holds a M.S. in Fisheries from UAF. We have experienced firsthand the value of each of these fishing 'sectors', as individuals, for our young and growing family, for our community of Homer, and for the entire state of Alaska. However, to prioritize personal use fisheries over commercial and sport fisheries seems unwise, unfair, and harmful at all of these scales. I fully support prioritizing subsistence fisheries over commercial, personal use, and sport fisheries; however personal use fishing should never be confused or associated with subsistence fishing- the two are completely different, and should be treated as such.

My family and I support fisheries management that seeks to maintain healthy fish returns and robust marine ecosystems for the long term. Our entire family income and much of our table fare and recreational enjoyment relies on good management. We expect all fishing sectors to cooperate in effective and equitable management. The burden of good fisheries management should be shared between fishing groups- this should be a united cause, and not a divisive quarrel pitting Alaskans against Alaskans.

As a resident and active fisherman, I thank you for your service and ask you to vote against SB 42.

Sincerely,

Brad and Katie Marden
Midnight Sun Seafoods, LLC

Senator Giessel,

Firstly, Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on sb42. I strongly oppose sb42. It is arrogant and irresponsible for Senator Stoltz to tamper with a management regime that has successfully and sustainably ensured access to our State's fisheries resources for all user groups and all Alaskans, regardless of how we choose to procure them. It's outrageous to suggest that those choosing to harvest with a dipnet should not share the burden of conservation with those harvesting with a fishing pole or

those who prefer to buy a fish from the market. This bill will not benefit the majority of Alaskans. I urge you to ask the DFG during committee what Maximum Sustained Yield management means, what is the role of commercial fleet in MSY management, and how meddling with the management regime in this manner may compromise the DFG's ability to continue managing for the benefit of all user groups.

Respectfully, Curt Herschleb

RE: OPPOSE SB 42, PERSONAL USE PRIORITY

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 42. All Alaskans have the opportunity to share in our bountiful fishery resources and when at times when they are not as bountiful, all Alaskans must share in the burden of conservation.

SB 42 creates many problems and solves none.

Please vote no on SB 42.

Thank you for your consideration.

Audrey Salmon

Kasilof, Alaska

Senator giessel

Legislators are neither fisheries scientists nor managers. When you pass laws to allocate fish you are contradicting our constitution as well as making the job of our actual fisheries managers much more difficult.

Omar John Gucer, Kenai Peninsula resident

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

I'm an Alaskan resident and I've been supporting my family commercial fishing for 28 years. I oppose SB 42. My small, local, family-run fishing business supports not only my family, but my crew and their families, the workers and tenders of my processor, and the many local marine trades business.

Under the current ADF&G management plans personal use already has a priority when there is a short fall of fish, and to set in statute a personal use priority will reduce ADF&G's ability to manage fisheries. Creating a personal use priority will make management plans even more complicated, which reduces flexibility. It would also remove the Board of Fisheries ability to set allocations on a case by case basis based on science and public input. There are over 100 personal use fisheries in the state and the long term effects of SB 42 to this broad range of fisheries are unknown.

This bill would limit access to fish for the many Alaskans who get their seafood from sport fishing, grocery stores and restaurants. It pits Alaskans against Alaskans. The intent by the Board of Fisheries establishing Personal Use fisheries is clear in 5ACC 77.001 (4) (b) which states "...allowed when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource use or is in the broad public interest." **Although the original intent was for personal use fisheries to not negatively impact the other uses, I fully support personal use fisheries, but on an equal footing with sport and commercial fisheries.** When there is low abundance all user groups should share in the responsibly of conservation.

Establishing a personal use priority will do nothing to ensure run strength or timing, and does not guarantee that fish will be in the rivers when people want to catch them. I urge you to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations within the Board of Fisheries, and the sustainable management of fisheries resources within ADF&G.

Thank you for your time,

Steve and Jenny Roth & family
Owner Alaskan Mariners

Dear Chair Giessel and committee members,

As a wife and mother who has been managing our small, local fishing business from the ground side for 12 years, I oppose SB 42. My particular consideration is for the future of sustainable management of fisheries resources within the ADF&G. Our three children, and each of our young Alaskans deserve the opportunity to have a future in the commercial fishing industry- to earn a living for their own families be it as captains, crew, tendermen, processors, biologists, or marine trades professionals.

Personal use already has a priority when there is a short fall of fish under the current ADF&G management plans. To set in statute a personal use priority will reduce ADF&G's ability to manage fisheries. It would also remove the Board of Fisheries ability to set allocations on a case by case basis based on science and public input. There are over 100 personal use fisheries in the state and the long term effects of SB 42 to this broad range of fisheries are unknown.

I implore you to leave the sustainable management of fisheries resources under within the ADF&G, and to leave the prioritization of fishery allocations to the Board of Fisheries. As we know personal use priority has nothing to do with run strength or timing: only nature can determine that. Let Alaska continue to lead the way in sustainable, science based resource management and fair allocation of fish. Oppose SB 42.

Thank you for your time,
Renee Weddle Alward
Alward Fisheries
House District 31

Dear Senator Giessel and committee members,

I participate in sport, commercial and personal use fisheries.

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 42. All Alaskans have the opportunity to share in our bountiful fishery resources and when at times when they are not as bountiful, all Alaskans must share in the burden of conservation.

SB 42 is divisive and reckless. This bill would upset the balance among user groups that has been the result of an actual process of decision making.

The actual language contained in the Bill is so vague that if this legislation is passed, the unintended consequences could threaten every fishery across the State. For instance the Bill states "when the harvest of a stock or specie is limited to achieve a management goal the BOF shall place restrictions on all other fisheries before restricting PU fisheries".

What does "all other fisheries" really mean? Who would that affect? Is that all other fisheries across the state or just in that management area or just for a particular river system?

Are those restrictions limited to only that particular stock or specie and how would that apply to mixed stock fisheries? Many fisheries across the state are mixed stock fisheries.

The Bill also uses the term "management goal" and then offers a constrained definition for that term. What effect would this new definition have on existing management plans?

SB 42 creates many problems and solves none.

Please vote no on SB 42.

Thank you,
Erik Huebsch

Dear Chair Giessel and Committee Members,

I am writing to ask you to oppose SB 42. Fishery policy and management needs to be left to the Board of Fisheries and ADF&G. Legislation like SB 42 may sound nice and be popular but it would open a Pandora's box of problems regarding the 100+ personal use fisheries in the state. The state legislature and ADF&G staff members have bigger issues needing their attention right now.

Respectfully,

Catherine Cassidy

Kasilof, AK 99610

Senator Giessel,

My name is Marie Hermansen. I am a lifelong Alaskan and lifelong East Side Setnetter. I have participated in this fishery for 45 years, minus however long I was in diapers. My family has fished Coho Beach since the Territorial days of Alaska, multiple generations having invested in this fishery, in this small family business.

I have witnessed many changes over my lifetime. The history of our fishery is a history of loss. From the appearance of commercial guides to the creation of the dipnet fishery as a way to deal with overescapement, our fishery and livelihood has been steadily curtailed. Our season has been shortened from months to weeks, to more recently, hours. Our very existence is now threatened.

