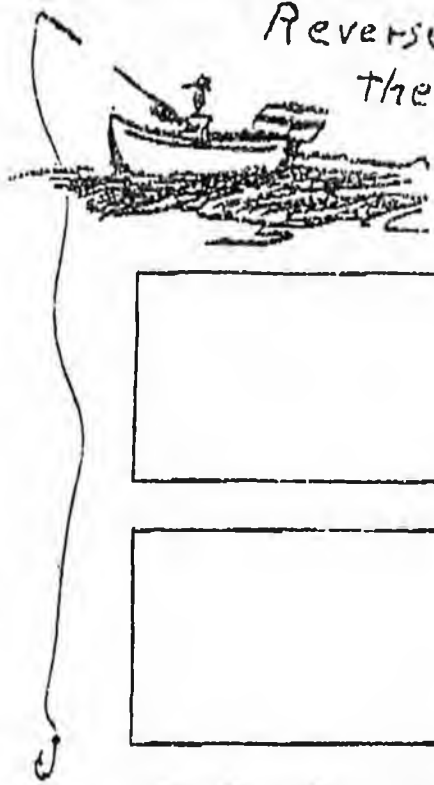
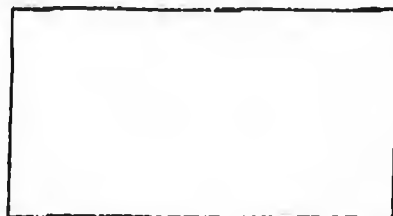


ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1991-1992 8672
7643 SENATE RESOURCES

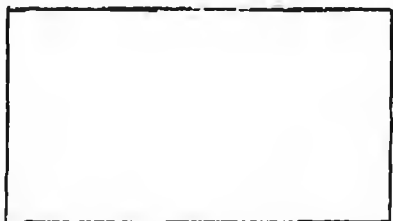
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Reverse the roles played and you get
the pictures of what happens re
House Bill 505 + Senate Bill 397 DO
NOT PASS!!



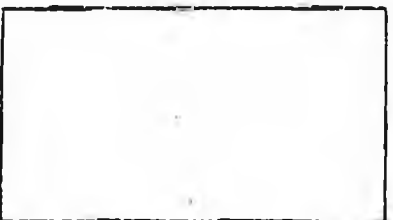
THE FISH IN THIS PICTURE
represents KING SALMON that the
trollers are willing to allow sports
fishermen to catch.



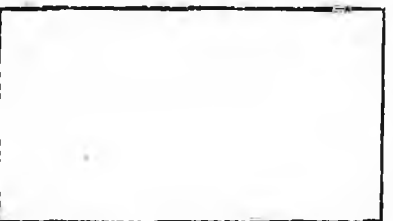
THE MONEY IN THIS PICTURE
is what the trollers are willing to pay
the public for catching their fish.



THE PEOPLE IN THIS PICTURE
are the sports fishermen catching King
Salmon as a result of Senate Bill 397
& House Bill 505.



**THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE
TOURISTS** coming to fish in Alaska
as a result of troll developed tourism.



**THIS IS A PICTURE OF ALL
BUSINESSES** that will NOT
be negatively affected by Senate Bill
397 & House Bill 505.

GET THE PICTURE? If not, read this:

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"Sharks and sea lions take a small percentage of the trollers' catch,
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about their losses to another breed of predators--sport fishermen."*

If so, contact your representative. It's time to get in the
picture.

Feb. 25, 1992

2843 Jougass #3

Katolikau, A.R. 99901

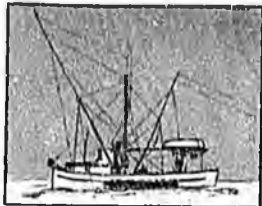
Dear Senator Jones:

We urge you to pass Senate Bill 397.

The Charter Boat Operator is a Commercial Business man and should be separate and apart from the true sport fisherman who goes out to fish for fun or to put a fish on the table.

Sincerely,

Wendell M. Miggins Pitt



Alaska
Trollers
Association

130 Seward St., No. 213
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-9400

February 29, 1992

Senate Resources Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Committee Members:

The Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) would like to issue their strong support for SB 397, which seeks to identify guided sport as a separate user group for allocative purposes under AS 16.05.251(e).

ATA recognizes the importance of sportfishing to Alaska's tourism industry. However, we are concerned about the recent, accelerated expansion of the unregulated guided sportfishing industry, and its potential to adversely impact commercial trollers and resident sportfishermen. At its present rate of growth, it is not unlikely that guided sport operations will soon be capable of harvesting a significant portion of each years U.S./Canada Treaty chinook quota. Without clearly defined management tools in place, commercial fishermen and traditional sport anglers are at risk of being displaced by an up and coming industry.

Our understanding is that SB 397 does nothing more than provide the Board of Fisheries some added flexibility when selecting allocative prescriptions for Alaska's fisheries. Simply enacting this piece of legislation does not mandate the Board of Fisheries to take any particular action. Any change in allocation strategies around the state will still occur only at the Board's discretion, through the full public process. ATA could not support such a bill if we believed otherwise.

We urge you to support SB 397 and move it through the system posthaste. The Board of Fisheries should be granted every means available to allocate in a fair and equitable manner between the diverse users of our fisheries resource.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Kelley
Executive Director

Feb. 25, 1992

Dear Senator Lloyd Jones:

Enclosed is a copy of our letter to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. We are very hopeful that the Board will take action to protect the Troll Fleet and the resident sport fisherman.

We solicit your help on this problem and also whatever help you can give on raising the cap on the U.S. - Canadian King Salmon Treaty.

We also urge your support on H.B. 505 and S.B. 397.

Truly Yours,

Walter E. Mortrup
Rose M. Mortrup
F.V. Chasina Rose
638 W. Pt. Higgins Rd.
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Board of Fisheries
Division of Boards
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

Feb. 24, 1992

Dear Board of Fisheries Members:

My wife Rose and I have been Alaskan residents since early 1954.

I first came to Alaska and power trolled in 1948-1950.

After moving to Alaska in 1954 we have devoted as much time as we could to both sport fishing and commercial hand trolling along with raising a family and working approximately 30 years at Ketchikan Pulp Company. In 1984 I took early retirement from Ketchikan Pulp Company, bought a power troll permit and boat and went full time to salmon fishing.

During the approximately 44 years that I've been either part or full time in sport and commercial trolling I've observed major changes in both, mostly for the worst. Salmon fishing gradually went down hill in the last 40 years that I am aware of for a number of reasons: Fish traps, creek robbers, overfishing, and fish management out of Washington D.C., foreign interception, and dams on the West Coast rivers to name a few.

The future for fishing, both sport and commercial, looked very bleak until the state and the salmon industry took steps in the 1980's to rebuild the runs. One of the steps was to agree to Limited Entry to the fisheries. Without it we would have been swamped with fishermen from the West Coast as their fisheries has declined. It was a very difficult decision for many fishermen to accept Limited Entry but looking back and looking at the present Halibut fishery it is plain to see where we would be if we didn't have Limited Entry.

I think, without a doubt, that the single brightest aspect of rebuilding the fisheries has been the salmon hatcherys, both FRED and the regional aqua groups. I am extremely proud of the job that SSRAA has done in the Ketchikan area.

Another major step in rebuilding the fisheries has been catch guidelines and the Pacific Salmon Treaty. The results of all efforts combined has been almost unbelievable. Catch rates for salmon in Alaska has increased approximately four fold.

Success has not come without severe problems for the troll fleet. In fact there is no future for the troll industry unless we can solve two problems. One is the Pacific Salmon Treaty cap on King salmon. The other of course is the tremendous growth of the Charter Fleet which is eating into the King Salmon Quota.

I realize you as a Board cannot change the first problem but action by you on the second problem is probably our only hope.

To date the Charter industry shows no interest in helping raise salmon to offset what they catch or to accept the responsibility of Limited Entry or some other method of controlling their growth. Their response has been to try and build a big enough power base to take it all. This attitude in the end could result in the loss of the Troll fisheries as well as the eventual loss of the hatcheries.

In my opinion the only way to change this attitude is to control the amount of King salmon the Charter fleet is allowed along with the rest of the gear users. They would suddenly realize the bucket is not bottomless and become more receptive to Limited Entry.

Any action you take should not penalize the true resident sport fishermen. He is not the problem.

The major part of my wife and my life's savings are tied up in our power troller and Limited Entry power permit. My father was a troller before me and we have two sons who are trollers. Please help us preserve a way of life and our livelihood.

Sincerely,

Walter E. Matthews

Jose M. Y. Martineau

F. V. Chasina Jose

638 W. Pt. Higgins Rd

Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

SALMON DERBY CANCELED ???

Sport fishermen we have to unite. A large special interest group has petitioned the Alaska Board of Fisheries to increase their allocation of king salmon. Any increase granted will directly decrease availability for sport fishing, and the Department of Fish and Game would be mandated to decrease the limit sport fishermen could take in a season.

Fish and Game could reduce the daily limit or simply close the season when the quota had been reached. The quota could be reached before the Salmon Derby or part way through the Derby.

Commercial trollers have become so efficient that they took 22,000 kings per day last year, a 400% increase in just a few years. If the sport fishery were closed for the entire summer, trollers would take the total sport catch in a couple of days.

Many people come to Southeast Alaska to vacation and fish each summer. Allocating salmon would have a tremendous negative impact on our visitors and our own ability to catch a fish. In the face of declining oil revenues, we need tourists and the benefits they bring.

If you like to fish or have friends and relatives that like to fish, you need to stand up and be heard. The best way to preserve your rights is to write to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and legislators.

Included in this packet are prepared letters you can use by signing and mailing. No envelope is required, just fold on the dotted line and tape or staple. You can also just use the addresses to prepare individual letters.

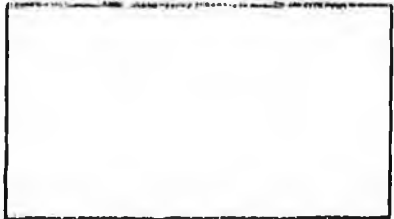
The Alaska Board of Fisheries will take written comments until February 29, 1992. Please don't delay because without your help you could lose a valuable fish resource.



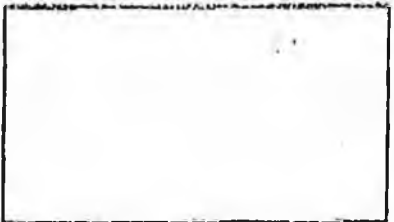
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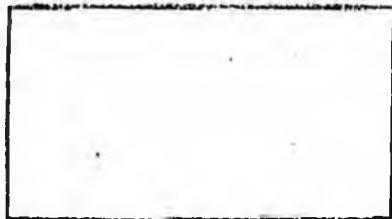
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"Sharks and sea lions take a small percentage of the trollers' catch,
which is annoying enough; but the fleet is particularly upset these days
about their losses to another breed of predators--sport fishermen."*

If so, contact your representative. It's time to get in the
picture.

Richard G. Callentine
5660 South Tongass Highway
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Phone: (907) 247-8780
Fax: (907) 225-7994

Senator Lloyd Jones
State Capitol
Juneau Alaska 99801-1102
Mail stop 3100

February 15, 1992

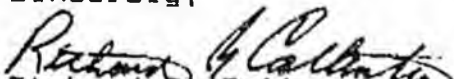
Dear Senator Jones:

At the present time, there are efforts underway by Representative Taylor and Senator Eliason to provide relief of an alleged emergency nature for the commercial trolling fleet. These efforts are ill advised and threaten the resources of this state, as well as the constitutional rights of its citizens. As an individual, I implore you to do all in your power to stop Senate Bill NO. 397, at least until accurate information can clearly define an on-going problem that is now being presented in terms of an inaccurate, emotionally perceived crisis.

A matter as important as this must allow for input from the people of the state, as well as our employed experts, to accurately define both the situation and possible solutions. Many of our sister states have faced these same problems in their fisheries and have pursued solutions similar to the efforts of Eliason and Taylor, only to face a later reality that they have caused the demise of the majority of the total commercial fleet, as well as nearly eliminated the remaining fish resources. The economic impact, as identified by research conducted in Washington state, clearly indicated that they experienced almost a total loss of tourism, as well as citizen sport fishing effort and revenue. Alaska cannot afford such loss, and certainly should not be the cause of such a loss as a result of poorly informed elected officials with clearly indicated biased self interest connected with their proposed legislation.

This is not an emergency. If it were, it would indicate that our elected officials, as well as appointed boards and employed experts had failed in their responsibility. The sky is not falling--so please endeavor to contain chickens Little, Eliason and Taylor, and pursue your responsibilities in a mature and accurately informed manner.

Sincerely,


Richard G. Callentine

Feb. 25, 1992

2843 Jorgass #3

Ketchikan, AK. 99901

Dear Senator Jones:

We urge you to pass Senate Bill 397.

The Charter Boat Operator is a Commercial Business man and should be separate and apart from the true sport fisherman who goes out to fish for fun or to put a fish on the table.

Sincerely,

Wendell Marjorie Petcher

One Southeast lodge takes so many "sport" caught salmon that it has its own freezers and planes to process the customers fish and fly them south. This is so that the high number of fish leaving the state will not *DISTURB* the *RESIDENTS*!! They also advertise that their clients catch *ONE MILLION POUNDS* of "sport-caught" fish *EVERY YEAR*!

QUESTION: Is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game protecting the commercial sportfishing industry? You decide.....

Why hasn't ADF&G requested that the legislature identify charterboats as a commercial operation and limit the number of charterboats?

Why doesn't ADF&G have creel census takers at fishing ledges in Southeast? (Just how many fish do *NON-RESIDENTS* harvest?)

Why did ADF&G sportfish staff send charterboat operators a packet with a registration form (for the first time ever), AND information on their recent sportfish economic study, AND a notice about the upcoming Board of Fish meeting? (neither the average sport angler or commercial fishermen have received similar information.)

How many ADF&G employees, past and present, hold charterboat licenses? Are the foxes guarding the hen house?

SPORTSMEN: THIS IS THE BOTTOM LINE

By hiding behind traditional sportfishing, the commercial charter and lodge harvest could severely limit our resident fishing privileges.

NON-RESIDENTS forced the Chinook quota on Alaska, and now *NON-RESIDENTS* harvest most of the sport Chinook taken in Southeast! We can't allow the unchecked exploitation of a limited resource by any user group.

DO THESE ISSUES BOTHER YOU?

