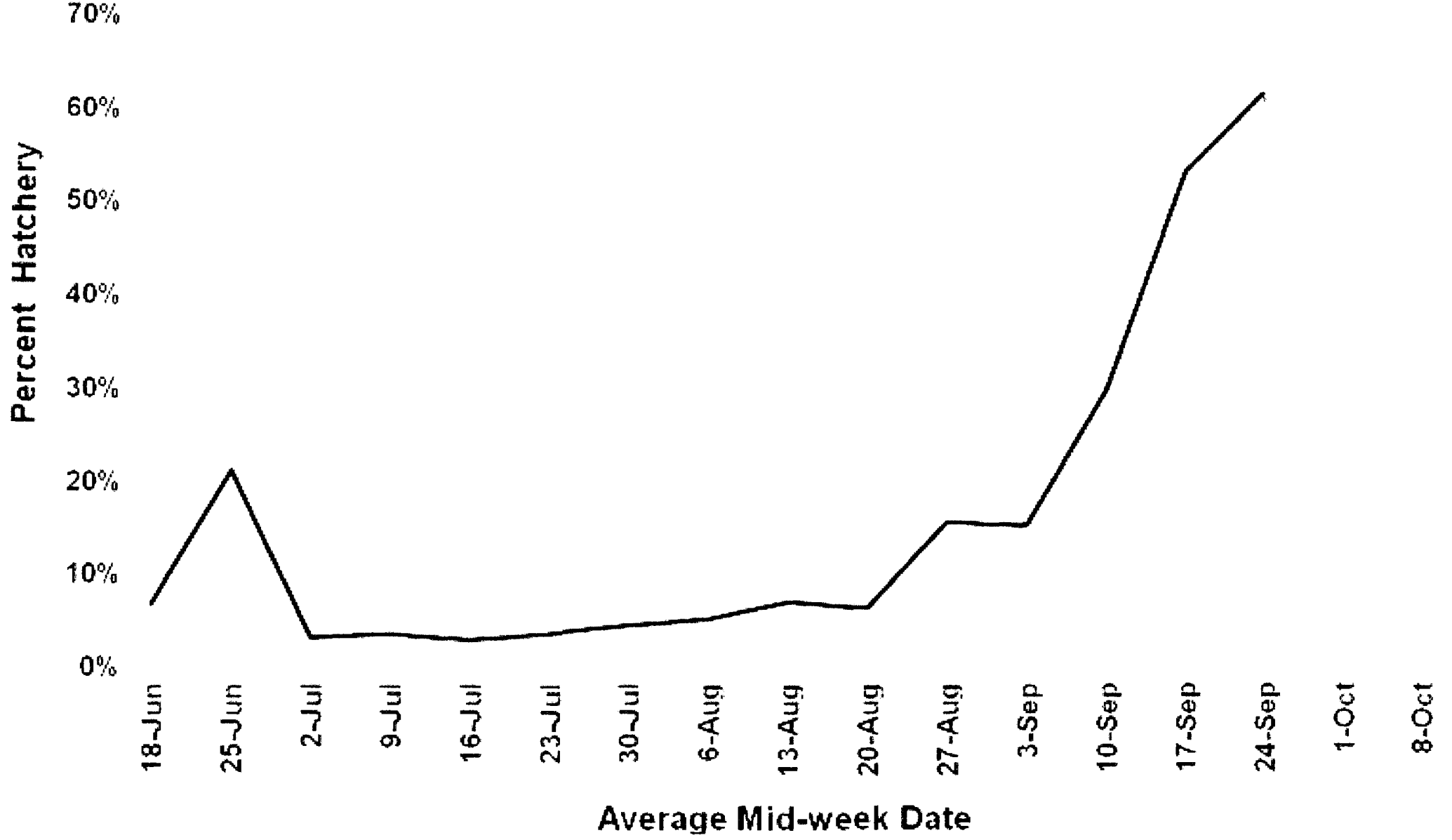


RC44

Submitted by Mike Rugo From Westgate II
**Median Percent Hatchery in the Coho Salmon Catch
in Traditional and Experimental Troll Fisheries in District 101, 1992-2011**



**Average Percent Hatchery in the Coho Salmon Catch
in Traditional Drift Gillnet Fisheries in Southern Southeast, 1992-2011**

Percent Hatchery

80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%

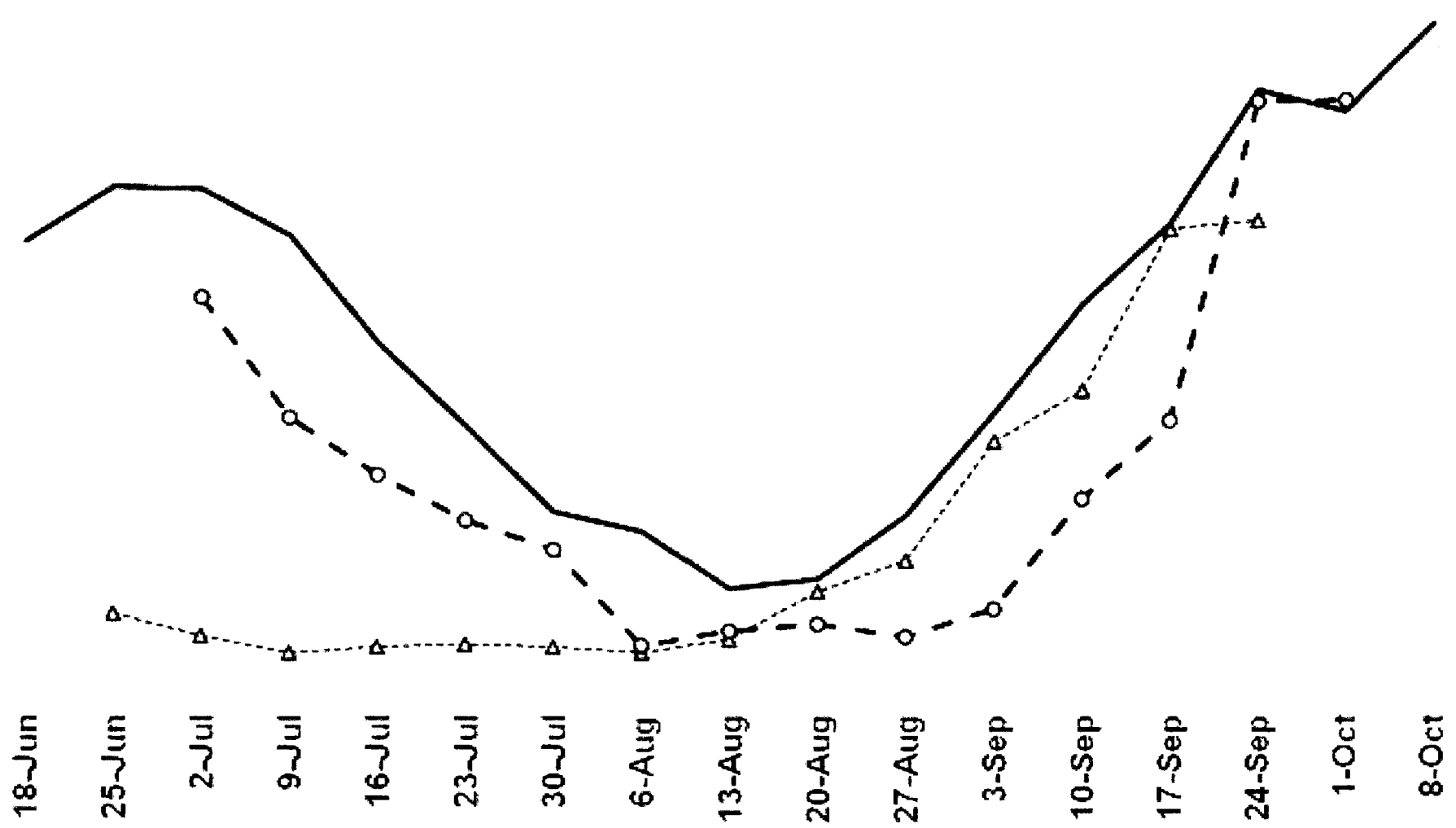
18-Jun 25-Jun 2-Jul 9-Jul 16-Jul 23-Jul 30-Jul 6-Aug 13-Aug 20-Aug 27-Aug 3-Sep 10-Sep 17-Sep 24-Sep 1-Oct 8-Oct

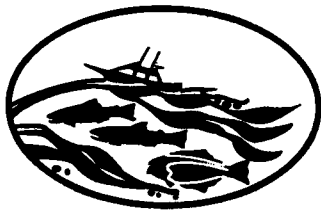
Average Mid-week Date

--- District 101

— District 106

-o- District 108





Petersburg Charter Boat Association
P.O. Box 1507
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Chairman Karl Johnstone
Alaska Board of Fisheries
February/March Finfish Meeting

RE: Proposal 253 Amendment

Mr. Chairman, Board Members,

It seems the real problem that Proposal 253 is trying to address is the sale of sport caught fish in the troll fishery, especially the hand troll fishery. Due to the similarity of gear used in both the sport fishery and commercial hand troll fishery, it is sometimes not clear as to which fishery the vessel is participating in. However the suggested 5 day stand down period is economically punitive and removal/replacement of required vessel markings is not practical.

Enforcement of current regulations prohibiting the sale of sport caught fish may be enhanced by the following suggested amendment without infringing on either gear group from legally participating in their respective fishery.

1) Prohibit sport caught salmon onboard any commercial salmon vessel or in possession by any person while engaged in commercial salmon fishing and

2) Prohibit sportfishing and commercial fishing from the same vessel on the same day

Submitted by,

Stan Malcom
Petersburg Charter Boat Association



Chairman Karl Johnstone
Alaska Board of Fisheries
February/March SE Finfish Meeting

Proposal 216; Amended language establishing bag, possession and annual limit on Blackcod

Chairman Johnstone, Board Members,

As an alternative to a region wide annual limit or no annual limit, why not apply the annual limit only in the area of concentrated harvest as identified in the Department staff presentation?

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons, bag and possession, size and annual limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

() Blackcod (Sablefish) may be taken from January 1 – December 31: **Nonresident bag limit is 4 fish, 4 fish in possession, no size restrictions and no annual limit except, in that portion of NSEI waters identified as Chatham Strait, North of Point Gardner, an 8 fish annual limit will apply.**

Annual limits are an unnecessary burden imposed on every nonresident angler and charter operator when most of the harvest is conducted by a handful of sport fishers and charter operators in a relatively small area of SE.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stan Malcom". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stan Malcom

Submitted by Alaska Department of Fish and Game
February 25, 2012

Substitute language for **Proposal 270**
Removes reference to annual limit for sablefish.

5 AAC 01.730. Subsistence fishing permits.

(a) Eulachon in the Unuk River, and salmon, trout, char, [AND], herring spawn on kelp, **and sablefish** may only be taken under the authority of a subsistence fishing permit.

(l) Sablefish subsistence fishing permits will be issued by the department; only one permit may be issued to a household per year. A permit holder shall record sablefish harvest information on harvest recording forms provided by the department.

