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Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Special Committee on Fisheries
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4924

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VICE-CHAIRMAN
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JACK McBRIDE
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HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Final Interim Report

January 15, 1984

The following report is a weekly breakdown of Fisheries Committee activities from November 16, 1983 to January 6, 1984. When combined with the other interim reports, from September 15, 1983 and November 15, 1983, a complete accounting of interim Committee activities is presented.

Weekly Activity Report

November 16, 1983 - January 6, 1984

Nov. 16 - 18 The Fisheries Committee's Hatchery Facility tour through Prince William Sound and Southeast Alaska took place during this week. Stops were made in Cordova, Hidden Falls, Petersburg, Klawock, Ketchikan, and Juneau. A full report of this tour can be found in attachment 1.

Nov. 21 -23 Staff responded to a constituent request out of Representative Cowdery's office about a fisheries problem in Bristol Bay. The constituents name is Robert Butt(344-3132) and he is concerned about the recent use of airplanes in Bristol Bay for fish spotting. This past summer some gill netters in the Bay began using spotter planes for the first time. This has raised a lot of controversy, especially from the established fishermen. They feel that these spotter planes are being used to spot fish in boats or nets, not in the waters. In other words the planes enable fishermen with little or no experience to take advantage of fishermen with many years of experience. Staff told Robert about the Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association(AIFMA) proposal to stop this use of spotter planes. Although this proposal did not make it on the the Board of Fisheries agenda for February 1984, AIFMA is still pursuing the issue. Because of this staff gave him Mitch Kink's(general manager of AIFMA) phone number so he could work with them in their efforts. Robert was also put in touch with Dan O'hara of the Naknek/Kvichak fisheries advisory committee. Staff put together and submitted Representative Herrmann's expenses from the just completed hatchery facilities tour. Staff prepared a schedule for Rep. Herrmann covering fisheries activities for late Nov. and Dec. 1983. Arrangements were made for George Jacko for housing and training in Juneau for the upcoming session. George will be a new staff person for the Committee. Staff talked with Brian Everett, a representative of the Alaska Small Boat Fishermen's Cooperative out of Whittier and Seward.

Brian was concerned with the poor amount of research on Prince William Sound Spot Shrimp and the confiscation of some shrimp pots belonging to a vessel in his organization. After checking with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in Anchorage it was found that the pots would most probably be returned without any prosecution from the Dept. of Fish and Game. The fishing vessel had been severly damaged (all cabin windows busted out and all electrical equipment ruined) by a large wave in the Gulf and was unable to pick-up its pots in time for the shrimp closure. A Fish and Game vessel picked up the gear and took it into Cordova. A meeting was set up with Brian and the local biologist in charge of the Cordova office. The meeting was to discuss the status of spot shrimp research and the possibility of the fishermen's cooperative receiving Dept. support and assistance for a proposal to begin some baseline research on spot shrimp in Prince William Sound. Staff produced letters to; Chuck Bundrant on joint ventures in state waters and Commissioner Dick Lyon on limited entry permit valuations for loans and the increasing costs of vessels in relation to state limits on loan amounts. Chuck Bundrant, owner of Trident Seafoods, was concerned that the state was not taking a supportive position towards domestic processors when it was making decisions on whether or not foreign processors could come into state waters and buy fish from domestic fishermen. Through efforts of the Committee and interested parties the administration has begun to analyze the impacts of their joint venture decisions on domestic processors. This information was stressed in the letter. The concerns raised to the Commissioner were a result of the Committee's hearings during the two trips this interim. Several fishermen expressed concern that the present permit appraisal method lagged to far behind the market and the limit on loan amount determined from it was unduely low. Also, the $100,000 limit on vessel loans was set when vessels were much less expensive; now with 32 foot boats costing upwards of $160,000 perhaps adjustments need to be made.

Nov. 28 - Dec. 2 Staff toured the Fort Richardson Hatchery (Anchorage) with the FRED Division and other Anchorage legislative staff. The Division's presentation concentrated on the sport fish needs of the Anchorage area and how the Department was attempting to meet the needs. Programs in rainbow trout, steelhead, chinook, and coho are primarily carried out at the facility. Reconstruction was just being completed at the hatchery and most of the brood stock and production was not yet in place. Staff met with Norm Statem, a local member of the Alaska Fishermen's Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association, about the Gov.'s fisheries task force summary report and the HB 381 preliminary report. Both of these reports had been produced by the Office of Commercial Fisheries Development within the Dept. of Commerce and Economic Development and comments on them were due. Staff also met with Brian Everett to go over his research proposal and attempt to improve it before the appointment with Fish and Game. Went to the BBCMP presentation to the Alaska Land Use Council Advisory Committee. This meeting covered the changes in the plan since the draft was put out. The major changes are: reducing the number of streams closed to placer mining from 225 to 66, closing the 3 mile coastal area off the North side of the Peninsula to leasing for 10 years, opening the Caribou calfing area on the Peninsula to leasing, and changing the land disposal program so that a majority of the 14000 acres in the program is around Dillingham. This revised plan has the support of the Dept. of Natural Resources, the Dept. Fish & Game, the Aleutians East Coastal Resources Service Area Board, and BBCRSA; but their is still some token opposition from oil representatives about the 10 year closure on the north side of the Peninsula and Jim Repine (sport fish representative) is mad about the reduction in the number of streams closed to mining. Staff met with Chuck Meachem of Fish and Game and Brian Everett about research on the PWS spot shrimp. The Dept. agrees that more research needs to be done and they will support Brian's efforts to obtain funding for his proposal after he sits down with their Cordova shellfish biologist to design the study.

They are going to bring Al Kimker in from Cordova in mid-December to work on it. Staff went to the Fishery Industrial Technology Center two day meeting. Main topics covered at the meeting were ongoing research programs and the proposed budget for the upcoming session. Staff went to the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation board meeting. They selected a processor for their pollock demonstration project and covered the status of the Trident project in Akutan. It appears that the Trident plant will be operating some time in 1984.

Dec. 5 - 9 Staff discussed the possibilities of fish legislation for the upcoming session with Karl Ohls of the Fishermen's Journal for an upcoming article. A letter was written to George Kudrin concerning Atka's fishery development plans. Discussions with the Office of Commercial Fisheries Development were promised. Atka is attempting to build a commercial fishing industry so that the community will have some sort of long-term economic basis and they are looking for some funding to get off the ground. Staff wrote a letter to Gov. Sheffield concerning the Bristol Bay Cooperative Management Plan. Support was expressed for the revised draft. A vote was taken at the Alaska Land Use Council in support of the plan, even though the vote was not expected to take place until the spring of 1984. Staff checked on the cost of a loan book that Specialized Professional Services of Auke Bay produces(it is $135/year). The loan book covers all the state's loan programs and updates sections that change each year. Staff set up fishermen's a meeting in Sand Point for Rep. Herrmann and Sen. Mulcahy for Dec. 13th. This meeting was to make up for the cancellation of an meeting scheduled during the September Committee trip to the area. Staff produced Nov. 15th Fish Committee report for Representative Barnes' office. Staff attended the North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting which covered Bering sea(high seas) herring research, tanner crab exclusive registration areas, black cod fishing restrictions, and the halibut moratorium. For an update on halibut moratorium activities of the Fishery Management Council see attachment 2. Staff also attended the Dept. of Revenue workshop on processor permitting and requirements of the state and federal government.

Dec. 12 - 16 Staff drafted a briefing memo covering the main fisheries concerns of the Sand Point area fishermen for Rep. Herrmann. Staff wrote a letter to Mitch Kink of AIFMA concerning a petition set netters are circulating in Bristol Bay. This petition would increase fishing time for set netters to make up for their lower than usual catches in recent years. Staff drafted a letter to Josephine Fagan in answer to her concerns about the Pribilof Crab opening this fall. As a crab fishermen she, and many others, were seriously impacted by a regulation to remove pots in a very limited time period. Staff wrote a letter to Greg Baker and Com. Collinsworth concerning Josephine's problems. Staff also wrote to Paul Hansen of King Salmon about the allocation of herring between gill netters and purse seiners in the Togiak fishery. Paul was concerned that the Board of Fisheries should do something about this at their February meeting and the letter confirmed that the Board had indeed decided that the issue would be on their schedule. For more information on the revised Board of Fisheries February meeting schedule see attachment 3. Staff requested a legal opinion on HB419 which concerns residency and access to shore fisheries leases. Staff met with Rep. Jack McBride while he was in Anchorage for a railroad meeting to discuss fisheries legislation and priorities. Staff talked with Brian Everett about PWS shrimp and how his meeting with Fish and Game went. It seems that the Dept. gave him a signed letter of support for his project. Staff ordered minutes of Fish Board hearings held in Sand Point and Dillingham. Staff also ordered copies of any set netters petitions from Bristol Bay over the last few seasons from the King Salmon Fish & Game office.

Dec. 19 - 23 Staff contacted Jim Allen of DEC about setting up a meeting to cover the problems raised by fishermen of Bristol Bay with regards to fish waste dumping by processors. Discussions centered on setting up a meeting in Juneau in late January and on who should be invited. At the meeting an attempt will be made to clarify who has which responsibilities for enforcement and to reach a cooperative agreement that will lead to a solution.

Staff contacted Janielle King of LAA about an extension for Nels Anderson's fisheries committee contract due to a prolonged illness. See attachment 4 for a copy of the original contract with the contract amendment and attachment 5 for a report on Nels' activities. Staff discussed the possibilities of financing small boat building operations with Ivan Ivanoff of Anchorage. He has built a 46 foot fiberglass boat mold and has run out of money to produce vessels from the mold. A meeting was set up with Rep. Szymansky for him. Staff attended a meeting of Anchorage fisheries people put together by Stan Hajenga of the Office of Commercial Fisheries Development. Groups at the meeting discussed their projects and coordination was discussed between the groups. Staff discussed with Dr. Brian Allee of PWSAC the percentage return determination for their hatcheries and their methods of determining it. This percentage is very critical when used for determining whether or not a private non-profit hatchery facility will be able to meet its operation and capital state loan obligations. Staff discussed with AFDF their pollock program now that they had agreed on a processor for the production of surimi. Staff read OMB's fish loan program audit.

Dec. 26 - 30 Staff packed up the Anchorage office. Boxes were shipped air-freight to Juneau. Staff answered resumes for fisheries committee positions with a generic merged response letter. Staff read the fisheries task force summary report prepared by OCFD. Staff wrote a letter to Greg Baker of OCFD about the task force report which was generally supportive of the administrations new activity in the fishing industry. Staff drafted a letter to Paul Arnoldt about obtaining information on fish loans made in the Bristol Bay area. This information will be used to in a upcoming report to analyze the loan programs impact in the Bristol Bay area.

Jan. 2 - 6 Staff traveled to Juneau, unpacked office supplies and files from Anchorage. All petty cash accounts and submitted TR books were closed and turned in. Staff sent out more resume responses. Organized committee interim files. Staff wrote a letter to Brian Paust of the Marine Advisory Program thanking him for the information he sent as a result of the S.E. hatchery facilities trip.

ATTACHMENT 1

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MEMORANDUM

TO: House Special Committee on Fisheries

FROM: Mel Monsen, Professional Assistant

DATE: January 14, 1984

SUBJECT: Prince William Sound/Southeast Hatchery Facility Trip Report

The Special Committee on Fisheries PWS/SE hatchery facility tour began on Monday, November 14th and ended on Thursday, November 17th. Only two Committee members were able to participate; Chairman Rep. Adelheid Herrmann and Rep. Jack McBride, along with myself.

The schedule had been to arrive in Cordova on Monday afternoon, attend a fishermen's reception that night and then fly by light plane to the three hatcheries in PWS on Tuesday. Unfortunately, the weather closed in during the night and by Tuesday morning we were unable to travel to the hatcheries in the Sound. Instead we spent Tuesday morning in Cordova getting as much written and verbal information as we could on area hatcheries and made plans to see the Hidden Falls hatchery on Baranof Island on Wednesday.

We left Cordova for Juneau on Tuesday afternoon. Once in Juneau we firmed up our travel arrangements for Hidden Falls. On Wednesday morning we flew to Hidden Falls and toured the hatchery facility. The charter then dropped us off in Petersburg for an afternoon fishermen's meeting. Unfortunately, due to schedule changes and a crab opening, the meeting was poorly attended and only an hour long.

The Committee departed Petersburg for Ketchikan just before dusk and arrived at approximately 5:00 pm, Wednesday night. At 7:00 pm that night the Committee had a fishermen's reception, together with Rep. Ron Wendte, at the Yacht Club. On Thursday morning we traveled to Klawock to tour the Klawock hatchery. We arrived back in Ketchikan at about 1:30 pm and were met by Rep. Ron Wendte.

Rep. Wendte drove us to the three hatcheries in Ketchikan; Whitman Lake (SSRAA), Hidden Falls, and Deer Mountain. This completed the committee's hatchery facility tour.

What follows is a brief description of each of the Committee's hatchery stops and fishermen's meetings. I have more complete information for most of these items on file in my office if you should have any specific areas of interest or questions.

Prince William Sound Hatcheries

There are currently three major hatcheries in PWS; Cannery Creek, Main Bay, and Port San Juan. Port San Juan is operated by the PWS Aquaculture Corporation and the other two are State operated hatcheries. A fourth hatchery, Esther Lake, is in the final stages of design and construction could begin in 1984 (by PWSAC).

Main Bay Hatchery is to the southeast of Whittier and has a current capacity of about 80 million chum and pink eggs. This hatchery is just over one year old and because construction costs exceeded available funds, several structures were left out. In order to efficiently operate at capacity (100 million chum salmon) the hatchery needs the following:

a) completion of the holding pond
b) construction of a dock
c) construction of a storage building and shop

It is estimated that these items, if completed, will reduce annual operating costs by $20,000.

The other state hatchery in PWS is Cannery Creek. This facility is 45 miles west of Valdez and has a current capacity of about 54 million pink and chum eggs. Operations over several years have identified two problems which, if solved, will increase the efficiency of the operations:

a) a need for increased returning broodstock holding capacity
b) construction of an incinerator building in order to conform with the terms of the U.S. Forest Service lease.

It is estimated that this will reduce annual operating costs by $16,000.

The Prince William Sound Aquaculture Association (PWSAC) operates the other major hatchery in southwest PWS, Port San Juan. This hatchery was first operated in 1975 after conversion from an abandoned cannery. Currently, the hatchery has a capacity of 195 million pink and chum green to eyed stage eggs. Final site development is scheduled for 1984 and will include:

a) rejuvenation of the dock facility
b) completion of the freshwater maturation facility
c) completion of the upper pipeline
d) completion of the road

Also, when the maximum fingerling production is reached, the facility will need another incubation building (for more information see Attachment 1).

Esther Island is the site for PWSAC's newest hatchery. This hatchery is scheduled to be under construction in 1984 and will have a capacity of:

111 million chum eggs,
210 million pink eggs,
1 million coho eggs,
and 1 million chinook eggs.

The construction is expected to cost some $9 million initially. All permits have been obtained for the hatchery and all that remains is the final loan approval by the Dept. of Commerce & Economic Development. This is the final step in PWSAC's present hatchery plans and the hatchery will serve gill net, purse seine, and sport user groups (for more information see Attachment 2).

Southeast Hatcheries

The Committee was able to tour five hatcheries in Southeast Alaska. The State hatcheries were Hidden Falls, Klawock, Beaver Falls, and Dear Mountain. The sole private hatchery we visited was Whitman Lake, which is operated by the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association.

The Hidden Falls hatchery on the east side of Baranof Island was constructed with funds from a 1976 bond issue. The hatchery has a small hydro plant and housing for 3-5 permanent employees. The facility has a capacity of 30 million chum eggs and 230,000 king eggs, with a projected final capacity of 61 million chum eggs and 450,000 king eggs. To reach this higher capacity, some $2 million is needed for the following:

a) Chinook Facilities
   1. pipeline extension
   2. adult capture and egg take facility
   3. indoor freshwater rearing
   4. preventive maintenance
b) Hatchery completion and bunkhouse
   1. estuarine rearing
   2. bunkhouse

While at the hatchery we noted an exceptionally clean water supply; there was little if any siltation in the incubators.

Although built in 1977, the Klawock Hatchery has just in the past two years begun to operate with large numbers of eggs. The problem, low returns of local stocks, dramatically slowed the brood stock development process. Now that the hatchery is over the hump in brood stock development, some 15 million chum eggs and 1 million coho eggs are in the hatchery. Expansion to 37 million chum eggs can be attained with the addition of an incubator chiller unit. This unit would enable the hatchery to spread out development rates and utilize fry rearing space more efficiently. This and other small improvements are expected to cost $320,000. (for more information see Attachment 3).