This issue is happening now! If we just sit back waiting for the fish to slow and do not make ourselves heard this year, next year we'll be waiting for the sports charter division of ADF&G to tell us how many fish the charter fleet will let us have.

Write comments, or plan to testify at the Board of Fisheries meeting in Juneau, March 7. Deadline for written comment ends February 26th. Send comments to:

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Post Office Box 3-2000
Juneau, Alaska 99802-2000

Paid for By: Concerned Resident Sports Anglers Association

SPORT ANGLERS BEWARE

THE CHARTERBOAT FLEET IS HIDING BEHIND YOUR SKIFF!

The Board of Fisheries has been asked to allocate Chinook salmon between the troll and sport fisheries. If you look at this issue closely, it becomes obvious that charterboat and lodge owners are commercial operators disguised as "sportsmen." Here are a few things that **RESIDENT** sport anglers should know...

The number of Chinook salmon harvested by commercial AND sport fishermen in Southeast is limited by the U.S./Canada Salmon Treaty.

The unchecked, **EXPLOSIVE** growth of the commercial sportsfishing industry is negatively impacting resident sport fishing in Southeast.

Fish and Game has found that anglers fishing on charterboats catch more fish in a shorter period of time:

Chinook Per Angler-Hour of Salmon Effort



REGIONAL INFO.
REPORT #
1/92-01 PAGE 21

While most **RESIDENT** sportfishermen are working 8 hours **EVERY DAY**, many charterboat operators make two or three fishing trips **EVERY DAY**.

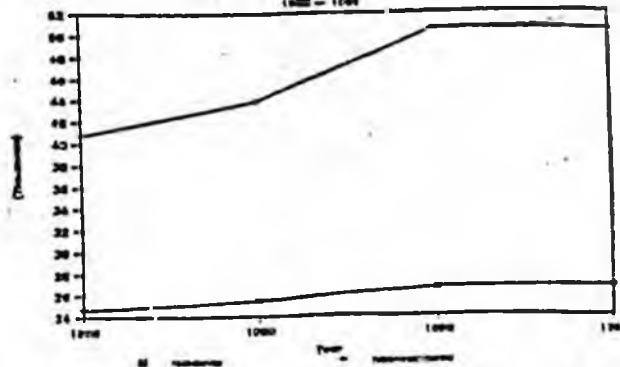
TABLE 3

In the last ten years, the number of charterboats registered in Southeast grew by over 400%!!

Charterboats serve **NON-RESIDENT** sport anglers almost exclusively.

1991: 46,000 **NON-RESIDENT** sport licenses (65%) versus 25,000 (35%) resident sport licenses issued in Southeast.

Sport Licences Sold in Southeast
1982 - 1991



Mike Mills
Anchorage
Sport Fish
Phone #
267-2369
Fisheries Scientist I

1991: In the Ketchikan sport harvest alone, 62% of the Chinook, 83% of the coho, and 92% of the pinks were taken by **NON-RESIDENT** anglers.

DISTRIBUTION OF EFFORT AND SALMON HARVEST
BY TYPE OF ANGLER IN KETCHIKAN, 1991 (ADFG)



Resident Non-Charter
 Resident Charter
 Non-Res. Non-Charter
 Non-Resident Charter

P.25
Memo from
Paul Suchanek to
Fred Gaffney
dated 12/05/91
"Summary of 1991 Chinook
Salmon Sport Fishing in
SE AK and historical
with supervisor's
data"

Senator Elias on

Please feel free to use
this letter in whatever
manner that you choose, if
it would help clarify the
issue. We need everyone
to pull together so all Alaskans
can survive.

Thank you,

S. to King
P.

To: Area sports fishers
From: Steve Kinney, a salmon user-F/V TRADITION
Re: Increasing Competition for Salmon

We who depend upon Alaska's salmon and other fish species for our recreation and/or livelihood appear to be headed for an inevitable battle. On the surface, it appears that this battle is between the oldtimers (the troll fleet) and the new comers (the charterboat operators). But beneath the surface, the water becomes muddy. I believe that ALL of the user-groups need to consider the issue- Allocation of a portion of the King salmon quota specifically to the troll industry. This topic will be the sole agenda item of the Alaska Board of Fish in an upcoming March meeting. I encourage you to write your Alaska Fish Board and voice your concern.

Please allow me a few minutes of your time in which to share some of my ideas.

I have been a commercial fisherman for 25 years, a power troller for the past 14 years and an educator in fisheries technology at Ketchikan High School for the past 12 years. Many students, friends, as well as myself will be affected by the outcome of this issue.

The basic problem is simply that a finite resource is being utilized by ever increasing, evolving and competing user-groups. In a nutshell the number of charter vessels has increased many fold while the number of fish in the sea has remained relatively static.

The solution at first glance, appears complex and devisive. Let the strongest survive! There are several component issues which need to be considered: A) Commercial vs sport status. B) Statutory guidelines in determining stock allocation and C) unfair treatment in the U.S. / Canada Salmon treaty annexes.

COMMERCIAL/SPORT/CHARTER STATUS

Most charter vessel skippers contend that they are not commercial operators but rather are persons simply providing a platform from which a sportfisherman may operate. The crucial factor involved is whether the operator makes a livelihood at a particular activity; ie fishing. This is the only logical determiner in the commercial-sport-charter designation problem. Since most charter vessel operators are endeavoring to make a livelihood, then it follows that, for them at least, it must be a commercial venture. Whether or not we determine that charter vessels are indeed

commercial in nature, we must recognize them as the largest growing segment of the user-groups and one which is not currently regulated. Therefore, it would follow that we must divide the Allowable-Catch pie into yet another slice.

STATUTORY GUIDELINES FOR ALLOCATION:

Statutory guidelines for fish allocation place historic use and economic value as the key elements in the allocation question. In assessing these factors we might consider them separately.

Historically there can be little question about "who is the new kid on the block?". Over the past 10 years the number of persons licensed by the Coast Guard as well as the number of vessels licensed by the state for charter purposes, has increased many fold. Alaska today issues many more non-resident licenses than ever before. A "walk of the dock" in Ketchikan will quickly impress one with the sudden increase in charterboats. Local sportsfishers are finding their favorite "fish'n hole" full to overflowing with charterboats from "somewhere", whereas only a few short years ago these same areas could have been fished in solitude. There truly can be no doubt as to why the equation has changed. There ARE MORE CHARTER BOATS. True sports fishing boats and Commercial trollers have, by way of contrast, operated S.E. Alaskan waters since before the advent of the gas engine. Since 1973, commercial vessel numbers have been set by limited entry. Resident (true sports?) licenses, while increasing some, have not exploded in the same manner as non-resident (charter). There can be little doubt as to which fishery should have an allocation if such a decision were based solely upon historical use-true sports and commercial troll. (These groups have fished side by side for years without problems).

The economic value consideration is more complex to unravel. ADF+G recently undertook a study to determine the value of a "sport-caught" fish. I think a better term might be "a fish caught under the auspices of a sport license". King salmon were valued at over \$900 each. Silvers over \$400. These dollar figures are certainly impressive. They must include not only the surface platform and guide, but also air fare, lodging, food, gear and entertainment for those traveling to Alaska in search of a fishing vacation.

The troll fleet, on the other hand, can quote facts such as the McDowell report which stated that trolling is the single largest employer in S.E. Alaska. Or the UAS Economic Development Data Base which indicates that the total value for the salmon industry is \$124 million (1988) while all tourism is only \$94 million. It is, however, impossible to compare apples and oranges. For example, what is the true value of a king salmon sold by a power-troller for \$70, if

you also include in its value the costs innumarated above?... and I live here year around . Do you count my full year'e food, lodging, gear, fuel, and repair purchases etc. Do you count the myriad support industries ie. fish processing, transportation, fabrication, chandlery, repair, and retail jobs? Or, consider the infamous \$900 King salmon. Wasn't most of that money really spent for the VACATION? These folks are really purchasing a vacation, and secondarily hoping to catch some fish. They probably would spend that money, fish or no, on a vacation in one way or another.

I think perhaps that we need to look past all of these arguments which would separate us and instead return to the basic Statutory allocation guidelines for a fresh point of view.

Economic value ... ie: What would maximize the economic value of this resource to S.E. Alaska. There can only be one true answer to this question... Keep all these fisheries groups operating with as little loss as possible. "Pie in the sky thinking!" you say? I think not.

Solution?

1) Establish a ceiling on the number of charter vessels so that current operators can continue to operate. Trollers and others who make their livelihood from this resource did so years ago for all the same reasons.

2) Establish an allocation system of ALL SALMON, HALIBUT, BOTTOM FISH ETC.etc. based upon historic use percentages so that net, commercial troll, and sport/charter or sports and charter all have a percentage from which to plan and work. Establish these allocations now in all fisheries before they become a problem like the King Salmon problem.

3) Utilize fish bag and possession limits rather than season lengths where ever possible in limiting sport and sport/charter fish quotas, thus allowing these vessels to continue to operate for as many days as possible.

4) Lobby vigorously for increased annex allocations in the U.S. / Canada Salmon treaty or get us out. We Alaskans have made major, major cutbacks in our fish takes while other treaty entities have not.

5) Broaden the base of support for the Regional Aquaculture Associations so that all user groups, not just the commercial boats, put in 3% of their catch value to maintain important fish sources.

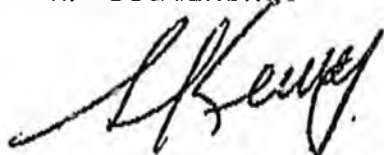
With these simple guidelines, all user-groups in question could continue to successfully utilize Southeast's great resource. True sports fishers would know they would not be absolutely crowded off the surface of the sea. Charter vessel operators would know that they could plan on fishing throughout the entire season, and commercial trollers would be able to continue to feed their awaiting hungry public.

We should be able to maximize the economic value of this tremendous resource for all of S.E Alaskans as well as the sport fishermen and consumers of commercially-caught fish who live elsewhere.

Please, write and urge the Fish and Game Board to adopt a sensible solution to this problem. One which insures an enjoyable and prosperous future for all Alaskans. Choose an option which does not arbitrarily relegate any one user-group to the rubbish heap of history.

Thank you for listening.

G. Kinney



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Thank you for listening.

S.Kinney





ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL, INC.

P O Box 34097
Juneau, AK 99803
463-3830

February 26, 1992

The Honorable Lloyd Jones, Chair
Senate Resource Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Jones:

The Alaska Outdoor Council would like to express its opposition to SB397.

The Alaska Outdoor Council is a statewide coalition of outdoor users, hunters and fishers, representing over 50 organizations. It is not often that you will find us involved in disagreements with the commercial fishing industry, but the present legislation has considerable potential for affecting sport fishermen throughout the state, and we feel strongly that those interests should be represented here.

On the face of it, SB397 seems simple and innocuous. The effects on sport fishing charters and marine sport fishing would likely be anything but that. Simply put, this is one effort being made by the commercial trolling industry to curtail the recreational take of salmon, particularly king salmon. Adding "guided sport fishing" in statute to the list of separate user groups for allocation of the fishery resource would clearly imply that the legislature intends that the Board of Fisheries allocate specific amounts of the fishery to this use, and that they apply methods and means, seasons and gear restrictions to this group that differ from those applied to other sport fisheries. While the initiative for this action arises in Southeast, it should be noted that this legislation would affect citizens statewide, notably in Prince William Sound and the Homer Cook Inlet area.

Clients of charter fishing boats are sport fisherpersons, largely (although not entirely) nonresidents. These people are a large and important segment of our tourist industry, and Department of Fish and Game data indicate that each salmon caught by these tourists brings many times more to the state's economy than do fish caught

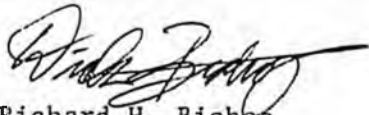
Lloyd Jones, page 2

for commercial purposes. Curtailing charter fishing or applying different restrictions to them than to other sport fishers would likely have an adverse effect on tourism and considerably confuse the entire picture for all marine sport fishing in the state.

We are aware that problems exist in the charter boat industry. Many of these would be alleviated with better enforcement of the laws we have, rather than adding additional laws. Increased compliance with state and Coast Guard regulations would benefit everyone. Finally, it should be noted that alleged abuse of bag limits, etc. at large fishing resorts would not be affected by this bill, because they do not charter, but offer bare-boat rental.

We appreciate your consideration of our views and comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard H. Bishop".

Richard H. Bishop
Legislative Affairs
Alaska Outdoor Council



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 4th Street, Suit 112
Juneau, AK 99801
907-586-2820
Fax# 907-463-2545

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition
Alaska Independent Fishermen's
Marketing Association
Alaska Longline Fisherman's
Association
Alaska Trollers Association
Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
Bristol Bay Driftnetters Association
Concerned Area 'M' Fishermen
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Copper River Fishermen's Cooperative
Cordova District Fishermen United
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
North Pacific Fisheries Association
Northern Southeast Regional
Aquaculture Association
Peninsula Marketing Association
Petersburg Vessel Owners Association
Prince William Sound
Aquaculture Association
Prince William Sound Seiners Association
Seafood Producers Cooperative
Southeast Alaska Seiners
Southern Southeast Regional
Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters
Western Alaska Cooperative
Marketing Association

February 18, 1992

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Lloyd Jones, Chairman
and Committee Members
Senate Resources Committee

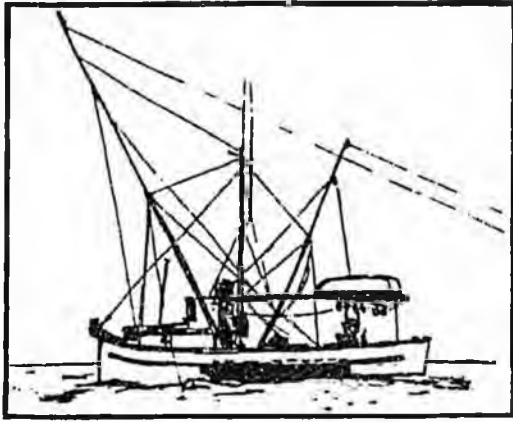
FROM: *Greg Seider*
Greg Seider, Executive Director

SUBJECT: SB 397

The United Fishermen of Alaska supports legislation identifying charter-guided fishing operators as a distinct user group.

UFA urges the Senate Resources Committee to adopt SB397. We support all efforts to enable definitive management of this rapidly growing user group.

GS:RD:ph1



Alaska Troller

Newsletter of the Alaska Troller Association

January 1992

One Small Step for "Troll-kind" . . .