Many have called for our demise in an effort of reallocation under the guise of conservation. The commercial guide industry is trying to vote us out of existence, using low king returns as a smokescreen. This is disingenuous, as they first officially proposed the end of our fishery in Project Us in 1988 when king returns were at, for the time, record levels. If the setnet fishery was responsible for the low king numbers, the early run Kenai king returns should be strong, as we have not fished this run in over 50 years. In reality, that run has been struggling more than the late run in meeting its escapement goals.

The latest threat to our existence is the push for dipnetting priority. When this fishery was created, it was to deal with overescapement. Over time it has grown, and now much of the state puts concentrated environmental pressure on the systems of the Kenai Peninsula. Dipnetting opportunities are not lacking. This measure is unnecessary.

The East Side Setnet fishery has the highest percentage of Alaskan resident participation, the majority of which reside in the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Unlike the other fisheries, the money earned by the East Side Setnetters, for the most part, is supporting our communities, our neighbors, year round.

Unlimited pressure cannot be placed on a limited resource without seeing its decline. The commercial fishermen are the oldest user group in the system, and the only ones limited in numbers. The burden of reallocation and conservation measures has largely fallen on our fishery. East Side Setnetters have fished these beaches for about 130 years, and during that time, we have seen a drastic loss in fishing

time. Lifetimes have been spent building our businesses, investing in our fisheries and our communities. Please let that not be in vain. Please oppose the proposed dipnet priority. Please support our businesses which support our communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marie Hermansen

Dear Senator Giesel and committee, please don't pass SB 42. don't fix what's not broken! concerned Alaskan. Dionici Reutov. thank you!

Senator Giessel,

Please do not support SB 42. As Clem Tillion once told me, when biologists manage fisheries, they sometimes make a bad decision. When politicians manage fisheries, they ALWAYS make bad decisions! Let the biologists do their jobs, vote no on SB 42. Sincerely, Brian Harrison Homer, Ak Haines, AK 99827

Alaska Resident since 1969

Raised in Barrow, AK

I've fished my SE Alaska Drift Permit for the last 14 years out of Haines. I support a family of six. My wife and four young children.

Commercial Fishing, along with cruise ship visitors are the summer life-blood for our community. We have probably 20 gillnetters and 8 trollers in Haines that make their living commercial fishing. Of the Sport fishermen, there are many, but I don't think their livelihood depends on fishing. There are a couple charter fishing boats in the harbor that cater to the non-local sport fishermen. To give these out of town/out of state sport fishermen priority seems a bit wrong headed to me. I can see how the local charter operators need to make a livelihood but the number of commercial fishermen far out number them and should, in my book, receive priority.

I do no sport fishing, as I don't have the time. I do keep some of my commercial catch for my family, as you might imagine. I also have a number of friends who do subsistence fishing and value that use of our resources.

I really think that if we want to increase the King return all over SE Alaska, we should try eliminating night fishing in all fishing in SE Alaska for five years. That's right, no gillnetting, trolling, or seining at night. I know, as a gillnetter, I catch WAY more kings at night than during the day: both Jack kings and full grown. Do this, and I believe the Kings will rebound and flourish.

Respectfully--Matt Davis

Senators,

As a full time, 38 year resident of coastal Alaska I oppose SB 42. I'm also slightly insulted by the title, but thats for another day. As it now stands, the regulatory process already allows ample opportunity for Alaskans to harvest what they need for their personal and subsistence use. As a commercial fisherman and small business owner, I'm proud to be involved in an industry that pays its way and contributes a not insignificant amount of dollars to the states economy, as well as provides food security to the thousands of Alaskans who don't choose to catch their own fish. We add to the well being and livelihoods of people far beyond our own.

With the looming fiscal crises it makes no sense to add further uncertainty to the financial waters of our coastal communities which will likely see cuts in the upcoming budget. To quote a former Fairbanks/North Star Borough Mayor, "we can't all move to Anchorage and Fairbanks to do each others laundry".

Respectfully,

John Bocci
Cordova, Alaska
99574

To whom it may concern;

Concerning the Personal use priority bill.

My name is Michael Chase and I have been an Alaskan resident since 1982. I have been a commercial fisherman since 1984. I live and work on the Kenai peninsula and have witnessed the destruction of a once viable fishery by politics. This new initiative is just another attempt to drive a stake in the heart of commercial fishing in Cook Inlet. Our commercial fisheries support our community as well as provide an income for our family. To give priority use to personal use fishers goes against our state constitution as well as being biologically devastating.

Personal users take out more than they need now and give nothing back to the resource. We, the commercial fishers, support and give to the resource to preserve it's sustainability. To manage this resource politically instead of biologically is just wrong. This is an example of "tragedy of the commons" where people who can get something for nothing will take all of the resource so someone else can't get it before them and they leave nothing in their wake. They have no vested interest and they don't live here so they come, destroy and leave. We need to get the politics out of this fishery and let the biologists manage it using the commercial fleet as one of their tools, just like they have done successfully in the past. This bill or initiative or whatever it is needs to be thrown out.

Sincerely
Michael Chase
Kasilof, AK 99610

My name is Elizabeth Chase, Kasilof, AK 99610

And I strongly oppose SB 42 that would make the NEWLY formed personal use fishery a priority in our state.

As a wife and mother of a commercial fishing family, permit holder in the Cook Inlet region, and resident on the Kenai Peninsula for over 30 years.... I believe that I am qualified to say that I have seen the destruction of the delicate habitat that rears our salmon by the weekend crowd that comes down from Anchorage.

Even though I don't "own" the rivers here, I am directly effected by the ever increasing numbers that come down here to "wreck-reate" We have lost our clamming beds due to over harvest, our King salmon runs due to over harvest, and now this bill is going after our livelihood.

Where other states have some kind of agriculture, Alaska has its fisheries. Which by the way is listed under the agriculture arm of government. Its sad to think that we can be displaced by the stoke of a pen... all under the guise of "Public Interest".

Commercial fishing is not a lifestyle for us, but a way to make a living and to better our local economy while helping our State through the license, permits, and taxes that we pay to run our small family business.

Our industry has had its ups and downs over the last 126 YEARS (1889, when it came to Cook Inlet) In the beginning, without oversight, our runs were raped by outside interest to the point of no return, but through proper management under State control our runs were built back up and Cook Inlet saw it first million return ever in the early 1980's.

Commercial fishing went to "LIMITED ENTRY" in 1972, so our numbers are set. Our runs became stronger, larger, healthier, and more predictable. In 1988, 1989 our runs topped 6 million, again, largely due to the excellent management plans that our local biologist put into place including our escapement goals of 850,000 for the Kenai.

Today, with all the sport pressure, tourist pressure, dip net pressure, increase escapement goals, petitions to eliminate commercial fishing in urban area's.... we just have a lot to worry about. We are Alaskan, we vote, we do matter to the "public" we harvest for, and I hope we matter to you as well.

I would rethink all this if the personal use folks could not feed themselves or did not have the money to buy the salmon they give away..... by the way, much of the salmon they harvest for themselves is sent to family outside of Alaska, sold for personal gain, or wasted because they could not consume everything they harvested.

