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PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: B Reports

Check the boxes below if you will have a PowerPoint or Handout

	NAME (Please Print)	TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:	Handout	PPT
1	Lauren Divine	Aleut Community of St. Paul		
2	Terry Ivanoff/Melissa Hefflin	self or BS Eiders	X	
3	Nicole Kimball/Julie Penney	PSPA / AFD		
4	Becca Robbins Giselair	Ocean Conservancy		
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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person " to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

October 2, 2018

Jerry Ivanoff
Box 102
Unalakleet, Alaska 00684

North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Anchorage, Alaska

Re: King Salmon Concerns

Hello NPFMC Members,

King salmon is an integral cog in our subsistence wheel in the Arctic Yukon and Kuskokwim River Drainages. Over the past two and a half decades, we have not been able to commercially harvest the king salmon due to our low escapement numbers in our anadromous fish streams causing a tremendous loss in revenues over this period of time. More importantly though, our subsistence fishermen have not been able to target king salmon with appropriate size nets for the same period of time with a loss our prized king salmon strips loaded with omega three fatty oils. All of the subsistence resources, like cogs in the wheel, are vital for the healthy survival of our native people throughout the State of Alaska. With out native culture dating back 12,000 years, J. Louis Giddings, Anthropologist, our elders have taught us to take only what we need and not to waste anything, thus we have not have any depletion of any of our subsistence stocks, land, air, or water. The processing and smoking of our king salmon is an important part of our transfer of our cultural knowledge from our elders to the younger generation.

I believe the NPFMC need to manage the whole biological sphere in the Bering Sea, including the Pollock, crab, halibut, groundfish, and salmon, which are all interdependent on each other. Our Alaskan Eskimos are part of the biological sphere in the Bering Sea, so their health should be considered along with the health of our fish stocks. Thank you for averting the chum salmon crash of 1992 in the Northern Norton Sound. Today, our king salmon are returning back to our natal streams in such low numbers, that we have not been able to meet ADF&G Escapement Goals for a couple decades.

The NPFMC must take responsibility tor the entire ecosystem of the Bering Sea, Pollock, crab, halibut, flat fish, salmon, and our Eskimo People living on the shores, where millions of tons of fish are harvested by our huge American Factory Trawlers. Their bycatch, millions of tons over the past three decades, constitute wanton waste sanctioned by the NPFMC, the State of Alaska, and the United States of America. When an Eskimo catches a moose, out of season, we are fined thousand of dollars and face jail time. Not that each of you should be facing jail time, but you need to consider putting a small portion of the total allowable catch of Pollock in a war chest for the rehabilitation of our king salmon stocks and any other stocks endangered or

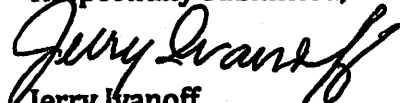
nearing depletion. You have made moves for industry to avoid the incidental bycatch of them, but, for the most part, they are not coming back in their historical numbers. The monies of this king salmon war chest should be distributed to the ADF&G Fisheries Biologists or our CDQ Fisheries Biologists working in our river systems in the AYK Area specifically to bring back our king salmon or any other fish stocks facing depletion. Possibly the CDQ Allocation should be increased by five percent of the Pollock TAC with the increase earmarked for the rehabilitation of any of our fish stocks in the Bering Sea. Food for thought!

Thank you for having a meeting in Nome, giving our people being negatively impacted, to increase participation as we cannot afford the airfare, hotel, and meals bills to attend your marathon meetings in Anchorage or Seattle.

A Bering Sea Elders Group Representative stated that:

"The ocean is our garden, which provides our food. We are not allowed to go to the lower 48 and harvest any of their gardens."

Respectfully submitted,


Jerry Ivanoff

Cc: Bering Sea Elders Group
Native Village of Unalakleet