5 AAC 77.674. Personal use bottomfish fishery.

(6) Sablefish personal use fishing permits will be issued by the department; only one permit may be issued to a household per year. A permit holder shall record sablefish harvest information on harvest recording forms provided by the department.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
 Southeast Alaska Subsistence and Personal Use Sablefish
 Fishing Permit (Authorization 5 AAC 01.730 and 5 AAC77.674)

General Permit Conditions

1. This permit is available only to Alaskan residents.
2. Only one permit will be issued to a household.
3. Fish taken under this permit may not be bought or sold.
4. This permit applies to the marine waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
5. Subsistence fishing for sablefish is authorized in areas with a positive customary and traditional use finding as defined under regulation. In the absence of customary and traditional findings, personal use regulations apply.
6. The permit holder or designated household member listed on this permit must be present and retain this permit in their possession when fishing.
7. The harvest report must be completed daily prior to the end of the fishing trip, even if no fish were harvested.
8. Subsistence gear authorized under this permit include longline, pot, and mechanical jigging machines, as well as other gear as described in 5 AAC 01.010 and 5 AAC 39.105.
9. Pot gear must include an escape mechanism in accordance with 5 AAC 39.145.
10. Each subsistence fisherman shall plainly and legibly inscribe their first initial, last name, and address on a buoy attached to unattended subsistence fishing gear (5 AAC 01.010).
11. Subsistence fishing for sablefish is prohibited in the Juneau and Ketchikan Non-Subsistence areas defined in 5 AAC 99.015.
12. Personal use fishing is the taking, attempting to take or possession of finfish by an individual for consumption as food or use as bait by that individual or his immediate family. Sablefish taken under personal use regulations may not be used as bait in a commercial fishery.
13. Personal use fishing is limited to individuals possessing a valid resident Alaska sport fishing license and residents exempt from licensing under AS 16.05.400.
14. Sablefish taken under personal use regulations may only be harvested using longline or hand held line. Each personal use fisherman shall plainly and legibly inscribe their first initial, last name, home address, and the name or Division of Motor Vehicle boat registration number of the vessel used to operate the gear on the buoy attached to the gear.

Permit Year _____

(valid January 1- December 31)

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 Physical Address _____
 City/State _____
 Zip Code _____
 Telephone Number _____

Harvest Report: record effort and catch by date in numbers of fish. Additional harvest reporting forms may be obtained if needed.			
Month/Day	Nearst headland or bay	Gear type and amount	Other groundfish by species

Permit No. XXXXX

Sitka Area Office
 304 Lake St. Room 103
 Sitka, AK 99835

Alaska Residency
 (Actual number of years & months as a resident is required)
 Years _____ Months _____
 Determination of Residency (AS 16.05.415): a "resident" means a person who is physically present in Alaska with the intent to remain indefinitely and make a home here, has maintained that person's domicile in Alaska for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding this application for a permit, and is not claiming residency or obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another state, territory, or country.

907-747-6688

I agree to abide by the permit conditions and to record daily harvests. I certify under penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information I have provided on this permit application is true and correct. I understand that failing to comply with reporting requirements makes me ineligible to receive a permit during the following calendar year. (Note: making false statement, or omitting a material fact, is subject to a maximum penalty of \$10,000 or 1 year imprisonment, or both, per AS11.56.210.)

Permittee Signature (not valid until signed) _____ Date _____

Department Representative (not valid until signed) _____ Date _____

This permit must be returned to ADF&G by January 15, 2013, whether you fished or not.

February 25, 2012

Mr. Chairman:

My name is Jim Becker. I have been a Southeast gillnetter for over 40 years. I served on the task force that wrote the plan to allocate enhanced salmon between the seiners, gillnetters and trollers. We finished our work and the Board accepted and approved it in 1994.

I would like to address my comments to proposal numbers 325 and 326.

Those proposals are by the chum trollers asking for additional areas to harvest enhanced chums because of their inability to achieve their percentage goal of enhanced fish.

The plan we wrote had to have a point to gauge the equity for each fleet. We chose value because each fleet was harvesting different salmon species with different prices. Sharing percentages were negotiated based on historical harvest of wild stock and also salmon species make-up of each gear group's historical harvest. We also looked at what species was current and proposed to be produced for each gear group. Chum salmon for the net fleets, seine and gill net, and chinook and coho for the troll fleet.

Because of the historical volume and high value of chinook and coho, trollers received a higher percentage sharing. There was no mention or consideration of trollers harvesting enhanced chum salmon as part of their share of enhanced fish.

I tried to capture in a few short sentences what was a three year effort to develop a plan to allocate enhanced fish. My point is a lot has changed. It is not as simple as reallocating one species away from one fleet to give to another. You can't solve a problem by creating a problem for somebody else.

I am asking the Board to reject all the chum trollers proposals and initiate an independent audit or some other method to review and evaluate the enhanced salmon allocation plan.

Sincerely,

Jim Becker
Juneau, Alaska

Board of Fisheries Southeast/Yakutat Finfish Meeting
February 24 – March 4, 2012 - Ketchikan, Alaska
Public Testimony Sign Up List

Number	Name/Organization	Representing	Subject
1	Aaron Bean	Self	Proposals 273,238,239
2	Mike Peterson	JDAC	BOF comments, AC8
3	Casey Mapes	Yakutat AC	BOF comments AC9
4	Don Westlund	Self	Proposals 248, 206,260
5	Otto Florschutz	Self.	Proposals 292,248
6	Janet Brand	Self	Proposal 337, RC 29
7	Jamie Ross	Self	Sitka Sound Sac Roe Herring
8	Larry Edfelt	Territorial Sportsmen	Juneau area sport fishing
9	Julianne Curry	PVOA	Salmon, Herring, groundfish PC 117
10	Al Wilson	Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Proposal 239, PC 127
11	Lisa Grogan	Naha Conservation	Naha Bay area fisheries
12	Nick Johansen	On behalf of Bill Menish	Proposal 233 (video overhead requested)
13	Ms. Merle Hawkins	Self	Proposal 273
14	Jeff Feldpausch	Self	Proposals 273, 239
15	Ken Jones	Self	Sitka Herring Proposals
16	Steve Merritt	Self	Proposals 311, 314, 317, 326 and 252
17	Mark Roberts	Self	Proposal 310
18	Victoria O'Connell	Self	Sablefish, Rockfish
19	Mayor Dennis Watson	City of Craig	Proposal 312
20	Lee Wallace	Organized Village of Saxman	Sitka Herring Proposals
21	Stan Malcom	Self	Proposal 216

Board of Fisheries Southeast/Yakutat Finfish Meeting
 February 24 – March 4, 2012 - Ketchikan, Alaska
 Public Testimony Sign Up List

Number	Name/Organization	Representing	Subject
22	Thomas Fisher	Self	Proposal 312
23	John Burke	SSRAA	Proposals 315, 331, & 338
24	John Baird	Self	Herring
25	Sara Jankinsky	Self	Sitka Herring
26	Geo James, Jr	Self	Herring, Sockeye, and Hooligan
27	Jim & Rhonda Hubbard	Self	Groundfish
28	Leonard Skeek	Self	Sitka Sac roe
29	Charles Skeek	Self	Sitka Sac roe
30	Justin Peeler	Self	Bait Herring RC-22
31	John Woodruff	Icicle Sea Foods	Proposals 238, 239, 233, & 234
32	Linda Behnken	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Assoc.	Groundfish
33	Chris Guggenbickler	Self	Proposal 340 RC-41
34	Kristen Zarlengo	AITA	Proposal 233 and 234
35	Mike Rugo	Self	Proposal 314 and 312 RC 44
36	Beaver Nelson	Self	Sitka Sac Roe Herring Fishery
37	Pete Lastowski	AITA	Proposals 238, 239, 232, and 233
38	Kathy Hansen	Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance	Salmon, Groundfish (PC 122) RPT Consensus
39	Heath Hilyard	SEAGO	Proposals 210 and 212
40	Martin Gowdy	Self	Proposals 312, 249
41	Richard Yamada	Alaska Charter Assoc.	Proposal 252
42	Dennis Northrup	Self	Proposal 312

Board of Fisheries Southeast/Yakutat Finfish Meeting
 February 24 – March 4, 2012 - Ketchikan, Alaska
 Public Testimony Sign Up List

Number	Name/Organization	Representing	Subject
43	Bryan Howey	Self	Subsistence harvest of Roe on Branches
44	Dana Howey	Self	Subsistence Techniques vs. use of a big boat done in a more organized way for the community.
45	Clay Bezenek	Self	Punch Cards
46	Rhonda Hubbard	Self	Proposals 216, 270, Electric rods
47	Ryan Kapp	Self	PC 65 Proposal 285
48	Casey Mapes	Self	Proposal 206, 310
49	Theresa Allen-Olson	Self	Herring Proposals
50	Sidney Wyman	Self	Blackcod and Herring
51	Bert Bergman	Seafood Producers Coop	Proposals 240, 312, 325, and 326. RC 50
52	Steve Reifentstahl	NSRAA & SHCA	Salmon THA's and Herring
53	Chip Treinen	Self	SE Herring
54	John Duncan	Self	Proposal 273 and 238
55	John M. Scoblic	Ketchikan AC	AC7
56	Chuck Olson	Self	Herring Proposals
57	Dave Otte	Self	Proposals 313, 315, 317 and 312
58	Kenneth McGee	Self	Salmon Troll Area 11 Proposals 284 and 320 RC 52
59	Matt Stroemer	CTA	Proposals 325 and 326 (support)
60	Darrell Kapp	Self	Proposal 285
61	Tanner MacKensiewicz	Self	Proposals 233, 234. 238 and 239
62	Mike Banes	Self	Proposals 273, 239, and 238

Board of Fisheries Southeast/Yakutat Finfish Meeting
 February 24 – March 4, 2012 - Ketchikan, Alaska
 Public Testimony Sign Up List

Number	Name/Organization	Representing	Subject
63	John Carle	Self	Proposals 232, 238, 239, and 273
64	Charles Backus	Self	Herring Proposals
65	Andy Rauwolf	Self	Herring RC 55
66	Troy Denkingh	Self	Sitka Herring
67	Steve Edenshaw	Self	Substance Harvest, Sitka
68	Bob Thortenson	SEAS & Sitka Herring Group	Equal Harvest Share in Sitka Sac Roe Fishery/RPT & SEAS/USAG Agreement
69	Eric Jordeen	Chum Trollers Assoc.	Proposals 325, & 326 PC 17 & 94 RC 17, 54
70	Sean Roberts	Self	Proposal 312
71	Dan Ernhart	Tsiu River Coalition	Proposals 301, 302, and 303
72	Seth Bone	SEAGO	Proposals 210, 212, and other items
73	Charlie Piercy	Self	Troll
74	Collin Martens	Self	Support SEAS Opposed Proposals 285 & 286
75	Kevin Kristovich	Self	Proposals 273, 232-238, 239, 233, & 234
76	Matt Donohoe	Self	Proposals 217, 325, 312 and 221
77	Jeff Wedekind	Self	Proposals 249, 261, and 242
78	Jeff Longridge	Self	Proposal 312
79	Dale Kelley	ATA	Proposal 312, Coho
80	Charles Russell	Self	Herring
81	John Peckham	Self	JRPT Consensus
82	Randy Lantiegne	Petersburg Fisheries/Icicle	Herring/Finfish
83	Russell Thomas	Self	Proposals 141-144

Board of Fisheries Southeast/Yakutat Finfish Meeting
 February 24 – March 4, 2012 - Ketchikan, Alaska
 Public Testimony Sign Up List

Number	Name/Organization	Representing	Subject
84	Bill Auger	Self	Proposals 325, 326, and 319
85	Arnold Enge	Petersburg AC	AC comments to the Board
86	Arnold Enge	Self	Proposals 228, 241, 243, 244, 292 and other
87	Betty Jo Moore	Self	Herring Proposals
88	Jon Hickman	Self	Proposals 238 & 239
89	Richard Riggs	SBS, CEO	Herring Proposals
90	Nels Lynch	Self	Herring Proposals
91	Gary Haynes	Self	Equal Share Sitka Sac Roe
92	Ron Porter	Self	Herring, Equal Split, West Behm Threshold
93	John Olivia	KNPFC	Proposal 341 Support
94	Jolene Edenshaw	Self	Subsistence
95	Tom Gemmell	USAG	Taku Salmon Proposals 299 +
96	Max Worhatch	Self	Salmon
97	John Murry	Self	Personal Testimony Ling Cod & Troll
98	John Murry	Sitka AC	Comments to the Board
99	Dugan Daniels	Self	Troll
100	Tom Sims	Wrangell AC	AC Review
101	Chuck Haydu	Self	Proposals 212, 221, 248, 249, & 276
102	Chuck Haydu	Craig AC	AC 3

My name is Bert Bergman and I am here today for Seafood Producers Cooperative (SPC). I am a life long SE Alaska fisherman, Sitka resident and currently serve on the SPC board of directors. I also helped coauthor troll chum proposals 325 and 326

SPC processes primarily salmon, halibut and blackcod for our 500 member owners. Our sales value is about 40 million dollars, of which around 80% of that comes from production in SE Alaska. Although we mainly process troll salmon we recently started a small gillnet pool. We do custom process herring in Sitka.