The Beaver Falls Hatchery is located 13 miles south of Ketchikan in George Inlet. Currently the hatchery is empty, but it has the capacity for about 20 million chum eggs and has salt water rearing pens. This facility is probably the least advanced of any we went through during our tour. The facility was built with only a roof to protect operations, since then walls have been added, but the floor is still pea gravel. The Dept. is in the process of converting the facility to sockeye production.

The last state hatchery we visited was the Deer Mountain Hatchery in Ketchikan. This facility, although very successful with king salmon production, is a major tourist attraction and approximately 100,000 people go through it each year. This facility was originally built in 1954 by the Ketchikan King Salmon Committee. It is now owned by the city and operated by the state. Capacity at the hatchery is 220,000 chinook eggs, 250,000 coho eggs, and 20,000 steelhead eggs. The hatchery's water supply is provided by the city via their hydro electric plant. At times the water supply becomes critical and it is the major problem (for more information see Attachment 4).

The Whitman Lake Hatchery (SSRAA) completed its fourth year of salmon production in 1983. The facility is now operating with about 28 million eggs, most of which are chum along with chinook and coho. The hatchery is 8.5 miles south of Ketchikan and a majority of the releases are at remote sites. Juvenile salmon are transported to remote sites on a tender where they are placed in saltwater holding pens.

While at the Whitman Lake Hatchery, Committee members viewed a slide presentation covering the fish culture practices at the facility and SSRAA's newest hatchery at Neets Bay (for more information see Attachment 5).

Meetings With Fishermen

Cordova:

The meeting/reception in Cordova on Monday evening, November 14th was attended by about 30 people from the fishing industry. The major areas of discussion were directed at the state's involvement in fisheries.

Fishermen were interested in what the Fisheries Committee did and what it could do for them. Broad support for both the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the hatchery program was expressed.

Some unhappiness at the administration's handling of fisheries issues was discussed. Fisheries Committee members expressed similiar views about the past year, but also presented examples of several recent improvements and expressed an optimism for the future. The Office of Commercial Fisheries Development and the Governor's Fisheries Task Force were also discussed.

The rest of the evening was spent on a one to one basis with the fishermen.

Petersburg:

Although poorly attended because of schedule changes and an unavoidable crab season opening, the meeting provided much important information. Among the concerns expressed were:

1. the possible loss of a Southeast member on the Board of Fisheries
2. the dramatic increase in effort in Southeast crab fisheries
3. the lack of understanding of the economic impacts on fishermen by the Department of Fish & Game (and Board of Fisheries) when making management decisions
4. the increase in effort and shortness of season in the halibut fishery
5. the possible small boat (less than 55 ft.) fisheries development projects available in Southeast Alaska
6. the need for state, federal, university, and fishing industry people to work cooperatively to insure the economic viability of existing fisheries and to develop new fisheries
7. concern about the U.S./Canada Salmon Treaty

Ketchikan:

Only a few people were able to attend the reception in Ketchikan. Among the concerns raised in group and private discussions were:

1. hatchery practices and the confusion that seems to exist between the Juneau ADF&G office and the local ADF&G employees
2. the lack of someone you can go to who is ultimately responsible to make decisions at local ADF&G offices
3. logging and the impacts it has on fisheries and the local communities
4. salmon sport fish guides and the confusion over permit requirements, both state and federal
5. the U.S./Canada Salmon Treaty

ATTACHMENT 1

Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation

Port San Juan Hatchery Fact Sheet

I. Introduction

Port San Juan had its early beginnings in the 30's as the San Juan Packing Co. It increased in size and scope until New England Fish Co. (NEFCO) merged with San Juan Packing Co. in 1964. The plant was shut down at this time as NEFCO had a large cannery in Cordova.

In early 1975, after the formation of Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC), the decision to use the existing water development buildings etc. for a 20 million capacity pink and chum hatchery was made. PWSAC entered into a lease with NEFCO and started operation in the fall of 1975 with a 5 million egg take.

Construction work started in June 1975 with initial funds coming from an EDA federal grant, fishermen assessments, Prince William Sound processors contributions, voluntary help from fishermen and Cordova towns people.

Since this first construction and hatchery operation in 1975, PWSAC has steadily increased the production capacity of San Juan to its current status. Gradually, the old cannery and large dilapidated warehouses, shops, and herring reduction plant were removed. Other still useable buildings were remodeled and extensive rock and earth work was accomplished. San Juan will attain its final site development in 1984 with a planned major rejuvenation of the dock facility, completion of the freshwater maturation facility, as well as completion of the upper pipeline and road construction. When the decision is made to increase juvenile salmon production to the final capacity of 193 million fingerling, an additional new incubation building will be constructed.

II. Hatchery Juvenile Production Capacity

A. Freshwater Capacity

1. Present capacity

a. Green-eyed egg capacity - 396 NOPAD incubators

Pink	-	183,500,000
Chum	-	11,630,000

b. Eyed egg-fry capacity

Pink	-	106,800,000
Chum	-	10,000,000

1. Present capacity (continued)

c. Fry rearing capacity

Chum	-	12,000,000

2. Brood year 1983 production

a. Green-eyed egg production

Pink	-	89,473,968
Chum	-	8,989,394

b. Eyed egg-fry production

Pink	-	85,447,639
Chum	-	8,539,924

3. Final capacity

a. Green-eyed egg capacity - 660 NOPAD incubators

Pink	-	282,000,000
Chum	-	26,666,667

b. Eyed egg-fry capacity

Pink	-	169,200,000
Chum	-	24,000,000

c. Fry rearing capacity

Chum	-	24,000,000

B. Saltwater Capacity

1. Present capacity

a. Fry-fingerling capacity

Pink	-	110,000,000
Chum	-	10,896,000

2. Brood year 1983 production

a. Fry-fingerling capacity

Pink	-	83,738,686
Chum	-	8,369,126

3. Final capacity

a. Fry-fingerling capacity

Pink	-	165,816,000
Chum	-	23,520,000

III. Annual Production of Adult Salmon

A. Historical Data 1975-1983 Brood Year (Table I)

B. Present Capacity

1. Pink Salmon

Number total adult return:	6,019,200
Number common property fishery catch (70%):	4,213,440
Number hatchery harvest brood & sales (30%):	1,805,760
Revenue common property fishery catch:	$4,129,171
" hatchery harvest:	$1,614,478

2. Chum Salmon

Number total adult return:	280,000
Number common property fishery catch (70%):	196,000
Number hatchery harvest brood and sales (30%):	84,000
Revenue common property fishery catch:	$ 576,240
" hatchery harvest:	$ 213,963
TOTAL Revenue Common Property Fishery Catch (72%):	$4,705,411
" " Hatchery Harvest (28%):	$1,828,441

C. Final Capacity

1. Pink Salmon

Number total adult return:	8,346,228
Number common property fishery catch (70%):	5,842,360
Number hatchery harvest brood and sales (30%):	2,503,868
Revenue common property fishery catch:	$5,725,513
" hatchery harvest:	$2,210,220

2. C hum Salmon

Number total adult return:	839,916
Number common property fishery catch (70%):	587,941
Number hatchery harvest brood and sales (30%):	251,975
Revenue common property fishery catch:	$1,728,547
" hatchery harvest:	$ 641,826
TOTAL Revenue Common Property Fishery Catch (72%):	$7,454,060
" " Hatchery Harvest (28%):	$2,852,046

IV. Adult Fish Harvest

PWSAC annually awards contracts on a competitive low bidding process using two seine boats in order to harvest adult fish in the Special Harvest Area (SHA). This SHA has been designated by ADF&G to allow for harvest of adult fish by the hatchery. The fish are sold to the highest bidder on a daily basis and these funds provide the revenue to the corporation to offset

IV. Adult Fish Harvest (continued)

the operational costs incurred annually. The proportion of fish sold relative to fish caught in the common property fishery can be seen in Table I. The percentage of fish harvested in the SHA plus broodstock in 1983 was 20% while the commercial fishermen caught 80% of the total returning pink salmon. In order to achieve our sales goal and recover our operational costs, the hatchery requires 30% of the total returning pink salmon including broodstock.

All fish sold by the hatchery are held in floating net pens and are either pumped or brailed alive aboard tenders. We have 20 net pens capable of holding 10,000 fish per pen or 200,000 fish. At the present time our harvest crew is capable of effectively harvesting 120,000 fish. These fish are silver bright and average 3.5 pounds per fish.

V. Broodstock Maturation

A. Saltwater Maturation

Broodstock are held during the early phase of sexual maturation behind a barrier seine which encloses about two acres of estuary. The salinity of the estuary is 22-30°/oo and is generally from 14-16°C. Adult fish are free to move about inside the barrier seine and are initially captured outside by seine and put into the adult harvest net pens which are placed into an opening in the barrier seine. The maturation area is capable of holding 248,542 pink salmon and 33,667 chum salmon which are required for the final capacity.

The number of broodstock held in 1983 was 124,278 pink salmon and roughly 500 chum salmon. The duration of sexual maturation in the estuary is approximately 30 days.

B. Freshwater Maturation

The final phase of sexual maturation occurs in the freshwater holding facilities. This process is strictly volitional so that adult fish will leave the estuary in response to the freshwater flow coming out of the fish ladders. The fish passage system is constructed out of aluminum and consists of an Alaska steep pass and vertical slot fishway design

which transports the fish as they swim against the flow of water into a natural holding pond at the base of Larsen Creek Falls. Here they rest until the desire to swim farther upstream transports them into one of three raceways. These raceways are 8 feet wide, 64 feet long and 3 feet deep. The rate of flow of water through each raceway is 800 gpm. We have the capability of providing freshwater, saltwater, or a combination of both to each raceway to insure optimum water quantity and quality.

In 1983 the maximum number of fish held per raceway per day was approximately 4,000 fish. This represents a density of 6.8 pounds of fish per cubic foot, The entire freshwater maturation system is capable of holding approximately 30,000 fish per day. From the raceways adult fish are allowed to move upstream volitionally in response to water flow into the sorting and broodstock selection area. In this area fish are selected as to whether they are sexually immature (green) or sexually mature (ripe). All ripe fish are killed by a blow to the back of the head and sent to the spawning station.

VI. Spawning

Eggs are stripped from the females (spawned), checked for quality and collected in buckets whereupon sperm from males is added. Sperm from at least five males is used per bucket of 15 females' egg complement. Buckets of eggs and sperm are transported from the spawning area via a cable tramway in the incubation area of the hatchery. All buckets are weighed to accurately determine the number of eggs per bucket. Water is added to activate the sperm and allow for fertilization and the eggs are placed into incubators.

The maximum number of pink salmon eggs spawned per day was 16 million. This took place in September of 1982. A more typical average is 8-10 million per day. Spawning occurs over a period of 15 days in late August and early September.

VII. Water Supply

The freshwater for the hatchery is extracted from a 26 acre lake which is 315 feet above sea level. The water is conveyed from the lake via an

VII. Water Supply (continued)

insulated 12 inch plastic pipeline. The maximum flow from the pipeline is 2,700 gpm.

Incoming water from the lake is disenfected using ultraviolet purification units and then processed through packed columns to reduce the risk of gas supersaturation. During normal operation the water is used only once then discharged from the hatchery.

Cold winter conditions create little or no intrusion of water into the lake water source so that the lake level drops significantly. In this instance it becomes necessary to recirculate or re-use the water rather than discharge it after only one use. This will allow us to only use 25% of the water required under the single pass or one use mode.

Since eggs and fry produce metabolic byproducts, principally ammonia, it is necessary to filter and extract the ammonia before returning the water to the incubators. Therefore, the hatchery has state of the art ion exchange ammonia filtration units made of clinoptilolite, as well as rapid sand filters. Once the water is sand filtered and passes through the ammonia filters, it is disenfected by ultraviolet purification units and pumped back to the incubators.

VIII. Support Facilities

A. Electrical Power Generation

1. 2 - 75kw generators 208-3 phase/480 volts
2. 2 - 125kw Caterpiller generators 480 volts
3. 1 - Pelton wheel hydro 75kw generator, non-functional, to be replaced by 85kw impulse turbine

B. Dock Facility

1. Large vessel docking capability - Alaska state ferry M/V Tustumena services area in summer
2. Small boat and float plane float
3. Helipad

C. Warehouse Facility

1. 2 - large storage warehouses - fully equipped carpentry, metal, steel, aluminum fabrication and maintenance shops

VIII. Support Facilities (continued)

D. Fire Protection

1. Fire hydrant (4") on dock
2. Numerous fire hose stations
3. Complete sprinkler system for all dorms, kitchen, hatchery and residences

E. Staff Housing

1. Permanent staff
   a. 1 - single unit home, 2 bedrooms
   b. 2 - 2 story apartments, 4 bedrooms
   c. 1 - apartment, 3 bedrooms

   All residences are fully furnished with utilities and laundry facilities.

2. Temporary staff & visitor facilities - 3 dormatory locations, 58 beds
   a. within hatchery complex: 7 rooms with 13 beds
   b. small bunkhouse with 10 beds
   c. dormatory on dock: 13 rooms with 35 beds

   Bullcook provided to change sheets and linens and clean facility.

F. Kitchen and Dining Room Facility

20 person seating capacity.
Camp cook provided for preparation of all meals.

G. Communications System

1. 2 - 150 watt single sideband radios with radio telephone capability
2. 1 - VHF radio
3. 1 - marine VHF aircraft radio
4. 1 - CB radio
5. 1 - intercommunication system

H. Vessel and Small Boat Capability

1. 2 - 40' commercial seine boats
2. 4 - wooden skiffs
3. 8 - outboard motors

VIII. Support Facilites (continued)

I. Laundry Facilities

1. Permanent staff

a. 4 washers and dryers

2. Temporary staff

a. 3 washers and dryers

3. General public

a. 4 washers and dryers

b. 2 commercial 30 pound steam dryers

IX. Financial Status

A. Total Capital Cost to Present Capacity:	$8,162,026
1. Annual operational cost: (excluding depreciation and debt service)	$ 600,000
2. Administrative support (Cordova):	$ 150,000
B. Total Capital Cost to Final Capacity:	$9,662,026
1. Annual Operational cost: (excluding depreciation and debt service)	$ 600,000
2. Administrative support (Cordova):	$ 150,000

Table 1

Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporatio

Port San Juan Hatchery

Production & Catch Distribution of Pink Salm

Brood Year	No. Green Eggs Taken (millions)	Fry Released at PSJ: Number of Fry	Fry Released at PSJ: Year	Adult Returns: Total Pink Return (brood yr. plus 2 yrs)	Adult Returns: % Total Marine Surv.	Adult Returns: Return/ Harvest Year	By Commercial Se: No./Fish Taken By Intercep.	By Commercial Se: % Intercep. Rate	By Commercial Se: No./I in S.H.
1975	6,254,460	1,000,000	1976	44,000	4.4	1977	4,000	10	-
1976	14,733,530	11,010,577	1977	154,620	1.4	1978	-	-	-
1977	23,424,000	16,950,784	1978	552,955	3.3	1979	275,000	50	-
1978	28,645,626	22,774,739	1979	1,493,489	6.6	1980	1,038,700	70	-
1979	28,401,415	21,500,000	1980	2,264,845	10.5	1981	1,358,907	60	-
1980*	94,689,000	69,787,000	1981	5,134,363	7.4	1982	3,183,305	62	431,7
1981*	143,500,000	70,118,000	1982	3,722,502	5.3	1983	2,990,225	80	-
1982*	129,615,000	87,384,000	1983	4,900,000	5.6	1984	3,430,000	70	-
1983	92,842,737	81,701,603	1984	4,902,097	6.0	1985	3,431,467	70	-

*1980 7.2 million eyed eggs transferred to state hatchery (Cannery Creek/Hobo Cr.)
*1981 35.2 million eyed eggs transferred to state hatchery (Cannery Creek/Main Bay)
*1982 31.4 million eyed eggs transferred to state hatchery (Main Bay)

ATTACHMENT 2

Proposed Esther Lake Hatchery

PWSAC

I. PROGRAM OUTLINE

HATCHERY CONCEPT

The Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC) will commence operating a multispecies hatchery complex in the fall of 1985 at the southern outlet of Esther Lake in the Coghill District of Prince William Sound. This hatchery complex will consist of two separate spatially isolated fish culture facilities. One hatchery will produce pink, coho, and chinook salmon while the other will produce sockeye salmon.

The design capacity of the hatchery complex is:

211 million green pink eggs,
111 million green chum eggs,
1 million green coho eggs,
10 million green sockeye eggs.
1 million green chinook eggs.

This multispecies hatchery will provide facilities for:

Freshwater broodstock maturation,
eggtaking, incubation
short and long term freshwater rearing,
short term saltwater rearing.