Last year alone, more tickets were given to violators then in the last 10 years combined! Please vote NO on SB 42.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
Liz Chase

Sen. Giessel,

I am writing to you to express my opposition of the SB 42, the personal use priority bill. The Personal Use group was established because they don't fit the criteria for sport or subsistence. They want to take

larger limits than sport and they do not meet the "need" requirement of subsistence, and yet they still want more and more. The Board Of Fish denied this very proposal at their last meeting. Personal use bag limits are quite large on reds so the reason they want priority is to be able to take king salmon. Increasing their bag limits would not guarantee this even, but it would result in more strain on the salmon resource. With 6 to 10 thousand annual Personal Use fishermen this would be devastating to an already declining king population. As commercial fishermen, we have lost our inside fishery in an effort to restore King populations. We have done our part and abide by this regulation, even though it was a substantial and costly restriction that we took. The commercial fisheries should not be the only responsible user group to be restricted. 98% of Personal Use permit holders come from urban locations such as Anchorage or Fairbanks. I do not believe this is a resource that the Personal Use permit holders can't live without. They drive hundreds of miles, leaving other salmon opportunities to come to this resource. Cordova is sustained by this resource, that is a fact. We do not have the same opportunities to sample from and the Copper River salmon are not just a luxury item for us.

Please think of our family in your decision making during this matter. Our lively hood (not our luxury) depends on this. Thank you for taking the time to ready my thoughts.

Sincerely,

David, Sheryl, Travis, Tristan and Shelby Glasen

Lifelong Cordovan & Fishing Family

Honorable Senator Giessel,

I would like to express my strong opposition to SB 42. I've been an Alaskan resident for over 35 years.

I have commercial fished for 25 years. I have trolled in the past and presently fish a SE Drift permit as well as longline for halibut. Commercial fishing is also the corner stone of the economy for the small, rural community that I have lived in for 30+ years, Craig on Prince of Wales Island.

I also hunt, sport fish and utilize our fish resources by subsistence harvests and am a strong proponent of subsistence harvesting opportunities

I am concerned that laws prioritizing subsistence harvests will bring about unintended complications to our overall fisheries management. I would strongly encourage working toward a broader consideration of individual and community subsistence needs. I realize this a challenging and often frustrating effort but we must continue on this path. Refine and focus the process where necessary but continue with this approach to management of our fisheries resources.

The economic and legal consequences of this proposed change to management will be significant and will only serve to create more tension between the many who utilize our fish and game resources, in many different ways.

Respectfully,

Michael Kampnich

FV Kristina

Craig, Alaska 99921

Dear Senator,

I am a resident of Cordova, AK and have been commercial fishing here and around the state for the last 12 years since I was 13 years old. I now own two boats and permits and am working hard to pay for them. The vast majority of the money I make I reinvest into my fishing operation and spend right here in Cordova; hiring people to build nets, help me install new equipment etc.

I have also gone subsistence fishing with my father for as long as I remember bringing home salmon for us to eat for the winter so I understand the connection Alaskans have with salmon and we all want to have access to it. I believe that salmon belong to all Alaskans and my job is to harvest it for them as efficiently as possible.

If we start prioritizing personal use fishing over commercial we are saying that the salmon don't belong to everyone they only belong to those with the knowledge and ability to catch them themselves. This is wrong, If someone is incapable of going and participating in a personal use fishery because of health problems or any reason they should still have access to that fish and a well managed commercial fishery is the only way to give them that.

This so called "Alaskans first fishing act" is nothing more than an allocation grab and does not put all Alaskans first it puts personal use Fishermen first. I do not see why a resident of Alaska with the time off, money and ability to go fishing should be able to feed their children salmon but a working mom who doesn't have any of that shouldn't be able to stop into Costco on her way home and buy that same Copper River salmon for her kids. However if this bill passes that is exactly what could happen if there is a small run of salmon.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Ezekiel Brown

Dear Senator Giessel,

I am writing to express my opposition to prioritizing personal use fisheries over commercial and sport fishing throughout Alaska.

I was born here and have watched this fishery grow and accommodate the demand for salmon from thousands upon thousands of Alaskans. At the same time, I am a commercial fisherman who setnets for Sockeye in Cook Inlet, providing salmon for the vast majority of Alaskans who do not take part in the Personal Use Fishery by selling my fish to processors who in turn sell to restaurants and markets throughout Alaska.

I think this legislation is shortsighted and will decimate my fishery, and others throughout the state. In my opinion it should be voted down before it advances any further.

If you feel, as a representative of the people of the state of Alaska, that it should be considered, I hope you will move cautiously and consider carefully the impacts that this legislation could have on Alaska's fisheries.

I have many questions regarding its potential effects.

How will creating a priority for more than 80 personal use fisheries around the state impact ADF&G's ability to manage for sustained yield as demanded by our constitution? I think it will be difficult since PU catch reports are mailed in over the winter, if at all, and there is no way to keep track personal use harvest inseason. Demanding that Personal Use be given priority puts Fish and Game managers in an untenable position given the lack of hard data collected in season.

Is there a need to establish statutory priority for these fisheries?

Management plans already prioritize personal use. Last summer the Kenai River dipnet fishery was open every day, for 21 days straight. The Kasilof River fishery saw similar hours. This while sport and commercial fisheries throughout the inlet and its drainages were curtailed dramatically in order to assure adequate Chinook escapement into the Kenai Rivier.

The personal use fishery has never been closed before any commercial fishery was closed. In fact, emergency orders have exclusively closed commercial fishing first, often with just a few hours warning. At the same time the personal use fishery on the Kenai remained open for three weeks straight.

The personal Use fishery on the Kenai Peninsula tremendously important to the tens of thousands of Alaskans who take part in it, however the fishery is not conducted in an orderly manner. It is well documented that the beaches where these fisheries take place are trashed, adjacent private property overrun, the boat launches are backed up for hours, and the lower Kenai River is packed with small, often overloaded boats. Waders stand chest deep, nets extended as commercial boats try to move up river without swamping the dippers. It's only a matter of time before a tragedy occurs.

In addition to the chaotic nature of the fishery, there are the many legal violations issued to those participating. I've been told anecdotally that every other personal use fisher contacted by Alaska State Troopers during the summer of 2014 was found to be in violation of the law.

I can't verify that percentage of violators but I have attached a listing of all of the fishing citations issued by the Alaska State Troopers on the Kenai last summer. This includes commercial, sport and personal use fisheries. While there are a few tickets issued to sport fishermen, guides, and commercial fishermen, the vast majority were written for personal use fishing violations. The document spans 32 pages, but the trend is established early, and remains constant throughout.

Senator Giessel, until the ramifications of this legislation on Fish and Game's ability to manage to sustained yield are assessed; until personal use fisheries can be monitored in a timely manner; until the impact on the river environment can be cleaned up; until the conduct of the participants can be brought into the compliance with the law; how can the Alaska Senate possibly consider placing these disorderly and violation plagued personal use fisheries above either the commercial or sport fishery?

Thanks for taking the time to consider my concerns and I hope you do the right thing and vote to reject this terrible piece of legislation.

Andy Hall

Chugiak Alaska

My name is Mark Hazeltine, I am an Alaska resident and have been commercial fishing and personal use fishing my whole life. I have been an Area E permit holder for 8 years. I strongly appose SB 42 the Personal Use Priority Bill.

Dear Senator Giessel, I have been a Cook Inlet drift fisherman for 37 years. Our fisheries managers have enough trouble managing our fisheries without this added burden. Alaskans already have ample opportunity to fill their freezers. Please oppose this bill.