The hub of our operation is Sitka, where our plant produces fresh, frozen, and value added seafood. We also have buying operations in Craig, Yakutat, Ketchikan and offer packer service near Port Alexander, Pelican, and Elfin Cove areas. We are always looking for fisheries that can put more money in our members' pockets. Next year we hope to have something in Icy Strait for chum troll salmon.

Too that point we support all proposals that would help trollers get closer to their hatchery allocation. Were conflicts exists, work to find solutions.

SPC helps fund organizations like Alaska Trollers Association, Alaska Longliners Fisherman's Associations, and Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance. Their positions are our positions.

I would like quickly to mention a few proposals.

I would like to support 240 coauthored by our plant manager, Craig Shoemaker. Proposal 240 allows that up to 1000 tons of herring be processed from the Sitka sac roe fishery for bait. It seems inefficient that SPC sometimes imports bait herring all the way from the east coast when our plant sits right next to a herring fishery.

Among trollers there is strong opposition to proposal 312, requiring a ten day coho closure. Data shows that a ten day closure has little impact on percentage of fish in the gillnet fishery. Ocean conditions, availability of rain and individual run characteristics can have a larger impact on when fish move inside. Let ADF&G manage how they see fit. I do find it interesting that SOME gillnetters are quick to call for corrective measures for a coho allocation, which is basically balanced over the long term, but oppose chum proposals that seek to address a larger imbalance in hatchery allocation.

I support chum troll proposals 325 and 326. These proposals were never intended to redirect ADF&G's energy away from hatchery king fisheries. The idea was chum fisheries would be in addition to king openings. I understand ADF&G's concerns about unintended impacts on other wild stocks. The troll fleet is willing to work with department for limited time and areas openings to establish baseline data that can be used in better management. It could be a chum only experimental fishery. We could fish areas with higher hatchery concentrations as determined by ADF&G. Trollers are asking ADF&G to consider changes to status quo management that allow our fleet more oportunities to access chum before July 1. ADF&G has concerns about managing

fisheries for hatchery fish, I understand, but essentially they already do the same thing for the hatchery king salmon fishery. It can be done.

As a student of this process I believe the reason we have a fish to fight over is because we have a public process that allows us to review and adapt with the changes in the fisheries. Although sometimes we differ, we all want a future. In general there is broad support for hatcheries in SE. In fact some are trying to start a new salmon hatchery in Yakutat and I hope they succeed. And although it's currently only practiced in salmon, there is potential for enhancement in everything from king crab to sea cucumbers.

I predict a bright future for fisheries, as global demand for seafood, driven by population expansion, ushers in a golden age. Our challenge is finding ways to work together, with good management, which insure a supply of seafood for the future.

Thank you for your time.

Bert Bergman
801 Charles St.
Sitka, Alaska

ARE THESE PLANS FLUKES?

New tricks for dogs, flats

Careful and cooperative efforts by commercial and recreational fishermen in 2008 finally succeeded in pushing up a downward spiral in the summer flounder fishery. Now they are on track to win a reopening of commercial fishing for spiny dogfish in federal waters on May 1, a turnaround that would give netters 3,000-pound trip bycatch limits and reduce the numbers for a species that have become the scourge of party and charter boat captains.

Commercial fishing groups like the New Bedford, Mass.-based Fisheries Survival Fund got deeply involved in research on monkfish, scallops and surf clams that helped bring convergence between scientists' and fishermen's views of the resources. The 2008 successes with fluke and dogfish showed what the commercial and recreational sectors can do together.

"The germ for involvement on the science side came from the scallop experience," says Ray Bogan, a New Jersey lawyer who works on fisheries issues and is closely involved with the summer flounder and dogfish efforts. "I've said for seven or eight years now, science is power in the context of fisheries."

Dogfish harvests are on track to begin in federal waters May 1, once NMFS acts on recommendations from the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council. "We're looking at an increase from 4 million pounds to 12 million pounds in the coming fishing year, and an increased trip limit from 600 to 3,000 pounds," says Jim

Armstrong, an analyst with the Mid-Atlantic council. One rationale for reopening federal waters beyond three miles is female dogfish tend to stay close to shore, while "males are at a historic high," Armstrong says.

NORTHEAST

Gillnetter Mike Karch of Barnegat Light, N.J. is ready to go. It's common to run into dogfish packs in spring, "and now we can keep that 3,000 pounds and make a little money on it," Karch says.

Mounting evidence of spiny dogfish abundance reached a tipping point in late 2008, says Greg DiDomenico, executive director of the Garden State Seafood Association in New Jersey. "Looking objectively at the science and all the parameters," scientists and officials at NMFS began turning away from a long-held position that it would take years more for dogfish to recover from the 1990s directed fishery, he says.

The Garden State group, along with the party and charter boat association United Boatmen of NY/NJ and other advocates, organized a workshop in Philadelphia last September to discuss possibilities for increasing the dogfish catch. "I'd like to think our outreach and publicity efforts talking about the problem changed their minds," DiDomenico says of NMFS officials. But the change was already under way, he adds.

Says Bogan: "I think we have a new paradigm." The dogfish coalition had been gearing up for a long campaign, modeled on the successful Save the Summer Flounder Fishery Fund and its effort to construc-

Yearbook 2009

tively engage with the stock assessment review process.

The flounder quota was pounded down for years, from 30 million pounds in 2005 to 15.77 million pounds in 2008, at the insistence of NMFS officials and environmental groups who said the fishery was out of control and violating the mandate of Congress to end overfishing. Despite fishermen's reports of abundance, much blame was aimed at the recreational sector — based on federal angler surveys that in turn were criticized as inaccurate.

For a while, recreational groups had eyed the commercial sector's 60 percent share of the quota. But recreational advocates decided the problem lay in the process. After raising money from the recreational and commercial sectors, the summer flounder fund committed around \$100,000 to finance scientific work analyzing flounder data, and hired Mark Maunder, a senior scientist at the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and recognized expert on stock assessment.

Maunder came in with understanding that summer flounder interests were not

looking for a pre-determined conclusion, Bogan says. "We told everyone that if the science doesn't come out well for our point of view, at least we can say we did the right thing," he says. That approach "builds confidence in management" that's been seriously eroded by years of data gaps and politics, he says.

With Maunder's help, stock assessors found previously missed data points and plugged them into their modeling. After a four-day meeting in June 2008, the summer flounder stock assessment committee came up with a sharply downward reckoning of realistic biological targets for the fluke biomass, setting it at 132 million pounds instead of 197 million pounds.

The recalculations concluded that assumptions about aging and natural mortality in the flounder stock had been incorrect. The Mid-Atlantic council bumped the 2009 quota back up to 18.45 million pounds. If the reassessment holds, by 2013 the quota could be back to around 29 million pounds — almost the point when the overfishing numbers game started in 2005. — Kirk Moore



STEVE KENNEDY

Submitted for the Record
Kenneth Milgore PC # 79

RC 52

Special Publication No. 04-15

Southeast Alaska Chinook Salmon Harvests, Harvest Limits, and Annual Deviations from Pacific Salmon Treaty Allocations, 1985 through 2002

by

Dave M. Gaudet,

Scott A. McPherson,

John K. Carlile,

Brian L. Lynch,

Audra L. J. Brase,

Paul M. Suchanek,

Doug M. Eggers,

and

Karen K. Crandall

November 2004

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries



INTRODUCTION

Since 1985, Alaska has managed the Southeast Alaska (SEAK) Chinook fishery under the terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST). The PST requires that the all-gear harvest of Chinook salmon designated as Treaty fish does not exceed a set PST Quota each year. In addition to the Treaty salmon, the PST allows for the unlimited harvest of Alaska hatchery produced Chinook salmon (add-on). Originally, only the commercial troll fishery was managed to ensure that the quota was not exceeded. Beginning in 1987, allocations were set for individual gear types.

This report describes the history of these allocations and the harvest (Chinook caught and kept) by gear type of Treaty and add-on fish since 1985. All data are considered final at this time, though harvest statistics, coded wire tag recovery and other sampling data may change the results slightly in the future.

BACKGROUND

Harvest of Chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska occurs in troll, sport and net fisheries (Table 1). Through 1975, Chinook salmon were targeted in the troll and sport fisheries; and in the District 111, 108, and 106 drift gillnet fisheries targeted spring runs of Chinook salmon bound for the rivers terminating in these districts (Figure 1). Chinook salmon are caught incidental to other species of salmon targeted in the purse seine and gillnet fisheries that occur later in the season. Prior to 1976, other than seasons, scheduled weekly closures, and terminal area closures, there was little direct management to limit or restrict the harvest of Chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska fisheries. In 1976, in response to weak Chinook salmon runs to the Taku River, the troll fisheries in Districts 112, 111, and 115 were restricted or closed during the spring run. In 1976 portions of District 111 in the vicinity of Taku Inlet, were closed to sport fishing during the spring. The District 111 and 106 drift gillnet fisheries were not opened until the third week in June. In 1978, in response to weak runs of Chinook salmon to the Stikine River, the District 106, 108, and 110 troll fisheries were restricted or closed during the spring run and the District 108 drift gillnet fishery was closed until the third week in June.

Quota management for Southeast Alaska Chinook salmon fisheries began in 1980 when the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) imposed guideline harvest levels (GHLs), primarily for the conservation of the Columbia upriver bright stock. There were GHLs from 1980 through 1984. Although GHLs applied to all commercial fisheries, only the commercial troll fishery was actively managed to ensure compliance. The spring drift gillnet fisheries targeting Chinook salmon had already been regulated through time closures beginning in 1976. The purse seine fishery was not considered a large harvester of Chinook salmon. At the time, there was little growth in the sport fishery; with approximately 20,000 Chinook salmon harvested per year.

In 1985, the United States and Canada signed the original Pacific Salmon Treaty, which included provisions for management and conservation of Chinook salmon from 1985-1994. The Treaty Chinook salmon stocks primarily include those that migrate north and are caught in the fisheries of both countries. Implicit in the agreement is a sharing arrangement for Chinook salmon stocks that migrate from the waters off of Washington and Oregon and are caught in Southeast Alaska fisheries (the Baldrige Stipulation). As a part of the initial sharing arrangements for the Chinook salmon fishery in Southeast Alaska and in major Chinook salmon fisheries in Canada, harvest ceilings were established. Ceiling (or quota) fisheries (Table 2) were intended to be

Appendix D1.—Major regulatory actions taken in the management of the Southeast Alaska troll fishery for Chinook salmon over the past 80 years.

