RC 019

Re: Proposal 5-5 ACC 55.023

Via Fax 907-465-6094

I'm writing in opposition of Proposal 5-5 ACC 55.023 to exclude sport fishers from fishing within 100' seaward of the Main bay Hatchery barrier net.

I have been sport fishing/snagging in Main Bay since 2004. It is one of the few areas in PWS to snag. It seems in recent years that the commercial openers have already gotten longer — the last several years they have included most of the weekend (closing Sat midnight) which makes it even harder for the sport fishers. In my opinion PWSAC's issues with sport fishers are relatively minor and should be considered part of normal operations when operating a hatchery in an established sport fishing area. This proposal would essentially shut down the existing sport fishery in Main Bay. This proposal is particularly egregious when one considers that PWSAC's considers it's mission to produce hatchery raised salmon for "commercial, sport, personal use and subsistence fisheries in PWS and Copper River regions".

I am also interested to see that ADF&G's Regulations and Board Process and Board of Fisheries actually works when entertaining PWSAC proposal. Per my interpretation is PWSAC's mission to support both commercial and sport fisheries. If ADF&G's process is followed and it is the BOF responsibility to allocate resources between user groups and develop both commercial and sport fisheries, Proposal 5 – 5 ACC 55.023 would have to be denied. It is my understanding that the BOF is responsible for allocating resources between user groups. Proposal 5-5 ACC 55.023 does not do that and should be denied.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jane Heisel M.D.

Anchorage, Ak