Thank you for your time, Chris Kempf

I oppose SB42. I commercial fish and also fish for personal use. I have done so for 40 years. During those 40 years I have supported my Family, State and Community with my commercial fishing business. I have also never had a problem meeting my personal use needs. The current system is working and I see no reason to change. I oppose SB42.

Thank You, Richard Curran, Sitka, Alaska 99835

Greetings,

I know testimony is probably over but I wanted to let you know that I support SB42. Many thanks to Senator Stolze for sponsoring the bill. Personal use harvest of fish is so important to Alaskans.

Thanks,

Rita Heidkamp
Fairbanks, AK 99712

Dear Senator Giessel:

The following is a transcript of my testimony today in support of SB 42, to which I've a P.S., and if I can find it, I'll send a poster that illustrates the relative magnitude of the Chitina dip-netting harvest and the Copper River area commercial fishing harvest in a particular year.

Madam Chair, my name is Richard Bishop. I live in Goldstream Valley in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, which happens to also be a State non-subsistence area.

I support SB 42.

I have fished for salmon in the Tanana River personal use fishery in most years since the mid-1960's. I and my family also dipnet at Chitina in some years. These fisheries have been a major source of meat for our family for over 50 years,

Our experience is not unique. We fish for food - an Alaskan tradition, as do thousands of other Alaskans. I understand that personal use fisheries far outnumber any other class of Alaskan fishers.

Personal use fishing provides the kind of opportunity that the Alaska Constitution outlines: sustained yield, common use, for the maximum benefit of Alaskans. It's really the same as subsistence fishing as it has in the past been classified in regulations.

The Alaska Constitution allows for resident preferences. Personal use fishing is for residents. It should have priority over sport or commercial fishing when the harvestable surplus cannot accommodate all uses.

Please pass SB 42.

Thank you.

Richard (Dick) Bishop

Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen;

I believe a personal use priority is long overdue and therefore I support SB42. I believe this legislation would free up the Board of Fish to better manage the resource instead of focusing on people and interest groups.

I eat lots of fish because everything else that I like as well as I like fish is bad for my health, and here in Juneau I don't feel shorted on fish. However, it does appear to me that everyone but me has some priority claim on the resource. Many Juneau people keep their legal residence just outside the Borough in Gustavus, Tenakee, etc. so that they qualify for a subsistence priority right here in Juneau. Others have some sort of birthright preference. And of course many others own permits that they believe gives them first take on fish until they decide to sell that priority interest.

So SB42 would go a small distance toward giving people like me an equal right. I still could not sell fish. I would not be allowed to waste fish. I would not be able to break the law by overharvesting what the department sets as the catch. But at least my right to have a license and catch and eat fish would be recognize. So please move this out of committee and have it enacted this year.

I do agree with those who say this would easily pass as a ballot initiative, and I would work to make that happen. My wife and I worked very hard on 4 different political campaigns last year. I hope even those people who have an interest in opposing SB42 can see that a ballot initiative would probably have wording that special interest groups like limited entry permittees would very much dislike. In that respect SB 42 protects commercial fishermen.

Thank you for your time and for all your hard work.

Tomas Boutin
Juneau

Please support SB 42 for the betterment of all Alaskans!

The way you vote on this will influence the way I vote on you.

Jeffrey H Bushke

Chair Cathy Giessel;

My name is Larry Engel and I reside with my wife near Palmer, Alaska. I have been an Alaskan resident since 1958. I am writing in support of SB-42 because I believe 'the best use of Alaska's fisheries is on Alaskan's dinner tables'. Passage of SB-42 would be an important step in assuring such a priority for Alaskans that live in urban areas. As you likely know such a priority is already in place under subsistence regulations for Alaskan's living in rural location. In summary all Alaskans should have a priority for our common property fisheries resources. Your consideration of my comments are appreciated.

Larry Engel

I support SB42 as I have always believed personal use should have priority over commercial use.

Thanks for finally trying to address this.

Tracy Blais

Dear Senator Giessel,

It seems to me that most of my friends who commercial fished in the past have sold their permits to people in Seattle. In light of my personal observation I would like to see Alaska residents become a higher priority for harvesting Alaska's seafood.

Respectfully yours,

John K. Petersen

Fairbanks, Alaska

My name is Craig Edmundson and I support SB42. Please put Alaska personal use harvest first.

I have lived in Alaska since 1985. I have raised my family here and love fishing in Alaska. I'd like to be considered first before commercial use.

thanks, Craig

Dear Senator Stoltze and Representative Neuman,

Thank you for sponsoring Senate Bill 42 and HB110, providing priority to personal use fisheries when fishing restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal. I am in full support of these Bills.

No matter what we call it, "personal use fishing" is no different than subsistence fishing. It is not sport fishing. It is harvesting fish to feed our families and it is a significant part of our Alaskan culture. There is no higher use for our fish and game resources than feeding Alaskans.

We have seen personal use fishing take a back seat to both commercial fishing interests and sport fishing interests. When Chinook runs are down on the Copper River Fishery, for example, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is quick to close the harvest of these fish by dipnetters while commercial fleets continue to harvest them and sport fishermen upriver continue to both retain them and catch and release them in their spawning grounds. This is nonsensical. I, too, am a sport fisherman, but feeding our families should not take a back seat to recreational fishing. We used to be able to retain five (5) Chinook salmon in the Copper River Dipnet Fishery. Now we may be able to get one, but even that is rare. Five kings equates to over 100 pounds of protein for my children. Again--- there is no higher use for our fish and game resources than feeding Alaskan families.

Thank you both for sponsoring these Bills. And thank you for serving Alaska and Alaska residents. Alaska First! It's time!

Sincerely,

Jake Sprankle

Fairbanks, AK 99709

Dear Sen. Giessel; My name is Edward Dailey and I reside in Fairbanks, which I have done for nearly 40 years. I am retired and on a fixed income. As you well know, food prices have increased by leaps and bounds recently. I have been to Chitna many times in the past when I could get time off from work to help supplement my income and food source. Since I retired almost 8 years ago, I take advantage of dip netting to add to my food source for the year. While I agree that subsistence use has priority, personal use should be second over all other uses. Just as the Permanent Fund was set up for distribution of oil royalties to residents who meet the requirements, so should our salmon be available to the people of Alaska for personal use. I respectfully ask you to please help get this bill passed. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. Thank you, Ed Dailey.

Dear Senator Giessel, thank you for supporting SB42, my wife and I depend on personal use salmon for a substantial portion of our food. Sincerely yours, Thomas and Donna Check, Wasilla, AK

Cathy, Please support SB42, the people of alaska need it. thank you. Pete Evans

Senator Giessel-

Please support SB 42. We need balance in the use of common resources.

Thank you,
Ron Kahlenbeck
Anchorage, AK

Senator , Please support SB 42

Jim Stubbs
Anchorage
Thank You

Senator Giessel: I wish to express my support of SB42.

Thanks

Dave Kennedy

North Pole, Alaska

Senator Giessel

I urge you to support SB42 and to do everything possible to ensure its passage. While commercial fishing is important to our economy, it is more important to support Alaskans first. However it should not be forgotten that sport fishing is also important to our economy and a well-managed sport fishery can offset any potential losses to the commercial fishery.

Senator Stoltze

Thank you for sponsoring this important bill.

Thanks Senator Giessel and Senator Stoltze for your support.

