

November 28, 2014

RC 022

Proposal 5 – 5 ACC 55.023

Via fax: 907-465-6094

I am opposed to Proposal 5 – 5 ACC 55.023 to exclude sport fishers from fishing inside Alaska Fish and Game regulatory markers approximately 100 feet seaward of the Main Bay Hatchery barrier net.

In my opinion PWSAC's issues with the sport fishery in Main Bay are minor and should be considered part of normal operations when operating a hatchery in the same location as an established sport fishery. PWSAC's issues appear particularly minor when compared to their solution which would essentially shut down the existing sport fishery in Main Bay.

I am relatively new to Alaska and therefore my family has only fished in Main Bay for the last 6 years. I have tried snagging other areas of Main Bay but have only been successful when snagging at the Main Bay Hatchery barrier net.

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 it 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.**

Following are my references:

From the **ADF&G website:**
Regulations and Board Process

Alaska's process for enacting fish and wildlife regulations is an outstanding example of an open public process. The ***structure ensures that a wide range of needs and values are addressed*** through a high level of public involvement and scrutiny. In addition, the administrative framework helps ***ensure that pressures from specific interest groups do not influence the departments' job*** to sustainably management fish and wildlife. Learn more...

Board of Fisheries Website:

The Board of Fisheries (BOF) is responsible for considering and adopting ***regulations to allocate resources between user groups***; establish fish reserves and conservation areas, fishing seasons, quotas, and bag limits size restrictions, means and methods, habitat protection, stock enhancement; ***and to develop commercial, subsistence, sport and personal use fisheries***. The enabling statute for the BOF is AS 16.05.251.

PWSAC's website indicates their mission includes sport fishing...

PWSAC produces hatchery-born, ocean-raised wild salmon ***for the commercial, sport, personal use and subsistence fisheries*** in the Prince William Sound and Copper River regions.

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