Year	Major Regulatory Actions Associated with Management of Southeast Alaska Troll Fishery
Prior to 1924	Congressional Act in 1906 provided for 36 hour per week closure in all waters of Alaska, but very little enforcement was conducted.
Prior to 1950	Troll fishery was unlimited by area restrictions and continued year round. Trollers were limited to 4 lines in Territorial waters. In 1941, a minimum size of 6 lbs. dressed weight for Chinook salmon was implemented. In 1941, Burroughs Bay was closed to trolling from 8/16-10/5.
1950	"Outside" waters were closed from 10/31 to 3/15. Portions of northern Lynn Canal were closed from 5/31 to 6/25. Northern Behm Canal was closed from 5/1 to 7/15.
1951	Chinook salmon size limit was modified to either 6 lbs. dressed weight or 26 inches in fork length.
1958	Additional area restrictions were imposed with the closing of portions of Stephens Passage.
1959	Trolling was prohibited in Stikine Strait south of Vank Island during November and December.
1960	Trollers were limited to 4 fishing lines and use of single hooks in State waters and "outside" waters were closed from 11/1 to 4/15.
1962	A portion of northern Behm Canal was closed to trolling. Trolling was limited to one day per week in Districts 11A and 11B from late April to mid-June.
1965	The District 8 troll season was open only during days the gill net fishery was open during the gill net season.
1970	Trolling in Yakutat Bay was restricted to the same days as the set net fishery was open.
1971	Trolling was limited to one day per week in District 111, District 112 north of Point Couverden and District 115C from 5/1 to the 3 rd Sunday of June.
1973	Yakutat Bay was opened to winter troll fishing.
1974	All State waters north and west of Cape Suckling were closed to troll fishing.
1975	Power trolling was placed under limited entry with 940 permits allowed.
1976	District 11, District 12 north of Point Couverden, and Districts 15B and 15C were closed to trolling from 4/16 to 6/14. District 11A was closed to trolling from 4/16 to 8/14.
1977	Federal waters of the Fishery Conservation Zone west of Cape Suckling were closed to troll fishing. The Chinook salmon minimum size length was increased to 28 inches. Waters in east Behm Canal and in Boca de Quadra were closed to troll fishing.
1978	The eastern Sumner Strait portions of District 6 and adjoining District 8 were closed to trolling from 4/16 to 6/14. The northern Clarence Strait portion of District 6 and adjoining District 8 were closed to trolling from 4/16 to 8/14. District 8 was closed to trolling from 4/16 to the third Monday in June. The southern Frederick Sound portion of District 10 and adjoining District 8 was closed to trolling from 4/16 to 6/14.
1979	A 8-day "on" and 6-day "off" fishing period was implemented for the troll fishery in Districts 12 north of Point Hepburn and in Districts 14, 15A and 15C. Districts 11A and 11B were closed to trolling all year. "Outside" waters were closed to hand trolling.
1980	First of the annual management targets was established for the harvest of Chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska (SEAK) by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC); a guideline harvest level (range) of 286,000 to 320,000 Chinook salmon in the commercial fishery. Limited entry for hand trolling was implemented, 2,150 permits were issued, 1,300 of them as non-transferable permits. The number of lines allowed to be fished in the Federal Conservation Zone was limited to 4 lines per vessel south of Cape Spencer and 6 lines per vessel between Cape Spencer and Cape Suckling with a limit of 6 operational gurdies. A 10-day Chinook salmon non-retention period for the troll fishery from 6/15 to 6/24 was implemented and a 9/21 to 9/30 closure of the troll fishery was implemented.
1981	Guideline harvest level (range) of 272,000 to 285,000 Chinook salmon was established by BOF. The NPFMC however set the guideline level (range) at 243,000 to 286,000 Chinook salmon. The troll fishery was closed from 4/15 to 5/15 for conservation of mature Chinook salmon spawners of local origin. A 6/25 to 7/5 Chinook salmon non-retention period was implemented. A troll fishery closure from 8/10 to 8/19 was implemented. A 9/4 to 9/12 Chinook salmon non-retention period was implemented. The Federal Conservation Zone was closed from 8/10 to 9/20 except in Yakutat Bay. With the exception of Yakutat Bay, the troll fishery was closed from 9/21 to 9/30. A winter Chinook salmon troll fishing season was established from 10/1 to 4/14, a summer troll fishing season was established from 4/15 to 9/20. Portions of District 116 were included in waters open to the winter troll fishery. Hand troll gear was limited to 2 gurdies or 4 fishing poles and the hand troll closure in "outside" waters was repealed.
1982	BOF and the NPFMC set a guideline harvest level of 257,000 Chinook salmon, with a range from 243,000 to 286,000 Chinook salmon (including an estimated 1,500 Chinook salmon produced by Alaskan hatcheries). The troll fishery was closed from 5/15 to 6/14. A Chinook salmon non-retention period from 6/7 to 6/17 and from 7/29 to 9/19 was implemented. Undersized Chinook salmon with adipose finclips were allowed to be retained by troll fishermen so long as the heads were submitted to ADFG.