HATCHERY OBJECTIVES

The central thrust of the pink and chum salmon program is to create an adult return of chum from June to September and an adult return of pinks from mid-July to the end of August which would contribute to both the drift gillnet and purse seine fishery. In order to accomplish this program, it is necessary to select four donor stocks for chum and two or three for pinks based upon time of adult return, early through late. Donor stocks are also selected on the basis of adult product quality, brightness, flesh color, and oil content.

The majority of the coho and chinook salmon will be planted into selected lakes as fry while a small number of smolts will be produced. These smolts will be reared in the hatchery, transported, imprinted, short-term reared in saltwater pens and released in Ouillian Bay. Sockeye fry will be stocked in selected lakes. The development of the sockeye hatchery conceptual design and permit will be postponed and will be discussed in a separate document at a later date.

The production objectives are to achieve an average, annual adult production of 10,000,000 pink salmon by 1989, 2,000,000 chum salmon by 1992, 20,000 coho salmon by 1990, 7,000 chinook salmon by 1992, and 500,000 sockeye salmon by 1993, through lake stocking.

OPERATIONAL PLAN

Maturation. All returning pink and chum salmon adults will enter the fish ladder and migrate into holding ponds where they will be held until sexually mature. At the point of maturation, they will be allowed to migrate in response to velocity upstream and into a false weir whereupon they will pass through an electrokilling device and terminate as freshly killed carcasses at the sorting table within the egg take area.

Due to the broad return time of adult pink and chum salmon, only 38% of the maximum number of broodstock required will be held at any one point in time. The capability to fine tune maturation timing will be achieved by water temperature control using the dual piping system of deep and shallow intake water.

Incubation. All four species will be incubated in NOPAD shallow substrate trays which will be stacked six high. Eggs will be fertilized and incubated from July until early September from pink and chum salmon adults, and, as such, early eggs will need to be retarded in development or exposed to coldest water available while late eggs will need to be accelerated in development and exposed to warmer water. Thus, each incubation stack will need influent water pipes from the deep and the shallow intakes. Pink and chum salmon will be incubated in one common area in separate incubators while coho and chinook salmon will be incubated in a separate area.

Rearing. Pink salmon will require no freshwater rearing, but will volitionally emigrate to saltwater pens. Freshwater residence time for chum salmon has been programmed for one week due to osmoregulatory constraints. Due to the short freshwater turnover time of chum salmon and the extended spawning time, only 25% of the total number of fry will be in rearing ponds at any one time. Fry will be distributed into outdoor rearing ponds as soon as snow and ice conditions allow. Coho and chinook fry will be provided with indoor rearing space as the prior brood year presmolts are transferred to outside rearing ponds. These fry will reside in the indoor raceways during the winter.

Saltwater rearing of pink and chum salmon will occur in Lake Bay from April to June in nylon net pen enclosures. Timing of the fry release will occur when zooplankton abundance in the estuary reaches its maximum. Coho and chinook smolts will be short-term reared in saltwater pens located in adjacent Quillian Bay and released in June.

Harvest. Harvest of the hatchery escapement in the Special Harvest Area will begin in June and end in August. All fish will be purse seined and transferred into adult holding pens. Adult fish will be sold daily and transferred aboard tenders by pump or brail in Lake Bay.

Broodstock collection will be occurring concurrently with the hatchery harvest. Broodstock will pass through an adult type trapping structure within a barrier seine which functions to fence off or separate broodstock from adult fish for harvest. The barrier seine will run across Lake Bay close to the mouth of the lake outfall and will provide an enclosed area for broodstock maturation.

ATTACHMENT 3

STATE OF ALASKA

Bill Sheffield, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF FISHERIES REHABILITATION
ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
P.O. Box 101
Klawock, Alaska 99925

February 23, 1983

Greetings:

I am writing to appraise you of this past season's operations and accomplishments here at the hatchery. As you are aware, at the beginning of last year's operations (1982), fiscal year funding allocation for our operation was, at best, uncertain. Knowing this, Community Leaders, as well as our Fisheries Advisory Committees, Native Corporations, Coastal Zone Management Teams, Processing Representatives, A.N.B. Camp #9, and other concerned citizens from Klawock, Craig, Hydaburg, and other areas of the island, voiced a strong support for continued funding for this facility. This support came in the form of written letters, telephone calls, and participation in a statewide telephone conference with the House of Representatives' finance committee. This support was voiced at the executive and legislative levels of government and was in no small part, I'm sure, responsible for last year's budget allocation.

It is ironic with last year's uncertain beginning that we logged our, as of yet, most successful operational year at the facility. This was due, in the most part, to what I feel are three main factors. One, 4 years of hard work here at the facility by what I feel is a dedicated staff. Two, policy changes allowing for off-site chum donor stocks. Three, the support for the facility as shown by the local communities and organizations previously mentioned.

Chum Salmon

This past year's operation culminated in the taking of approximately 13,800,000 chum eggs: 6,200,000 from Klawock stocks and 7,600,00 from off-site stocks. This was the largest number of chum eggs in the facility yet, with the previous high being 5,600,000. Over the previous 4 years we had always been plagued with insufficient numbers of returning adult chum for our brood-stock development program. This last year saw a policy change that allowed us to go off-site to supplement our chum egg-take program. This change of policy now allows us the opportunity to achieve yearly egg-take goals for our brood-stock development and will, in fact, accelerate this program.

We anticipate releasing approximately 10,850,000 chum fry this spring from last fall's egg takes. We project from this year's release alone, that we will have returns of 168,584 adults over a 3 year period of time, starting in 1985. These adults returning over this same period of time will provide an availability of 42,150,000 eggs at the hatchery and an estimated 630,000 returning adults available in the fishery.

Research conducted at the facility over the past 4 years is directed to helping improve the percent survival from fingerlings release to adult return. One such undertaking has been to take advantage of the relatively warm waters available at this site and release a larger size fingerling (than normally attainable at the other sites). It is hoped by releasing a larger than "normal" chum fingerling, that we will be able to attain greater marine survivals. Tagged adult returns, starting this year, should help to answer this question and others.

Coho Salmon

This past year was also very successful for our coho program. This resulted from 4 years of work developing coho returns to the hatchery site and research done at the facility comparing ocean survivals of winter-released coho smolts and spring-released smolts. Tagged adults returning this past fall have shown our winter release to be successful. Prompted by these findings and the availability of hatchery returns, we were successful in gaining approval to expand our coho program and actual previous high egg take by tenfold. At the same time, we are making more efficient use of the facility by avoiding the normal competition for rearing space between chum and coho salmon. This has all resulted in the taking of 1,200,000 coho eggs this past fall, all from adults returning to the hatchery. We hope to release approximately 1,000,000 smolts from this egg take in the winter of 1983-84. We project 60,000 to 100,000 adults returning from this release in the summer and fall of 1985. A return of this size would represent approximately 17% to 29% of the total 1981 coho catch (by all gear types) for the combined Districts 103 and 104, or 59% to 95% of the total 1981 coho catch (by all gear types) for District 103.

Steelhead Trout

A small steelhead enhancement program was initiated at the facility in the fall of 1978. This program has been maintained on a space available basis. It was developed to attempt to "spread out" the steelhead fishing season with initial eggs taken from adults returning in the fall. The first adults are now returning from our first releases made in the spring of 1980. Thus far, eight tagged adults have been represented in the local fishery. We have just initiated a reward program for the largest tagged adult checked in at the facility in an effort to encourage reporting of tagged returns. This program has remained steady over the last few years with goals of around 30,000 eggs per year. Research conducted in this program should help to answer questions on the effects of culture techniques, size at release, and time of release, etc. We hope to be able to apply practical findings to this and other programs.

In closing, all the staff at the hatchery are "fired up" over our past year's successful season. We've spent 4 years of hard work getting this program going. Our biggest problems in the past were availability of brood-stock. We've finally been successful in securing approval for off-site chum stocks. This coupled with returns beginning to show up from previous releases will allow us to achieve present year's and the next 2 years' goals. At this time, Klawock adult returns should bring the facility to capacity. Coho returns to the hatchery and approval for an expanded program have resulted in a very successful year for this program. Coho returns now exceed the numbers required for our egg-take needs. We are very excited about this program and the importance it will play in our West Coast fisheries. The steelhead program has remained steady with the first adults returning now. This program is interesting in that it is maintained on a space-available basis and has been accomplished in normally empty ponds and/or incubators with existing staff. Techniques, "lessons learned" along the way, and research findings now coming in have all lead to a more efficient and successful program. As an example, this last year's successes have all been accomplished on a budget 10% below the previous years, even before counting losses to inflation.

We would all like to thank you for the support you've shown us in this past year. I can honestly say that it has been a great motivational factor for the crew here at the hatchery. We all feel we are here to serve, "especially" the needs of West Coast citizens and resources. Your support has reinforced the fact that we are all working toward the same goal.

We are optimistic about our future capabilities at the facility and with your continued support, as demonstrated last year, we feel our mutual objectives will be realized.

Two items for future consideration are: 1) It has been passed down through the grapevine that the Department is considering king salmon enhancement programs for Southeast. I would like to hear your comments on Klawock being considered for this program. Hopefully, if this proves popular, your support could be instrumental in a decision on where these programs will be implemented. 2) It appears that there may again be budget allocation problems for continuation of our program as well as others in this year's budgeting process. Your opinions or support in this matter will also be appreciated. As I receive any more information on this subject, I will pass it along.

Again, thank you for the support!

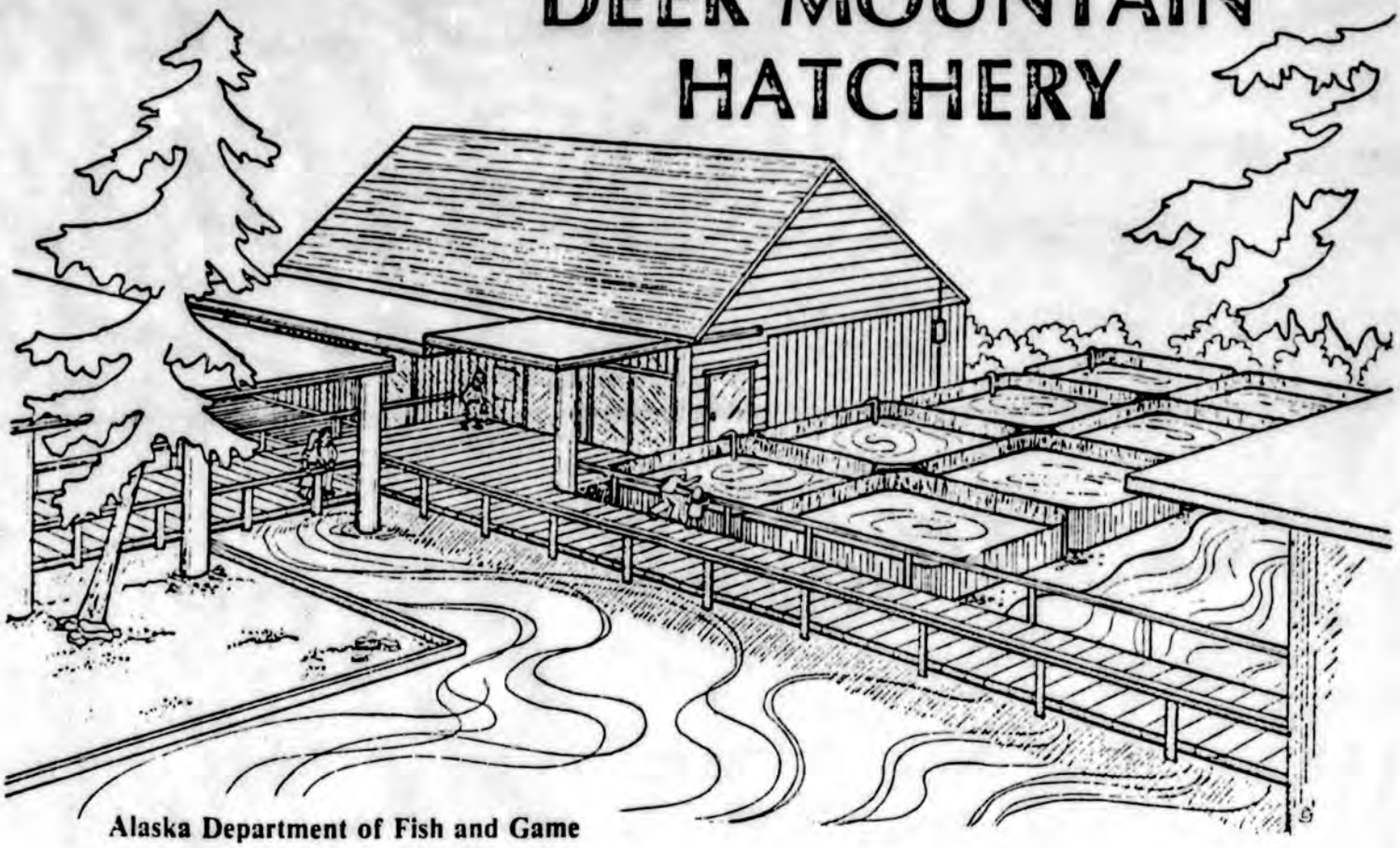
Cordially,

Steve W. Hansen

Steve W. Hansen
Hatchery Manager

ATTACHMENT 4

DEER MOUNTAIN HATCHERY



Alaska Department of Fish and Game

THE DEER MOUNTAIN HATCHERY

The hatchery at Deer Mountain was built in 1954 by the Ketchikan King Salmon Derby Committee. It is now owned by the city and operated by the Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development (FRED) of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

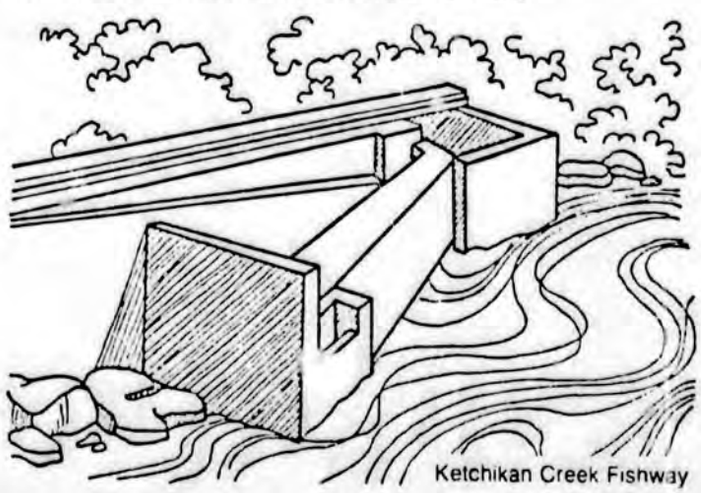
Rainfall in Ketchikan averages 154 inches annually, and that's fine with the hatchery workers. Operation of the hatchery requires approximately 2.8 million gallons of water daily all year round. This is about 32 gallons per second, or 1 billion 22 million gallons a year! The hatchery's water comes from Lower Ketchikan Lake via the city's hydroelectric plant.

Deer Mountain can produce 300,000 salmon smolts and 10,000 steelhead trout smolts yearly. The fish are kept at the hatchery for about 2 years, so the fish population there at any one time is more than 600,000, far more than the human population of all Alaska.

When the fish are released and swim to sea, their life becomes hazardous. Only about 3% of the chinook salmon and 10% of the coho salmon and steelhead trout will return as adults, but they are of considerable value to commercial and sport fishermen.

The fish that return to the creek carry in them the seeds of a new generation. Some spawn naturally in the creek gravel; most swim upstream into the hatchery's holding pens, attracted by the scent of their original home. These fish are used as breeding stock for the hatchery.

A fishway on Ketchikan Creek allows salmon to pass a series of rapids that would normally block their ascent to the hatchery. Many wild salmon, especially pink salmon, use the fishway to reach upstream spawning areas. As a result, the wild fish population has increased. The fishway reduces water velocity with a series of baffles in a wooden chute.



Ketchikan Creek Fishway

ATTACHMENT 5

Capacity of 68 Million Eggs

SSRAA to Seek Permit for Hatchery at Neets Bay

ADF&G commissioner Don Collingsworth has approved a preliminary permit for a hatchery at Neets Bay and SSRAA staff and consulting engineers are busy preparing design, cost estimates and application for a final permit. Plans call for construction of the hatchery to begin this summer with completion in September, in time to be used for returning coho and chum salmon adults, said Walt Larrick, SSRAA operations director.

Last summer, as part of an expansion of Whitman Lake hatchery's capacity, construction began on Phase I, adult holding space for returning salmon. Work consisted of constructing a primary water system, including a dam, plus raceways for rearing juvenile salmon and holding adult salmon until egg-takes. Construction also included a residence for crews. The construction ended for the season in December with near completion of the dam and installation of a small residence.

SSRAA has been releasing coho and chum salmon into Neets Bay since 1980 and has had returns of coho and chum salmon for two years. The transition to make this a self-contained hatchery, not an extension of Whitman Lake, was considered during the planning of Phase I.