Ben R Milam, Palmer, AK 99645

As one who fishes the Kenai every summer in order to fill my freezer and my soul, I support SB42. The commercial fishing fleet, many of whom are based out of state, should get last dibs when it comes to taking advantage of Alaska's bounty.

Thank you for your time

Curtis Watkins

Please support SB 42. As a resident of this state since 1978 I have hunted and fished to provide for my family. As the the state's population increases so does the demand for our fish and game. This bill addresses allocation issues that have been mismanaged for a long time. I could go on and on..... Once again please support SB 42. Grant Klotz

Please count me as a supporter! — Elyce Santerre, Chugiak, AK

Dear Senator Giessel,

Thank you for supporting SB 42 giving Alaskan citizens rights to salmon before commercial entities. Alaska is a place that is very costly to live and many unfortunately live on tight budgets. The ability to provide fish for the family can mean the difference between eating and starving, providing for yourself or depending on government assistance at a cost to all taxpayers. People all across the state should have priority to wisely use and manage this precious natural resource. I know first hand from listening to a friend in a village that his family barely made it last year when they were deprived fish due to commercial precedence. He had to chose between heating his house or buying groceries with very little winter income. Had the escapement numbers not been affected by commercial fisheries and had he been allowed to fish first, his family would have had food and he could have focused on heat.

Another reason this is so important to me is health. I may live near a grocery store but it does not mean I can freely purchase food there nor can I afford to. My husband and I both have autoimmune conditions requiring us to avoid many foods due to the way they are processed. We do not need to worry about what's in our wild salmon and wild game. I know many others that also suffer from Crohn's Disease, Diabetes, and Celiac that benefit greatly from having this resource.

I believe this resource can be managed soundly in a way that we can all benefit, even the fish. I truly appreciate you and Senator Stoltze addressing putting Alaskans first. It just makes sense and I hope your colleagues feel the same way.

Respectfully,
Julie Gillette

Dear Senator Giessel,

Having lived in Alaska for 45 years, I have had the good fortune of modestly harvesting our wildlife resources from time to time. I have had the unfortunate experience, however, of being "skunked" one year while trying to catch a few reds for personal use in the Kasilof River. The mouth of the river was clogged with commercial fishermen whose nets almost totally shut down any escapement upstream. I

believe this occurs quite often. Further, it is my understanding that commercial fishermen (mostly out of state, I suspect) and commercial guides (guiding mostly out of state hunters?) harvest about 98% of our fish and game populations. Therefore, I am in favor of SB 42 and urge you to support it, too.

Thank you for all your hard work.

Sincerely,
Andrew R. Zajac
Eagle River, AK

Senator Giessel,

Please support SB42. Personal use fisheries are important to Alaskans.

Roger Penrod

Anchorage, AK 99515

I strongly support SB42.

Roy Slempe
Anchorage, AK

I support personal use over commercial use for our salmon stocks...

JC McKee

Dear Senator Giessel

Please support SB 42. This appears to me to be a small step in a direction that would be closer to what our state constitution says regarding our resource management mandate. Please remember that our state constitution had to be amended to allow limited entry permit fishing. This limited entry fishery, particularly in the Cook inlet is an out dated management practice, and when the electorate finally wakes up to this fact, policy makers found to be on the side of special interest , limited entry permit holders, will be displaced by lawmakers with a populist mandate to let the people have their fish! Thank for your interest in this subject.

Steve Doner
Wasilla, Alaska
99654

Dear Senator Giessel,

Please support SB 42 . I have been a citizen of the state 40 yrs. and want only to be treated fairly. The constitution state's. All the resources belong to ALL the people. When all the people realize this maybe we will get a fair share of OUR fish. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Al Doner
Wasilla Ak.99654

Thank you for introducing this bill ; I am in full support of it.

Our wild fish stocks are a precious commodity desired by many. During my 55 year residence I have witnessed how many powerful special interests have managed to secure preferential treatment and benefits (limited entry, subsistence, permits). Many of these are none-residents. I have no problem with the subsistence priorities for native Alaskans. In addition more restrictions are placed on the use of wild fish stocks, due to the environmental laws and regulations, like the Endangered Species Act. The situation with the Cook Inlet belugas comes to mind. With diminished fish-resources these endangered species have priority over any human use and interference. There may be little the State can do, to counteract the provisions of such Federal laws. SB 42 will help to give the regular citizen a chance to participate in a resource owned by all. Thank you for introducing it and I hope for a speedy passage. Heinrich Springer, Anchorage, AK 99523

I fully support this measure.

Alan N. Corthell

SITKA LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Sitka_LIO@legis.state.ak.us
907-747-6276/ phone -- 907-747-5807/fax

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: JOSEPH D'ARLENZO
REPRESENTING: MYSELF
BILL#/ SUBJECT: SENATE BILL 42: PERSONAL USE FISHING PRIORITY
COMMITTEE &
HEARING DATE: SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

April 1, 2015

Dear Senate Resources Committee:

I have been a resident since 1975, have commercial fished for halibut since the early 1980s and participated in personal use fisheries from 1975 to present.

Subsistence fishing is the life blood of Sitka. I feel Sitkans realize we are all responsible for keeping our fisheries healthy and sustainable. We currently have an ample opportunity to satisfy our personal use and subsistence needs. It is my belief that SB 42 would be detrimental to commercial and personal use fishing and pit Alaskans against Alaskans. I urge you not to pass this bill.

Joe D'Arienzo

752-0458

delsenzo@live.com

~~THANK YOU~~
JOE D'ARLENZO.
C. 752-0458
e delsenzo@live.com

From: jeff farvour <jefarv@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 10:22 AM
To: Marie Murray
Subject: SB42 comment

Dear Chair Geissel and Resources Committee members,

My name is Jeff Farvour, I live in Sitka. Commercial fishing is my livelihood but I am also very active in sport, personal use and subsistence fisheries. I am strongly opposed to SB42 as it pits Alaskan against Alaskan in the worst possible ways. SB42 would undermine the authority of the Board of Fish and diminishes Alaskans confidence in sound fisheries management. All users should bear the burden of conservation of the resource that we are dependent on. I urge you to leave fishery allocations with the Board of Fish and the implementation of those decisions with ADF&G.

Sincerely, Jeff Farvour Sitka



March 31, 2015

JUNEAU, ALASKA

Dear Senator Giessel and Senate Resource Committee Members:

Taku Smokeries has been an established seafood processing company located in Juneau, Alaska since 1984. We are writing you to voice our opposition to SB 42 (Personal Use Priority Bill).

Commercial fishermen, their families, and the communities in which processors are located rely on the current well balanced approach that the Alaska Board of fisheries (BOF) and ADF&G use to manage the seafood resource. We feel SB 42 will create an atmosphere that is not conducive to problem solving but rather increase conflicts with user groups in regards to the allocation of seafood resources through legislative action. The current BOF process takes input from all current users and ADF&G input as well as scientific data to allow controlled harvest of seafood resources. While this BOF process can be frustrating at times for all users it brings all people to the table to discuss the issues and uses sound scientific data to make harvest policies that are implemented by ADF&G. This gives ADF&G the flexibility to manage subsistence, sport, and commercial harvests according to run strength and forecast models in addition to real time data collected in these various fisheries. ADF&G can and has used EO (emergency orders) to close various fisheries if real time data suggests weak or failed returns. Again, flexibility is key to managing these resources using the best scientific data available.