Board of Fisheries Votes 7 — 0 to Consider ATA's Request for Troll/Sport Chinook Allocation

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Fisheries has added ATA's request to consider Southeast chinook troll/sport allocation to their March meeting agenda. ATA submitted an emergency petition in response to ADF&G's release of final 1990 and preliminary 1991 sport chinook harvest numbers in late October, which noted a trend of significant growth in sport landings. This increase is due, in large part, to the fast-growing commercial charterboat fleet with its high level of non-resident participation.

On December 5, in far away Dillingham, the Board accepted ATA's argument that new data concerning Southeast chinook harvest distribution warranted emergency consideration prior to the region's regularly scheduled 1994 meeting. ATA's petition also included a request to allow the Department to work with troll representatives to make specific time/area changes to the June hatchery access openings (i.e. the "3-day" fisheries) wherever necessary, in order to better access hatchery fish that are being produced to offset troll Treaty losses. Now the REAL work begins... What can YOU do to help ATA preserve your historic fishing share and maybe get a few more "free" hatchery fish? PARTICIPATE!

- First, get some information under your belt. This newsletter is intended to give you some background on a few issues the Board will consider. Be sure to attend ATA port meetings and troll/sport discussion forums coming to your area soon. Attend Advisory Committee meetings, call ADF&G, whatever it takes: **KNOW THE FACTS and SHARE THEM WITH OTHERS** (sport, troll, and John Q. Public alike).

- Second, sharpen your pencil or tune up your computer and be prepared to write a letter (or two or three) to the Board of Fish, Southeast legislators, Governor Hickel, and whoever else you think might need a dose of troll perspective on the issues (please send copies for the ATA files). Specifically, discuss concerns regarding: allocation between trollers and sport fishermen; state troll management regulations; and regulation of sport users (e.g. charter versus non-charter). **DO NOT FOCUS ON THE TREATY** since the Board of Fish can't do anything about Treaty provisions.

- Third, encourage your Chamber of Commerce and local processors to send representatives to the Board meeting to explain the importance of trolling to the health of your community.

"Almost anything you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it."

Mahatma Gandhi

- Fourth, send ATA pictures (or negatives), videos, slides, and any troll memorabilia that you can spare. Help ATA build an archive through which to tell the story of trolling in S.E.

- Fifth, share this newsletter with your neighbor; you know, the one who loves nothing better than pulling a king salmon over the side of a skiff every other Sunday. Explain the situation, tell this sportsman your concerns - chances are, you have some similar worries!

- Finally, come and testify at the Board of Fish meeting!

Now that ought to channel your cabin fever into some productive activist fever, aye? Oh, and please don't be scared off if you don't have time to do ALL of these things... PLEASE, just do SOMETHING, today, before it's too late!

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Say What! A Lower Quota in '92?

Why has the base quota gone DOWN for 1992? It seemed as if we were making some progress at the Treaty for a few years, and now we're back where we were a few years ago, aren't we?

Well - yes, and no. In one sense we never left.

Way back in 1985, when the Treaty was signed, Alaska's all gear chinook quota was set at 263,000 fish. We agreed to a 15 year "rebuilding schedule", during which time depressed stocks would hopefully recover. The Treaty stipulated that adjustments to this quota would be possible, should rebuilding proceed ahead of schedule.

In 1990, Alaska received an additional 39,000 fish on top of the 263,000 base quota, based on increased chinook abundance. However, this was only a one year agreement. Negotiations were very difficult following the 1990 season - both the lower '48 and Canada held fast for retaining a quota of 263,000, due to declining trends for some stocks, and the need to be credible in the Hatfield Salmon Summit, which addressed proposed endangered species action on several southern stocks.

The chinook annex was finally agreed to, calling for a 2 year agreement that provided only 10,000 additional chinook for the 1991 season (273,000 total), and a return to the original 263,000 in 1992. There were several reasons for signing this agreement. First and foremost, it was the best we could get, and even getting the additional 10,000 fish for 1991 was a monumental struggle. And second, it was hoped that by signing a 2 year agreement, ample time would be provided to arrive at new ideas for management other than managing to a fixed quota. Meetings will take place this year and next in an attempt to have a new management approach in place by the 1993 season.

And that's where we are today; back to an all-gear chinook quota of 263,000. As we attempt to come up with a better way to manage the harvest of Alaska's share of the kings, we are hopeful that our share will reflect our efforts in past years to fish conservatively, as can be seen in the increased abundance that resulted in a 7 1/2 day season in 1991. ATA hopes to work with ALL chinook users - commercial and sport alike - so that we may come away with an agreement that will be beneficial to us all in 1993.

What Are the Sports "Supposed" to Catch?

Many people don't know the history behind the original Treaty agreement, and why trollers and sport fisheries and charter boats never received specific allocations of the US/Canada Salmon Treaty quota. It is important to note that discussions regarding chinook salmon which took place between state, federal, industry, and sport delegates prior to the signing of the Treaty (1985) consistently focused on the impending impacts of a stringent quota on the primary chinook harvester - THE TROLL FLEET. This was because the sport fishery in Southeast had been stable for many years, with an annual harvest of about 20,000 fish. Although there were a few exceptions, net fishermen did not target on chinook in Southeast. Trollers, on the other hand, had harvested an average of 300,000 chinook a year prior to 1980.

Since TROLLERS were the primary historic harvesters of chinook, the PSC chinook quota was incorporated in the Southeast Alaska-Yakutat Chinook and Coho TROLL FISHERIES Management Plan in 1985. In 1986, the net fishermen were allocated 20,000

fish of the annual available chinook quota and sport allocation was also discussed. The Board of Fisheries noted that the sport harvest had been fairly constant over the years, and no dramatic changes were anticipated. It was due to this fact that a "gentlemen's agreement" was struck, whereby the harvest of 20-25,000 sport caught chinook would be absorbed by the troll fleet. Troll representatives felt that the agreement was fair, as it provided sportfishermen with better than their historic share, yet protected trollers from a further loss of traditional harvest shares. Also, the sport fishery would not risk closure due to small variations in annual harvest.

In light of the rapid expansion of the commercial charter boat fleet and the subsequent change in the harvest sharing of chinook, it is easy to see that this "gentlemen's agreement" is not working. Therefore, ATA believes it must secure a proportion of the chinook quota for trollers alone, in order to prevent the further erosion of historic troll harvest share.

Where Have All the 1992 Kings Gone?

With all the talk about a 4 or 5 day summer king season in 1992, we thought you might be interested in a purely speculative look at what might happen to the chinook quota for this year. Be forewarned: this is all estimation, and the number could be a little bit better or a little bit worse. These numbers are what ADF&G is planning on using for management of your season; at least right now...

<p>263,000 - 28,000</p> <hr/> <p>230,000 - 35,000</p> <hr/> <p>195,000 - 40,000</p> <hr/> <p>155,000 - 42,000</p> <hr/> <p>113,000 - 20,000</p> <hr/> <p>93,000 2,000</p> <hr/> <p>91,000 - 11,000</p> <hr/> <p>80,000</p>	<p>Base all-gear quota (1)</p> <p>(2) Estimate of 1991/1992 winter troll harvest</p> <p>(3) Estimate of 1992 June troll fisheries harvest</p> <p>(4) Estimate of 1992 sport harvest</p> <p>(5) Allocation to net fleets (gillnet and seine)</p> <p>(6) Estimated Annette Island harvest</p> <p>(7) Risk adjustment and pre-treaty hatchery adjustment</p> <p>Projected 1992 troll summer (July 1) quota</p>
--	---

(1) The cumulative overage for the years 1987 - 1991 is 38,000 fish (above the number allowed by the US/Canada Salmon Treaty for these years); this number exceeds the management range (base quota plus or minus 20,000 fish) by 18,000; we were pushed over the quota in 1992 with the revision of sportfish harvest numbers for 1990 and 1991. The MINIMUM number that must be

"paid back" this year to ensure that Alaska stays within its quota management range is 18,000. In addition, ADF&G has suggested that, due to the difficulty of precisely managing the short summer troll fishery and growing sport harvest, coupled with the need to stay within the management range in 1992, they must manage for an all gear harvest of 10,000 - 15,000 fish UNDER the maximum allowable harvest of 245,000 (263,000 fish, minus the 18,000 that must be paid back) to allow for management error. Thus, the total "overage" equals 28,000 fish.

(2) This is a MINIMUM estimate; trollers took 28,000 fish during the first half of the winter season, and catch rates are still reported to be high due to the good weather and an abundance of fish.

(3) 40,000 is the current cap placed on the harvest of non-Alaska hatchery chinook ("quota" fish) in the June fisheries.

(4) This number is the same as the currently estimated 1991 harvest. FINAL sport numbers for 1991 will not be available until at least June of 1992, and it is likely that the final 1991 numbers will be even higher than predicted. Any upward revision would further reduce the trollers summer harvest in two ways: first, by increasing the overage that must be "paid back"; and second, by increasing the 1992 sport estimate. Therefore, consider this a MINIMUM estimate.

(5) The gillnet and seine fleets have been allocated 20,000 chinook since 1986.

(6) ADF&G does not make a projection of this harvest; last year the harvest was 1,800 chinook, and has varied tremendously in the past.

(7) The "risk adjustment" provides for a margin of error in calculating the number of add on fish, and is required by the Treaty.



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How Much Has the Sport Catch Really Grown?

Lots, whether you consider Alaska hatchery fish or not. The sport and charter catch has doubled just since 1988. Between 1985 (signing of the Treaty) and 1988, the sport and charter catch of "quota" fish ranged from about 17,500 to 21,500. Then in 1989, sports and charters took about 24,700 fish; in 1990 34,500; and in 1991 the preliminary estimate is 41,700.

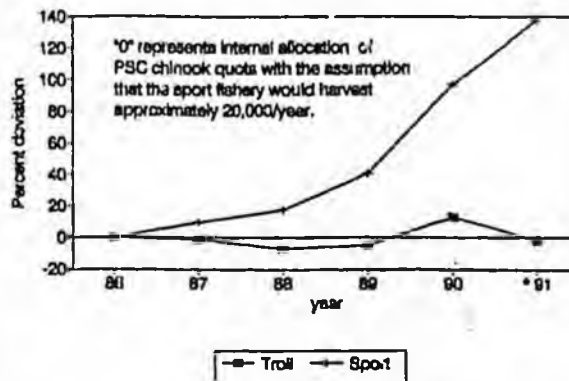
And what's happened to the troll catch? Since 1985, the troller's catch of "quota" fish has fluctuated between about 208,000 and 228,000, except in 1990 when trollers took about 257,000 because of a one-time addition of 39,000 chinook to the quota. In 1991, trollers took about 224,000 "quota" chinook. This year we may harvest as few as 160,000 "quota" fish.

Another way to look at the changes taking place in the two fisheries is to look at the deviation from the harvest levels in 1986, the first year we fished under US/Canada Salmon Treaty quota restrictions. In the graph below, notice that the trollers have been kept at approximately their 1986 level; the sport and charter fishery has, however, increased by nearly 140%. Strict management and day-to-day monitoring of our fishery has forced us to "tow the line"; the same can't be said for the sport fishery. If neither group received a set allocation in 1986, why do we remain at our "base" level, while

another fishery (also with no allocation) has been allowed unrestricted growth? That's what we hope will be answered, and corrected, at the upcoming Board of Fish meetings.

Finally, we've heard a lot about how hatchery fish are a big component of the sport and charter catch, and the fact that they don't

Deviation from 1986 harvest levels
"Quota" chinook



really "count". ATA contends that they DO "count", in that they represent the ability of the sport and charter fleet to take a large number of king salmon, and they certainly count when that 3% is taken out of each trollers pay check. All things considered, we acknowledge that the sports have been better able to access Alaska's hatchery chinook in recent years, and do think someone should be catching them while we are unable to receive full benefit from our production.

Trollers, Sport-Charter, and Sportsmen To Meet

With important king salmon (chinook) allocation issues coming before the Board of Fisheries in March, it is recognized by many, including ATA, that the various user groups need to meet to present the facts, frame the issues, and work toward solutions. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is working with ATA to set up such meetings in numerous communities in Southeast. Although no details were available as this issue went to press, you should watch for upcoming announcements and plan to attend meetings in your area.

ATA does not want to put undue restrictions on anyone, especially the resident sportsman, but while all Alaskans are living under the restrictive management scheme of the Treaty there simply cannot be a group of chinook harvesters, such as the charter fleet, experiencing unbridled chinook catch rates at the expense of the troll industry.

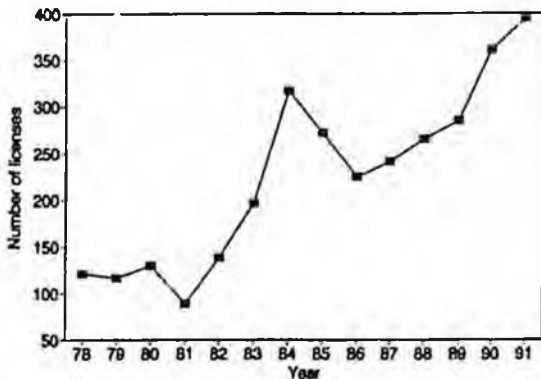
The troll industry is an essential, traditional component of the fabric and economy of Southeast Alaska. Put a "human face" behind the numbers by coming to the discussions and pointing out to people that each set of trolling poles in the local harbor is an important small business. Come to the meetings and hear the concerns of the sport users; help be a part of the solution! If you need more information on this issue, please contact the ATA Board Member in your area or the ATA office.

What's Happened With the Charter Fleet?

In general, the answer to this question is - EXPANSION. Here's a little history to further explain how and where this has happened...

In the late 70's and early 80's, there were estimated to be fewer than 140 charter boats operating in southeast Alaska. Sport fishing was prohibited from commercial hand and power troll vessels in 1979; one effect was that charter vessels could no longer be used for other commercial fishing purposes. People who had formerly engaged in both trolling and chartering were forced to chose between the two. Hand trollers frequently chose to stick with trolling, since it was known that entry into the hand troll fishery was soon to be limited.

**Charter Boats Registered in SE Alaska
1978 - 1991**



In 1981, this changed when the definition of a charter vessel was changed to include only vessels that could not be used for any other commercial purpose ON THE SAME DAY. From 1981 - 1984, the number of charter boats climbed from a low of 89 to 319. When the folks at ADF&G's Sportfish Division were asked why this increase occurred, they said they were unsure. Based on the distribution of registered charter boats in 1984 (Haines: 3; Juneau: 60; Ketchikan: 76; Sitka: 97; and Petersburg: 81), it appears that this number might include some commercial fishermen who also registered to charter.