-continued-

RC 53

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
February 25, 2012

Photographs of the Tsiu River fishery

Tsivat River

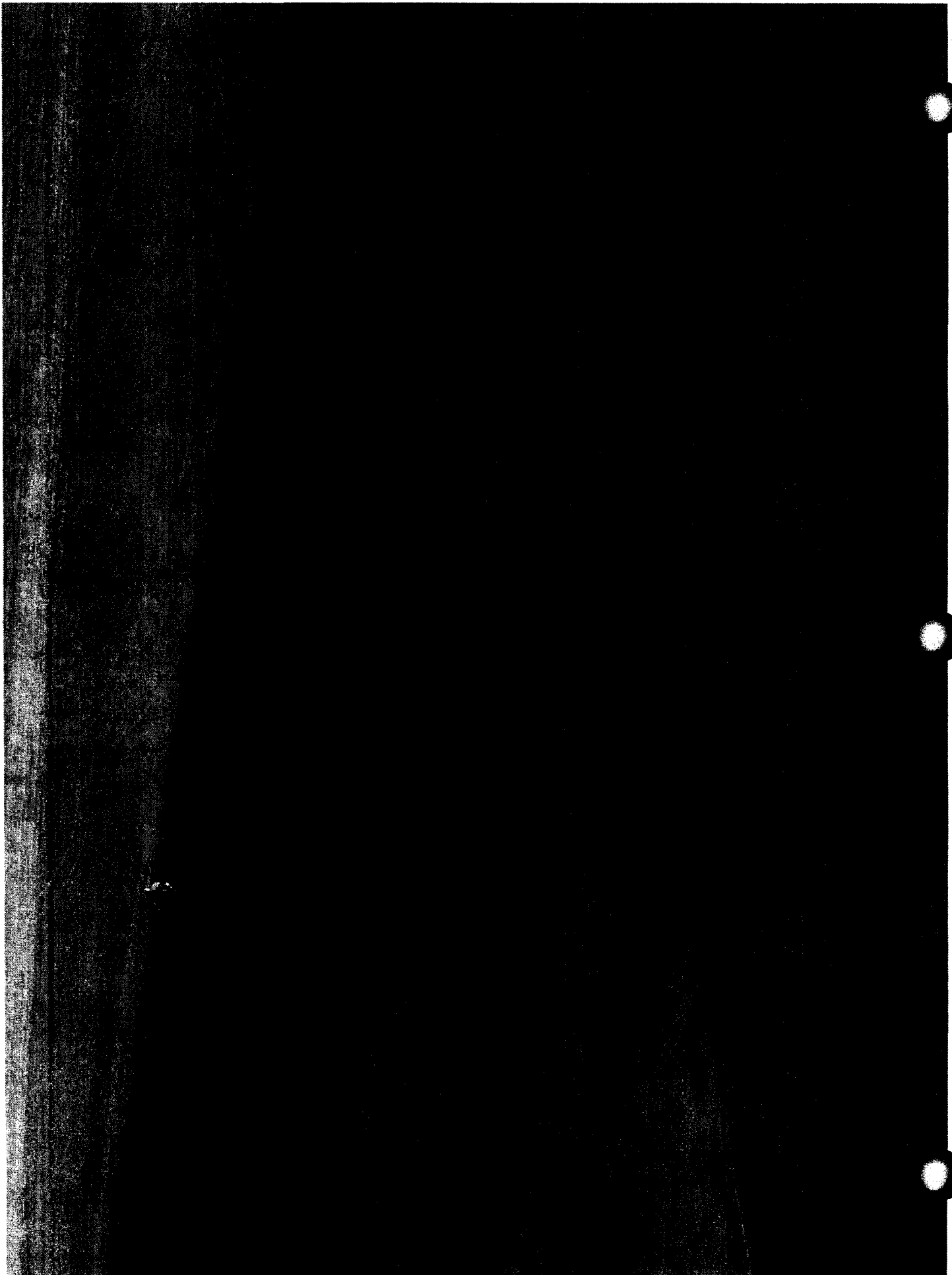
Tsiu River

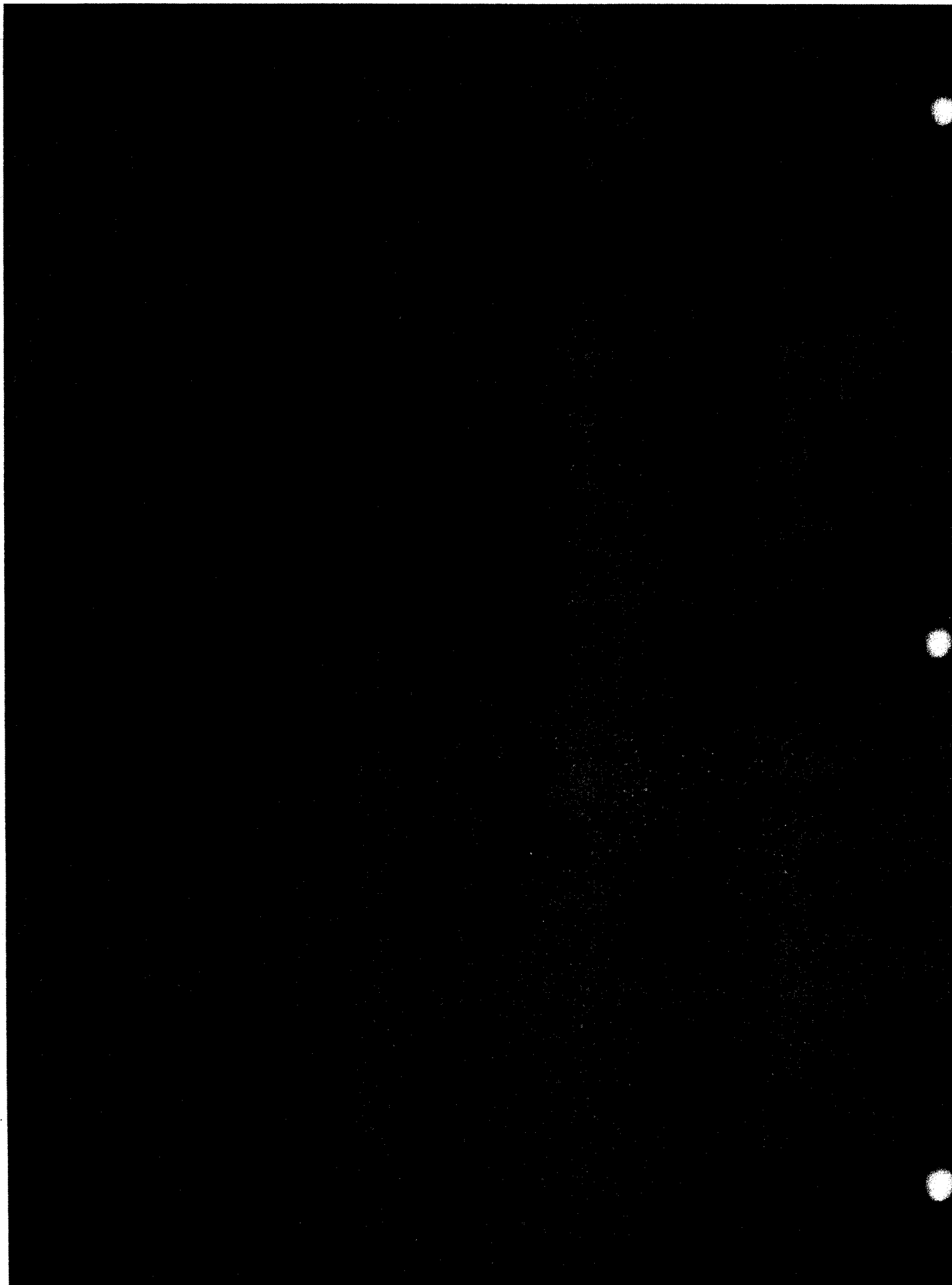
Buying Station
Runway

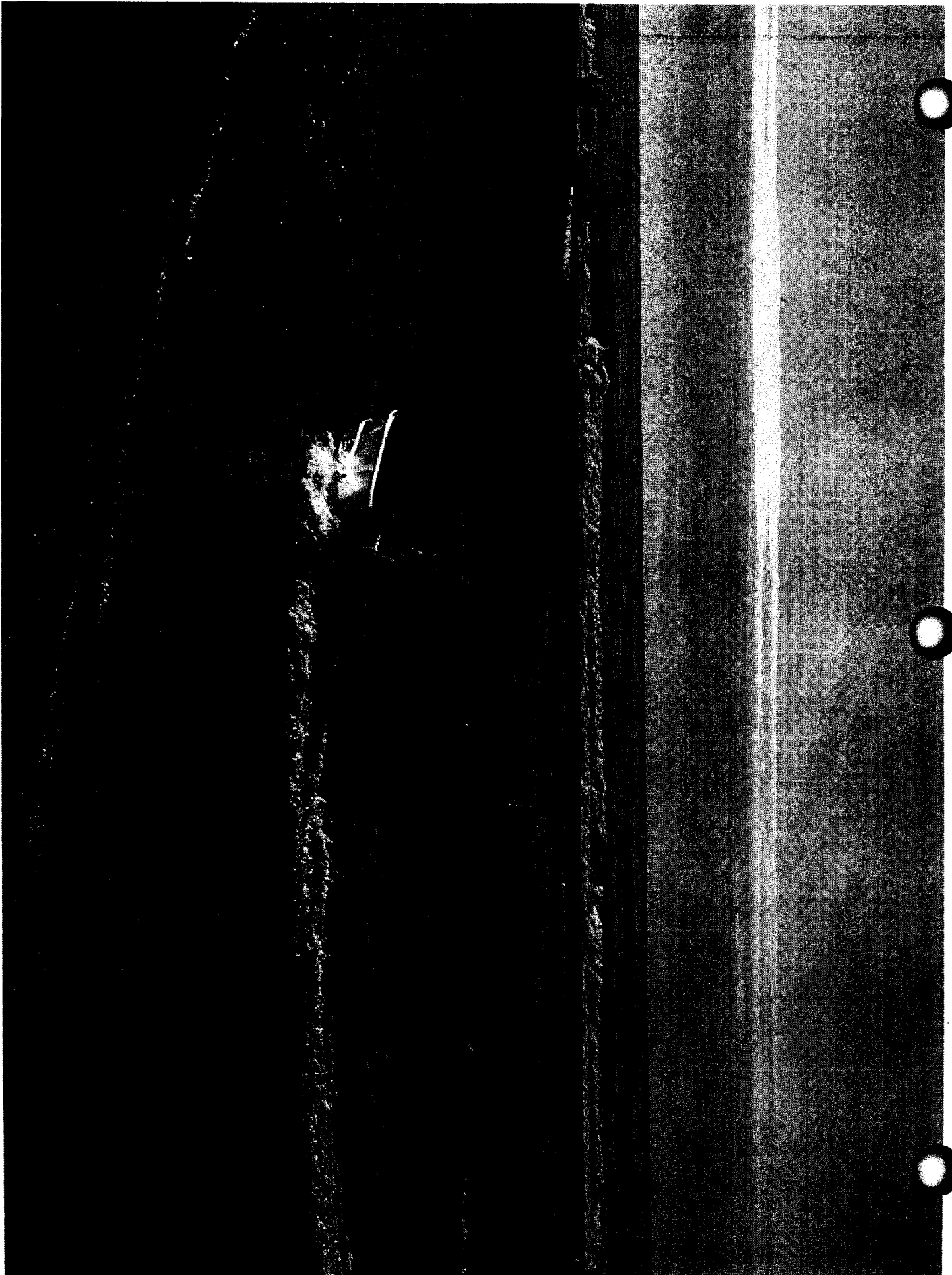
6290 ft

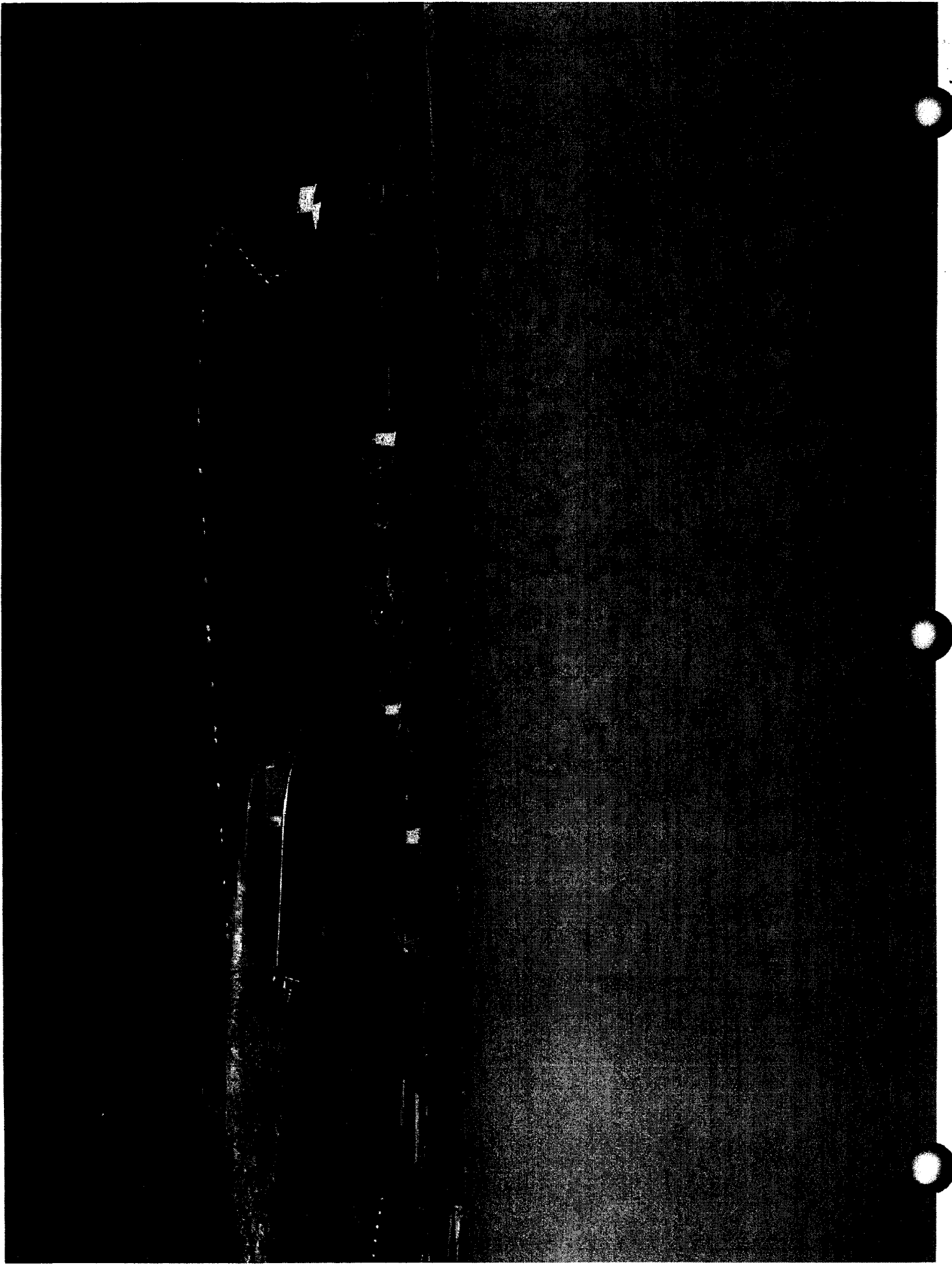