In the commercial seafood business all species and poundage is declared and reported to multiple state and federal agencies, this info is used both for in-season and post season management/assessment. One of the unintended consequences of SB 42 will be expanded resource access, minimal if-any reporting requirements and will result in an increase of wasteful harvests.

Taku Smokeries employs up to 90 employees during the summer months, of that workforce over 70% are Alaska residents. The fish processors across the state of Alaska are vitally important to the communities for jobs, property tax, and fish tax revenue; SB 42 will have a net-negative impact on communities in Alaska.

The seafood harvested by a commercial fleet of predominately Alaskan residents is taxed at 3.5% of the value of the seafood. This 3.5% tax goes directly into the general fund of which 50% by legislative action is then returned to the borough in which the seafood is processed. At this time – while the state of Alaska is experiencing a budget crunch due to falling oil prices and production – it would not be in the

550 South Franklin Street
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 463-4617

best interest of Alaskans to pass SB 42, resulting in less revenue going into the general fund from the commercial seafood industry.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to voice our concerns against SB 42.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric R. Norman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric R. Norman
V.P. & General Manager

Native Village of Eyak

110 Nicholoff Way

P.O. Box 1388

Cordova, Alaska 99574-1388

P (907) 424-7738 * F (907) 424-7739

www.eyak-nsn.gov



10,000 years in our Traditional Homeland, Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and the Gulf of Alaska

April 3, 2015

Honorable Cathy Giessel
Alaska Senate
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

The Native Village of Eyak's Traditional Tribal Council is disturbed by the speed and momentum with which SB42 has been pushed through the legislative process, with severely limited opportunities for comment, participation in drafting, or amending the bill. We oppose the passage of SB42 in the strongest possible terms. For our local commercial fisheries, especially the Copper River Drift Gillnet fishery, this could create unnecessary and unproductive losses of fishing opportunity should personal use be prioritized ahead of commercial fisheries.

Extensive radio tagging programs have discovered Copper River salmon take 8-33 days to migrate from the Gulf of Alaska to the first personal use fishery on the Copper River above Haley Creek. Thus, there is a substantial temporal disconnect between the personal use fishery and the commercial fisheries 162 km downriver; therefore, a harvestable surplus can have come and gone from the commercial fishing grounds before arriving at the personal use fishery, and to deny the commercial fleet access is unnecessary and onerous.

The current management strategy for the Copper River is based on data collected from the section of river that lies between these two fisheries, at Miles Lake (Sockeye) and at Baird Canyon/Canyon Creek (Chinook). With the commercial fishery already limited to fishing outside the barrier islands, this substantially reduces the ability of the commercial fleet to target Chinook salmon, such that SB42 is largely relevant only to Sockeye salmon. Currently, the methods used by ADF&G Commercial Fisheries for management of the Sockeye spawning escapement goal already ensures that if an inadequate number of fish are suspected in the river the commercial fishery will close. Thus the Personal Use fishery already has the protections it seeks in the current management plan, and can only cause unnecessary loss of income and revenue to Cordova's commercial fishing families. Moreover, the recent history of Sockeye escapement into the Copper River indicates that this management strategy results in more Sockeye salmon in the system than escapement goals indicate, and thus an abundance of harvestable sockeye available for upriver fisheries.

Further, all state residents can participate in subsistence fisheries, which already supersede commercial fisheries in priority, and so access to the same fish is assured during times of scarcity. Subsistence fisheries already exist on the Copper River, and so this would amount to nothing more than a de-prioritization of commercial fisheries, with no real benefit to users of this resource upriver. While this strategy may be suitable for other parts of the state, it is simply a poor fit statewide.

Native Village of Eyak

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10,000 years in our Traditional Homeland, Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and the Gulf of Alaska

As we all know, Alaska's economy is largely built upon resource extraction for profit, whether it be minerals, oil, gas, or fish. All of these contribute to the state economy, which is presently suffering greatly from reduced revenues from the oil and gas sector. Commercial fishing represents Alaska's only truly sustainable commercial activity, and to undermine one of the state's most important commercial fishing fleets, completely outside of the Board of Fish process, and with such urgency and unnecessary speed, abbreviated opportunity for comment, is an affront so egregious that we cannot abide the passage of SB42 and urge you NOT to adopt this bill into law.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert J. Henrichs". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Robert" is written in a larger, more prominent script, while "J. Henrichs" follows in a similar but slightly smaller script.

Robert Henrichs

President

Traditional Tribal Council

Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

P.O. Box 1484 • Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • (907) 842-4370 • Fax (907) 842-4336 • 1-800-478-4370



March 3rd, 2015

Subject: Senate Bill 42

Dear Senators & House Representatives;

The Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation expresses strong opposition to SB 42, and its companion House Bill 110 that would give a priority to personal use fisheries throughout Alaska.

We are not opposed to personal use fisheries. To the contrary, we recognize their importance for Alaska families. We are strongly opposed however to legislation to mandate a personal use priority that would pose serious economic harm to the people of our region and other Alaskans whose economies are built on existing harvest regulations and management plans.

Harvest patterns upon which coastal economies have evolved must not be sacrificed to legislation that would supersede management plans developed in accordance with sustainability and established allocation criteria. SB42 and HB110, in every respect, violate the intent of regulations establishing personal use fisheries (5AAC 77.001(4)(b) allowing their prosecution "when that taking does not jeopardize the sustained yield of a resource and either does not negatively impact an existing resource user or is in the broad public interest.

The broad public interest is not served by a politically motivated and demonstrably unnecessary priority that would both jeopardize sustainability and undermine the economic livelihood of other resource users.

Current regulations provide personal use fishers ample opportunity to harvest established bag limits, and the Alaska Board of Fisheries recognizes a responsibility to do so within the provisions of (5AAC 77.001(4)(b) and Alaska's established allocation criteria. Recent Board action at its December meeting in Cordova liberalized personal use bag limits on the Copper River, and Cook Inlet's commercial fishing openings were long ago scheduled to accommodate the weekend preferences of Kenai and Kasilof River dipnetters. Current regulations work as they are intended, and in areas where the sustainability is not in question, no Alaskans are denied opportunity to harvest fish to feed their families.

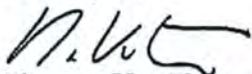
The political impetus for a personal use priority derives from the understandably passionate interest in salmon from dense population areas connected to the road system. But despite fisheries managers best efforts at forecasting returns, nothing biologists can do will guarantee fish will be available on weekends or a personal use fisher's preferred holiday. Would this priority require closing all commercial fishing in Cook Inlet order to increase the Kenai River personal user dipnetters chances for success? The inevitable

over-escapement on these river systems is totally incompatible compatible with sustained yield, and the economic disruption of such action, both short and long term, would be unconscionable. To think such a scenario farfetched is naïve, given the political pressure urban centers can exert and the very real propensity for litigation; witness recent efforts to ban commercial setnetting in Cook Inlet.

No natural resource harvester is guaranteed success, in commercial, sport or personal use fishing. A principal effect of SB42 would be to create an expectation success on the part of personal use fishers, exacerbating tensions between the various user groups. It would also require wholesale revisions of fishery management plans statewide, plans meticulously crafted over many years to insure sustainable harvests, setting the stage for negative impacts to coastal economies and sustainability.