In 1985, charter owners and operators were required to supply proof that they held all the necessary licenses and permits required for chartering at the time of registration. There was a subsequent decline in the numbers of registrants. In 1986, further reductions in the number of registered charter boats occurred with the elimination of the need to register dry rentals (boats without an operator for hire with the vessel), and boats used in freshwater.

Since 1986, regulations have remained stable, but charter boat numbers have not. In 1986, 225 charter vessels registered with ADF&G. The number increased by approximately 20 per year until 1990, when a record 361 boats registered (an increase of 76). The preliminary figure for 1991 is 391 charter boats.

The distribution of charter registrations has also changed drastically. Compare the year 1990 to the above distribution for 1984, when charter boats were registered in only 5 towns. In 1990, charter registrations were as follows: Angoon: 12; Elfin Cove: 9; Gustavus: 11; Haines: 9; Hoonah: 5; Juneau: 54; Ketchikan: 102; Pelican: 4; Petersburg: 13; Prince of Wales: 44; Sitka: 56; Wrangell: 20; Yakutat: 11; other: 1. This shows the geographical spread of the charter boat fleet in recent years, and the growing importance of remote lodges.

As for the future, there appears to be no end in sight. Every year more and more 6-pack license classes are taught in southeast communities, enabling more and more people to enter the charter business. Some concerned individuals have suggested limited entry for charter boats; others have suggested that charter boats should really be classed as commercial fishing enterprises.

Right or wrong, both of these solutions would require legislative action. They may be viable solutions for the future, but our current dilemma involves issues that can be addressed by the Board of Fish. Letters to the Board should focus mainly on these issues.

REMEMBER:

THE BOARD OF FISHERIES CANNOT ADDRESS:

- 1) CHANGES IN THE US/CANADA SALMON TREATY AND QUOTA;
- 2) LIMITED ENTRY FOR CHARTER BOATS;
- 3) RECLASSIFICATION OF CHARTER BOATS AS COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS.

THE BOARD OF FISHERIES MAY ADDRESS:

- 1) ALLOCATION BETWEEN TROLL / SPORT;
- 2) ALLOCATION BETWEEN CHARTER / NON-CHARTER;
- 3) DIFFERENT REGULATIONS FOR CHARTER BOATS.

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Who Harvests the Sport Catch?

In 1990, Alaskan residents caught 45% of the sport caught chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska, while non-residents caught 55% (see graph). Information is not available for the 1991 season covering all of Southeast, but ADF&G did collect some information on the residency of sportfishers in the Ketchikan area this year.

Chinook Salmon Harvest Southeast Alaska, 1990



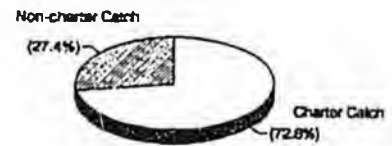
In Ketchikan, residents only harvested 38% of the chinook taken in the sport fishery. Of fish harvested by residents, approximately 1% were harvested on board charter vessels; about 99% were harvested by non-chartering fishers.

Conversely, non-residents harvested 62% of the chinook caught by Ketchikan sport fishers. Of these, 73% were caught from charter boats, and 27% by non-charters (you know, like old Auntie Martha from Ohio you had out for that afternoon in September...).

And just who buys a sport license? Well, in 1991 a total of 70,616 sport licenses were sold in Southeast. Residents purchased a total of 24,768 (35%) compared to 45,848 (65%) non-resident. Of the non-resident licenses, 28% were issued to "Treaty" states and provinces: Washington: 8,696; Oregon: 2,952; Idaho: 1,002; British Columbia: 248.

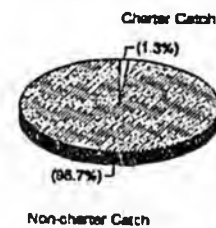
Ketchikan Area Catch

Chinook Catch Non-residents



Ketchikan Area Catch

Chinook Catch Alaskan Residents



ATA Contracts For McDowell Economic Study Update

In 1989, ATA contracted with the McDowell Group of Juneau to conduct a study of the troll fleet's economic value to southeast Alaska (The Economic Impacts and Condition of the Alaska Salmon Troll Fleet). To help us prepare for the upcoming Board of Fisheries meeting, we have commissioned the McDowell Group to update that study. The forthcoming information will help us to inform others as to the economic worth of the troll fleet today. For example, the original study found that:

- Troll harvesting accounts for 5.5% of all economic base employment in the southeast region. When troll-induced processing employment is added, the fishery provides southeast Alaska with 7% of its basic industry employment;
- The troll fleet is Alaska's largest in terms of resident participation with 1,367 permits fished by Alaskans.
- One out of every 25 Southeast residents works on a troll vessel during the course of a typical season, during which the troll fleet employs 2,304 resident Alaskan skippers and crew members.
- In total, the troll fleet provides 2,746 seasonal jobs including non-residents.
- The troll fleet has one of the highest resi-

dent components (85%) among Alaska's salmon fisheries.

- Residents keep 76% of all troll earnings in Alaska.
- The majority of fishermen in 21 communities earn at least some or all of their income

from trolling. In 12 communities, over 3/4 of all permit holders are trollers.

The updated facts and figures from our McDowell study revision should help us to show the drastic economic and social impacts of reallocating the chinook quota to the sport and charter fleets. This will especially effect Southeast's smaller communities, as well as the larger communities where trolling is one of the most important, and often one of the only, industries providing jobs.

But... studies don't get done for free - we need your help! When the original McDowell study was done, many of you generously chipped in, and we are asking for the fleet's help again. Funds earmarked for the McDowell study revision will be gratefully accepted; donations of \$50 or more will get you a copy of the updated study. Please help us to help you, by contributing today!



The Board of Fish: Part II

While a lot of attention has focused on ATA's successful effort to get the Board of Fish to consider the allocation of chinook salmon among user groups in Southeast, we were also successful in getting the board to accept our request to provide for some "fine tuning" of our June Hatchery Access Fisheries. The request was worded as follows:

(b) Grant the Department of Fish and Game, in consultation with affected fishermen, the authority to make specific time and area modifications to the June Hatchery Access troll fishery.

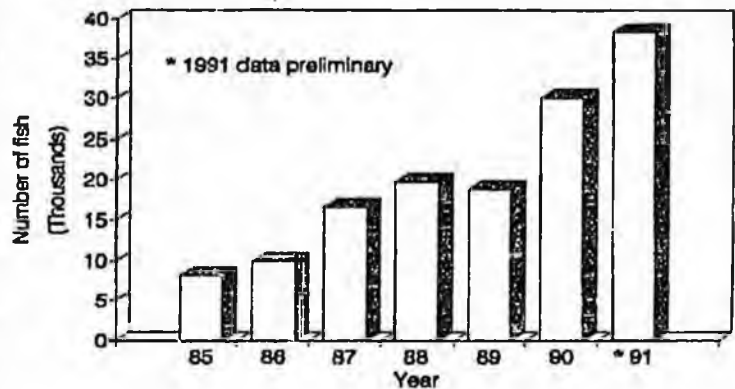
This request was made for two reasons. First, although the goal of the June openings is to harvest as many Alaska hatchery produced fish as possible, recently the catch in some areas now open in June has been primarily fish of other origins ("treaty fish"—fish that count against the quota that is set under the treaty). Second, some processors have expressed a concern regarding the quality of the fish being taken in some areas during June. Thus ATA asked the board to provide some management flexibility to address these problems.

It is very important that the troll fleet have

an opportunity to catch our Alaska hatchery fish. These fish are not counted as part of the quota number established in the Treaty process. The "add on" for Alaska hatchery fish has steadily climbed from 8,100 kings in 1985, to approximately 38,000 in 1991. Since Alaskan stocks are spring and early summer spawners, many of the adult fish are accessed in

June. Equally important, however, is the need for a significant number of treaty fish to be available for the summer season that currently begins on July 1. Thus it is necessary to review the data that has been collected through the conduct of these fisheries the past few years to see what changes might be needed to better meet the goals. It is ATA's

Troll Hatchery Add-on 1985 - 1991



belief that if the Board of Fish will provide some guidelines and flexibility, ADF&G and concerned fishermen can make some changes in the areas open in June to better address these needs as well as the quality concerns expressed by the processors.

An Open Letter From Our Processors...

Dale Kelley
Executive Director
Alaska Trollers Association

Dear Dale,

The Alaska Troll Salmon Processors Association represents the six largest processors and marketers of troll-caught salmon in Southeast Alaska. I would like to alert you and your fishermen to an increasingly disturbing situation that we, as processors, feel the Board of Fisheries and Dept. of Fish and Game must address as soon as possible.

More and more off-grade king salmon with darkskin, pale meat, and low fat content are being caught in the early troll seasons in June. This includes the terminal troll fisheries that commenced May 28 for Carrol Inlet and June 2 for Wrangell Narrows and the hatchery access fishery that opened June 5 this year. Also, the experimental fisheries for chinook that ran for 48-hour periods beginning June 2.

As we try to sell these fish we are running into mounting resistance in the marketplace. Not only is the skin color less than desirable, but fat content is low, and most disturbing of

all, the meat color is only pale red at best and pink to white in many cases. There is really only one market for large troll red kings: fish smokers (primarily on U.S. East Coast, but also in Europe and Japan). They demand above all else "good meat color" from off-grade fish such as these darkskin kings. The only way we have been able to sell these June off-grade kings has been to offer them with our No. 1 bright-skin troll red kings from summer - in effect, to force the buyer to take off-grade fish if he wants to get bright summer fish.

Now the smokers are balking at taking these fish at any price. Several processors have issued claims to customers on these fish and, in some cases, are receiving fish back. A fish with little or no value in the market means little or no value to processors and fishermen. Because of poor meat color in particular, we are looking at a wholesale market price in the future of \$1.00 to \$1.50 per pound. This would mean a fisherman's dock price of, at best, \$.60.

We do not advocate discontinuing the June troll fisheries, but we do recommend that the State consider limiting trollers access to these hatchery fish to areas well outside the terminal

zones where fish caught are still in bright condition with good fat content and meat color.

ATSPA is aware that the Board of Fisheries will be discussing the June troll fisheries at a meeting in Juneau in March. We will be providing the Board with testimony of the market situation. I'm sure that they and ADF&G will need information from troll fishermen on where these darker skin kings are prevalent and areas where bright skin fish predominate.

Hopefully, this letter will alert troll fishermen to the problem and we can work together to help solve it.


Sincerely,

Pete Granger
President
Alaska Troll Salmon Processors Association



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Bud Matney
Tom Matney



Glacier Bay

As reported in the last newsletter, we are awaiting the release of the National Park Services regulations concerning commercial fishing in the waters located within the boundaries of the Glacier Bay National Park. It is not anticipated that these regs will accommodate the long term rights of commercial fishermen to the fisheries resources in these waters, so legislative and/or legal actions will most likely be necessary.

The State of Alaska continues to show an interest in the issue of state control over our resources, but to date there has not been a commitment to pursue any specific action with regard to Glacier Bay. ATA's attorney, Bruce Weyhrauch continues to keep a close eye on all developments regarding Glacier Bay.

For more information on this issue and what you can do, please refer to the December '91 ATA newsletter. As specific developments take place, we will keep you informed and ask for your help.

Take Advantage of Those Cheap Air Fares!

Forget about that vacation to Mexico - Juneau can be lovely in March, and what could be more stimulating than a Board of Fish meeting? Airfares haven't been so reasonable in recent memory; round trip from Seattle to Juneau ranges from \$200-265; from Ketchikan the fare is \$90; from Petersburg only \$80; and from Sitka a mere \$65! These fares should remain in effect until mid-February, but why wait? Plan now for that trip - the Board of Fish is tentatively scheduled to take up ATA's request for an allocation to the troll fleet on March 7. And seriously, folks, LOTS of troll testimony on this issue will be vital if we are to save our chinook fishery. So... come on to Juneau - the more the merrier!

As the World Turns...

ATA is sorry to see a fine staff member going "up the hill". Although we knew that Gordy Williams was a temporary addition to the office, we secretly had hopes of luring him away from his job with the Legislature, so it was with real sadness that we bid him farewell in early January. Luckily it hasn't meant the last of Gordy's commitment to ATA; he wrote much of this newsletter, and helped to plan and implement the raffle party, including delivering a fine speech in honor of K Koski. Thank you Gordy, and should you ever get a yearning for Fish Politics...

*A VERY
SPECIAL THANK YOU*

to the following processors for their monetary support:

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Tom Elias
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Anchorage, AK 99518

Michael Martin
13300 Venus Way
Anchorage, AK 99515

Deborah Lyons
PO Box 296
Petersburg, AK 99833

John Hanson
PO Box 1
Alakanuk, AK 99554

Trefon Angasan, Jr.
Po Box 100220
Anchorage, AK 99510

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO SOUTHEAST LEGISLATORS:

(NAME)
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GOVERNOR:

Office of the Governor
Walter J. Hickel, Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

In Remembrance...

ATA wishes to express our sorrow at the loss of Ed Landor (F/V Barbara Leigh) of Craig, whose boat capsized and sank off of Noyes Island recently.

ATA Party and Raffle: A Good Time Was Had By All

The second annual ATA mid-winter party and raffle drawing took place in Juneau on January 18th. Held at the Coast Guard "Buoy Deck" room on the waterfront, the event was attended by some 150 members and friends. With a no host bar, tasty hors d'oeuvres, and a local rock band laying down some tunes loud enough to be heard over any 6-71 "Jimmy", it was a good cure for the winter blues.

While much of the evening revolved around the big raffle, ATA started the event by presenting the first ever "Friend of the Troll Fleet" award. This honor is awarded to individuals whose contributions to the industry reflect the goals and spirit of ATA. The recipient this year was Dr. K Koski of the National Marine Fisheries Service. Working out of the Auke Bay Lab in Juneau, Dr. Koski has been a tireless advocate for protecting the upland habitat needed for spawning and rearing of our salmon resources. The past two years have seen both federal and state legislation that provide for minimum buffer strips to be retained along many streams important to fish. K Koski can honestly be regarded as the "father" of these buffer strip provisions. While most fishermen spend a lot of time complaining about the management of our fisheries, it is important for us to recognize that there are many very dedicated individuals working behind the scenes on our behalf. Dr. Koski is one of the best. We thank him for his efforts in the past and pledge our continued support to the research and programs that he and his colleagues are involved in.