Image © 2007 DigitalGlobe

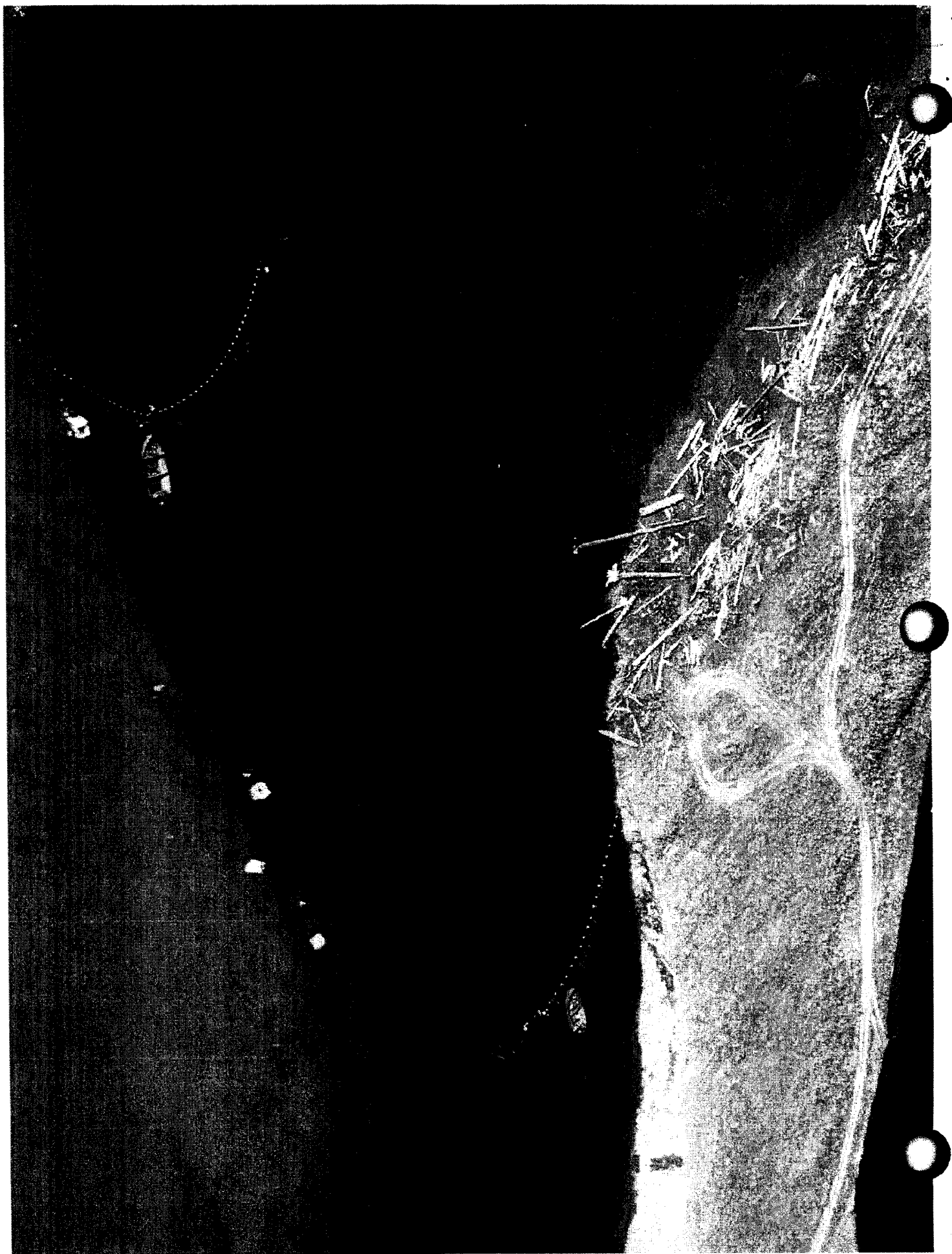


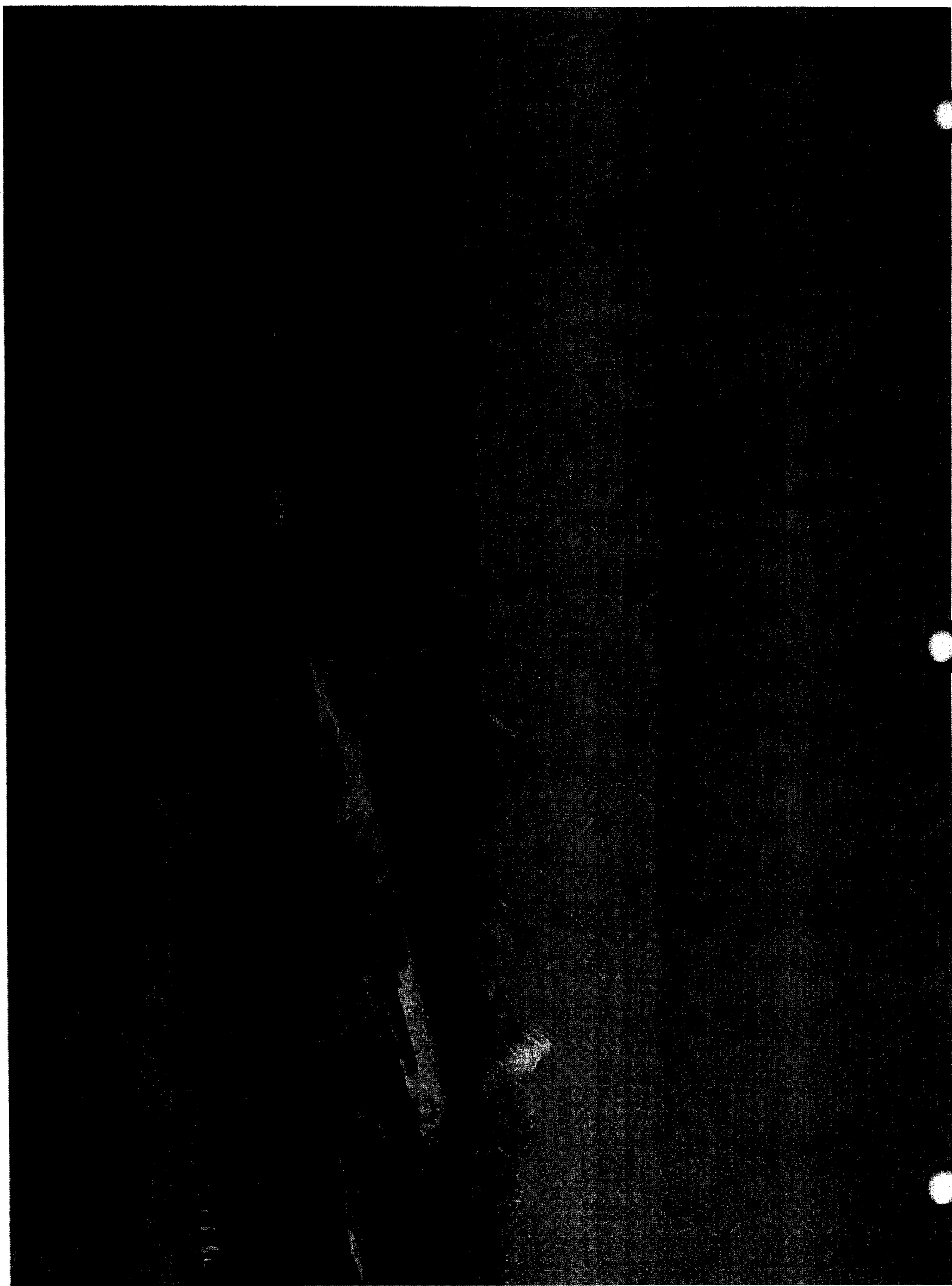


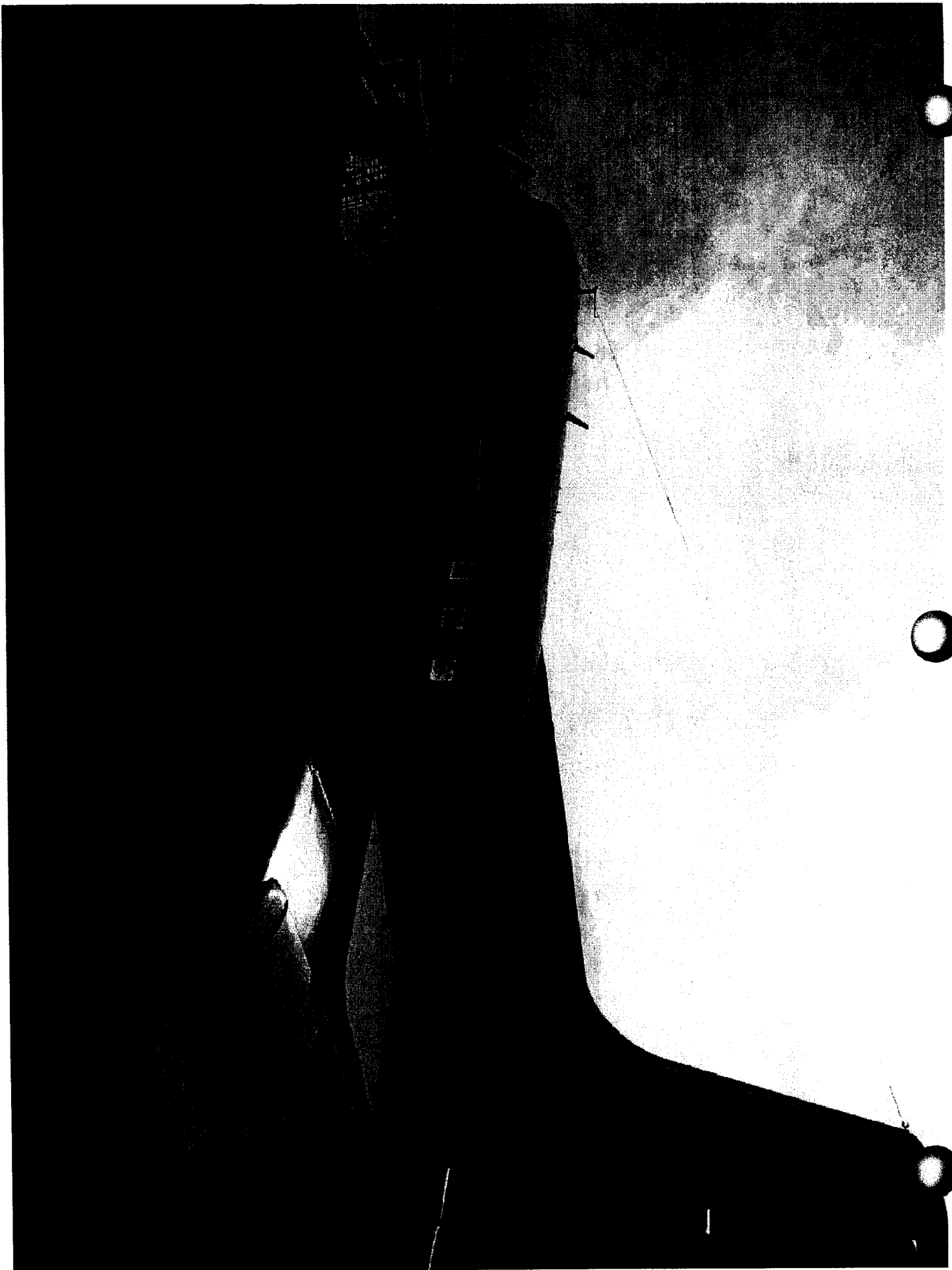


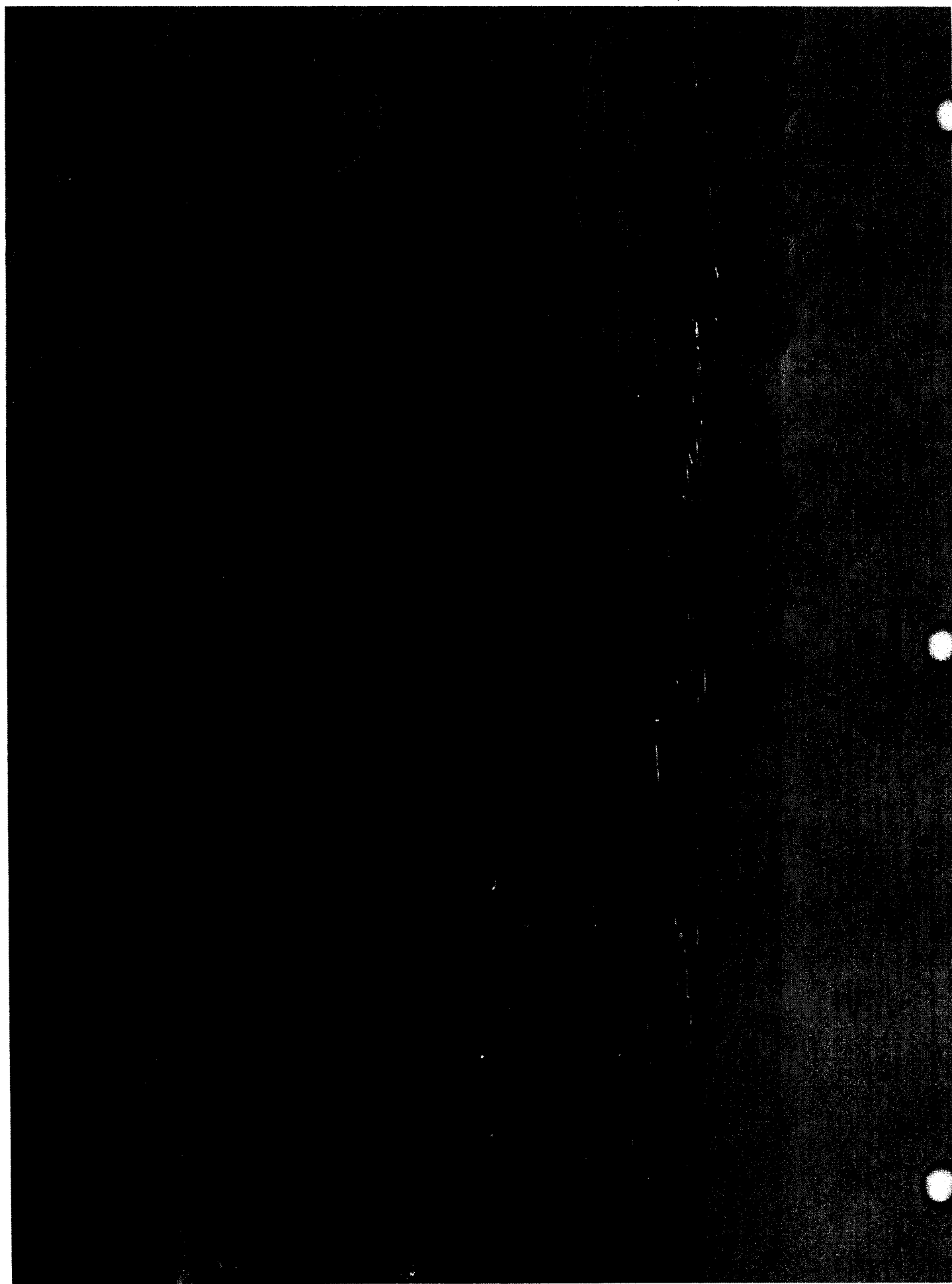




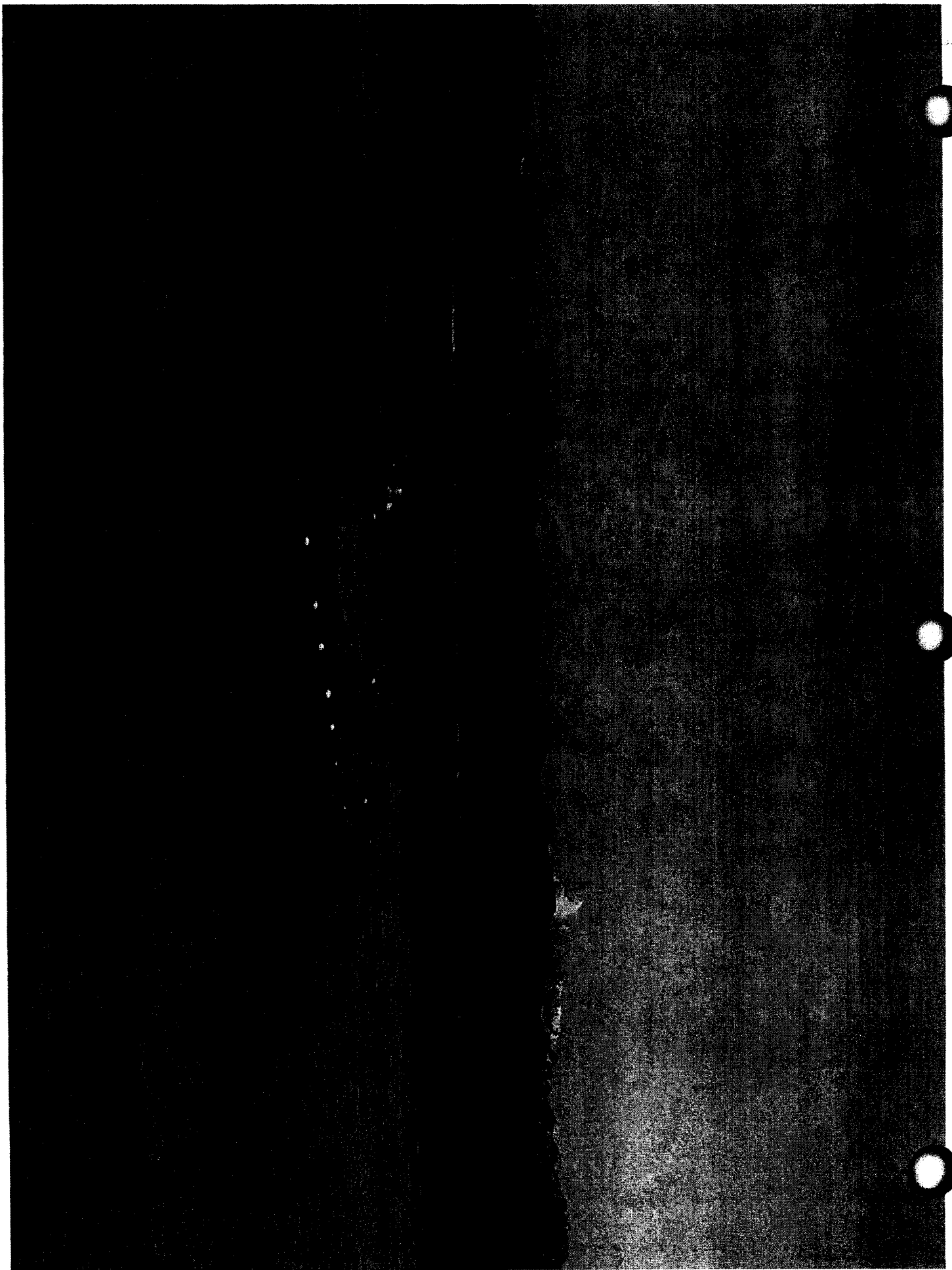






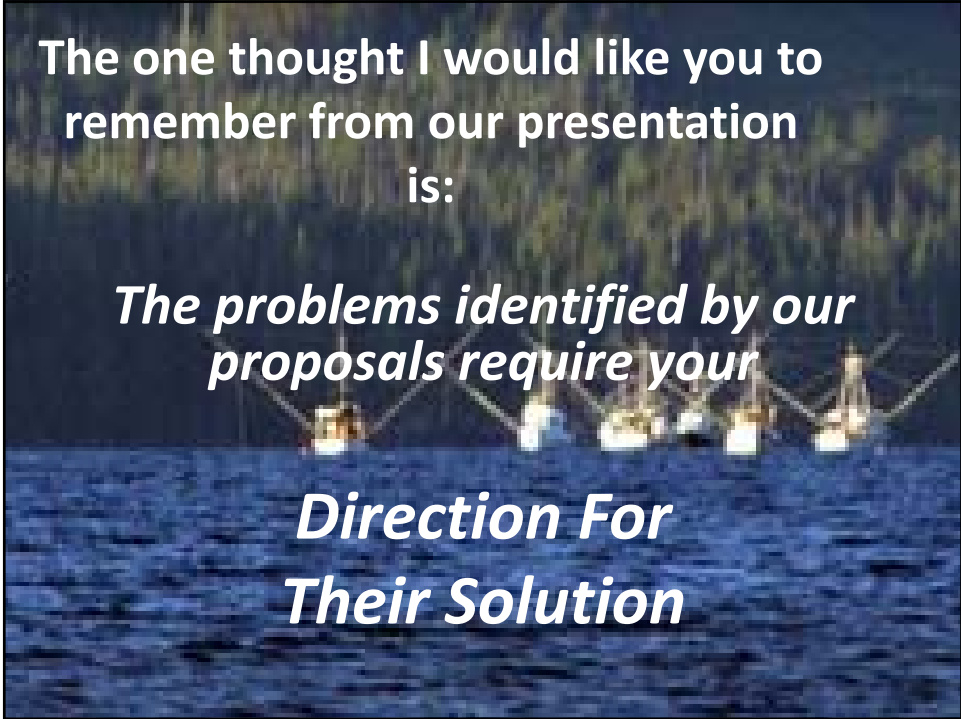








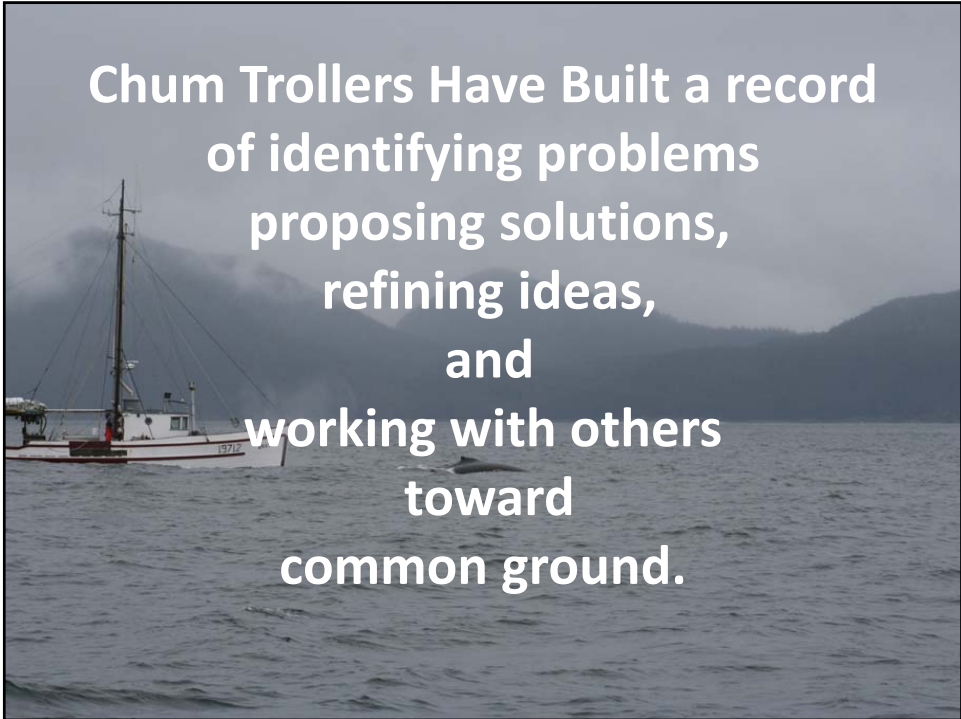




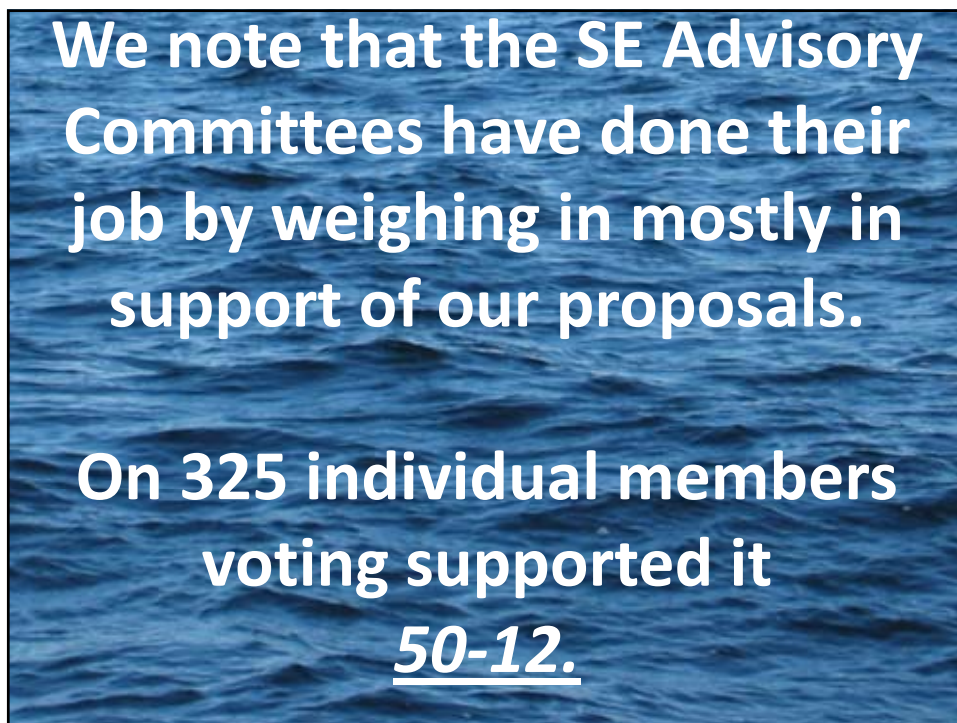