"This year, we will be in a position to take advantage of our own broodstock, which we've developed over the last four years. The new hatchery will help us to significantly increase our production," he added.

The proposed hatchery will have the space to incubate 60 million chum eggs, 5 million coho eggs and 3 million chinook eggs, he added. Chum and coho stocks would come from existing, returning SSRAA fish, while potential donor stocks of chinook could be from Cripple Creek (origin) chinook returning to the Whitman Lake hatchery.

At full production, this hatchery should produce 600,000 to 1,200,000 returning chum, 400,000 coho and 240,000 chinook. SSRAA staff estimates that commercial fishermen should land 75 percent of these returning fish.

"Construction of the new hatchery is consistent with the Comprehensive Salmon Plan for southeast Alaska, and through sound enhancement practices, should increase benefits not only to commercial fishermen but to other fishery users," Larrick noted.

"We have developed a broodstock and have a dependable water source, two of the primary components of a hatchery," he said. With egg-take and release operations in Neets Bay, SSRAA crews have been working there steadily since last summer.

SSRAA crews are rearing overwinter a group of coho salmon in saltwater net pens in preparation for their release to sea this spring. Normally, these fish rear in freshwater until just prior to sea releases, Larrick said. SSRAA also plans to release 1.4 million summer chum there this spring, along with about 15 million fall chum and 1.0 million coho.

He noted that former field supervisor George Carnes has been named Neets Bay Hatchery Manager and is part of the hatchery design team composed of Larrick, Ward Griffioen, Rheal Finnegan and R. W. Beck and Associates.

Larrick said that the aquaculture association will have to seek a change in its special-use permit from the U.S. Forest Service and a hatchery permit from ADF&G to allow for the self-contained hatchery at Neets Bay. Presently, SSRAA staff is working on final designs and permit procedures.

ADF&G officials are concerned, he said, about large releases of chum salmon and their impact on the available food supply. ADF&G is also concerned about predation of wild pink and chum salmon by hatchery-released coho and chinook. SSRAA, in developing the final permit, will address these concerns, he added.

Larrick said that Neets Bay was initially selected as a release site because it is separated from the Behm Canal areas where a majority of native stocks occur. Past recovery of tags from SSRAA fish have shown there is little or no significant straying from sites where SSRAA fish have been imprinted prior to release.

He also said that the special harvest area, instituted in Neets Bay, helps pay for debt service on a portion of hatchery expenses. The size of Neets Bay will accommodate virtually all the various fishing methods in the region. SSRAA has held special harvests in Neets Bay on returning coho during 1981 and 1982.

Proposed

Neets Bay Rearing Pens

ATTACHMENT 2

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Special Committee on Fisheries

Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4924

CHAIRMAN
ADELHEID HERRMANN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
JACK FUL' ER
MEMBERS
CHARLIE BUSSELL
BEN GRUSENDORF
PETER GOLL
JACK McBRIDE
FRED ZHAROFF

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Special Committee on Fisheries

FROM: Mel Monsen, Professional Assistant

SUBJECT: Update on North Pacific Fishery Management Council Halibut Actions

DATE: January 10, 1984

In my October 17th report on the status of the Council's actions towards a moratorium in the halibut fisheries I promised to get you an update at the beginning of the session on the latest action. Fortunately, the Council has made this a short, simple report.

At their December 7-9th meeting the Council voted 8 to 2 to discontinue efforts to impose a moratorium on the Alaska halibut fishery. They also stated they would be looking at other management alternatives for the fishery in cooperation with the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

The Council also listed their objectives for halibut management:

1. Insure survival of the North Pacific halibut resource.

2. Distribute the halibut fishery in time and place to insure the harvest of the available surplus of all components of the halibut population over all areas of the North Pacific Ocean including the Bering Sea.

3. Continue to limit the harvesting of halibut to hook and line as the best means of utilizing and maintaining the resource at its highest sustained level of abundance.

4. Retain the International Pacific Halibut Commission as the primary management authority over the coast-wide range of the halibut population.

5. Provide high quality fresh, frozen or preserved halibut to the consumer throughout the year.

6. Strive to reduce incidental halibut mortality by gear that is not legal for a directed halibut fishery.

The report on halibut limited entry done by Northwest Resources Analysis for the Council is available from the Council or you can borrow mv copy here in Juneau. The report is titled, Limited Entrv inthe Paicific Halibut Fishery: The Individual Quota Option(Council Document 20), and is 168 pages long. The Council's mailing address is P.O. Box 103136, Anchorage, Alaska 99510, and their phone number is 274-4563.

ATTACHMENT 3

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Representative Adelheid Herrmann &
The House Special Committee on Fisheries.

FROM: Deborah L. Greenberg, Committee Aide

DATE: November 18, 1983

SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries October Agenda Setting Session

I met with Beth Stewart, the Executive Director of the Boards of Fisheries and Game, to discuss the BOARD OF FISHERIES SESSION held in October for the purposes of REVISING THE AGENDA FOR THEIR NEXT MEETING IN FEBRUARY. Beth can be contacted at 465-4110 in Juneau.

The October session was intended to focus only on what proposals should be added to the agenda and was not intended to be a regulatory meeting. The Board did, however, clarify their intent on previously taken action concerning the Brown Crab fishery in Southeast, but I have covered this topic in a seperate memorandum. Substanative discussion of each proposal was to be defed until the proposals are taken up by the Board of Fisheries in their regulatory meetings. The seven members tried to add to the agenda those proposals in most urgent need of review. To evaluate each proposal in this light, the Board used the following criteria or questions:

1. IS THERE A CONSERVATION PROBLEM?

2. IS IT A SOCIO-ECONOMIC ALLOCATION PROBLEM?

   A. Will one user group be so adversely impacted by the present regulations that there economic survival may be in jeopardy?

   B. Will one user group be so adversely impacted by present regulations that they may have no opportunity to harvest?

   C. Do existing regulations aggravate enforcement?

   D. Are the current regulations so out of date that the department has difficulty managing the fishery?

Although the Board tried to apply these criteria to their decisions, they were not required to do so, and therefore the additions to the agenda should not necessarily be viewed as the most urgent proposals submitted by the Advisory Committees, the Regional Councils or the general public.

Because the Board has so many new members and two members remain to be confirmed by the legislature, there will be no December meeting. The next scheduled meeting is February 1-15.

Below, I have outlined by region some of the topics added to the agenda:

BRISTOL BAY:

How far off can you set a net at Nushagak
Loran lines at Egegik and Ugashik (expected to be long topics).
48 hour registration, or district transfer.

SOUTHEAST:

Chilkat River subsistence salmon fishery.
Most of the Southeast topics concern shellfish and these aren't covered until later anyway.

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND:

As a result of several advisory committee meetings in Anchorage, the Board decided to take up at the February meeting, the Copper River Dip-net issue.
A proposal was also added on herring gill net areas, and one that would allow a salmon sport fishery on the Robe River.

COOK INLET:

Only non-salmon sport fish topics are to be covered in February.
Kenai River King Salmon topics will be covered in March.

STATEWIDE:

The Board added a proposal which would prohibit fishing more than one type of herring gear at a time.
They will also review a definition to describe when a seine has ceased fishing.

No additional topics were added concerning the lower Yukon, Kodiak, or the Southeast troll or gillnet fisheries.

For your convenience, I have provided the following ATTACHMENTS;

- A LIST OF PROPOSALS BY REGION that will be taken up at the February Board meeting, showing both those on the original agenda, and those just added.
- A LIST FROM WHICH THE BOARD SELECTED PROPOSALS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA,
- A TENTATIVE AGENDA for the February Board of Fisheries Meeting.

I also discussed with Beth the role she anticipates for Regional Coordinators, and her intents for a public information campaign to clarify the role of the Board meetings, the Regional Councils and the Advisory Committee. I will try to cover these in another memorandum in the next few weeks. Please contact me if you have any questions.

LIST OF PROPOSALS BY REGION

* On original agenda

February Agenda

Southeastern - Yakutat

* 1. King Salmon O.Y. & Season.

* 2. Seine - Gillnet Salmon Allocation.

* 3. Yakutat Surf Fishery.

4. Chilkat River subsistence salmon Fishery.

Prince William Sound

* 1. Kayak Island Salmon interception.

2. Herring gillnet Fishery.

3. Copper River subsistence Fishery.

4. Robe River sport salmon Fishery.

Cook Inlet

1. Single hook only areas for steelhead.

2. Arctic char & Dolly Varden limits. staff

3. Housekeeping - enforcement, nonsubstantive proposals sport Fish.

Bristol Bay

1. Seine - gillnet herring allocation.

2. 48 hr. district transfer.

3. LORAN boundary lines.

* 4. Bag & possession limits for rainbow trout.

5 - Set net thing

Westward

* 1. Unimak Island and Shumagin Islands June Fishery.

Statewide

1. Prohibit the fishing of more than one type of gear in the herring fishery.

2. Define when seines have stopped fishing.

A LIST OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED
FOR ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES - ISSUE SUMMARY

SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA - YAKUTAT AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

1. Allow a herring spawn-on-kelp fishery, both wild and in pounds, primarily in Tenekee Inlet and Lizianski Inlet. (1-11)
2. Convert the Tenakee Inlet food and bait fishery to a sac roe fishery. Make exclusive for gillnets or seines. (12-16)

Salmon Troll Fishery

3. Change in-season coho fishery closures so that they are determined by CPUE. (22)
4. Allow single species, coho, fishery in the FCZ during king closures. (17)
5. Change the weekly fishing periods in the Yakutat area. (18)
6. Reopen the area from Ocean Cape to the East River. (23)
7. Change the surf line near Sitka Sound. (19)
8. Change the Soapstone-Column Point line. (20-21)
9. Allow all trollers to use four lines. (27)
10. Repeal the registration deadline. (25-26)

Salmon Gillnet Fishery

11. Reinstate the Monday openings. (28-29)
12. Close waters within one mile of the Chikoot River. (30-31)
13. Require that the gillnet be attached to the vessel. (32-33)

Salmon Seine Fishery

14. Allow a sockeye harvest in District 14. (34-36)
15. Allow more open areas in northern southeastern for harvest of surplus pinks. (37)
16. Allow seining in Icy Straits, District 12. (38-39)

All Salmon Fisheries

17. Divide southeastern into two separate exclusive registration areas. (42-43)

Subsistence Fisheries

18. Allow subsistence salmon fishing in the Taku River. (44-45)
19. Set a subsistence salmon fishing season for parts of the Chilkat River. (50)

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

20. Increase the guideline harvest level for herring spawn-on-kelp in pounds. (51-52)

21. Prohibit the use introduced kelp in the wild kelp-herring spawn areas. (53-54)
22. Allow sac roe gill netting in all districts. (55)

Salmon

23. Reduce gear conflicts between set and drift gill netters in the Eshamy District and the Main Bay hatchery area. Primary recommendations are reduction in gear length, gear seperation requirements, and the use of hooks for set nets. (56-91)
24. Change some closed waters near streams. (92-93)
25. Require identification of drift gillnet vessels. (94)

Subsistence Fisheries

26. Change Copper River plan and create a personal use fishery. (95)

Sport Fisheries

27. Allow a salmon fishery in the Robe River. (96-97)
28. Make part of Gulkana River a hook and release area for rainbow trout. (98-99)

COOK INLET AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

29. Allow a limited sac roe fishery in Lower Cook Inlet. (100)
30. Change the guideline harvest level for Chinitna Bay and Kamishak. (101)

Salmon

31. Change the Upper Cook Inlet management plan, change the current allocations. (102-104, 140)
32. Change the northern boundary of the Kasilof River. (105)
33. Change the boundary between the Central and Northern districts. (106)
34. Chinitna Bay, allocation between set and drift gill nets. (107-108)
35. Create a Susitna subdistrict in the Northern District with its own fishing periods to coincide with the best tides. (109-111)
36. Create a new subdistrict in the Central District to protect milling Northern District stocks and provide an additional 24-hour fishing period in the Northern District. (112-130)
37. Allow set netting in the China Poot section of the Southern District. (131-133)

Sport Fisheries

38. Make part of the Kasilof, Anchor, and Ninilchik Rivers and Deep Creek, single hook only areas, or catch and release areas. (134-139)
39. Clarify the salmon stream closures for the Cook Inlet streams in reference to the taking of jacks. (143)

40. Reduce the limit for Arctic char and Dolly Varden. (141-142)
41. Clarify the closed area for Three-Mile Creek. (144)
42. Increase the grayling limit for Clarence Lake. (145)

BRISTOL BAY AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

43. Change the allocation between gill netters and seiners. (146-153)
44. Define when seines have ceased fishing. (154)

Salmon

45. Increase the escapement goals, particularly for the Kvichak. (155-158)
46. Do not close Kvichak set netting during the peak of the run. (159-160)
47. Require the permit holder to be aboard the drift gill net vessel. (161-162)
48. Prohibit the use of spotter aircraft. (163-165)
49. Reduce the minimum mesh size to five inches. (166-167)
50. Reduce the vessel length requirement to 29 feet fr Togiak District or repeal the limit area wide. (168-171, 2)
51. Close the Togiak River section on Sundays. (172)
52. Reduce the district transfer waiting period to 24-hours and allow one to fish during the waiting period in the initial district. (173-177)

Sport Fisheries

53. Change the limit for grayling and char over 16 inches in length. (233)
54. Prohibit the use of salmon eggs for bait. (179)

All Fisheries

55. Change boundary lines to LORAN lines. (178)

KUSKOKWIM AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

56. Create an exclusive use area. (180-181)

Salmon

57. Change the boundaries for District 4 (Kuskokwim Bay) and District 5 (Goodnews Bay). (182-185)
58. Allow only seines for ADF&G test fishing. (186)
59. Relocate the ADF&G counting tower on the Goodnews River. (187)
60. Create a commercial salmon fishery in the Hooper Bay area. (188-194)

Cod

61. Close the cod fishery.

YUKON AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Salmon

62. Restrict fishermen to either districts 1, 2, or 3. (196)
63. Change to subdistrict 4-A opening to June 20. (197)
64. Restrict fishermen to either subdistrict 4-A or 4-B and 4-C. (198)

Subsistence Fisheries

64. Increase the drift season by four days. (199)
65. Increase the length of drift gill nets to 150 feet. (200-201)
66. Allow commercial fishermen to assist in the operation of subsistence nets. (202)
67. Allow people 60 years or older to fish during the commercial mid-week closures in District 4. (203)
68. Allow the use of live black cod fish for bait in subdistricts 4-B and 4-C. (204)

KOTZEBUE AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Salmon

69. Increase the area open to fishing. (205-208)
70. Change subdistricts 4-B and 4-C to four consecutive days, Sunday to Thursday. (234)
71. All subsistence drift netting. (235)
72. Require that a fisherman has to remain at his site to keep it. (209-210)
73. Include net anchoring devices in the gear seperation requirement. (211)

KODIAK AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

74. Increase the length of the food and bait season. (212-213)
75. Set a length requirement for gill nets and seines used during the food and bait season. (214-215)
76. Reduce the sac roe guideline harvest level and place a quota on the food and bait harvest. (216)

Salmon

77. Reduce the closed waters area in Uganik Bay. (217)

NW - Chignik - Egegik SAK -

Subsistence Fisheries

NW 78. Close Akalura Creek and Lagoon. (218-219)

ALASKA PENINSULA AREA

Commercial Fisheries

Salmon

NW 79. Allow drift gill netting in part of the Shumagin Islands. (220-221)
NW 80. Require distance marking on gill net and seine cork lines to aid enforcement of length restrictions. (222-223)
NW 81. Increase the harvest of Chignik bound sockeyes. (224)

STATEWIDE

Commercial Fisheries

Herring

Yes 82. Prohibit the fishing of more than one type of gear. (225-226)
83. Define when seines have stopped fishing. (227)

Salmon

NW 84. Open all or selected State waters to trolling. (24, 228-231)
NW 85. Allow a vessel to fish in more than one area if two different permit holders use the boat. (40-41)

All fisheries

NW 86. Allow the use of drum seines. (46-49)
NW 87. Prohibit the possession of pre-imprinted fish tickets. (232)

PETITION

1. Southeast king crab seasons.

Heat tmp

TENTATIVE AGENDA

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES MEETING

February 1- , 1984

Baranof Hotel, Juneau, Alaska

and

February - , 1984

Westward Hilton Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska

SOUTHEASTERN & YAKUTAT SALMON FISHERIES

Febr. 1 8:30 am Intro. Bus./Election of Officers Approval of agenda/adoption of minutes

February 1-2 Troll Salmon-Chinook OY and Seasons (Joint meeting with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council)

February 3-4 Seine/Gill Net Salmon Allocation

Exec Session

February 5 Yakutat Salmon Surf Fishery

February 6 RECESS AND MOVE MEETING TO ANCHORAGE

WESTWARD HERRING AND SALMON FISHERIES

Exec. Session

February 7 & 8 South Peninsula Sac Roe Herring Fishery

Unimak-Shumagins June Salmon Management Plan

BRISTOL BAY HERRING AND SALMON FISHERIES

February 9-11 Roe Herring Seine/Gill Net Allocation

Offshore Salmon Set Nets -- Nushagak District

LORAN Boundaries for Egegik & Ugashik Districts

District Transfers During Salmon Season

Sport Fish -- Bag & Possession Limits for Rainbow Trout

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND HERRING AND SALMON FISHERIES

February 12-14 — Copper River Subsistence Salmon Fishery

Kayak Island Salmon Fishery

Herring Gill Net Fishery

Sport Fish--Robe River Salmon

COOK INLET NON-SALMON SPORT FISH FISHERIES

February 12 — Steelhead, Rainbow Trout, Arctic Char, and Dolly Varden Sport Fish Fisheries

Sport Fish Fishery Housekeeping

YUKON RIVER SALMON FISHERIES

February 15 — Tanana River Subsistence Salmon Fishery Catch Reporting

STATEWIDE

February 15 — Prohibit Use of Multiple Types of Herring Gear

Define When Herring Seines Have Stopped Fishing

Clarify Registration of Unlicensed Salmon Vessels

ATTACHMENT 4

CONTRACT BETWEEN

STATE OF ALASKA
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

AND

NELS ANDERSON
CO-MAN SERVICES

CONTRACT AMOUNT $4,000

The parties to this agreement are the Legislative Affairs Agency, on behalf of the House Special Committee on Fisheries, hereinafter referred to as the "Agency", and Nels Anderson, Co-Man Services, hereinafter referred to as the "Consultant".