The drawing of the winning raffle tickets followed, and ATA was honored to have State Representative Bill Hudson from Juneau present to conduct the drawing. Rep. Hudson is a former director of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) and is a valued supporter of fisheries issues in the Alaska Legislature. There were 90 prizes overall, and we had winners from Florida to Fairbanks. The - BIG WINNERS - ATA member Chuck Bellon (F/V Garda Marie) from Ketchikan won the \$2500.00 first prize, Tracey Miller from Douglas won the second prize of \$1000.00, and Sandra Stoner of Juneau received the third prize of \$500.00. The other gifts of merchandise, money, and services will be sent to the lucky winners soon. A complete list of winners will be out in our March newsletter. Our special THANKS go out to all of those who so generously donated prizes, and to all of those who purchased tickets. Congratulations to the winners — to the rest of us, better luck next year.



Mark Ebata

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| David Potts | FV Dutch Baby | Bothell, WA |
| Joan McBeen (crewmember) | FV Amigo II | Tenakee Springs |
| Byron Mallot | FV Cape Enchantment | Juneau |
| Paul Mercer | FV Jerry B | Haines |
| Icicle Seafoods | (associate) | Petersburg |

ATA Board Nominations

SECOND NOTICE: There are currently two at-large power troll seats open on the ATA board. In addition, HANDTROLLERS NOW HAVE OVER 40 MEMBERS, SO A SECOND HAND TROLL BOARD SEAT IS AVAILABLE. The hand troll seat is open to a NORTH END HANDTROLL member; nominations are needed.

PLEASE HELP REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF YOUR FELLOW TROLLERS ON THE ATA BOARD; CALL OR WRITE WITH YOUR NOMINATION, OR VOLUNTEER YOURSELF, TODAY!!!

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Thanks!!!

- to Dick HofMann, Juneau board member, for help with several recent mailings...

- to Chris Widdows, for her help with mailings, and for "standing in" for a while in the office...

- to Brad and Jennifer Weinlaeder, Lou and Nancy Barr, Erin Purple, and others for help with the raffle party...

- to Doug Dvorak for sponsoring our use of the Coast Guard "Buoy Deck" room for the raffle party...

- **SPECIAL THANKS** to Representative Bill Hudson (Juneau) for his help in the raffle drawing!

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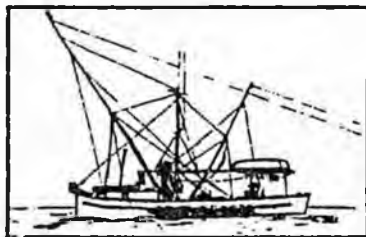
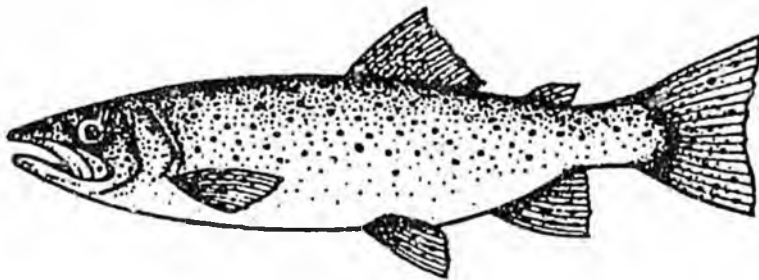
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ATA tee shirts are now ON SALE! We have very few left; sales are limited to stock on hand; but what we've got, you can have for cheap!

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Short Sleeved Tees: now \$12.00

Call the office today and we'll be glad to check the inventory for your size and color!

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Susan McGregor, Staff Biologist
Mark Vetter, Office Manager

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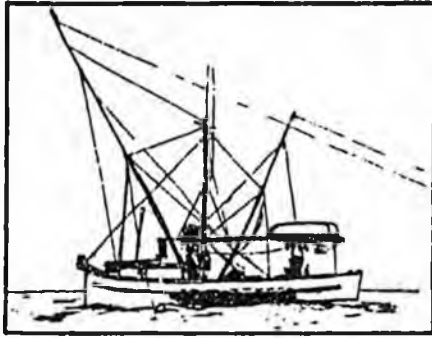
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February 18, 1992

Senator Lloyd Jones
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: SENATE BILL NO 397

Dear Senator Jones:

This Bill is another attempt by a troller, Dick Elliason, to stop the growth of the Recreational Sport Fishery! Resident and non-resident sport fisherman alike would be unfairly discriminated against by any allocation.

Any separation of sport fisherman from guided to non-guided directly discriminates against the sportsman who does not own or have access to a boat and relies on a sport charter for transportation to and from the grounds.

This would limit a non-limited recreation and would also limit the growth of the sport fishing industry. An industry that provides more than 66.0 million in spending in Southeast Alaska alone. Also, limiting Tourism, the #2 industry in the State, will vastly affect the economy of the State of Alaska.

I strongly oppose Bill No. 397 and ask, that you as our Senator, also oppose this Bill.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Berry

Stephen L. Berry
P.O. Box 934
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Con SB 397

SALMON BUSTERS

Guided Fishing

3222 Tide Avenue South
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Owner - Dan McQueen

Telephone - 907-225-2731

February 19, 1992

All Members of the Alaska
Senate & State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

To All Members:

There are currently two bills, Senate Bill #397 and Robin Taylor's 502. Both concern limited entry. I would hope that before you take any actions on these two bills you will all read my following statement.

Many of us sport fishing guides support some type of limited entry. I, for one, feel that in the areas that have seen the ceiling hit in places like Ketchikan and possibly Juneau, an immediate moratorium should be enacted.

I feel that many of our smaller communities can benefit from more growth in sport fishing.

I have lived in Pt. Baker and I have seen the numbers of nonresident and resident sport fishermen spending money in the bar and store. True, these bush towns live on trolling, but a smaller amount of sport caught fish will provide thousands of dollars of new money to be left in Pt. Baker, Hoonan, etc.

Before people as smart as yourselves rush into any type of limited entry, you should remember this: a person from in-state and out-of-state would gladly pay a troller to take him or her fishing. If the troller caught only 2 fish for six people, those two fish would bring in \$450.00 apiece, not to mention the person that rents accommodations to them.

I don't want to see either trollers or sport fishing guides hurt. If a lot more time is taken so you could talk to the people that were at our Ketchikan Advisory Board meeting and listen to the concerns of the people in attendance, then you will see that there is lots of headway being made.

2.

From what I gather from 2 nights of careful listening we the people (both trollers and sport fishermen alike) are all ready to talk. The advisory board's own vote will prove even they have questions.

When you hear the number (409 in 1991) of charter boats, remember 27% of those registered boats are also trollers. So limiting entry will only give an operation like that the best of both worlds. Already, a troller has a valuable limited entry permit. If he is granted another, it would be unfair, because he has not used his charter license. Acquiring one was just insurance for them.

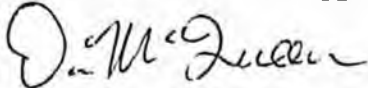
I own a small 21-ft. boat. Due to a back injury and two major surgeries, this is my only way to help support my family.

We fishing guides beg you folks in Juneau to let us have some input into this entry issue. We as an industry need for you to discuss this with us, the people who have been here and seen every document, every data sheet. We have many many ideas that will be acceptable to all concerned. Please before you pass or even discuss any of the two bills, Senate 397 and Robin's 502, please give me a chance to talk to each and every one of you, if need be.

We made history when all of us (trollers, sport fishermen, and sport fishing guides) sat and talked like men; we didn't yell and fight. I would also suggest that you subpoena copies of the tape recording that was made by the press (KRBD?). That tape shows we in Ketchikan want to work this whole issue out before any type of bill is passes.

If any of you want to talk to me, please call me at 1-225-2731. Please don't let these bills be rushed through by special interest lobbying.

Thanks and Good Fishin' to Ya!



Dan McQueen

SALMON BUSTERS

Guided Fishing

3222 Tide Avenue South
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Owner - Dan McQueen

Telephone - 907-225-2731

To RESOURCE COMMITTEE, All members.

Senate Bill 397 is a death warrant for the sport fishery in S.E. Alaska.

Sen. Eliason is a trooper at heart he has said that before.

He wants this bill so sportfishing with a fishing guide can be shut down at the whims of A.T.A.

We don't sell resources we take people out fishing who wouldn't go if they didn't think they might catch a fish.

We get paid for Time and Space not fish.

Sport fishing has the least impact on the King Salmon. We harvest 68,400 King Salmon but we generated \$63,502,400.00 which stayed in S.E. Alaska.

SALMON BUSTERS

Guided Fishing

3222 Tide Avenue South
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Owner - Dan McQueen

Telephone - 907-225-2731

The Trollers caught 263,756 King Salmon which only brought in \$42,200,960.°° ~~is~~ there is a resource problem it is plain to see where also.

Does it seem like you will be hurting or helping us if you approve Senate Bill 397.

My answer is if you don't kill 397 you have killed me and alot of other people who have found a honest decent law-abiding way to make a living.

Please put 397 in the shredder.

Thanks

Earl McQueen

Wayne Sanger
2088 Hermsway Hrs. Dr.
Mt. Vernon, WA. 98273

Senator Lloyd Jones
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Jones,

I purchase a non resident sport fishing license to fish in south east Alaska each year. I am part of a valuable resource to Alaska's economy; the "non resident - tourist - sport fisherman"

If you support the commercial troll industry in thier attempts to restrict the sport fishery you will lose far more than you gain.

I cost less for me to fish in Canada. Up till now Alaska's more liberal catch limits and possession limits have made Canada a second choice for me and many other non resident sports men.

If you think that regulating sport fishing to increase the commercial harvest will help Alaska's economy you are wrong. With the price for fish already low as a result of a glut of fish on the market, increasing productivity will not increase profits. The biggest result from the troll industries efforts to restrict sport fishing will be the reduction in overall tourism as well as loss of state revenues resulting from decreased sport license sales. Sincerely
Wayne Sanger

Ketchikan Marine Charters, Inc.

representing Alaska's largest sportfishing charter boat fleet

February 20, 1992

Alaska State Senate
Senator Richard I. Eliason, President
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Eliason,

I am writing this letter at the request of the membership of Ketchikan Marine Charters Association. Senate Bill No. 397 entitled "An Act authorizing the Board of Fisheries to allocate fishery resources to the guided sport fishery," certainly raises some interesting questions.

Is the "guided sport fishery" a "fishery"? AS 16.05.940(12) defines "fishery" as the commercial harvest of a specific fishery resource by a specific gear type with intent to sell. The intent to sell is implied in the term commercial which is indirectly defined in 16.05.940(4) "commercial fisherman" and 16.05.940(5) "commercial fishing". It can be argued that the "guided sport fishery" is not a "fishery" as currently defined by Alaska Statute in as much as "sport fishing" as defined by AS 16.05.940(28) is specifically limited to "not for sale" use.

Is "guided sport" a separate and distinct user group? The concept of "use" is fundamental to the definition of "user group" and to the differentiation of separate and distinct resource "user groups". "Use" is indirectly defined by statute as either "for sale" or "not for sale". "For sale" use is commercial fishing and "not for sale" use is either subsistence, personal use, or sport fishing use. Commercial fishing is a "user group" that for regulatory purposes is differentiated by gear type. On the other hand, "gear type" is the basic statutory differentiation between two user groups; namely "personal use fishing" and "sport fishing" as defined in AS 16.05.940(23 & 24). "Hook and line" is the "gear type" that defines "sport fishing" as a resource "user group". It can be argued that "guided sport" is a statistical category and not a separate and distinct "user group" unless clearly defined by a separate and distinct "gear type" other than "hook and line" or on the basis of some other use than "not for sale".

In our opinion, "guided sport" is a redundant and expensive management "tool" in as much as "sport fishing" is already a carefully defined and tightly regulated user group that is presently managed to be consistent with the principles of conservation of the resource and sustained yield; and in as much as "guided sport" will necessitate "in season" management techniques in order to maximize the economic contribution of "guided sport fishing" which will force the Department to either increase their budget or to reduce present management.

In our opinion, "guided sport" is a politically expedient resolution of a Southeast "problem" at the expense of the rest of the State and the State as a whole.

In our opinion, misunderstanding is the basis of the Southeast "problem". Possibly, the term "sport fishing" is partly to blame in as much as it is not indicative of "use". Sportanglers fish for fun and enjoyment; but they also fish for something to eat. Possibly, the "guided sport" industry is partly to blame because of it's inability to define what it does. The "guided sport" industry is a service industry that sells the "opportunity to fish and the reasonable expectation of a catch" to sportanglers. (Sport Fishing Institute of B.C. Jan. 1992).

Ketchikan Marine Charters has explored several reasonable opportunities to negotiate resolution of this "problem" over the past several years and is firmly convinced that Senate Bill No. 397 is simply a "quick-fix" that will only aggravate the "problem".

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Tom Ramiskey, vice-president

cc: Governor Walter J. Hickel
Commissioner Carl Rosier
Sentor Pat Pourchot
Senator Rick Halford
Senator Lloyd Jones
Representative Ben Grussendorf
Representative Eileen Panigeo MacLean
Representative Dave Donley
Representative Cliff Davidson

enclosures: Southeast Opinion
DATELINE WEST article "Sport caught salmon---"

SOUTHEAST OPINION

PACIFIC FISHING, March 1992, (article, Paradise Lost) stated "Sharks and sea lions take a small percentage of the trollers' catch, which is annoying enough; but the fleet is particularly upset these days about their losses to another breed of predator-sport fishermen."

This lends credibility to the question. "What does it take to make a fisherman happy?" Answer: "A fish." "What does it take to make a troller happy?" Answer: "No other fishermen."

Almost all reported troll caught fish leave the State. A large number of trollers take their money and leave each fall. Now the trollers want the sport fishermen to leave without fish and still expect them to leave their money.

The trollers appear to have enough political influence on the Board of Fish and in the Alaska legislature that they can just demand and take with no public hearing, no accurate statistics, and no concern for the public or the State resources.

Alaska has entered into legal agreement with Canada and neighboring states to save a diminishing public resource. If current fishery management proposals are not followed, we risk being out of compliance with the U.S./Canada Treaty.

The February 1992 ALASKA FISHERMAN'S JOURNAL quotes our Senator Eliason as saying, "If we are out of compliance, it's just too damn bad. Let them take us to court."