The one thought I would like you to remember from our presentation is:

The problems identified by our proposals require your

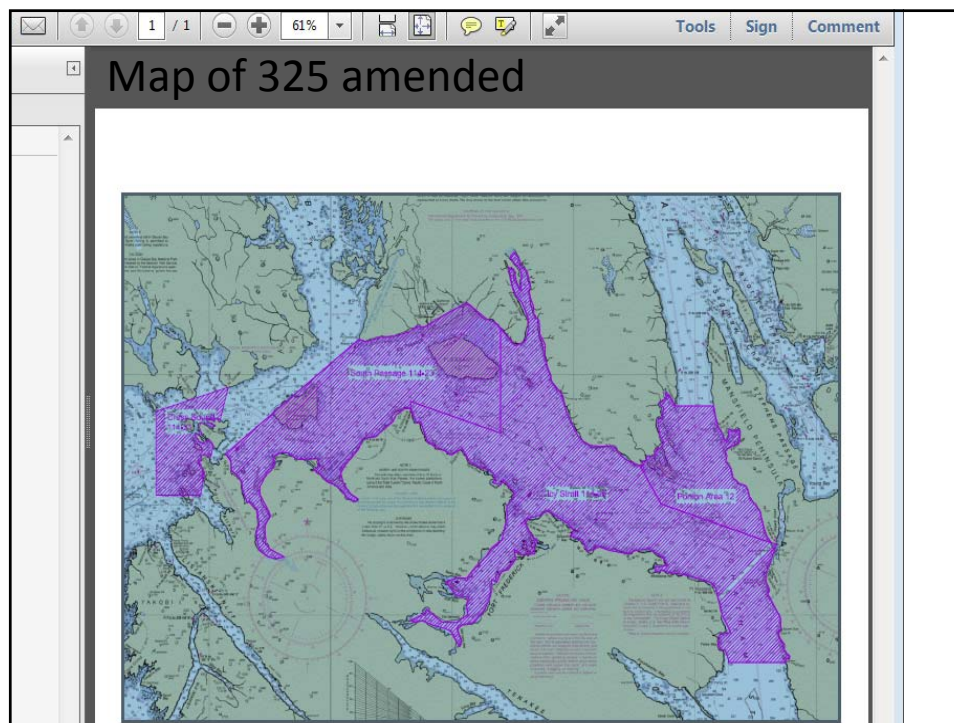
Direction For Their Solution



Chum Trollers Have Built a record of identifying problems proposing solutions, refining ideas, and working with others toward common ground.