THE PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT is to provide the House Special Committee on Fisheries with assistance in obtaining information on fishery-related matters.

IT IS THEREFORE MUTUALLY AGREED THAT:

CLAUSE I - STATEMENT OF WORK

The Consultant shall provide the House Special Committee on Fisheries with assistance in obtaining information on fishery-related matters on a temporary basis. This will include issues relating to set net regulations, fish waste dumping, salmon mesh size, and other fishery-related matters. Consultant will report all findings to the project director.

CLAUSE II - PERIOD AND DATES OF PERFORMANCE

(A) The work under this contract shall be performed from November 28, 1983 to December 28, 1983.

(B) This contract may be terminated by either party upon written notice to the other.

CLAUSE III - PROJECT DIRECTOR

The Project Director shall be Representative Adelheid Herrmann, acting on behalf of the House Special Committee on Fisheries.

CLAUSE IV - COMPENSATION AND METHOD OF PAYMENT

(A) For the work specified in this contract, the Consultant shall be compensated at the rate of $40 (Forty Dollars) per hour, with total compensation for this work not to exceed $4,000 (Four Thousand Dollars).

(B) The Consultant shall be reimbursed for travel and other expenses authorized in advance by the Project Director, except that per diem shall be paid at prevailing State rates, and all air travel shall be reimbursed on the basis of coach class fares.

(C) The Consultant shall receive $2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars) as an advance payment and will receive the remainder of the billed amount upon receipt of the final report and approval from the Project Director.

(D) Total payments under this contract, including expenses shall not exceed $4,000 (Four Thousand Dollars).

CLAUSE V - OFFICE SPACE, EQUIPMENT, CLERICAL SUPPORT

Office space, equipment and clerical support of the Consultant that will be necessary to carry out his obligations under this contract will be supplied by the Consultant at no cost to the Agency.

CLAUSE VI - RECORDS, DOCUMENTS, AUDIT

The Consultant shall maintain accurate records, including detailed time records, as may be required by the Project Director. The records are subject to inspection by the Agency or the Project Director at all reasonable times. All documents, reports and writings generated as a consequence of work done under this contract shall become the property of the State of Alaska and, on completion of the work or at the termination of this contract, shall be delivered to the Project Director for disposition under Rule 23 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature.

CLAUSE VII - TERMINATION

This contract may be terminated by the Agency upon delivery of written notice to the Consultant delivered to the following address: Co-Man Services, Box 234, Dillingham, Alaska 99576.

(B) If this contract is termianted, the Consultant shall be compensated for services provided under the terms of this contract to the date of termination if the Consultant provides the Agency with a written report containing a description of any research or analyses performed, a statement of the result or conclusions formed based upon the research or analyses and a copy of all data acquired by the Consultant or his agents in conjunction with this contract.

CLAUSE VIII - REPORTS

The Consultant shall provide a final report in a form approved by the Project Director as required by the Project Director with the final billing.

CLAUSE IX CERTIFICATION

Execution of this contract by the Executive Director or his designee, hereby constitutes a certification that funds have been appropriated and encumbered for the amount of this contract.

CLAUSE X - MODIFICATIONS AND PREVIOUS AGREEMENTS

This contract contains the entire agreement between the parties. A statement, promise or inducement made by a party or an agent of a party is not valid or binding unless the statement, promise or inducement is contained in this written contract. This contract may not be enlarged, modified, or altered except upon written agreement signed by all parties to the contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this agreement on the dates indicated below.

CONSULTANT

Nels A. Anderson Jr. 11-25-83

NELS ANDERSON Date
CO-MAN SERVICES
SS# 574-14-0390

Accepted:

Adelheid Herrmann

REP. ADELHEID HERRMANN
CHAIRM,
HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

H. R. CHARNEY
LXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Approved as to form:

Billy G. Berrier

BILLY G. BERRIER
AGENCY LEGAL COUNCIL
Counsel

AMENDMENT NO. 1

CONTRACT BETWEEN

STATE OF ALASKA
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

AND

NELS ANDERSON
CO-MAN SERVICES

IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ABOVE PARTIES DATED NOVEMBER 28, 1983, IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

CLAUSE II, Page 1 is amended to read:

(A) The work under this contract shall be performed from December 27, 1983 to January 27, 1984.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this amendment to this agreement on the dates indicated below.

CONSULTANT

Nels A. Anderson Jr. 1-2-84

NELS ANDERSON Date
CO-MAN SERVICES
574-14-0890

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

1/10/84

M. R. CHARNEY Date
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Accepted:

REP. ADELHEID HERRMANN Date
CHAIRMAN,
HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Approved as to form:

1/10/84

BILLY G. BERRIER Date
AGENCY LEGAL COUNSEL

ATTACHMENT 5

To: Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Chairman
State House Special Committee on Fisheries

Fm: Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant

Date: January 26, 1984

Subject: FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON FISHERY ISSUES

Co-Man Services • Box 234, Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • Phone (907) 842-2366

M E M O

To: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

Fm: Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant on Fisheries

Date: January 9, 1984

Subject: Bottomfish Policy Recommendations

1. Bottomfish

Re our phone conversation regarding the role of the State of Alaska in the bottomfish industry. Although we agreed that you would find another person to carry this, I have the following thoughts. I feel strongly that no more in-depth study needs to be spent in trying to assess how deeply the State of Alaska wants to involve itself in any industrial development especially bottomfishing. Our constitution provides that "The legislature shall provide for the utilization, development, and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the state, including land and waters, for the maximum benefit of its people." I believe that this section of the constitution gives you and the legislature broad authority to find the proper role of the State in the bottomfishing industry.

In order to clarify the state's purpose in developing the bottomfishing industry, the question of how State funds can be used to develop the bottomfishing industry together with making the economic benefits from bottomfishing available to Alaskans needs to be answered.

There has to be a major shift in funds and emphasis to develop the bottomfishing industry. The bottomfishing industry off the shores of Alaska within the two hundred (200) mile limit is heavily foreign in nature with a gradual move toward joint-ventures which gives a minor economic benefit to American fishermen. A bottomfishing industrial complex has to be thought out in detail that gives more benefits to Alaskans.

A shore-based bottomfishing industry has to have the infrastructure to support the total effort. Docks, harbors, bottomfish industrial parks, longer airfields, low-cost power, good water at shore-based facilities have to be provided to capture the bottomfish value before it is exported, processed, packaged and sold elsewhere.

The Pribilof Islands need help in building the necessary support structures to assist in making the area more attractive for building a shore-base bottomfishing industry there. Atka needs similar help regardless of duplication of effort. The bottomfishing industry is so large that those two places could not handle the volume of business currently being generated by foreign interests on the high seas.

2. Loans

Your referral to the loans that are needed by the people requires a modification of our current boat loan programs that will allow the residents of the Pribilofs and the Aleutian Chain to qualify for State funds. There is no reason that can be given to prevent you from making the changes needed to qualify these people for loans to get them the needed equipment to permit them to get into the economic mainstream of the fishery in their area. To do less would be almost criminal.

Your question on how to decide the issue of assistance to the processors requires dialogue with them directly. You can also speak to Greg Baker in the Office of Commercial Fisheries Development to get his views on what the State should be doing in financial assistance programs. After this is done, you need to decide how much to push based on your perceived views of the needs of your constituency.

3. Kodiak Crab Fishing Decline
The question about the crab fishing fleet is an immediate problem that will not take too long to understand. The crab fleet has an organization that will let you and the entire legislature know what they want. Your job will be to judge what is right and do what has to be done.

4. BBNA Studies on Bottomfish
Your comments regarding the Bristol Bay work on bottomfish needs to be evaluated. Your office needs to contact BBNA and get their views on what it is they want to accomplish. Feasibility is a question that could be resolved by the work they did in late 1983. Perhaps they should be allowed to pursue further studies to make sure that the investigations they made were done at times when the various species were present in the areas studied. It would make sense to drag the area at all times during ice free conditions.

Feasibility won't be found until qualities of product, volume, locations and marketability of products are determined. Further study could be required to make definitive decisons.

SHORE FISHERY LEASING PROGRAM

THE SHORE FISHERY LEASING PROGRAM is a program like many State programs that is not very well publicized. This program is used as a defense mechanism to stop people from encroaching on their traditional set net sites. This is causing problems for people who have fished an area for 20 to 30 years because they are not aware of the leasing program. The leasing program can be invoked by someone without the long term user of the site being aware of a lease application. The result is that the applicant takes over and the person with the long term use is pushed out. This happens because many setnetters are not able to read and write the English language.

An equitable method of allocating leases must be devised to protect the people who have leases and those people who don't. The people who administer the program appear to have no sensitivity to the people that the Shore Fishery Leasing Program affects. A reading of the July 22, 1983, memo from Lance Key, Project Administrator of the Division of Land and Water Management, to the Director of Lands and Water Management suggests the administrators do not want the program. My interpretation of what I read is that the program is obsolete, generates too much work and should be dumped. I see too much of a bureaucratic negativism to really give serious thought to improving the program to make it work. To the Director's credit, he is taking a go slow attitude on abolishing the program.

State-wide hearings have to be held to properly explain the program and its intent. Any change in policy has to give the leaseholder a fair chance to be heard as well as those who have not applied for and received a lease. A great deal of time is going to be needed to get all the concerns voiced state-wide. The bills that are before the committee need to be aired in public hearings to see if they meet the test of advancing the public purpose. The committee will be better able to determine how quickly to move the bills once the public learns of their intent and purpose.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A performance audit needs to be initiated as soon as possible to see how the Shore Fishery Lease Program is working now.
2. The people who run the Shore Fishery Leasing Program should be given an

opportunity to give their views on the program. Further, the administrators should be asked to give the committee their best shot on how the Shore Fishery Leasing Program needs to be improved.

3. State-wide hearings need to be conducted to air the issue of Shore Fishery Leasing and its benefits to the public. No action should be taken on any changes in policy until the people affected are able to understand the issue and proposed changes. Interpreters are going to be needed in some areas to get the message across.

CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 11, 1984

Mr. Harvey Samuelsen, President
Western Alaska Cooperative Marketing Association
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Harvey,

Would you please review the enclosed packet of material regarding the Share Fishery Lease Program? Your views of Representative Ward's bill (HB 419) and the Division of Land and Water Management memos on the program would be helpful in giving the legislature direction on what to do about the Share Fishery Lease Program.

Since your organization represents set netters as well as drift net fishermen, we are looking forward to your comments on whether or not the existing program needs to be changed, repealed or otherwise handled.

I don't feel as though I have spoken to enough set net fishermen to get a real picture of how the problem is viewed by them. Your organization could be valuable in broadening the range of viewpoints which will be useful in finding a solution. One, is the program obsolete and should it be repealed? Two, can the program be changed to help the set netters? Three, should we leave the program alone?

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson Jr.

Nels A. Anderson, Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 11, 1984

Mr. Mitch Kink, General Manager
Alaska Independent Fisherman's Marketing Association
700 14th Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225

Dear Mr. Kink,

Would you please review the enclosed packet of material regarding the Share Fishery Lease Program? Your views of Representative Ward's bill (HB 419) and the Division of Land and Water Management memos on the program would be helpful in giving the legislature direction on what to do about the Share Fishery Lease Program.

Since your organization represents set netters as well as drift net fishermen, we are looking forward to your comments on whether or not the existing program needs to be changed, repealed or otherwise handled.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

To: Representative Herrmann

From: Nels A. Anderson, Jr.; Special Assistant, Special Committee on Fisheries

Date: January 12, 1984

Subject: Shore Fishery Lease Application ADL 202801 filed in 1979 by Lukelia Petla and
Shore Fishery Lease Application ADL 211001 filed in 1983 by Roseanne Savo.

After reviewing the Roseanne Savo case, I have decided to recommend the following action:

The entire case file needs to be reviewed by the Legal Affairs Division to review the complete file that has been presented to me by Roseanne Savo to make a determination of whether or not Commissioner Wunnicke's decision and that of the Thomas Hawkins, Director of the Division of Land and Water Management is correct according to law and regulations.

I believe that legal assistance is required to give you a better idea of how to resolve this issue since it is now in the court system. I believe that a thorough examination of all the relevant facts will lead to a decision opposite that held by the Department of Natural Resources.

If the examination of the case shows that the decision should be reversed, I would suggest you confer with Commissioner Wunnicke about the possible flaw and try to resolve this out of court.

The case is a good example of what is before us if the present system of leasing is not improved. I believe that repealing or otherwise revising the existing law is premature. I would recommend a thorough examination of how the present program is administered before any legislative action is taken. I believe a performance audit is required to determine the effectiveness of the program and its value to set net fishermen.

Some of the Roseanne Savo material is in chronological order. An early legal review of the administrative decisions is needed to see if some points of law were overlooked. Results of the review could lead in a number of directions. Once a final review is completed, consequent actions to take will be determined by the final review of the case file.

Co-Man Services • Box 234, Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • Phone (907) 842-2366

MEMORANDUM State of Alaska

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES - Division of Land and Water Management

TO: Tom Hawkins
Director

DATE: July 22, 1983

FILE NO: 515.6

TELEPHONE NO: 4372

FROM: Lance E. Key
Project Administration

SUBJECT: Shore Fisheries Meeting

On July 14, 1983, a meeting concerning the Shore Fisheries Program was held in the Director's Conference Room. The participants were:

Tom Hawkins	Leroy Latta
Meg Hayes	Lance Key
Dean Nation	Linda Medeiros
Dennis Daigger	David Creekman

The purpose of the meeting was to "hash-out" and scrutinize the current shore fishery program to see what approach should be taken with respect to the now closed program. It was hoped information and ideas from this meeting would provide needed guidance and direction for rewriting the regulations currently in effect.

Many problems and ideas were identified during the two hour discussion. This memo is to highlight the major parts of the discussion that took place and present the options and ideas that were formulated.

1. Abolish the program by repeal of AS 38.05.082.

   a. Agreed to by everyone present with the exception of a skeptical Director. Also advocated by other state agencies such as ADF&G and the Alaska State Troopers.

   b. Program has become obsolete since the inception of limited entry.

   c. Leases issued by the state that later enter into site conflicts are resolved in civil court. The same process occurs with sites that are not leased. Based on this, what does the lease provide?

   d. The Commissioner, in this instance, might be persuaded to back abolishment of the program. This was not the case during the last administration.

   c. The majority present agreed that SFL's were not where they would like to see more adjudicators go.

   d. Allocate more of SCDO's personnel to SFL's since 1/3 of the backlog is in SFL's. Not favorable with the majority of those present.

   e. Lobby the legislature for new positions in SFLing. Most present felt new positions should not be utilized for SFL's.

2. Amend 11 AAC 64.020 to require a shore fishery lease in order to fish.

   a. This action could pertain to all SF areas or could be limited to specific areas.

   b. DLWM could expect a heavy casefile increase due to new applications.

   c. Conflicts would be identified quickly.

   d. All sites/fisherman within such an area would be identified and located.

   e. Some fisherman could be forced out where space did not exist.

   f. Areas could fill so that new fishermen would be excluded in certain areas.