If the other treaty signers have a similar attitude, it may well herald the end of all Southeast Alaska salmon fishing. After Eliason and the trollers eliminate the sport fishermen, the only other fishermen they can attack are the fishermen of the other treaty signers. Senator Eliason is right about one thing. It is too damn bad!

DATELINE: WEST

A Press-time Look at Fish and Game News, Environmental Developments and Seasonal Information Affecting Western Sportsmen

Utah may have nation's top wildlife area

VERNAL — The wildest spot in Utah — the Book Cliffs along the Colorado border — may be turned into one of the top wildlife-producing areas in the United States if plans of federal and state officials materialize.

The lonely 450,000-acre region south of Vernal is under consideration as a congressionally designated national conservation area, bounded on the

east by the Colorado border and on the west by the Uinta-Ouray Ute Indian Reservation.

A key to the plan is the purchase of four ranches which encompass 16,000 acres of the 20,000 acres of private land in the Book Cliffs. The ranchers, who are willing sellers, own the bottomland country which includes lush, green riparian areas next to flowing streams — land

extremely valuable for all types of wildlife.

"If we can tie up those riparian areas, we could produce a wildlife area which would not be surpassed in the United States," said Walt Donaldson, northeastern regional supervisor for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. The DWR and Bureau of Land Management hope to use a combination of

federal, state and private dollars to obtain the ranches.

Many sportsmen consider the Book Cliffs to be the prime hunting area in the state for deer, elk, cougar and bear. In addition, moose, bison, and bighorn sheep have historical roots in the Book Cliffs. Wildlife managers also feel the 50 miles of running streams could be turned into a fishery for Colorado cutthroat trout, if cattle are removed from the bottomlands.

About 4200 head of cattle currently use these bottomlands. Overuse has degraded many of the canyon bottoms as wildlife habitat, but with rehabilitation original species such as wild turkey, moose and river otter could be reintroduced.

BLM and DWR officials say their intent is to establish the Book Cliffs National Conservation area as a multiple use showcase with a management emphasis on wildlife, fisheries, riparian and recreational values — with the goal of developing a model national wildlife program. Naturally, hunting would be greatly improved.

Jack Nelson

Sport-caught salmon profitable for BC

VANCOUVER — When federal Fisheries Minister Bernard Valcourt announced an increase of 22,000 chinook salmon in the 1990 allocation for recreational anglers, commercial fishermen were quick to complain.

Otto Andersen, president of the British Columbia Wildlife Federation, responded that "whining from other user groups does nothing to assist the process or correct resource management."

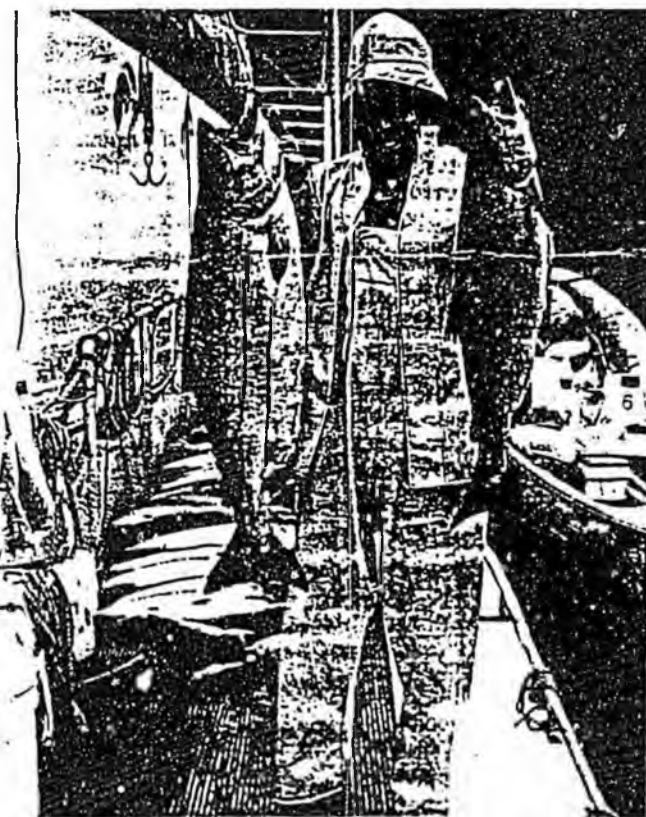
Andersen stated that the increase allocation of chinooks to the sport fishery represented less than 1/10th of 1 percent of the commercial catch. He said that since the Pacific Salmon Treaty was signed between the United States and Canada some five years ago, the total salmon catch by commercial fishermen has been about 30 to 35 million fish per year.

During this period the commercial salmon catch in the northern half of coastal B.C. has increased by more than 6 million, while the recreational catch has increased by just over 4000 fish per year.

"It is worth noting," said Andersen, "that 200,000 sockeye harvested by the commercial fishery generates \$3 million,

while last year in the Queen Charlottes alone, over \$10 million was generated by sport fishermen who caught some

16,000 chinook. Those same chinook taken in the commercial fishery would not have generated \$1 million." Robert H. Jones



When Canadian authorities increased the recreational allotment of chinook salmon, commercial fishermen were quick to complain. Sportsmen point out that B.C. sport fishermen generate greater revenues while harvesting less fish than commercial interests.

Laker slot limit OK with Flaming Gorge anglers

GREEN RIVER — Fishermen at Flaming Gorge Reservoir have shown overwhelming support for the new slot limit regulation that requires the release of all lake trout between 26 and 36 inches. "Anglers have been very supportive and eager to comply," according to fisheries biologist Bill Wengert. "A number of fishermen have indicated they wished the regulation had been in effect years ago."

JOE "SIX-PACK" SPORT ANGLER SPENDS DOLLARS

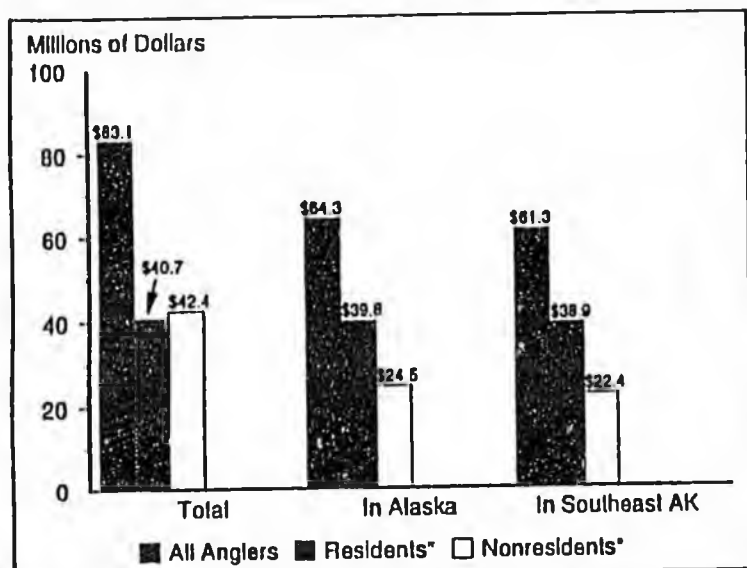


Table 1. Estimated angler spending (millions of dollars) by harvest area for 1988 Southeast Alaska sport fishing.

Harvest Area	Resident Angler Spending	Nonresident Angler Spending	Total Angler Spending
Ketchikan	6.6	13.7	20.3
Petersburg	3.0	6.7	9.7
Sitka	6.1	4.6	10.7
Juneau	21.0	6.2	27.2
Prince of Wales	2.1	3.9	6.0
Haines-Skagway	1.1	4.5	5.6
Glacier Bay	0.3	0.4	0.7
Yakutat	0.5	2.4	2.9
Total	\$40.7	\$42.4	\$83.1

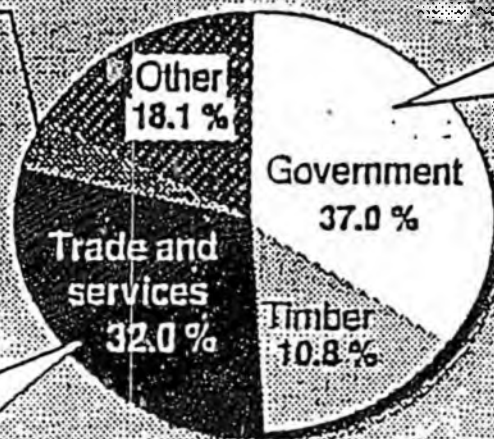
Figure 2. Angler spending for 1988 Southeast sport fishing.

1989 average employment in Southeast Alaska

Seafood 4.1%

Seafood industry employment reflects year-round Alaskan-resident workers and does not include non-resident fishermen and some seasonal.

Trade and services include most of the industries that encompass tourism.



Government includes 17% state, 6% federal and 14% local.

Average employment for Southeast Alaska is gathered on a monthly basis from employers. Total employment for 1989 was 32,200.

*Information is obtained from Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc. 1991. "Southeast Alaska sport fishing economic study."

Notes: Information provided by the Alaska Department of Labor.

T. Parked Daily News

Feb. 8, 1992

John Joyner
Box 5451
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Alaska Board of Fisheries
P.O. Box 35526
Juneau, AK 99802

If the board allocates a percentage of King Salmon to the trollers this would put a quota on the sport caught King Salmon also. This quota on sport caught Kings would automatically limit the number of tourist who will come to Alaska to fish for King Salmon and leave their \$923.00 for each King Salmon they catch. All toll anglers spent 61.3 million dollars in Southeast Alaska in 1988.*

The trollers would have the Board of Fish control the sport fishery as a commercial fishery. These fish are common property fish, not commercial property fish. We are a sport fishery and should not be controlled by commercial fisherman. For example when the rockfish were fished out, the sport fish limit was reduced and the commercial fishermen were still allowed to catch as many as their boat would hold. This is the same management plan that is being thrust on us again. This is not a management plan that would be consistent with sustained yield principles.

Why report only the fish caught by lodges and charter boats. Why not count ALL the King Salmon caught including the shakers killed by the trollers, the immature King Salmon caught by sieners and put in a can to be called pink salmon, the net caught King Salmon that can't be sold so they are ground up and put back into the water and biggest waste of all the by catch of King Salmon taken by the trawlers. These 100 plus thousand Kings a year are just killed and thrown back without even counting them. Here again this is not consistent with sustained yield principles.

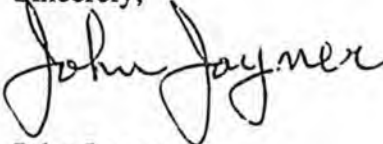
The trollers complain about how many charter boats are in Southeast Alaska. Lets set the record straight. According to A.D.F.& G. records there are 385 charter boats in Southeast Alaska. In those same records it can be found that 56 of these charter boats are hand trollers and 43 are power trollers. This adds up to 24% of the charter fleet that are actually trollers. Might there be a different reason for wanting charter boats to go to limited entry ? If this were to happen charter permits would be worth a lot of money.

I am opposed to any action outside of current regulations that would limit the number of Chinook salmon that the sport fleet can catch, because, an action of this sort, coupled with the fact that Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture is stopping King Salmon production, would stop the growth of a tourist trade at a time when the state is hard pressed for revenue. The sport fish industry not only supports itself it brings in 64.3* million plus to Alaska.

I would point out that when the Board of Fisheries acts on the petition from Alaska Trollers Association they must follow A.S. 16.05.251 and consider the number of participants, (110 thousand anglers in 1990), importance to the economy of the state, region, and local area, 83.1 million in 1988*, and provide for personal use, recreational opportunities and last for commercial fisheries. **

** Allocative Criteria Used
By Board of Fisheries.
As 16.05.251

* Southeast Alaska Sport Fish
Economic Study
Alaska Department of Fish and Game Dec. 1991

Sincerely,

John Joyner

February 1992

Board of Fisheries
Division of Boards
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

Dear Board of Fisheries Members:

I am OPPOSED to any specific allocation of the chinook salmon resource that would require the Board to allocate a percentage of chinook salmon to the recreational fishery.

Sincerely,

Don Hazelquist

Richard G. Callentine
5660 South Tongass Highway
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Phone: (907) 247-8780
Fax: (907) 225-7994

Senator Lloyd Jones
State Capitol
Juneau Alaska 99801-1182
Mail stop 3100

February 15, 1992

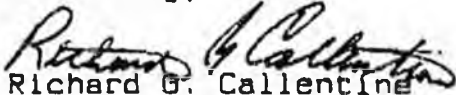
Dear Senator Jones:

At the present time, there are efforts underway by Representative Taylor and Senator Eliason to provide relief of an alleged emergency nature for the commercial trolling fleet. These efforts are ill advised and threaten the resources of this state, as well as the constitutional rights of its citizens. As an individual, I implore you to do all in your power to stop Senate Bill NO. 397, at least until accurate information can clearly define an on-going problem that is now being presented in terms of an inaccurate, emotionally perceived crisis.

A matter as important as this must allow for input from the people of the state, as well as our employed experts, to accurately define both the situation and possible solutions. Many of our sister states have faced these same problems in their fisheries and have pursued solutions similar to the efforts of Eliason and Taylor, only to face a later reality that they have caused the demise of the majority of the total commercial fleet, as well as nearly eliminated the remaining fish resources. The economic impact, as identified by research conducted in Washington state, clearly indicated that they experienced almost a total loss of tourism, as well as citizen sport fishing effort and revenue. Alaska cannot afford such loss, and certainly should not be the cause of such a loss as a result of poorly informed elected officials with clearly indicated biased self interest connected with their proposed legislation.

This is not an emergency. If it were, it would indicate that our elected officials, as well as appointed boards and employed experts had failed in their responsibility. The sky is not falling--so please endeavor to contain chickens Little, Eliason and Taylor, and pursue your responsibilities in a mature and accurately informed manner.

Sincerely,


Richard G. Callentine



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources
 committee name
Fisheries
 committee on SB397 Allocations, dated 2/28/97
 bill/subject

Senate Bill No. 397 is
 a much needed tool to assist
 the board of fish in regulating
 a burgeoning commercial charter
 fishing industry. It is unacceptable
 to allow a relatively new commercial
 fishery to grow unchecked in an
 already overregulated fishing
 scene.

Signed: William V. Peden
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
610 E 10th St. Sitka, AK
 Address
747-6820
 Phone No.

Pro

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages »
To Senate Res	From PSC-410	
Co. TERRY	Co. D.P.	
Dept.	Phone #	
Fax #	Fax #	

Feb. 29, 1992
Petersburg, Ak.