The public has weighed in with dozens of letters in support. Chum Trollers have provided maps, data, and our vision of how passage of 325, as amended, could be managed during the next three years while a management plan is developed.





The following is our vision of how adoption of proposal #325 as amended will facilitate conservation, data gathering, and protection of both the chum and Chinook troll fisheries in Icy Straits and North Chatham:

- That the troll fisheries in these areas in District 14 will continue to be managed as they have been. CTA anticipates ADF&G will use troll chum harvest data collected, as requested by the JRPT, to manage the Icy Straits hatchery chum troll fishery sub-areas by Emergency Order Authority to minimize wild stock impacts during the next three years while a comprehensive spring hatchery chum troll management plan for these areas is developed and approved.
- That passage of this proposal, as amended and unanimously supported by the JRPT, will give ADF&G direction from the BOF to develop that management plan.
- That the North Chatham exploratory area in District 12, which moves trollers closer to the hatchery release sites, may be open to pink and chum retention by emergency order during weekdays in June.
- That the troll industry will collaborate with ADF&G to obtain chum data by sub-area as they do for Chinook in spring hatchery troll areas.
- That ADF&G may close Icy Strait sub-areas to directed Chinook, or chum, trolling under Emergency Order Authority without closing the troll fishery entirely in a sub-area.



Now it is time
for you to help
by passing 325
and or 326
to
provide direction
toward solution.

Testimony of Andy Rauwolf before the Board of Fish Feb. 2012

My name is Andy Rauwolf. I support proposals 230, 231,238,239,240,242, and 243. I am opposed to proposal 245.

I am a commercial hand and power troller, sport fisherman, and builder in Ketchikan going on 50 years. I have participated in the board process since 1990. First I wish to thank you for the personal sacrifices you make to be here. Whatever your reasons are for being on the board, I ask that you keep an open mind to what I am about to say, due to the severity of the situation we are facing. Herring are described as the bellwether species of the food chain, affecting nearly every other creature that swims, walks, or flies in and near our coastal waters. While herring might be managed "conservatively", herring are managed in a significantly depleted state. This is the familiar shifting baseline syndrome (Pauly 1995) in fisheries management wherein a degraded sea comes to be seen as normal because, as Callum Roberts puts it in *The Unnatural History of the Sea*, "A collective amnesia surrounds changes that happened more than a few decades ago, as hardly anyone reads old books or reports." Although they are fewer in number, there are still hundreds of old timers left here in Southeast Alaska who are not suffering from the apparent collective amnesia that is prevalent among our younger generation of fish managers today. I would advise everyone here to obtain a copy of *Herring Synthesis: Documenting and Modeling Herring Spawning Areas Within Socio-Ecological Systems Over Time In The Southeastern Gulf of Alaska*. Completed in 2010, it is the most comprehensive scientific study on historic levels of herring in Southeast Alaska ever conducted and is essential reading for decision makers and herring managers. The study concludes that our herring have been managed in a significantly depleted state ever since the reduction fisheries ended in the 1960s and unregulated bait fisheries ended in the 1970s. We older generation folks have been warning the board about this since the first herring stocks in the sac roe fisheries began collapsing in 1980. Have staff members advised you of shrinking size of given age classes of halibut and Chinook salmon

over the last 25-30 years? Have you been told about the scrawny Coho and the 3 pound chums that are so starved they are regularly biting on salmon plugs. Have you been warned about the unrestrained populations of marine mammals, that approximately 6,000 Humpback whales in Southeast are now consuming 18 million pounds of feed each day threatening herring even in the absence of a fishery? I doubt it because the system is flawed. Governor Parnell himself stated last summer that ADF&G biologists are required to tout state policy over scientific principles. The same article said that politicians are silencing state biologists and interpreting scientific data in a way that suits their purposes. And now the former director of the Petersburg Vessel Owners Association, the biggest pro herring lobby in the state, with no background in biology is the commissioner of ADF&G! Is there a nice way to say *corruption*? Biologists would like to talk about total ecosystem management, not just selective species management but that's not *state policy*. I ask that you carefully consider the circumstances, and the health of the resource when you evaluate this year's herring proposals. THANK YOU

NOTE: *It should be noted how sac roe fisheries have impacted the food chain around the world. Japan wiped out its own herring resources long ago. To this day they are attempting to restore herring populations through an expensive hatchery process with limited success. They have sought herring roe wherever they could find it, leaving a wake in their path. Russia was the next to fall, followed by the largest herring biomass on earth, the Norwegian Spring Spawning Stocks, next the Georgia Banks of Nova Scotia collapsed, eventually putting 30,000 cod fishermen out of work. Lastly the West Coast of the U.S. was hit, and only San Francisco Bay in California remains, trying to develop other markets for their small fish. Herring fishing has been outlawed in Washington State, with what was once their largest spawning biomass, the Cherry Point spawn threatened with the possibility of being listed as endangered. ADF&G once touted their management plan as patterned after British Columbia's, "the most scientifically managed sac roe fishery in the world." As of this writing dozens of small spawning populations along the West Coast of British Columbia have been wiped out with First Nations Tribes now preparing to sue the*

provincial government for destruction of traditional subsistence. Only the largest biomass, the outside waters of the Southern Straights of Georgia remain a viable fishery, and it has been in steady decline for about 10 years. Salmon returning to B.C.s river systems and hatcheries have dropped from a high rate of 15% down to 1%. Rockfish and halibut have all but disappeared in thousands of square miles of inside coastal waterways in the Straits of Georgia with most of the blame being placed on over exploitation of herring. The food chain pyramid in B.C. is upside down. Here in Alaska, dozens of inside spawning areas have been depleted or no longer exist. These areas are carefully documented in the two year: "Herring Synthesis" study conducted jointly by the anthropology departments at Portland State and the University of Oxford which was completed in 2010. It should be noted that one of the principal participants is the retired former head herring biometrician for ADF&G.

THERE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO THE OCEANS RESOURCES DUE TO THE APETITE FOR KAZUNOKO (HERRING ROE) IN JAPAN REQUIRING SEVERAL DECADES TO RECOVER. THE QUESTION IS: DO WE WANT TO LEAVE THIS SAME LEGACY BEHIND FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR CHILDREN, OR DO WE WANT TO EXERCISE MORE CAUTION THAN EVER, ERRING ON THE SIDE OF THE RESOURCE IF NEED BE, GIVEN RECENT FINDINGS? THE BASELINE MUST BE RESTORED TO WHERE IT BELONGS.

Proposal # 230: support! Although this proposal may be difficult for managers, it requires that stocks be identified on a spawning area basis. In other past fisheries herring from one entire inlet or shoreline were wiped out on several occasions when the entire quota was taken from one section within the overall spawning area.

Proposal # 231: Support! I am in favor of closing the fishery when the harvest is estimated to be within 10% of GHL. In too many instances managers have waited too long and the GHL was exceeded, jeopardizing the entire biomass.

Proposals 238 & 239 Support: these proposals will help to strengthen and protect historic subsistence areas (required by law), and will help to insure that subsistence can be gathered each year, and will improve the relationship between the state and the tribes.

Proposal 240: Support—allowing a set-aside for bait harvesting in Sitka provided that an equivalent amount be reduced from the sac roe designated quota. I feel that bait fishermen have been unfairly discriminated against in this fishery.

Proposal 242: Support!! I strongly support this well thought out proposal along with the unanimous support of the Ketchikan Advisory Committee. West Behm Canal stocks fluctuate widely even without a fishing event. These herring provide essential nourishment for halibut and several species of salmon in the area which I commercially fish. It encompasses two major river systems and a large hatchery also. In 1980 this fishery was closed after one small seine opening and 3 years of unregulated bait fishing. Prior to these openings anyone could regularly jig large herring from the docks at Clover Pass and Knudson Cove Marinas any time they wished. Herring still have not returned to these areas to this day. In order for this fragile region to support a successful sac roe fishery the threshold must be greater lest we wait 30 more years to discuss this.

Proposal 243: Support! Although this proposal is allocative in nature, and the advisory committee voted against it, I favor elimination of herring seining in West Behm Canal due to the efficiency of this fishery. These boats and nets are too large to avoid overfishing this fragile resource and causing serious if not permanent damage to the region. Managers can control gillnet harvests much more accurately.

Proposal 245: Oppose! I am opposed to a handful of boats harvesting this quota on the basis that the fishery is too small to be economically feasible for everyone to fish. The author himself states that the GHL is too small for 48 boats to economically fish. That should be reason enough for seiners not to fish it.



ROUTE 2, BOX 2 – SAXMAN, KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901 • FAX: (907) 247-2504 • PHONE (907) 247-2502

February 25, 2012

Boards Support Section
Alaska department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 9811-5526

Dear Chair and Board of Fish Members,

I gave and submitted written testimony with the required number of copies on Friday afternoon. I wanted to summarize my written and add with my oral comments.

I am appalled with the treatment I received as elected President of the federally recognized Tribe of the Organized Village of Saxman, Saxman I.R.A. wanting to give comment and getting cut off at 3 minutes. The 3 minutes allowed for another government is unreasonable and needs to be changed. Where is the respect and acknowledgement of another government, it is virtually nonexistent. The treatment of a federally recognized needs to address by the State of Alaska. Below is what I want to summarize and add to the two previous letters.

As I listened and read staff reports, discussion, questions around the board table, written and oral testimony. I have to ask this question to all, In history has the indigenous peoples caused the great decline of a stock or near dissemination of a natural resources, like herring? In history has the indigenous peoples caused the great decline of a stock or near dissemination of a natural resource, like the herring? The answer of all should come to conclusion, should be NO. Under colonized rule, we have seen the decline of many of our resources. Herring is but one of them. Local knowledge tells all of us of the vast amount of herring in our SE Alaska region. The Sitka herring stock is the last stock in our area with volume, yet it to is not as strong as it was in the time before colonization.

Our people used and still use oral history that was passed down from generation to generation that has value. I grew up in Hydaburg and Ketchikan, up until the early and mid 60s one could see the herring in and around the channels of the Tongass Narrows. People would harvest herring off the floats with dip nets in Ketchikan. One could see Harvey Leask with the Lady Alice right in the channel by City Float making a set for herring. That is long gone; we don't get to have those experiences any more. You will find many of the same stories in many of the communities and villages throughout our region. We all need to acknowledge and give great value to the local knowledge, as one gives to scientists, this includes entities like the BOF and FSB. So often that is disregarded. We support the proposals of Sitka Tribe, as many of the communities relish and rely on the annual take of t he herring roe on branches each year. It is part of the way of life, right now this Saturday in Saxman there is a traditional ceremony that is on its 3rd day, today they will be sharing and feasting and will include the all important

herring eggs. The subsistence and the commercial fishery of herring in Sitka is so important to all of us. Most of not all of the herring consumed at today's cultural event undoubtedly came from Sitka.

Also all should be very concerned and take action on the proposed mining in Canada that will have effect on salmon fisheries in our SE Alaska area.

In closing the Organized Village of Saxman, Saxman I.R.A. Council supports proposal number 249 submitted by SE RAC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Wallace', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lee Wallace, President

Copy/File: Saxman I.R.A. Council
Sitka Tribe of Alaska