3. Amend 11 AAC 64.430 so assignments of SF leases are eliminated.

   a. This may require statuatory changes under AS 38.05.082(d).

   b. Be prepared for pandemonium from the fishermen/brokers who buy and sell sites for the big bucks.

   c. Lease applications could decrease.

   d. Less work for contract administration.

   e. Value of prior leases would skyrocket.

   f. One less working problem the adjudicator would face (the old "who's got the site this year" trick).

4. Leave the program as is and reopen it to applications.

   a. This approach was attacked vehemently by all present.

   b. The program was determined to be unusable in its present condition by all present except one.

   c. Fishermen can once again look forward to long waits when obtaining a lease.

   d. The tarnished image DLWM will receive after sitting on the program for over a year and then making no change.

5. Add more casefile adjudicators to the program.

   a. The workload/backlog would be reduced.

   b. Fishermen would be happy since leases would probably be issued sooner.

6. The use of Set Net Associations to assist in program administration.

7. Raise the annual SFL rental.

   a. Heavily supported by all present.

   b. Would not be receptive with fishermen or set net groups.

   c. Based on divisions past track record, there was skepticism that it would make it.

8. Amend 11 AAC 64.490-560. Dealing with survey plats and paper plats.

   a. The group was distinctly divided (50/50) over the success of an action such as this.

   b. Cost involved to fisherman might be less.

   c. Administrative action concerning the plats would be lessened.

   d. Used in conjunction with shorter lease terms could solve site location problems due to beach erosion and shift.

9. Shorten length of issued lease to 5 years.

   a. Agreed to by the majority if used with other changes to the program.

   b. Fishermen may not like going through a lease renewal every 5 years with probable plat update.

   c. Beach erosion impact may be lessened since plats would be updated every 5 years instead of 10.

The topics in this memo do not identify every subject discussed, but do hopefully cover all the major points of discussion. Should the program be continued, several of the topics discussed were recommended as changes. They were:

Require a SFL to fish.
Repeal assignments.
Raise the annual rental.
Shorten the length of the lease.
Change the surveying/platting requirements.

The overwhelming opinion of the meeting, however, was for total repeal of the program. It was felt the merits of the program did not justify continuation or prioritization. The meeting provided a concensus opinion while also providing alternatives to the present program.

LEK/tls

TEXTNAME: problem (K)P: (shore) 01

References: AS 38.05.082
11 AAC 64

9/17/82
MJH - Draft (First Revision)

Problems with the shore fishery lease program

A. The rights conveyed by the lease are limited to the right to be the only commercial fisherman on the beach while actually present and engaged in set net fishery.

B. Alaska State Troopers (FWP) will not enforce the terms of the lease. The troopers will act on a court order resulting from a complaint of criminal trespass.

C. The shore fishery lease does not supercede ADF&G regulations. That is, a lessee cannot fish within the distance set by ADF&G (usually 300 feet or 600 feet) of a set netter who has already set nets on unleased land.

D. It is usually difficult to locate the leased land with any degree of certainty. Leases have been issued with vague locational sketches, paper plats, and surveys at different times in the past.

E. There are very unstable coastlines in parts of Bristol Bay, notably near the mouths of rivers. Erosion rates at an average of 5 feet a year are not uncommon. The record we have heard of is 67 feet a year.

F. The state encourages technical trespass on privately owned uplands. Trespass results from the survey or staking requirements and from the use of the uplands to store equipment and for staging areas.

G. Because leases are not required to engage in set net fishery, there is little incentive to apply until a conflict exists. Almost every application that is received and that results in a dispute between two competing applicants results in appeal.

H. The length of time needed to process applications is generally a year, or longer if conflict is identified.

I. DNR is frequently requested to resolve disputes over leased land. This demand affects our ability to process applications.

J. The program is complicated and difficult for anyone to fully understand, but even moreso for those who cannot read and write English or who are not familiar with statutes, regulations and legal processes.

K. The program is expensive to administer. The benefits are realized only by a few of those directly involved in set net fishery.

L. The administrative costs are not recaptured by the lease rental rates of $60/year.

TEXTNAME: problem (R)P: (shore) 03

9/17/82
MJH - Draft (First Revision)

Options for solving the problems of the set net lease program

A. Abolish the program by repeal of AS 38.05.082

1. Popular with everyone we talked to who administers the program, including Alaska State Troopers and ADF&G.

2. Not popular with gill netters, especially those who do not understand the rights conveyed by the lease and those who have invested several thousand dollars in buying a lease site.

3. The program preceded limited entry and it may no longer serve the state's purposes.

B. Amend AS 38.05.082 to provide for a location method of establishing rights.

1. Set netters would claim a site by erecting witness posts, stating the distance to a permanent landmark or survey monument and filing with the recorder's office.

2. The set netter would file an affidavit each year in the recorder's office that he personally fished the site the previous season, and he would state the distance to the landmark or survey monument.

3. Disputes would be resolved by court action.

4. Cost of the program would be very low.

C. Amend 11 AAC 64 to establish local set net associations.

1. An area would be open to set net leases when the commissioner was informed that a set netters association had been formed.

2. The association would make recommendations on applications and on resolution of disputes. Decisions would continue to be made by the director.

3. Running the association would take a lot of time and equipment (typewriters, photocopiers, etc.) not readily available on the beach.

4. The system could be subject to human error as well as Machiavellian plots.

D. Amend 11 AAC 64 to provide for establishing a maximum number of possible sites on beaches that are eroding.

1. DNR would determine the straight line distance between two points on a beach. Dividing this length by the minimum spacing requirements of ADF&G's regulations would yield the maximum number of possible lease sites on a straight line beach. Each year DNR would measure the actual length of the beach and determine where the lessee would fish.

2. Set netters are not in favor of the state determining where they could fish.

3. The cost to the state would be high because of survey work.

E. Amend 11 AAC 64 to require surveys of all leases. Do not reopen the program where erosion is severe.

1. Sites near the mouths of rivers are the most prone to erosion and are also the most popular fishing sites.

2. We do not have sufficient data to distinguish the beaches that are stable from those that are not.

F. Amend 11 AAC 64 to give the lessee a proprietary interest in the site during fishing season.

1. A lease would not be required but a set netter on non-leased land could not interfere with the lessee's activity on the lease.

2. The lessee would not have to be present to prohibit other commercial set netters from using his site.

3. This concept may or may not be in conflict with Article VIII Section 15 of the Alaska Constitution.

4. This provision can be combined with other options.

G. Initiate a DNR program of conducting "as built" surveys of the beaches and staking lease sites.

1. Application would be made for a particular site. The confusion over which site is under consideration during adjudication of the application would be reduced.

2. The stakes could be subject to vandalism and storms could destroy survey monuments.

3. The surveys and stakings could be expensive to perform.

4. This option is acceptable to Alaska State Troopers and ADF&G.

5. Set netters may object on the basis that once again the State would be telling them where to fish.

BACKGROUND ON FISH AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL IN BRISTOL BAY

Fish and Solid Waste Disposal in Bristol Bay during fishing seasons is a problem. 1983 was no exception. The amount of pollution caused by dumping untreated fish and solid waste into Bristol Bay is almost impossible to determine. 1983 found 29 land processors and 38 floating processors operating in Bristol Bay. Also included are the estimated 400 to 500 support vessels. Add to that approximately 1800 gill net vessels and support vessels for approximately 900 set net operations. 39.1 million salmon were harvested in Bristol Bay.

This information is presented to give you an idea of how much disposable waste can be generated by the fishing industry. Fish heads, viscera, solid waste dumped into the rivers of Bristol Bay can be a monumental problem if the State fails to prevent pollution.

FISH AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A Fish and Solid Waste Disposal Program for the 1984 Fishing Season to be funded to accomplish the following goals:
   a) Plan and implement a Bristol Bay Fish and Solid Waste Disposal Plan for the 1984 fishing season which would allow the Department of Environmental Conservation to station a permanent representative in Bristol Bay.
   b) Send all processors, support vessels and fishermen information about bilge oil, sewage and fish waste regulations that will be in effect in 1984.
   c) Increase the man days of actual on-site inspection and patrols of shore-based and floating processors. (ADEC presence is a must during the height of the season.)
   d) Re-establish contact with enforcement and judicial officers regarding ADEC mission in Bristol Bay as it relates to fish and solid waste disposal.
   e) Have ADEC establish a Fish and Solid Waste Disposal Task Force of concerned parties to address fish and solid waste disposal problems in Bristol Bay and make policy recommendations for legislative and administrative consideration.

Co-Man Services • Box 234, Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • Phone (907) 842-2366

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Bob Martin
Deputy Director, EQO

DATE: September 14, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: Jim Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Bristol Bay

Norman Stadem visited this office on September 12, 1983 regarding the pollution of Bristol Bay during the 1983 Salmon Season. Mr. Stadem is a economist by profession, a professor at APU and a member of the board of the Alaska Independent Fisherman's Marketing Association Cooperative (AIFMAC) and a fisherman. Mr. Stadem is representing AIFMAC during his visit. The AIFMAC has a membership of 500 plus fishermen.

We reviewed my report to Keith Kelton dated August 18, 1983 on the same subject.

Mr. Stadem is still concerned with the type and volume of pollution to the bay and cited several examples where fishing boats had become disabled and were required to be towed to shore to untangle plastic binding material from the propellers. This material is used to bind fibers used for packing processed fish.

We both agreed that in-addition to reducing pollution that a greater distance between boats would tend to reduce incidental pollution from the ships and boats.

It is my recommendation that we expand beyond our regulatory role and into one where we can obtain cooperation from all departments, organizations, and individuals involved in Bristol Bay.

DEC should form a committee to form a task force on the problem and make recommendations for implementation of a program to further reduce pollution. Formation of the committee and members of the task force should include but not limited to the following:

1. The Departments of Fish and Game and Public Safety, Fish and Wildlife Protection
2. DEC, Seafood and Animal Health
3. Alaska Independent Fisherman's Marketing Association Cooperative

5. Local Native Associations

6. City of Dillingham

7. Western Alaska Commerical Fisherman's Association

8. North Pacific Processors Association

9. Alaska Fisherman's Journal

Grants are needed to establish local landfills and collection points located where waste oil and refuse can be stored. The committee should start work on plans for a task force in January or February 1984.

JCA/msm
cc: Keith Kelton
Norman Stauch
Jeff Skrade
Joe Campbell

BIO
ECONOMIC
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

NORMAN STADEM
ECONOMIST

1826 EAST 26TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504
(907) 272-0908

September 13, 1983

Mr. James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western District Supervisor
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
437 E Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK. 99501

Dear Mr. Allen:

This is to affirm my impression of the positive results of our meeting yesterday in your office regarding the solid fish waste disposal problem in the Naknek/Kvichak Rivers during the Sockeye salmon fishing season. There has been a dramatic increase in the volume of unground viscera, heads, and whole fish and other processing waste during the past two years. In my capacity as a representative of the Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association, Coop I heard from a large number of the fishermen in respect to this problem. The concern was unanimous--the problem has gotten out of hand, and A.I.F.M.A.Coop must bring the problem to the attention of regulatory agencies for resolution. Obviously, of primary concern is the economic cost transfered to the fishermen by those processors who dump without grinding these fish wastes. Fishing productivity is adversely impacted since productive time is wasted in disentangling this material, especially viscera, from the nets. There is a concern also for the possible health hazzard of infection, such as blood poisoning or fish poisoning, from constantly handling the decomposing fish wastes. Of no small significance is the detrimental impact on morale.

We realize that waste disposal is a fundamental problem in a primary processing industry such as salmon fishery. However, ADEC has essentially solved this problem in the case of shore-based processors by requiring that all fish wastes be ground before dumping it into the water-ways. The problem, with respect to the fishermen, is more acute in the case of floating processors because they dump directly in the prime fishing areas. Thus, there is no chance of some of the material washing ashore, where it decomposes or is eaten by birds and animals, rather than being caught in gill nets.

Your suggestion that ADEC take the initiative in organizing a meeting of concerned parties to discuss the general problem of waste disposal into the Bay, is taken as a positive step in seeking a solution to this increasing problem. We look forward to hearing more on this in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Norman Stadem
Assemblyman, AIFMA Coop

cc: State Rep. Adelheid Herrmann
Mr. Mitch Kink, Gen. Mgr., AIFMA Coop

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

437 E. Street, Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501

TO: Keith Kelton
Director, EQD

DATE: August 18, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Disposal of Salmon and Solid Waste in Bristol Bay 1983

Based on my 1982 observations, the following plan was initiated for the 1983 season:

1. Five-thousand, six-hundred fisherman and two-hundred and eighty-eight processors applied to fish and process herring in Bristol Bay for the 1983 season. Our main concern and that of Fish and Game was oil pollution from the fishing and processing vessels. Herring roe is very susceptible to the effects of petroleum products. Letters were sent to all processors and made available to processors when they reregistered locally with the Department of Fish and Game. Ten man days was spent on the Fish and Wildlife vessel Vigilant for enforement purposes. No oil pollution was observed. I feel this was due to the fact that we sent out the letters, we were there and excellent weather conditions. Last year ten fishing boats were sunk or driven on shore by bad weather.

2. Bristol Bay Salmon Processors are located at:

Location	Land	Floating	Tenders	Freighters
Dillingham	6	-	-	-
Queen Slough	1	-	-	-
Clarks Point	-	8	-	-
Ekuk	1	1	-	-
Naknek	5	21	48	17
South Naknek	3	-	-	-
Egegik	1	2	-	-
Pederson Point	1	-	-	-
Togiak	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	19	32	48	17

This represents the majority of the plants and processors in the immediate area. Tenders and freighters were only counted in the area off of the Naknek River. It is difficult to estimate the amount of fish waste produced from the 36 million red salmon that were processed. Kings, silvers and other salmon are not included in this figure. It is also difficult to estimate the amount of solid waste generated from the processing and the crew.

5227

Again, letters were sent to all processors and copies were provided to Fish and Game offices in Dillingham and King Salmon for distribution.

Ten man days were spent during the last two weeks in June to primarily inspect land based plants for water, sewage and fish waste discharge systems. Ten man days were spent the first two weeks in July to board floating processors for sanitary, solid and fish waste discharge.

On two occasions, The Bristol Bay Borough made available their fire boat. Within three hours we were able to check the sterns of seventy-eight vessels. Fish and Wildlife Protection provided a boat ride to Queen Fisheries which eliminated an air charter cost.

Meetings were held with the Magistrates in Naknek and Dillingham and letters were sent to reconfirm our conversation and included regulations, waste discharge requirements for land and floating processors and types of misdemeanors. This information was also provided to Fish and Wildlife personnel in Dillingham and Naknek.

Observations:

1. Everyone contacted regarding our 1983 activities to reduce pollution in Bristol Bay were very favorable. Other than the improved esthetic effects to the water and beaches, there were other positive benefits, i.e, fish-heads no longer effected set nets; fish intestines no longer effected drift nets; plastic bands on fiber etc., no longer fouled propellers. Question -

2. Everyone contacted that had been in the Bay had noted a decrease in the amounts and types of solid and fish waste which was also our own observations.

3. Sixteen NOVs were issued in the four week period and essentially dealt with improper fish waste discharge.

4. Nine of the twenty-one floating salmon processors in the Naknek area had installed incinerators to reduce the volume of combustible waste.

5. As the results of our letter and activities, the refuse collector contractor for the Bristol Bay Borough instituted a refuse collection service by boat for salmon processors off of the Naknek River.

Recommendation:

To continue the present program for the 1984 season however, this is in conflict with the Regional and District work plan and the approximately 40% decreasse in travel budget for the Anchorage/Western District.

JCA/nsm

274-2533
SCRO
437 E Street
Suite 200
Anchorage, AK
99501

June 6, 1983

Dear Seafood Processors:

This is further to our April 18, 1983 letter of information regarding oil, sewage and soild waste pollution of Bristol Bay.

All processing plants have Seafood Processing Wastewater Permits. These permits require grinding Seafood wastes to a size that is capable of passing through a 0.5 inch mesh screen. The effluent seafood wastewater is to be discharged at a depth equal or greater than mean lower low water for shore based plants. Floating Seafood processors wastewater effluent shall be discharged at a depth equal to or greater than 42 feet below mean lower low water.

Acceptable methods of solid waste disposal are to incinerate combustibles and compact and store non-combustibles for transportation to an approved landfill site in Alaska or outside. The Department will have personnel in the Bristol Bay area for the Salmon processing season to assist operators in meeting these requirements and to enforce state regulations. Violations of provisions of the oil, wastewater and solid waste regulations will be subject to appropriate enforcement action.

Your cooperation will assist us to protect the environment of Bristol Bay.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact this office at 274-2533.