We urge the Legislature to abandon SB42 and HB110 which, while seemingly well-intended and politically popular, will produce negative management and economic fallout with serious unintended consequences.

Thank you,



Norman Van Vactor
CEO/President

I oppose this bill
Rosemary Ludvick

Hi Mike,

I'm writing to express my opposition to SB42, and my general disgust with Bill Stoltze' endless attempts at end runs around the fish board process in Alaska.

As you know, I am your neighbor, just around the corner on Baldy Mtn Drive, so you know you don't have to go far to see the importance of commercial fishing to our community. I was born in Alaska, and have been fishing commercially since 1983, sport fishing since 1958, and I personal use fished here and there, although I consider personal use fishing just a glorified edition of sport fishing. Back before I started commercial fishing, my philosophy was that I could catch all I needed under sport fishing bag limits, and have fun while I was at it. The only time this was not true was when the many years of federal government mis-management had almost ruined the salmon runs by the '50s and early '60's.

Now here comes Bill Stoltze, bought and paid for by the sport guide (also commercial, but they won't admit it) industry, trying to make an allocation grab. Again. This is shallow, self-serving, irresponsible, high-handed, low-down, self-centered greediness, inexcusable in a public official. Of course, this is just my humble opinion. But what else can you call it? Here I thought public officials represented the public, not the largest donor to their election campaign; silly me.

While Mr. Stoltze doesn't have the corner on this kind of behavior, we have a very workable process in this state to address this issue. Please keep this in mind when you vote on this legislation.

Your humble & obedient servant, etc. etc.

Bob Mielke

Hello,

My name is William Robertson, I live in Palmer and have been a commercial fisherman for 52 years, 32 of those on the Copper River and PAWS. I think this is the 2nd or 3rd time I have been asked to comment on this issue. As I remember, it was through the Fish and Game Board process. I can't understand why these issues are taken away form the State agencies that have been formed to deal with them. Taking it through the legislature will only produce a result of popular opinion, not one based on what is best for the resource. If this is the case, then we should save the State some money and get rid of the agencies that take care of all the rest of the State resources. Roads by popular vote, ferry routes by popular vote, etc.

Every since I have fished the Copper River, ADFG as met or exceeded the upriver escapement, which included personal use needs and the upriver escapement has continues to rise with the increase of usage

by personal use and subsistence. As I call it "unlimited access to a limited resource", that is why limited entry was created on the commercial catch, so we could make a living and insure a future for the fish we depended on. If we have a bad run of fish in our area that our permit covers we can't go to another area. Personal use people can go to other areas if there isn't enough fish in one of the many rivers in the state.

I hope this doesn't go down the road it is on and is left up to the process that has served the fish and game of the state for many years. If it does come up for popular vote then I will probably have to get out of commercial fishing because I can't take the chance of which way the wind is blowing to swing the popular vote.

Thankyou, William Robertson

Senator Giessel and members of the senate resources committee, My name is John Renner I am a resident of Cordova, a Commercial Fisherman and chairman of our fish and game advisory committee. Please oppose hb 42 personal use was a concept that was introduced in 1982 as a way for urban resource users to access resources in times of abundance. All residents of Alaska already Qualify for a subsistence priority due to the Mcdowal decision in 1989. Please share the conservation burden between all other user groups. Fisheries management is full of unintended consiquenses the Pu fishery on the Copper river is located 9-to15 days of fish passage up river in front of the subsistence fishery a priority could adversely effect both fisheries on this vital resource thank you, John Renner

Dear Senator,

I am an Alaskan resident of 52 years, and have been a full-time commercial fisherman for the last 28 years. My 4 children have grown up commercial fishing with me, and they now each have their own boats and permits. We currently make our livelihood in the Prince William Sound drift gillnet fishery.

We also participate in sport, personal use, and subsistence harvests. The continuing good health of Alaska's fish resources is VERY important to me, and to the rest of my family.

It appears to me that the personal use needs are being satisfied under the current regulations. I highly OPPOSE SB 42 !!! I feel that this bill would unfairly, and unnecessarily take away more of the resource from the commercial fleet.

Thank you for your service, and for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,
Karl Backlund
Moose Pass, AK. 99631

My family is a third generation commercial fishing operation. The importance of small businesses in this state is huge. The middle-class is under attack from all sides and this is just another way for the far left wing to accomplish their goals.

Daniel Thistle

I AM HENRY KROLL AND I OPPOSE SENATE BILL 42 PERSONAL USE PRIORITY

Address: Soldotna, Alaska 99669

The personal use fishery will destroy the salmon runs if it is allowed to continue the way it is being managed. Few people know as much about the fisheries as I.

At age 71 I am author of ten books and currently a resident of Soldotna at Mile 105 Sterling Highway. I fished the same set-net site in Tuxedni Bay 65-years and still fishing. My father came to Tuxedni Bay to can fish in 1944 and we homesteaded the area in 1955. I owned the 72-foot Mary M and lived in Halibut Cove near Clem Tillion and fished king crab in lower Cook Inlet and Kodiak waters 23 years catching more than 3-million pounds. I also fished tanner crab, shrimp, halibut and thousands of tons of herring.

I fished and tendered millions of pounds of salmon into Seldovia, Port Grayham, Homer, and Kenai fifty five years. My web sites are: www.AlaskaPublishing.com and www.GuardDogbooks.com

I have seen several fisheries destroyed by oil tanker ballast water. 9 blowouts and state greed to sell oil leases in lower Cook Inlet.

KENAI RIVER SALMON

I fear that the Board of Fish policy of managing the Kenai River salmon based on getting the most money for the state, city, and borough governments with increased tourism is not in the best interest of the fish. If you allow the destruction of the last fishery in this area people will starve. Do not make the Personal use fishery a priority.

Having witnessed the destruction of other fisheries I now fear for the salmon. I studied the biology of salmon and fished salmon 65 years. I tendered many millions of pounds of salmon into Seldovia, Port Grayham, Homer and Kenai. The Board of Fish policy of extracting the maximum amount of revenue out of the fishery will ultimately destroy it.

One 50-cubic- inch displacement outboard motor (some displace more than 100 cubic inches) running at an average speed of 2000 RPM, (some operate at 6000 RPM or more when going up river) discharges 5,000 cubic inches of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, gas and oil residue into the river water each minute. Divide the number 5,000 cubic inches by the number of cubic inches in a foot >1728< you get 2.8935 cubic feet per minute times the number of minutes in a 12-hour day (720 minutes) you get 2,083.32 cubic feet. Multiply that by the 400 or so outboard motors running up and down the river = 833,328 cubic feet of gas discharged into the Kenai River each 12-hour day. Multiply the above number by 30 days of constant dipping **you get 24,998,840 cubic feet per month of carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide gas plus fish guts and other pollutants discharged into a three-mile stretch of the Kenai River that deplete and displaces oxygen.** The mud stirred up by all that horsepower coats the gills of the fish making even harder for them to take in oxygen.