Dear Senator Jones and Committee members,

I am Grant Trask from Petersburg. I first came to Alaska when I was 18 and worked on fishing boats. Soon after being discharged from the service, I made Alaska my home -almost 22 years ago now. Trolling has been my sole occupation for 19 years and I generally make 85% of my income directly from trolling.

Trolling was attractive to me when I first got into it because of the lifestyle, security and long season. All of that has now changed, as you can imagine, and the lifestyle is no longer attractive, there is no security left, and the season is now a patchwork of timed events we consider as opportunities, or "openings". These changes have all happened within recent years, due to the various regulatory restrictions of which most of you are familiar. What was once a viable business to me has become a pressure-filled spectre that haunts my waking moments year around. I spend my time worrying about the fishery, fighting to preserve some access to the resource, contributing to the resource and the industry with my time and money, curbing my standard of living to counter the dwindling finances. (My personal income has dropped 40%, year by year, since 5 years ago.) When we actually have the opportunity to go out and earn a living, I have to make all the right moves, push myself and my family crew to longer days and more dangerous sea conditions and pray that there will not be breakdown or storm, which would mean financial ruin. There are no more margins left in my businesss or my fishery.

Now into this picture comes the presence of a totally new commercial entity which I am told that I must share access to the resource with. And I was led to believe that all of the signatories of the Pacific Salmon Treaty were bound by the treaty to not allow any new intercepting fisheries on King Salmon. Trollers have been promised relief in the future if we would abide by the treaty and instead of relief, we see more impact upon our fishery. Trollers have been curtailed severely in the name of biological needs, allocation to other user groups, restriction due to our efficiency, and mitigation on behalf of other interests. Trollers have paid the bill for years now, which the fish managers have served upon us, and we cannot carry any more load. It is a very real possibility that we will go out of business. The collapse of the troll industry in Southeast would inevitably lead to legal, economic, and social ramifications that I

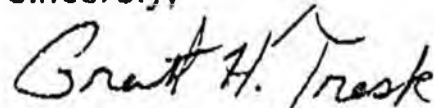
dare not contemplate and that I will leave to others to speculate on.

I have not cited facts and figures to help you to tailor your legislation, -you have all of that information readily accessible, I'm sure. Rather, I have wanted to give you a glimpse of my personal perspective based on my participation in the troll fishery and how I size up my situation at the moment. I have contributed to my industry, to the resource, and, as a citizen, to my community and this state. My life is invested here and I cannot picture doing anything else for a living or living anywhere else. As a family business and boat owner, and as a director of a multimillion dollar seafood business which is wholly American owned and doing business in this state, I cannot abandon my interests or shirk my responsibility to defend them.

I support your bill and I ask that you carefully weigh all the factors going into your legislation and do the morally right thing with the least impact, for the good of the citizens and the resources of this state and this country. We need CSSB 397.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Grant H. Trask

Feb. 25, 1992

Dear Senator Lloyd Jones:

Enclosed is a copy of our letter to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. We are very hopeful that the Board will take action to protect the Troll Fleet and the resident sport fisherman.

We solicit your help on this problem and also whatever help you can give on raising the cap on the U.S. - Canadian King Salmon Treaty.

We also urge your support on H.B. 505 and S.B. 397.

Truly Yours,

Walter E. Nordrup
Rose M. Nordrup
FV Chasina Rose
638 W. Pt. Higgins Rd.
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Board of Fisheries
Division of Boards
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

Feb. 24, 1992

Dear Board of Fisheries Members:

My wife Rose and I have been Alaskan residents since early 1954.

I first came to Alaska and power trolled in 1948-1950.

After moving to Alaska in 1954 we have devoted as much time as we could to both sport fishing and commercial hand trolling along with raising a family and working approximately 30 years at Ketchikan Pulp Company. In 1984 I took early retirement from Ketchikan Pulp Company, bought a power troll permit and boat and went full time to salmon fishing.

During the approximately 44 years that I've been either part or full time in sport and commercial trolling I've observed major changes in both, mostly for the worst. Salmon fishing gradually went down hill in the last 40 years that I am aware of for a number of reasons: Fish traps, creek robbers, overfishing, and fish management out of Washington D.C., foreign interception, and dams on the West Coast rivers to name a few.

The future for fishing, both sport and commercial, looked very bleak until the state and the salmon industry took steps in the 1980's to rebuild the runs. One of the steps was to agree to Limited Entry to the fisheries. Without it we would have been swamped with fishermen from the West Coast as their fisheries has declined. It was a very difficult decision for many fishermen to accept Limited Entry but looking back and looking at the present Halibut fishery it is plain to see where we would be if we didn't have Limited Entry.

I think, without a doubt, that the single brightest aspect of rebuilding the fisheries has been the salmon hatcherys, both FRED and the regional aqua groups. I am extremely proud of the job that SSRAA has done in the Ketchikan area.

Another major step in rebuilding the fisheries has been catch guidelines and the Pacific Salmon Treaty. The results of all efforts combined has been almost unbelievable. Catch rates for salmon in Alaska has increased approximately four fold.

Success has not come without severe problems for the troll fleet. In fact there is no future for the troll industry unless we can solve two problems. One is the Pacific Salmon Treaty cap on King salmon. The other of course is the tremendous growth of the Charter Fleet which is putting a serious roadblock on the King Salmon Quota.

I realize you as a Board cannot change the first problem but action by you on the second problem is probably our only hope.

To date the Charter industry shows no interest in helping raise salmon to offset what they catch or to accept the responsibility of Limited Entry or some other method of controlling their growth. Their response has been to try and build a big enough power base to take it all. This attitude in the end could result in the loss of the Troll fisheries as well as the eventual loss of the hatcheries.

In my opinion the only way to change this attitude is to control the amount of King salmon the Charter fleet is allowed along with the rest of the gear users. They would suddenly realize the bucket is not bottomless and become more receptive to Limited Entry.

Any action you take should not penalize the true resident sport fishermen. He is not the problem.

The major part of my wife and my life's savings are tied up in our power troller and Limited Entry power permit. My father was a troller before me and we have two sons who are trollers. Please help us preserve a way of life and our livelihood.

Sincerely,

Walter E. Matthews

Rose M. Matthews

F. L. Ciasma

638.0. Pt. Higgins Rd

Ketchikan, Alaska 99901



TELECOPY COVER SHEET

Kenai Peninsula Legislative Information Office

PHONE: (907) 262-9384
FAX: (907) 262-1881

TO: Juneau L.I.O.

ATTN: Sen. Resources FAX #: _____ PHONE # _____

FROM: Soldotna L.I.O. PHONE #: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: please deliver to Committee for testimony
on SB 397

DATE: 2-28-92 TIME: 1:45

DISCARD ORIGINALS: HOLD FOR PICKUP: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES (NOT COUNTING COVER SHEET): 1

TRANSMITTED BY: Wester

PLEASE NOTE: FOR MULTI-PAGED DOCUMENTS, ALL ODD NUMBERED PAGES WILL BE TRANSMITTED FIRST, THEN EVEN NUMBERED.

Opposed

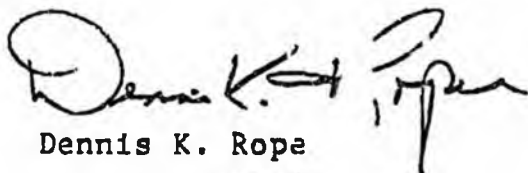
SENATE BILL 397
RESOURCES COMMITTEE HEARING
FEBRUARY 28, 1992

Mr. Chairman,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 397. My name is Dennis Roper, I reside within the Kenai Peninsula Borough and my home is located on the Kenai River.

Mr. Chairman, I would request the record show that I oppose the passage of Senate Bill 397 and urge the Members of the Resource Committee to review closely the written comments offered by the "Cook Inlet Professional Sports Fishing Association" (CIPSA) with regards to this issue.

Thank you Mr. Chairman,



Dennis K. Roper

P. O. Box 4234

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

(907) 262-6577



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources
committee name
committee on SB 397, dated _____
bill/subject

WRITTEN TESTIMONY SENATE BILL 397

We of the Sitka Charter Boat Association are totally against Senate Bill 397 and feel it is not only blatantly discriminating, but self serving as well.

Licensed Sportfishermen fish from Charter Boats. That license entitles these Sportfishermen to fish by the same method, means, dates and bio-mass as other Sportfishermen. Even the erroneous term "guided sport" shows the draftee even knew there was no difference between our customers and any other Sportfishermen. Further, the Board of Fish already has regulatory authority under the "Sport" heading.

You should be aware that as a Commercial Troller Senator Eliason seeks to separate Charter Boats out of a very powerful Sportfish Lobby. Divide and conquer is the plan not something positive for the state of Alaska. Senator Eliason is a fine man. However, his judgement is clouded on this issue by a very real conflict of interest.

Thank you for taking time to consider our view. Further input can be obtained by contacting the Sitka Charter Boat Association through Mr. Jay B. Myer, 104A Sunset Way, Sitka, Ak. 99835, phone 907-747-3624.

Signed: _____

Jay B Myer
Testifier

Sitka Charter Boat Assoc.

Representing (Optional)

104A SUNSET WY SITKA, AK.

Address

747-3624

Phone No.



ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL, INC.

P O Box 34097
Juneau, AK 99803
463-3830

February 26, 1992

The Honorable Lloyd Jones, Chair
Senate Resource Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Jones:

The Alaska Outdoor Council would like to express its opposition to SB397.

The Alaska Outdoor Council is a statewide coalition of outdoor users, hunters and fishers, representing over 50 organizations. It is not often that you will find us involved in disagreements with the commercial fishing industry, but the present legislation has considerable potential for affecting sport fishermen throughout the state, and we feel strongly that those interests should be represented here.

On the face of it, SB397 seems simple and innocuous. The effects on sport fishing charters and marine sport fishing would likely be anything but that. Simply put, this is one effort being made by the commercial trolling industry to curtail the recreational take of salmon, particularly king salmon. Adding "guided sport fishing" in statute to the list of separate user groups for allocation of the fishery resource would clearly imply that the legislature intends that the Board of Fisheries allocate specific amounts of the fishery to this use, and that they apply methods and means, seasons and gear restrictions to this group that differ from those applied to other sport fisheries. While the initiative for this action arises in Southeast, it should be noted that this legislation would affect citizens statewide, notably in Prince William Sound and the Homer Cook Inlet area.

Clients of charter fishing boats are sport fisherpersons, largely (although not entirely) nonresidents. These people are a large and important segment of our tourist industry, and Department of Fish and Game data indicate that each salmon caught by these tourists brings many times more to the state's economy than do fish caught

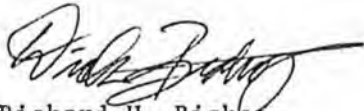
Lloyd Jones, page 2

for commercial purposes. Curtailing charter fishing or applying different restrictions to them than to other sport fishers would likely have an adverse effect on tourism and considerably confuse the entire picture for all marine sport fishing in the state.

We are aware that problems exist in the charter boat industry. Many of these would be alleviated with better enforcement of the laws we have, rather than adding additional laws. Increased compliance with state and Coast Guard regulations would benefit everyone. Finally, it should be noted that alleged abuse of bag limits, etc. at large fishing resorts would not be affected by this bill, because they do not charter, but offer bare-boat rental.

We appreciate your consideration of our views and comments.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Bishop
Legislative Affairs
Alaska Outdoor Council



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

DATE: 2/28/92

Please accept the enclosed original(s) of written testimony
for the Senate Resources teleconference hearing that was
scheduled on 2/25/92.

A copy of this testimony was transmitted to your committee via
fax on 2/28/92.

Thank you,

E. Clemon M-S 210

4 @ pages



28 February 1992

Senate Resource Committee

Re: SB 397

Dear Sirs and Madam;

I am opposed to SB 397. Why do we need a guided sportfishing category? How is this going to affect the many residents that use sportfishing guides? According to the Owsichuk Decision, the guide and the client are completely equal in regards to common use, the Supreme Court ruled that guides and their clients are both common users. According to the Ostrosky Decision, the Supreme Court ruled that limited entry commercial fishing is not common use. Therefore, all sport fishing, guided or unguided, is common use and entitled to allocations *prior* to commercial fishing and second only to subsistence or personal use. Please stop SB 397. If the committee's desire is to regulate the sport fishing industry to death, passing SB 397 is a step in that direction.

Sincerely

Nick Pierskalla



28 February 1992

Senate Resource Committee

Re: SB 417

Dear Sirs and Madam;

I am opposed to SB 417. Is there any rivers, lakes or streams with anadromous fish habitat that are unimportant? This will eliminate access to many good sport fishing areas unless we use props or air boats. There are no studies linking salmon mortality to jet boat use. The National Park Service has contracted with the University of Alaska for such a study. Please stop SB 417. If the committee's desire is to regulate sport fishing and the sport fishing industry to death, passing SB 417 is a step in that direction.

Sincerely,

Nick Pierskalla

Ken and Lorane
Owsichek's



FISHING UNLIMITED

LODGES

2-28-92

To Resources Committee
Cullen, Eliason, Frank
Halford, Jones, Menard
Zharoff.

Reference SB 397.

Under common use there are no differences between sport or guided sport fishing. If allocations are needed between common users then all commercial fishing affecting these areas must be stopped in order to have enough resources for all common users as limited entry removed commercial fishing from common use in our constitution. Then ~~the~~ commercial fishing should be stopped before allocations are made between common users. Also this bill causes more unrest and separation ~~at~~ between the people of this state. *Keep this bill SB 397*

The Ultimate Alaskan Fishing Experience

Ken and Lorane Owsichek (O-say-check)
P.O. Box 190301 • Anchorage, Alaska 99519-0301



Paul's K... ..
Winter Phone (907) 243-5899 • Fax (907) 243-2473
Summer Phone (907) 761-2312 • Fax (907) 761-2312

Ken and Loraine
Owsichek's



FISHING UNLIMITED
LODGES

To Resources Committee Senate
COTTON, ELIASON, FRANK,
HOLFORD, JONES, MENARD
ZHAROFF.

Reference SB 417 - a jet boat in 12
inches or less of water causes less damage
then a prop or even a person walking
in the river. Lets get Serious! Next
we wont be able to walk up or down our
streams, while the commericad fishing
industry is hauling in all our fish,
and protecting the spawning beds for
a non-common user. Our Fish and water
resources are guaranteed to us under
our constitution as well as access.
Hell this stupid bill.

