

To the board of fish (Prize William sound shellfish)

My name is Patrick Johnson & I live on the Kenai peninsula for the last 35 years. I have been buying and selling Alaska shrimp (and other sea food) for the past 12 years in Alaska to Alaskans. I sell thousands of pounds of Alaska shrimp every year. I have seen many managed wildlife programs over the years, & the system we have for the managed commercial spot shrimp in P.W.S. is one of the best that I have ever seen!! Pot limits are low which keeps the big boys out, (this keeps Japan out) Quotas are about half that of the sport catch. Also this gives a great fresh delivery. My estimate is about 75% of these shrimp stay in Alaska and are bought & consumed by Alaskans. Three different geographical areas that can only be fished once every 3 years, plus limits within the area that close down a zone if it's determined to many are being taken.

Lots of Alaskans are able to go out and catch their own shrimp and this is great, I am glad we can do it. However lots of Alaskans cannot go and catch their own or do not want to afford the equipment or the time to go do it, and only have the chance to sample our spot shrimp by buying it & this is the value of our commercial spot shrimp fishery. There are some that say there should be no commercial spot fishery because they cannot be as effective with 5 pots as the commercials with there 20 to 40 pots, guess what, the last time I checked anyone with 75.00 dollars and the willingness to go through the paperwork & restrictions that A.D.F & G require could participate. It sounds a little like sour grapes to me. I wish other commercial fisheries were constructed & managed as well as the P.W.S. commercial spot shrimp fisheries.

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