Do you think salmon hold their breath while they swim upstream??? How much carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide are absorbed into their blood stream while traversing that three-mile trip up to the bridge???. Will that lack of oxygen and increased carbon monoxide weaken the fish and ultimately affect the salmon eggs???. How much carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide will weaken the fish so that they can't make it upstream to spawn???. **Start your car in the garage and see how long you last in there!**

The river flows at an average speed of two nautical miles per hour downstream except when the tide changes then it actually makes the river water flow **up stream six miles for four hours** during flood tide. **So you have concentrated polluted river water flowing back up stream into the river mixing with more pollution at the exact time when the bulk of the salmon runs are trying to get past the hoard of dip-netters.** Salmon have to swim at least four hours with muddy gills taking in carbon monoxide and other pollutants into their blood stream. Will they have enough energy to make it up to the spawning beds? Will the carbon monoxide go into the eggs and have an effect on the young salmon? We don't know. It's safer to eliminate the water pollution before it destroys the salmon runs. The person use fishery has to use electric outboards and row dories!!!

DEAR SENATOR RESOURCES COMMITTEE;

My name is Dan Bilderback, I am a commercial salmon fisherman who fishes on the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound. This has been my livelihood for 45 years. I also sport fish for salmon and enjoy it immensely. I currently live in Anchorage, AK with my wife Christine.

I would like to strongly urge you not to support SB 42 which would give the State of Alaska Personal Use category an equal access priority with the Subsistence users over the Sport and Commercial user groups. SB 42 is devisive legislation for Alaskan Residents.

Fish and Game has to Manage for brood stock and subsistence as a mandated priority. If the Personal User group is thrown into this mix it makes Management much more complicated for ADF&G to achieve.

Personal use was created by the Board of Fisheries to give the people of Alaska access to fish resources for recreational and household personal consumption. As such, Personal Use has been given a generous quota and access that has, due to its popularity, only increased with time. I believe that to circumvent the Board of Fish's authority to allocate resources within fisheries would be a detrimental to all users.

As I said , I have been in the fisheries for a long time and frankly I'm tired of seeing that some people feel that they are ENTITLED to the resource because they have the political clout at the moment.

I would be glad to clarify any of the points I have made.

Thank You Senator,

Dan P Bilderback,

Senate Resources Committee Chair Cathy Giessel and Committee Members,

I was not able to give public testimony at the Kenai LIO office on April 1st (fools day) because the committee ran out of time in part from the vast number of people from around the State wanting to testify in opposition to SB 42. Enclosed is my written testimony.

My name is David Martin. I have lived in Clam Gulch Alaska for the past 44 years. Under some peoples definition of Alaskans First I and most Alaskans do not qualify as an Alaskan. Contrary to an Alaskan that has one year of residency and therefor qualifies for personal use, I and most Alaskans are, second to them under SB 42.

I am strongly opposed to SB 42!

This bill is not in the best interest of the Alaskan's resources or Alaskan residents. It divides Alaskans and discriminates among resource users and consumers. There are plenty of opportunities for Alaskans to get their seafood weather they catch it or as most Alaskan seafood consumers do, prefer to purchase it. In 2008 alone the sports fishery in Cook Inlet caught and released, for recreation activity, over 650,000 salmon according to ADF&G data. SB 42 gives an entitlement and special privilege with no responsibility for the conservation or management of the resources. Everyone says they want politics out of Alaska's fisheries management and Alaska also tells the world their success to sustainable, healthy, abundant fisheries is because Alaska fisheries management uses the best available science for real time abundance based management and maximum sustainable yields.

SB 42 will give good political campaign slogans of "I gave you a personal use priority. Vote for me!" However SB 42 is contrary to reliable science and is in violation of Alaska State Constitution, Article 8, Section 15 " No exclusive right or special privilege of fishery shall be created or authorized in the natural waters of the State." I have not taken an oath to uphold Alaska's Constitution but legislators have. I would hope legislators represent all Alaskans. To me Alaskans First means every citizen of Alaska not just a one year Alaskan resident having priority over a life long Alaskan just because they dip net. Every Alaskan and non-resident who harvest Alaska's fisheries resource must also be held responsible for scientific management, conservation and sustainability.

Alaska fisheries resources and habitat are not unlimited and will become unsustainable with management dictated by allocative bills like SB 42.

The Legislature has more important State issues than spending time on bills that are self serving and pit Alaskans against Alaskans and undermine fisheries management and resource production.

Please kill SB 42.

Thank you.

David Martin

I am writing as a lifelong resident of Alaska who grew up commercial fishing with the rest of my family since the age of 6. I am now 48 and have continued to fish commercially with my brother who

took over the family operation about 15 years ago. My mother is still involved in fishing as well. I oppose SB42 because it contradicts everything my parents taught me. They instilled wonderful values by teaching us that everyone was responsible for the resources and that they were all tied together. They taught us to value not just the fish that we caught but the environment that enabled them to thrive. Commercial fishing is very important to me and my family, it's a way of life that I treasure beyond what many can understand. The whole experience is amazing. So many times I read about subsistence and personal use being such an important part of culture and way of life here in Alaska, about how it keeps us healthy on so many levels but what many don't understand is that for a lot of residents, commercial fishing is much the same. When I'm out fishing I feel the tie to the land, the ocean, and everything around me. My life is enhanced by the experience. As a personal use and subsistence user I also understand that aspect but to me they are the same, I value them the same and protect each equally. By protection I mean I care for the resource and what keeps it healthy. I think SB42 creates a divisive feeling in our communities and I think it's wrong to hold one user group primarily responsible for taking care of the resource we all use. As a commercial fisherman I feel we are taking good care of the resources we use, we are keeping it healthy for future generations of all users. There is a good lesson that everyone needs to be aware of when using a natural resource, don't take that lesson away from the personal use sector much less anyone else. Everyone needs to be aware of how their actions affect the resources and environment, putting blinders on one group, as SB42 would, will only hurt our state's resources as a whole.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Karen L. Johnson
Sitka, Ak. 99835

To: Senator Cathy Giessel and Senate Resources Committee

From: Mary Bishop,

Date: April 3, 2015

Please support SB 42, raising the importance and priority of "personal use" fishing – and help restore an historical promise.

Over the decades I have kept an index card about the first state subsistence law – introduced as HB960 on 5/1/78 and signed into law by Governor Hammond on 7/22/78. It did not have the word "rural" in it then...although it said "customary and traditional use". In May of that year, on the House floor, Rep. Charlie Parr of Fairbanks asked (and I'm almost quoting) "How would this law affect my Fairbanks Chitina dipnetters?" Rep. Nels Anderson, the bill's sponsor I believe, from Dillingham answered (again I'm almost quoting)... "It will protect their use of that resource."

Well, so much for that bit of history. The dipnetters are squeezed between 1) the rural subsistence users' federal legal priority and 2) the commercial fisherman who have dominated the Board of Fisheries since Statehood. The dipnetters (and sport fishers) are left with whatever those two user groups grudgingly deign to allot them.

We are "personal use" fishers. Our family has net a few king, coho and many chum salmon in the Tanana since about 1965. Yes, if you can't get kings or reds, Tanana chums are quite eatable...especially fall chums. Our 3 adult sons also "personal use" fish for their families -- some in the Tanana but more often for reds down at Chitina.

Please support SB42 and good nutritious food on Alaskan's plates. A most sincere "thank you" for your service to this great state.

RE. Senate bill 42 personal use priority. At this time of cuts to everyone, perhaps a personal use priority would be a GOOD idea.

Thank You for your service.

Ray Starzec.

Totally support this bill

Pete Devaris