Ken
Loraine

The Ultimate Alaskan Fishing Experience

Ken and Loraine Owsichek (O-say-chek)



Winter Phone (907) 243-5899 • Fax (907) 243-2473
Summer Phone (907) 781-2213 • Fax (907) 781-2244



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources Comm. et al.
committee name

committee on CS SB 397, dated 2/29/92
bill/subject

As a local Resident Sport Fisherman
I support Bill # 397. I do not
support any Chinook Allocations for the Resident
Sport Fisherman. I also think that so kind
of Restrictions should be made on how
many fish a non-resident could take per year.

Signed: [Signature] Row RANDALL
Ketchikan, Alaska
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources
committee name

committee on SB 397, dated 3/2/92
bill/subject

There needs to be an allocation to address the guided sport fishery because, if large numbers of king salmon are heading out-of-state, sometimes to commercial market, being dropped on docks in waste, and/or other mismanagement practices, and upsetting Alaska Commercial Hand Trollers by heading into Hand Troller drags, fishing in front of Hatteries, coming out looking for Hand Trollers at site for their business purposes, using abusive language on the radio band, severely depleting stock of fish to be caught according to Treaty w/ Canada, ^{then SB 397 needs to be in place.} I am against making the Alaskan Hand Trollers to become unemployed and their ^{in the process of new statute structure in this current blatant} imbalance.

Signed: Caroline J. Dementiip
Testifier

Self

Representing (Optional)

HC 30-5569 NE Wasilla, AK 99657

Address

373-5569

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources Committee
committee name

committee on CSSB 397, dated 2-29-92

bill/subject

My Name is Robbie T. Whitton

As a local Resident Sport Fisherman I agree with Bill # 397. I think the Guided Sport Fishery should should Be Allocated in its own Group separate from the Local Resident Sport Fisherman. And Also I think the Non-Resident Sport Fisherman should come under different Fishing Regulations, as in smaller limits and how many fish the Non-Resident Sport Fisherman can take
PERRANNUM

Signed: Robbie T. Whitton

Testifier

Local Resident Sport Fisherman

Representing (Optional)

3812 Denali POB 7532 KTN. AK. 99901

Address

907-225-5680

Phone No.



STATE OF ALASKA

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

DATE: February 28, 1992

Please accept the enclosed original(s) of written testimony
for the Sea Resources teleconference hearing that was
scheduled on 2/28/92.

A copy of this testimony was transmitted to your committee via
fax on 2/28/92.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jimmie Patton".

KETCHIKAN LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE
352 FRONT STREET
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901
225-9675



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the RESOURCE
 committee name
 committee on ~~HB SB 505~~ 397, dated 2-28-92
 bill/subject

I support SENATE Bill 397. I support
 this Bill because I think with the limited amount
 of allowable chinook salmon catch that is
 legal to catch that the charter boats need
 to share the limited times or catch rates
 with the trolliers. I also don't believe that
 this will do anything but help the true sportsman
 as they should have the entire season to fish.
 I am a trollier and a sport fisherman.

Thank you.

Signed:  DAVID K. OTTE
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Box 3069 KETCHIKAN AK 99901

Address

225-7814

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resource
committee name

committee on SB 397, dated 3-2-92
bill/subject

I disagree with S.B. # 397 I don't think we need more fish allocation on sport fish sport fish is a growing industry in this state and we don't need to hamper the growth of this industry and cause more friction between the comm fish and sport fish. I agree that we have to protect both industries but not this way

Signed: *Pat McKay*
Testifier

SAF Charter Boat Capt
Representing (Optional)

PO BOX 2053
Address

Phone No.

T (): Senate Resources

Fax 465-8864

From James Erickson Sr.
Box 366
Hoonah, AK

945-3294

Fax 945-3517

I support legislation.

X James Erickson

X Mary J Erickson

March 2, 1992
Hoonah, Ak. 99829

Senator Dick Ellason
rm 111 capitol
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Dear Senator Ellason,

Excuse my language but I was never so pissed off when I learned of the Dept. of Fish & Games stand on the Chinook, charter fleet and commercial troll issue. I can't say I was surprised; I believe it gives credit to the cynical phrase "Juneau Dept. of Fish & Game". So much of what they do seems to serve Juneau best.

It seems their latest vendetta is to promote the charter Fleet, alias "sportsman" as some sort of perfect fishery; so good, that we should all accept it with open arms. We will never apologize but, not all of us have that same sentiment.

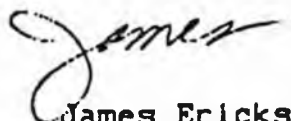
Senator Ellason, I believe you know the story so I'll try to spare the detail. I probably have most info promoted by the ADF&G, Juneau Territorial Sportsman, and various other people involved in the controversy; you may have the same. Of course, its all slanted. It's been determined that Salmon are far more valuable as a sport-caught fish. Often, there's jublance, so phrased that everyone is supposed to be thrilled. HOLD ON ONE MINUTE!! There's two sides to every story.!. We're not tourist towns. We won't be for a long time. I'm talking about places like Pelican, Elfin Cove, Hoonah, Angoon, the list goes on. We have no direct connection to the tourist. These wonderful studies say nothing about whats to happen to us. People should know about this incredible injustice!

Sometimes I feel envious of the jobs available in other towns: all those State jobs in Juneau, pulp mill jobs in Sitka, saw mill jobs of Wrangell, Kethikan etc. I can't describe the pain I feel when someone is threatening what little I have as a member of a fishing community.

In consideration of the above maybe you can understand my anger when Territorial Sportsman ran an ad to rally the general public against us...People, can't we fight for a common cause? There are issues that are of interest to us all. At this very minute there is hundreds of miles of driftnet out there, catching your fish. Did you know about the so called "American trawl fleet"? These guys are no strangers to a king salmon. We have common problems. How about our own men in charge? They seem to think there's a shortage of King Salmon out there! Who do they work for? What is this quota business anyway - a money source for the Dept. or something?

Us small towns are continually getting screwed and we're damn tired of it! Its been said "You can't fool all of the people all of the time". Senator, I believe we're serving notice.

Sincerely



James Erickson Jr.
PO Box 366
Hoonah, Ak. 99829
945-3294

cc:

Ata

Jerry Mackle

Juneau Empire

Carl Rosler

Sealaska Corp.

Anyone who cares more
about people & less
about money

March 2, 1992
Hoonah, Ak. 99829

Rep. Jerry Mackie
Rm 110 Capitol
PO Box V
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Dear Jerry,

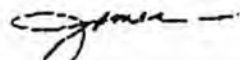
My letter to our friend, Senator Dick Eliason, is as much you as it is for him. Maybe you can relate to some of what is said; considering you're a fisherman and come from a small town yourself.

I remember, as I'm sure you do to, during your stop in Hoonah campaigning, you and I talked of the fisheries. I especially remember my interest came to "full attention" when you said you were a seine boat skipper and were from Craig. My personal thoughts immediately told me "We have alot in common". Our topic seemed to focus on how the small towns are getting the short end, maybe not intentionally, but you might say we are being robbed by what can only be termed the "legal way". Well Jerry, sh-t happens and we're "still" on the receiving end. I can point to IFQ's and this troll issue for confirmation.

On another note, Governor Hickel on his campaign trail said (only like Hickel can) "I'm going to bring the fisheries back to Alaska, where they belong". Somehow I got a warm feeling from this. To me it meant "maybe someone sees it the way I do". My thoughts were maybe Hickel will bring the fisheries back to Alaska and more importantly, to the fishing town, where they belong! Well, I'll spare the detail but IFQ's and this charter-boat stuff doesn't fit the campaign "rhetoric".

We can't afford to be stepped on anymore.

Best Regards,



James Erickson Jr.
PO Box 366
Hoonah, Ak. 99829
945-3294

cc: AIA
Sealaska Corp.
Anyone else who cares
about us.



Alaska
Trollers
Association

130 Seward St., No. 213
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-9400

February 29, 1992

Senate Resources Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Committee Members:

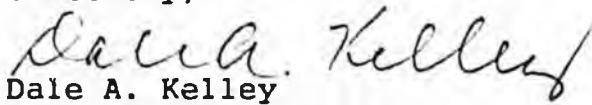
The Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) would like to issue their strong support for SB 397, which seeks to identify guided sport as a separate user group for allocative purposes under AS 16.05.251(e).

ATA recognizes the importance of sportfishing to Alaska's tourism industry. However, we are concerned about the recent, accelerated expansion of the unregulated guided sportfishing industry, and its potential to adversely impact commercial trollers and resident sportfishermen. At its present rate of growth, it is not unlikely that guided sport operations will soon be capable of harvesting a significant portion of each years U.S./Canada Treaty chinook quota. Without clearly defined management tools in place, commercial fishermen and traditional sport anglers are at risk of being displaced by an up and coming industry.

Our understanding is that SB 397 does nothing more than provide the Board of Fisheries some added flexibility when selecting allocative prescriptions for Alaska's fisheries. Simply enacting this piece of legislation does not mandate the Board of Fisheries to take any particular action. Any change in allocation strategies around the state will still occur only at the Board's discretion, through the full public process. ATA could not support such a bill if we believed otherwise.

We urge you to support SB 397 and move it through the system posthaste. The Board of Fisheries should be granted every means available to allocate in a fair and equitable manner between the diverse users of our fisheries resource.

Sincerely,


Dale A. Kelley
Executive Director

Mar. 2, 1992

Senator Lloyd Jones,

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to the Board of Fish.

I would hope S.B. 397 comes out of your committee with a positive recommendation.

As a long time sport fisherman I resent my past time being capitalized on by a charter business which they remain classified as "sport". Any business is most definitely commercial and should not enjoy the largely unregulated classification of sport. The growth of the charter fleet is growing at such a rate

I fear for all sport
fisheries, King, coho and
bottomfish alike.

Please help us get
a grip on this industry
before it ruins sport
fishing back to the
levels of the 1970s.

The last few years
most all the salmon we
have been able to catch
hatchery fish. The same
must hold true on the
charter boats. It would
be devastating for all
fishermen to lose the
hatchery fish.

Please recommend.

S.B. 397.

Sincerely,
Laura Huffman
126 Peter Rd N.
Hatchikan, AK 99901



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources
committee name
committee on SB 397, dated March 2, 1992
bill/subject

See attached

Signed: George Eliason
Testifier
/
Representing (Optional)
102 Kuhnle Dr. Sitka AK 99835
Address
747-6817
Phone No.

Board of Fisheries
Division of Boards
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, Ak. 99802-5526

Dear Board of Fisheries Member:

As someone who was raised with sport fishing as a principal means of recreation it is very important to me to address the allocation issue.

After years of decreasing salmon runs it has been heartening in the past few years to see the strength of the run increase so dramatically. We attribute this increase to the efforts of SSRAA and FRED. Therefore it is very important to us that the trollers and gear groups that support these hatcheries receive the recognition and help they need.

I resent the efforts of the Tongass Sport Fishing Assoc., which the charter boats started and run, to use the sport fishermen as a front for the charter fleet lobby. It is my feelings when someone takes out a business license, advertises, and begins to make money at an enterprise they are a commercial venture. The charter fleet says they are not selling salmon but boat space, gear, and experience. I doubt very much that people pay \$50 - \$150 per person for a boat ride.

It is very plain the charter boat fleet is the fastest growing, unregulated fishing industry in Southeast Alaska. The amount of fish they are taking from Southeast waters increases alarmingly with each passing year and the addition of 100 new charter boats in 2 years is not a comfort to sportfishermen.

I urge the Board to recognize the efforts of the charter fleet to hide behind the sport fishing public and to use scare tactics to gain uneducated sport fishermen's support. Make the charter boats accountable as a commercial gear group and support the trollers!

Sincerely,

Laura A. Huffine

Laura Huffine
126 Potter Road N.
Ketchikan, AK 99901

P.S. If the trollers are such a threat to sport fishermen why is it I cannot find any bottomfish as I could just 8 - 10 years ago? Could it be the fact that charter boats have targeted that halibut or red snapper hole six or seven days a week, for months on end!

I support Senate Bill #396 and urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

A commercial entity is one that sells a product or a service--charter vessels may not be selling fish, but they are certainly selling a service, with the intent of making a profit--that makes them a commercial entity.

Again, please vote in favor of SB #396.

Karleen C. Kiffer
630 North Point Higgins Rd
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-247-2680

Karleen C. Kiffer
2/29/92

1

I would like to go on the Senate record in support of SB 396. I have been a fisherman (sport, hand troll, and presently power troll), and am very concerned about the increasing pressure being put on our King Salmon Fishery by the uncontrolled charter fleet.

Kenneth J. Kiffer
630 N. Ft. Higgins Rd
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-247-2680

KJK
2-29-92



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the RESOURCES
committee name

committee on SB 397, dated 3-2-92
bill/subject

Gentlemen,
I would like included in the
Record that our Company opposes SB 397.

Thank you

Jack M. Willis

Signed: Jack M. Willis Jack M. Willis
Testifier

ALASKA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INC
Representing (Optional)

MC-37 Box 1525-75 WASILLA, AK 99654
Address

907-745-7002 - 746-1666
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resource
committee name

committee on S.B. 397, dated 3-2-92
bill/subject

on page -1-, line 10, 60 years to 55 years of age

Signed: Caroline J. Domestieff
Testifier

self
Representing (Optional)

HC30-5569 NE Wasilla AK 99654
Address

373-5569
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Resource Committee
committee name

committee on Senate Bill # 397, dated March 2, 1992.
bill/subject

I oppose this bill because I feel it is a highly discriminating proposal limiting the ability for the average angler to access the many remote areas where fish congregate. 85% of my clients are Alaskan residents who have limited time, knowledge, & equipment to provide their families with fish throughout the winter. In essence, I am a transportation service to them. If this bill were to pass, there would be an increase of inexperienced boaters on the waters to provide for themselves. This is going to increase the danger for the average boater, and professional boaters, as people with no/limited knowledge hit the waters in force. Alaskan waters are dangerous enough already, without

Signed: Leslie S. Vail

Testifier

Dr. Hook Fishing Charters

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 521471, Big Lake, AK 99652

Address

892-7377

Phone No.

people who don't feel confident w/ their own knowledge or skills.



STATE OF ALASKA
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

DATE:

3/2/92

Please accept the enclosed original(s) of written testimony
for the State Resources teleconference hearing that was
scheduled on 3/2/92.

A copy of this testimony was transmitted to your committee via
fax on 3/2/92.

Thank you,

Mat-Su L10