Sincerely,

Bob Martin
Regional Supervisor

BM/JCA/msm

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

SOUTHCENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

☒ 437 E. STREET
SECOND FLOOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 274-2533

☐ P.O. BOX 615
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615
(907) 486-3350

☐ P.O. BOX 1207
SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669
(907) 262-5210

☐ P.O. BOX 1709
VALDEZ, ALASKA 99686
(907) 835-4698

☐ P.O. BOX 1064
WASILLA, ALASKA 99687
(907) 376-5038

April 18, 1983

Dear Fishermen and Seafood Processors:

Marine intertidal and nearshore areas require special attention as they are very productive and supply habitat essential to the life cycles of many important species. Herring and salmon are among the many species where the intertidal and nearshore regions play an important role in their productivity. This habitat is extremely sensitive and easily damaged by oil spills and improper waste disposal, particularly in areas where spawning takes place. The State of Alaska has implemented regulations to protect these resources from various forms of pollution.

The most common pollution incidents in the fishing grounds have been the discharging of bilge oils and fuel spills, the dumping of solid waste overboard and on beaches, and the discharging of untreated sewage and processing wastes. These incidents can significantly impact the future fisheries of the area.

This fishing season, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will be in the field working with other agencies in an effort to reduce the pollution incidents associated with the harvest of fishery resources. This work will entail routine patrols amongst the fishing fleet, boarding vessels to alert the vessel master to pollution prevention, and responding to pollution incidents as they are reported.

State law requires prompt reporting of oil spills and other serious pollution incidents. This reporting helps to facilitate quick cleanups thereby reducing environmental impacts and damage to fishing equipment. During the upcoming fishing seasons you should be able to contact this Department in the field through the Alaska Fish and Wildlife Protection Service or the Alaska State Troopers or in Anchorage dial 274-2533. If you cannot contact this Department, contact the U.S. Coast Guard, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, or the local police.

We enlist your support in our efforts to prevent pollution which may affect fishing resources.

Sincerely,

Bob Martin
Regional Supervisor

BM/SZ/msm

18-09 LH

MEMORANDUM State of Alaska

TO: Peter Ashman, Charley Shawback
Magistrates

DATE: June 7, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: The Pollution of
Bristol Bay

This is to confirm our recent conversations regarding seafood and solid wastes that are discharged from land based and floating processors.

Attachments #1 and #2 are letters sent to all Bristol Bay Processors by mail and were forwarded to Fish and Game Offices in Dillingham, and King Salmon for distribution to processors who must also re-apply locally for processing.

Attachment #3 is my memo of January 24, 1983 to Joe Campbell regarding fish and solid waste regulations and policies.

The wastewater and solid waste regulations are attached as are formats #21 and #23 which are the examples of the permits for land and floating processors and are marked attachments #4, #5, #6 and #7 respectively.

Foreign processors must also comply with the Department's regulations.

There are three types of misdemeanors that could result from improper discharge of seafood or other solid waste. (AS 46.03.790):

(1) A violation of a statute or regulation which has been committed wilfully may be considered a Class A misdemeanor. Class A misdemeanors under AS 12.55.035(b)(3) carry a maximum fine of $5,000. Under AS 12.55.135(a) such persons can also be sentenced for up to one year in jail.

(2) A violation which has been unintentionally committed may be considered a Class B misdemeanor, and under AS 12.55.035(b)(5) carries a maximum fine of $300.

(3) Failure to provide or f lsely state information with respect to unlawful discharge is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than $25,000 as set out in AS 46.03.790(d).

Furthermore, each day on which the violation occurs is considered a separate violation (AS 46.03.790(c)).

The penalties assessed depend on the severity of the violation. A description of the type and severity of the violation will be provided to the proper authority by a representative of this Department.

Please contact this office at 274-2533 if you have any questions regarding the above information.

JCA/JFH/msm
Attachments

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Joseph W. Campbell
Division of Fish & Wildlife Protection
Department of Public Safety

DATE: January 24, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Nondomestic Wastewater and Solid Waste Regulations

Joe, I waited until the attached revised regulations became law, December 30, 1982, to forward them to you with the following comments.

AS 46.03.020.(10)(A) allows for Department to develop AAC to "control, prevent and abatement of air, or land or subsurface land pollution." And (D) the "collection and disposal of sewage and industrial waste."

Title 18, Chapter 72, Articles 1 and 2 pertain to domestic and nondomestic wastewater. The definition for nondomestic wastewater, 18 AAC 72.990(29) includes food processing.

Section .210 requires a permit issued by the Department before a person can discharge nondomestic wastewater into or onto the water or land in Alaska.

The Department and EPA both issue nondomestic wastewater permits. EPA at one time issued all discharge permits which were co-signed by DEC so the Department could also enforce the provisions. Since Reganomics, the EPA staff has been reduced so they placed priority on only the large discharges whereas we do all the rest.

Enclosed are examples of our permit requirements used in the Bristol Bay area. These types of permits would not be issued in Kodiak or Dutch Harbor. Format 21 would be used for a land based operation and 23 for a floating processor and the letter form is only for those floating processors which process less than five tons of raw product per day.

The permit requirements are more alike than different. Wastewater is separated from domestic sewage. Some methods (grinders) is required to reduce solids to a size small enough to pass through a 0.5 inch mesh screen. The requirements A,1,d says what can't be included in the wastewater or allowed to accummulate on the beach. A,1,c for land processors says that the waste discharge line has to be at least below mean low water.

Domestic wastewater (sewage) for floaters is more specific than land based processors as noted in 2, a, I, II, III and IV.

The rest of the requirements should not be of interest for enforcement purposes.

We may summarize as:

1. Wastewater is to be separated from sewage and oil.
2. All must grind fish waste.
3. Land based processors must discharge below low tide.
4. Depending on the location of the float various domestic wastewater discharge requirements apply.

Solid wastes are covered in Title 18, 60.130.(15), Chapter 60. The definition for solid waste includes everything. 18 AAC 60.101 prevents solid waste from pollution of the air, water, land and subsurface land of the state.

Solid waste disposal sites must have a permit except as excluded in 18 AAC 60.020(1), (2) and (3) which are single family or duplex where the solid waste are disposed of on the premises, a farm or an incinerator rated at less than 200 pounds per hour.

JCA/msm
Enclosures

(Nov.) File —

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

437 "E" Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

TO: Bill Lamoreaux
District Office
Supervisor

DATE: August 2, 1982

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Bristol Bay Solid Waste Disposal Problems

For a number of years complaints have been made to the Department regarding solid waste in Bristol Bay. This can be divided into two different problems. These are fish heads and intestines from shore and floating salmon processors and solid waste generated by the floating processors. The fish heads and intestines are more of a problem along the beaches where they foul the set nets and prevent netting of salmon. A considerable amount of time and frustration is spent in removing the waste. Intestines are more of a problem from the floating processors as the heads, having weight, generally sink to the bottom. Floating processors near the shore are a greater problem than those in the center of the bay.

Many of the processors burn combustible solid waste on the stern and they will tell you that the non-combustibles are taken to a shore dump, but this is highly questioned as being accurate, which was confirmed by informal conversation with crew members. Ships that don't burn refuse and those with non-combustibles dump them over the side causing accumulation of waste on the bottom and the beach.

Fish and Game requires all operators to file an intent to operate for the next year. The form can be used to determine who is going to process what seafood and where. I have requested a copy of this report be mailed to me in December 1982.

Contact was made on my Dillingham trip of July 26-29, 1982 with John Campbell and Ron Kiniecik, Fish & Wildlife Protection. Both express their concern for the solid waste problems of the region both on land and at sea. They have requested a memo from our Department stating section of the Statutes and AAC to cite in issuing a citation.

Observation of waste discharge pipes in Kodiak and Dillingham revealed a discrepancy on our part on not requiring design and construction requirements on the outfalls. Processors use plastic that is too fragile for either an anchor or wave action. We should require Class 50 ductile iron, with joints which will take a 5° defection without leaking. To protect this pipe, it should be required to be buried to a depth of 5 feet until it can be exposed at a depth 10 feet below minimum low low tide. A diffusser would be ideal, but not necessary.

The discharge pipe should be required to be anchored with 9 foot spacing were exposed on the bottom.

Recommendations:

1. We notify all land processors that:

   a. Grind to less than 0.5 inch square and discharge as described above.

   b. To discontinue processing when grinder or discharge pipe is broken. This should motivate back-up grinder in parallel. This should also apply to floating processors however, no discharge line would be required.

2. Combustible solid waste on floating processors should be required to be burned or compacted with non-combustibles and transported to local dumps. Boats from the processor are running back and forth all day. Any processor or boat observed to discharge solid wastes into the waters of the State will be cited.

3. A specification for the discharge outfall should be a part of the permit.

In summary, we should inform all processors of our 1983 season requirements and plan to have DEC personnel in Bristol Bay in 1983 for at least the first three weeks of July.

JCM/ccs

Box 234
Dillingham, AK
99576
November 30, 1983

Officer Ron Kmiecik
Box 223
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Officer Kmiecik:

Representative Adelheid Herrmann would like to get your views on several fishery related issues that affect our fishermen in Bristol Bay. The first issue is fish waste dumping by fish processors in Bristol Bay, particularly the Nushagak River. The second issue is gill net mesh size. Finally, the issue of fish processors anchoring in desirable drift areas seems to be a problem to drift gill netters.

Does your office have any information that would give Rep. Herrmann any facts which would help define the magnitude of the problems mentioned? Also does your office have any suggestions for solutions to the issues previously mentioned?

Would a joint meeting with processors, fishermen, fishermen's organizations, the Coast Guard and your office be helpful before the 1984 fishing season starts?

Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson Jr.

Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
Special Assistant
House Special Committee on
Fisheries

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

P.O. BOX 6188 ANNEX
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE:

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE PROTECTION
P.O. Box 1005
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

December 21, 1983

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
House Special Committee on Fisheries
P.O. Box 234
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Mr. Anderson,

In response to your request to Trp. Kmiecik in Dillingham for his views on the three problems relating to the Nushagak Bay, I am enclosing his answers.

Additionally, a meeting was held in Naknek in November with the United States Coast Guard, processors and fishermen in attendance, to discuss the interruption of the drift gill net fleet by anchored vessels. There were a number of recommendations presented and I'm sure they could be applied to the Nushagak area as well. Lt. Matt Cronnin is stationed in Anchorage and is in the Marine Safety Office in the Federal Building. He would be able to provide a clear overview of that particular problem and the maritime laws that effect it.

The fish waste that is dumped before being properly ground is not restricted to the Nushagak area and from personal observations, I would say that is most likely to occur when there is a malfunction of equipment. Mr. Everett Stone, sanitarian for the Dept. of Environmental Conservation is usually present in Bristol Bay during peak periods. He would be more able to respond to the magnitude of the fish waste problem and measures taken to correct it.

Hopefully the information provided will be of assistance to your committee and if we can be of help further, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Phil Gilson

Lt. Phil Gilson
Commander, "E" Detachment
Fish & Wildlife Protection
Kodiak

Enclosure (1)

cc: Lt. Col. Tetzlaff
Sgt. Youngren

First Issue: Fish Dumping in the Nushagak River

During the 1982 season complaints were received from both subsistence and commercial fishermen about whole fish, heads and entrails not being ground up or ground enough. These complaints were received from subsistence fishermen fishing Kanakanak and City beaches, set netters from Clarks Slough, Combine Flats, Clarks Point and Coffee Point areas, and drifters who were fishing from Nushagak Point south. Complaints, when received, are usually from all users during the same time frame. The waste is coming from Dillingham docks, floating processors near Clarks Point and from the processor up Clarks Slough.

Complaints indicate that the problem caused by one or more of the processors occur approximately once per week.

I believe the solution to this on-going problem is to permanently station a representative of the Dept. of Environmental Conservation office in Dillingham. During the 1983 season we had D.E.C. personnel TDY here and it substantially reduced the complaints and visual observations compared to the 1982 season. I believe the D.E.C. representative presently in Dutch Harbor is being transferred to Dillingham in the near future.

Second Issue: Gill Net Mesh Size

Gill Net Mesh Size is a management issue. I agree with the Dillingham ADF&G managers that the current mesh size of 5-3/8 inches during the red salmon season is most advantageous. The current 5-3/8 inches mesh size is allowing favorable proportions of male and female (nearly 50%) in the spawning areas. A change in mesh size would affect this balance and would require a larger escapement to offset the imbalance. Further information can be obtained from the Dillingham office of the ADF&G.

Third Issue: Processors Anchoring in Desirable Drift Areas

On the final issue of processors anchoring in desirable drift areas, several complaints were received during the 1983 season. As our fishery continues to grow, it will have to handle the larger volume of processors/transport ships on the bay. The complaints received were reference to a few of the processor ships, not the majority. The problem was processor ships anchoring just off Ekuk. The majority of the processors anchor off Clarks Point and no complaints have been received reference their anchorage location.

I feel a meeting with all parties involved would be beneficial. I contacted Matt Cronnin from the U.S.C.G. Anchorage office today reference this meeting. Mr. Cronnin is in concurrence that a meeting with all interested parties would be helpful, since the meeting will be addressing problems discussed in Naknek this past October. Mr. Cronnin stated December or January in Dillingham would be possible and he would confirm and get back with Trooper Kmiecik.

MEMO

To: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

From: Co-Man Services, Special Assistant on Fisheries

Date: January 5, 1984

Subject: Tasks that need immediate attention on a Fish Waste Dumping Plan in Bristol Bay for 1984

1. Request a 1984 Fish Waste Disposal Plan for Bristol Bay which addresses budget commitment, man days on sites in Naknek and Dillingham, as soon as possible.

2. Request Representative Adams to allocate a specific amount of funds for a 1984 Fish Waste Disposal Program for Bristol Bay in the DEC Budget so that we are not short-changed or under budgeted. You will need to have Joyce R. find out how much was spent on the 1983 Fish Waste Disposal effort.

Box 234
Dillingham, AK
99576
November 30, 1983

Mr. Harvey Samuelsen
President
WACMA
Dillingham, AK 99576

Dear Harvey:

Representative Adelheid Herrmann has asked me to help resolve several issues that are of concern to fishermen throughout Bristol Bay. The issues are fish waste dumping in the Bay, salmon net mesh size, set net regulations and anchoring of processors in drift areas.

I would like to discuss these matters with you to give Rep. Herrmann direction on how the issues can be solved. Your assistance on these issues would be very helpful.

Please let me know when it would be convenient for us to get together. I plan on contacting fishermen on a one to one basis to get their views as well as yours in your capacity as president of WACMA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson Jr.

Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
Special Assistant
House Special Committee on
Fisheries

WESTERN ALASKA
COOPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATION

1

BOX 213 . . . DILLINGHAM, ALASKA

January 12, 1984

Nels A. Anderson Jr.
Special Assistant
House Special Commission on Fisheries
Box 234
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

As pertaining to our conversation over the telephone.

No. 1 We definitely need the Coast Guard to come in and hold hearings here at Dillingham about the floating processors anchoring in our prime fishing areas. The way they anchor is a real hazard to all navigation, not only to the fisherman but to any boat or other craft. The Coast Guard will probably say they have no jurisdiction over this problem.

If we can't get cooperation from them, this matter should be turned over to the Congressional Delegation in Washington D.C.

From previous phone calls last summer with the Governor's Staff the state people told me they had no control over it, it was pointed out to me by them its all up to the Coast Guard.

No. 2 Fish Waste Dumping should not be allowed in any Fisheries in the State & Federal Waters off Alaska Coasts.

Every processor should have a grinding machine on board also at shore based plants.

A very strict law should be enacted during the session in Juneau this year.

Also no garbage should be thrown overboard, such as plastic strapping, ropes, palette boards, plastic bags, tires and other items.

The State of Alaska should have a garbage scow and charge for the service, or contract it out to someone to do it. I do believe its long overdue.

No. 3 I firmly believe that all salmon net mesh size and set net regulations should be left up to the Fish Board and not our legislative body.

Signed By: H H Samuelson
Harold H. Samuelson

MEMO

To: Mike Nelson, Area Biologist Alaska Department of Fish and Game

From: Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant, Special Committee on Fisheries

Date: January 5, 1984

Subject: Location and Number of Land and Floating Processors Operating in Bristol Bay in 1983.

Would your office please give us the location of and the total number of salmon processors operating on and offshore in the 1983 fishing season in Bristol Bay? One source placed the total of land processors at nineteen (19) and thirty-two (32) floating operations. We would appreciate your numbers on this matter.

Also, would your office be able to enumerate the number of tenders and freighters operating in Bristol Bay in 1983? This inquiry is not as important as the preceding one.

Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

BOX 199 – DILLINGHAM 99576

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

January 5, 1984

Mr. Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries
P.O. Box 234
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Nels:

In regards to your questions posed in your memo to me dated Jan. 5, 1984, I have the following to offer:

1. Location and number of salmon processors operating on and offshore in Bristol Bay in 1983:

   (A) Land Processors - 17 major
   12 minor
   29 total

   (B) Floating Processors - 38 Total

   Comments: Major/minor land processors split roughly by total production over 1.0 million lbs. = major; and under 1.0 million lbs. = minor. Floating processors not split due to wide range of production.

2. Number of Tenders/Freighters operating in Bristol Bay:

   We do not have information regarding total sea-going vessels. I would estimate that between 400 and 500 vessels of all types would be present in Bristol Bay during the sockeye season. My estimate based on number of processor by product-type and estimate of average number of support vessels. The U.S. Coast Guard may be able to provide a better estimate.

3. I'm also providing a "Fishery Operator Summary" below, which may be of assistance. Please remember that the number of operators will not total (in most cases) to the district totals as processors may operate

(continued)

in all production modes or in just one, and in one or all districts:

FISHERY OPERATOR SUMMARY, 1983

District	Number of Operators[1] (Total)	Processing Method: Canned	Frozen	Cured	Export: Fresh	Brine	Number of Canning Lines[2]: 1-lb.	½-lb.	¼-lb.
Naknek-Kvichak	(43)	5	31	5	13	9	9	10	1
Egegik	(35)	1	24	3	8	2	1	2	
Ugashik	(24)	1	19	2	4	4			1
East Side	(52)	(7)	(38)	(5)	(17)	(13)	10	12	2
Nushagak	(28)	3	20	1	11	2	6	5	1
Togiak	(12)	1	10	1	2		1	1	
West Side	(31)	(4)	(22)	(1)	(12)	(2)	7	6	1
TOTAL BAY	62	11	46	5	23	13	17	18	3

1/ Indicates operators with either a physical plant or processing facility in a district or those operators from other areas buying fish and/or providing tender and support service for fishermen in districts away from the facility.

2/ Number of canning lines available for operation.

Hope this information fulfills your needs.

Sincerely yours,

Mike

Michael L. Nelson
Senior Area Mgmt. Biologist
(907) 842-5227

MLN/hes

CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 6, 1984

Patterson Sanitiaion & Refuse Service Inc.
King Salmon, Alaska 99613

Dear Mr. Patterson,

Representative Adelheid Herrmann has asked me to contact you regarding solid waste disposal by floating and land processors in the Naknek/ King Salmon area. We have reports that floating processors burn their combustible waste and that they bring thier non-combustible waste to shore for disposal at your waste disposal site in the Naknek/ King Salmon Dump Site.

Can you confirm this for us? Your help in this matter would be very helpful in planning a solid and fish waste disposal program to prevent dumping into the river systems of Bristol Bay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 6, 1984

Mr. Don Penner
Bristol Bay Borough
Naknek, Alaska 99633

Dear Mr. Penner,

Representative Herrmann has asked me to contact you regarding the solid and fish waste disposal program you have with the Alaska Department of Environmental Eonservation. Our office is interested in this program because other coastal communities could benefit by using what you have worked out as a model.

As you know, many people complained about fish processors dumping unground fish waste and solid waste into the Naknek/Kvichak and Nushagak river systems. ADEC was present during the 1983 season, but many complaints of finding fish entrails in drift and set nets still persisted throughout the 1983 fishing season.

Any information you have would be helpful in preparing for the 1984 season. We are especially interested in whether or not all processors brought their waste for disposal on land. We want to avoid any problems that will cause unnecessary environmental damage to our waters that we depend on for a living.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 6, 1984

Mr. James C. Allen
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
437 E. Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Allen,

On behalf of Representative Herrmann, I would like to commend you on the amount of work that your office accomplished in helping to reduce fish waste and solid waste disposal in Bristol Bay in 1983. The effort to notify processors, the judiciary and others about what your mission was is outstanding and should be repeated in 1984.

There are some questions however, about your August 18, 1983 report to Mr. Keith Kelton regarding your observations on what the effect of your effort eccomplished.

OBSERVATION # 1

I can find very few people who would state that the fish waste problem even left the bay. I am personally able to tell you that I recieved complaints about fish waste in nets and on beaches throughout the summer fishing season. It has come to my attention that this is true in Nushagak and Naknek/Kvichak River systems. Many fishermen also complained about plastic garbage bags being cought in props and that there were large numbers of garbage bags sighted on our beaches in both river systems.

OBSERVATION # 2

There is little evidence that can substantiate this observation. People who live on the river and fish all summer found that 1983 was worse in terms of fish waste and garbage disposal. This has to be the case when you see the large number of floating fish processors and commercial fishing boats operating in Bristol Bay. Garbage is being dumped somewhere and we are not sure how much combustible waste on board floating processors and how much non-combustible waste is being hauled to shore for disposal at municipal dump sites. Your help in determining the extent of disposal practices would be appreciated so that the final destination of waste generated by fishing activities can be accounted for.

You referred to issues I raised in Observation #2 in your memo to Mr. Bill Lamoreaux on August 2, 1982. You questioned the accuracy of fish processors who stated that they "burn combustible solid waste on the stern and they will tell you that the non-combustibles are taken to a shore dump, but this is highly questioned as being accurate." Have you determined that the fish processors now

have this capacity and if so how many actually do it? If they do not then what accounts for such an improvement in waste disposal in 1983?

Furthermore your memo of August 2, 1982 in reference to a discrepancy on your part regarding discharge pipe design and construction. Has your recommendation been implemented by regulation and is it in effect at this time?

Finally, have your recommendations in the August 2, 1982 letter been translated into regulations? Can you tell us how much grinding equipment costs and how much of an investment is required to have a back-up grinder in parallel?

Recommendation #1 (b) seems to be rather harsh especially if the processor has fish on board that may spoil if held too long before processing. The economic interests of fishermen are at risk if they have no place to deliver their fish if a processor is shut down during grinder breakdown. In your view, is this a good suggestion?

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann
cc: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

PRESS RELEASE

January 10, 1984

From: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

Fish Waste Disposal

Representative Adelheid Herrmann, D-District 26, is not satisfied with the fish waste situation in Bristol Bay. 1983 had twenty-nine (29) land processors and thirty-eight (38) floating processors in Bristol Bay. In addition, an estimated four hundred (400) to five hundred (500) support vessels of all types were operating in Bristol Bay.

The large number of processors and their support vessels presents a problem of fish waste and solid waste disposal. If fish waste is not ground up it will eventually get onto the beaches and get caught in gill nets. Solid waste dumped into the water will get fouled in propellors, anchors and set net tackle.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is charged with the responsibility of providing programs that prevent environmental degradation of the air, water and land resources of Alaska. In 1983, DEC developed a plan for the disposal of salmon and solid waste in Bristol Bay. The department sent letters to processors regarding discharge of bilge oil, fuel spills, dumping solid waste overboard and on beaches, and discharge of untreated sewage and processing wastes. They also notified processors that they would be making routine patrols to prevent pollution and respond to reported pollution incidents. DEC did spend time inspecting land based plants for water, sewage and fish waste discharge systems as well as boarding floating processors for sanitary, solid and fish waste discharge.

"Although, I recognize the effort made by DEC, I am still concerned that more needs to be done in 1984. I am asking fishermen and others to send me letters or public opinion messages via the Legislative Information Offices regarding their experience regarding fish and solid waste disposal problems in the Bay in 1983. I need this information to help me get funds to put more emphasis on a fish and solid waste disposal program for the 1984 fishing season.

Representative Herrmann received an unusually high number of complaints from her constituency in Bristol Bay regarding fish waste getting caught in nets. There were complaints of garbage bags floating to the beaches and plastic bags fouling props and set net tackle.

"It is my intent to work with DEC to increase the effort of preventing fish and solid waste pollution in 1984 and I will do all I can to see that there is enough money in the DEC budget to get the job done. I again ask for letters and public opinion messages to be sent to me on any fish waste or solid waste problems that you observed in 1983.", Herrmann concluded.

PROCESSOR AND CARGO VESSEL ANCHORING PROBLEM

Each year the fishery occurs in Bristol Bay, complaints about floating processors and cargo vessels anchoring on the fishing grounds in favored drift areas begin to emerge. The number of floating processors and cargo vessels has increased each year which makes it necessary to find an anchoring area that will not interfere with fishing and provide timely deliveries.

The solution to this problem in the Naknek/Kvichak River system was a meeting conducted in Naknek in October 1983 by the U.S. Coast Guard. The purpose of the meeting was to find an area to anchor the processors that was agreeable to all interested parties.

A letter from Rep. Herrmann has been sent to the U.S. Coast Guard to hold a similar meeting in Dillingham to address the problem in the Nushagak River. I recommend that the full committee keep abreast of this issue and push for a meeting of the Coast Guard in Dillingham well in advance of the season.

CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 9, 1984

Captain Haines USCG
Commanding Officer
Marine Safety Office
701 C Street
Box 17
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Dear Sir,

Representative Adelheid Herrmann who represents Bristol Bay would like your office to conduct a meeting regarding interference of drift fishermen by processing and cargo vessels anchored in the fishing grounds on the Nushagak River system. The meeting would be in Dillingham far enough in advance of the 1984 fishing season to prevent conflicts between the several interests.

The purpose of the meeting would be to resolve the problem of locating the growing number of processors and cargo vessels in an area that would have the least possible risk of collision and fouling drift net gear in their anchor lines. The other consideration is a location that would be desireable for delivery time considerations for the fishermen and the storage capacity of cargo vessels.

We are hoping that your office will set up a meeting that would include the Western Alaska Cooperative Marketing Association, the processors and tenders and cargo operators and other interested fishermen who have an interest in finding a solution to the anchoring problem.

Your early response to this request would be appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson Jr.

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
State House Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Senator Mulcahy
Representative Herrmann
WACMA

SENATOR
BOB MULCAHY
SENATE DISTRICT N
ALASKA PENINSULA
ALEUTIAN CHAIN
BRISTOL BAY
KODIAK/PRIBILOF &
SHUMAGIN ISLANDS
LAKE ILIAMNA/LAKE CLARK

Alaska State Legislature

State Senate

HOME ADDRESS
P.O. BOX 246
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615
(907) 486-3561

DURING SESSION
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

January 16, 1984

Captain Haines USCG
Commanding Officer
Marine Safety Office
701 C Street
Box 17
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Dear Captain Haines:

With the rapidly growing number of floating processors operating in the Bristol Bay area during the June and July salmon season, the anchorages used by these vessels are causing a growing concern among the fishermen of the area as far as safety and/or damage to drift gear.

I have been informed that your office is the one that would be addressing such safety problems, and I would respectfully request some public hearings in the Naknek/King Salmon and Dillingham areas in this regard, with the idea of designated, and indicated anchorage areas, as a solution to the problem.

Many thanks for your attention and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Senator Bob Mulcahy

BM/hp

cc: Representative Adelheid Hermann, Chairperson
State House Special Committee on Fisheries

TO: United States Coast Guard

MARINE SAFETY OFFICE
701 C ST., BOX 17
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99513
271-5137
271-3520

PREAMBLE

I. INTRODUCTION - CAPT HAINES, COTP Western Alaska, Based at MSO Anchorage; LTJG CRONIN, PSS Branch Chief.

II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

During June and July the Annual Salmon Fishery occurs in the Naknek/Kvichak District. Complaints have been made to the Coast Guard, and the State of Alaska by the Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association (AIFMA) and others regarding interference of drift fishermen by processing and cargo vessels anchored in the fishing grounds. There are many opinions to the extent of the problem and possible solutions which we will discuss today. Other problems encountered are refuse dumping, oil discharges, and lack of proper navigational lights or use of floodlights which blind vessel operators.

III. REASONS FOR COAST GUARD INVOLVEMENT:

The Coast Guard's responsibilities include insuring the safety of life and property at sea and the protection and safe use of ports and waterways that support commerce. Our knowledge of this fishery reveals the chance of significant marine casualties and possible interference of commerce.

It is not our intent to strictly regulate vessel movements or anchorages in this fishery. Rather, our purpose today is to serve as an intermediary between involved parties with differing points of view. Hopefully we can help the people who work this fishery come up with a mutually acceptable, self-enforced system of vessel anchorages. This meeting will provide an oportunity for direct communication between involved parties in an attempt to find a solution. The State of Alaska patrols the fishery yearly. We plan to accompany them to enforce refuse and oil discharge, and navigation regulations as well as observing the anchorage area.

IV. MEETING FORMAT:

A. We will outline the problems encountered in the Naknek/Kvichak Fishery, as explained to us by various involved groups and individuals.

B. We will then present a proposed solution to the problems as a starting point for your discussion.

C. Next, you will have an opportunity to voice your comments one at a time from the microphone in front.

D. Finally, we will then summarize the meeting.

V. PRESENTATION OF THE PROBLEM AND OPINIONS:

A. The basic problem is that processors and cargo vessels anchor on the fishing grounds and take up potential fishing space and present obstacles for the drift fishermen who run the risk of fouling gear in the larger vessels' anchor gear or colliding with them.

The processors actively receive fish during open periods and their presence on the grounds is important to prevent time consuming trips off the grounds for delivery by the fishermen. The processors are restricted in where they can anchor by draft and their storage capacity of product determines how often they must transfer product to cargo vessels. Cargo vessels will often anchor or tie up alongside processors to facilitate cargo transfer and minimize trips into and out of the congested fishing grounds.

It has been proposed by A.I.F.M.A. that all ships stay south of the Johnston Hill Boundary Line except for tenders actively engaged in taking fish or those receiving fish within 24 hours. Various processors, non-affiliated fishermen, pilots, Borough and State officials have voiced opposition to this plan. Briefly summarized this plan would substantially increase the time for fishing vessels to get to the processors, it would place a number of fishing vessels outside of the fishery which increases the possibility of illegal fishing, and the issue of taxation would be raised if the processors are required to be south of the Johnson Hill Line.

ADF&G, and others have felt that concentrating the anchored processors and cargo ships in a small, known area would allow fishermen to plan their drifts to avoid the ships and obstruct less of the fishing area.

In summary:

1. Processors and cargo ships get in the way of fishing vessels and take up fishing space.

2. Processors are desireable on the grounds for timely delivery by fishermen.

3. Cargo vessels are desireable on the grounds for the processors with limited storage capability and to reduce vessel traffic on the grounds by these large vessels.

IV. PROPOSAL:

Many people felt that the fishery has worked well for years as is. Others obviously see a need for change. The following is hopefully a first try at a workable compromise:

We propose that all processors and cargo vessels, or other vessels desiring to anchor on the fishing grounds, do so only in the area outlined below:

The anchorage is along the line dividing the Naknek Section from the Kvichak Section (this line runs from 58°-38'-30" N LAT., 157°-22'-14" W LONG. to the outer end of the Libbyville Dock). Anchored vessels will remain within 1/4 mile on either side of this line allowing for swing on the anchor. The area will be bordered on the southwest by LORAN line 9990-Y-32430 and on the northeast by LORAN line 9990-Y-32385 (see chart).

This proposal will provide a more defined area for anchored vessels within the fishing area, which will in turn assist the drift fishermen in determining where they will encounter anchored vessels. It also provides a clear channel into Naknek for vessels underway.

PRESS RELEASE

January 10, 1984

From: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

Fish Processor and Cargo Vessel Anchoring Meeting Proposed

Representative Adelheid Herrmann, D-District 26, is working on several fishery related issues that are important to the people of her district. Processor and Cargo Vessels anchoring in drift gill net areas of the Bristol Bay river systems has caused problems of conflict in the past fishing season. "In order to avoid such problems in 1984, a meeting was held in Naknek to address the anchoring issue in the Naknek/Kvichak River system.Coast Guard sent two people because they are responsible for the safety of life and property at sea and the protection and safe use of ports and waterways that support commerce.", Herrmann stated.

In summary, the problem was identified and a proposed anchoring area was discussed for anchoring vessels that would meet the needs of the fishermen and processors. A similar meeting has been proposed for the Nushagak District by Representative Herrmann. "Hopefully, the Coast Guard will set up a meeting well in advance of the 1984 fishing season so that the conflicts of vessels anchoring in favorite fishing areas will be worked out. Fishermen should be thinking of proposed anchoring areas that will keep the processors away from favored drift areas and still be close enough to allow timely deliveries. "As soon as a meeting date has been set for Dillingham, I'll be notifying Nushagak fishermen through WACMA, KDLG, and the Bay Times.", Herrmann concluded.

GILL NET MESH SIZE - RECOMMENDATION

Gill net mesh size is an issue that should be left in the hands of management. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has the subject under control and should not require any legislative action at this time.

The Western Alaska Cooperative Marketing Association, fishermen and enforcement officials believe that the fish mesh size issue can be worked out to protect the fish and prevent the use of illegal fish mesh on gill nets.

Co-Man Services • Box 234, Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • Phone (907) 842-2366