

**CHINOOK SUMMIT
AUGUST 16, 2013**

UNALAKLEET

DRAFT NOTES AND PRIORITIES

Priorities identified at close of one-day session

1. Build and strengthen coalition
 - Meet with other sectors.
 - Sports groups Aug. 21
 - Conduct follow up meetings: AFN, pre-legislative season with Senator Olson and others.
 - Speak with "One Voice" from Alaska
 - Identify up to five major changes. All stay on message. Be of help to our delegation.
 - Call for a statewide task force on Chinook
 - Call for a statewide MSA task force
2. MSA reauthorization- Advocate for changes and submit language
 - Tribal/subsistence user designated seat on North Pacific Management Council
 - FACA application to Council, AP and SSC
 - Improve conflict-of-interest language
 - Advocate for co-management roles
 - Habitat protection for Chinook
 - Establish ocean reserves
 - Review MSA National Standards relating to "conservation"
3. Full funding for Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game to manage Chinook salmon
4. Full funding for Department of Fish and Game to enhance stocks through hatcheries
5. Review and adoption of Intensive Salmon Management Plan (see email attachment)
6. Review policy on premature Chinook returning to AYK river systems.

Other actions or needs listing

Alaska must present a unified front. We must collectively come together to take action. Our congressional delegation can better affect change if Alaska comes together.

There needs to be a groundswell of dissatisfaction and a call to action.

Purpose of Summit

There is an obligation and responsibility to Chinook salmon. We must achieve change in the meaningful inclusion of tribes, subsistence users and Alaska Native people in how fish and other resources are addressed and managed.

Our charge is to be action-oriented to achieve change. Our children depend on it and the loss of the Chinook cannot be blamed on our inaction.

Current situation

Western Alaska is in a crisis. One only needs to look at Atlantic cod, and know our Chinook salmon is approaching the same destiny.

Comments and Discussion

(Senator Olson) ADF&G is our first line of defense/offense. The department has been failing and is inadequate in addressing needed actions.

If only commercial interests are addressed, we need to take a close look at ADF&G and shake up the organization, removing inadequate individuals.

There is a huge disparity of resources applied to southeast, southcentral and western Alaska. Western Alaska has been neglected.

(other comments) Millions have gone into research and nothing has been achieved in mitigating decline. We need to look at additional factors such as the cumulative take of Chinook over time.

Clarify the role of subsistence users in self-monitoring/policing to protect escapement

Need new management scheme.

Excluder nets have made a difference but shouldn't be mandatory because if required, then new innovations would not be incorporated because of regulated net requirement.

Chinook bycatch discussion, led by Dr. Diana Stran.

Bycatch include juveniles and adults. 100% observation conducted. Ages of the fish are generally 4-7 years.

Highest 25K, 10-11K in the previous year. Numbers have provided incentives have kept numbers lower.

Much lower than cap number. No focus on results. Does it correlate with abundance rates? Yes, we want to begin doing that.

60K reached in 3 years. Why did council settle on that #. Why not 30k?

National standards, MSA, national standards for optimum yield. The national law that councils works within in sending recommendations to Secretary to get regulation and other changes.

Must balance the law, so what needs to be changed?

(A)No one listens to taking less fish. Monitor bycatch. This is what we are going to have to do to further restrict.

Comment. Bethel population is growing; it was once 1000 and is now 6000. We must restrict ourselves. We can't fish for extended families and ship fish out to urban areas. We must monitor subsistence on the coast. For example this summer one guy reports catching 100 kings. There must be a limit on kings per family.

Educate people about the cycle of the salmon--radio, Facebook; look at goose management plan; consider a fishing moratorium. The Bering Sea and the rivers must work together.

There must be increased observations on factory trawlers.

Establish ocean reserves.

Panel discussion. Charlie Lean and Janice Ivanoff, NSCDC. NSDC and ADF&G projects. We have to know what is out there so we don't under or over harvest. Actions we are taking: hatchery red salmon in Nome to boost production to natural fish. Permits have been received

We are thinking about going larger scale, building central incubation hatchery providing up to 8 stocks, rehabilitating six small runs—those that have been over-fished and affected by mining and roads).

Climate change having an impact. The springtime break up in the near-shore marine environment is increasingly brief. The Norton Sound is a more saline environment than previous. We are seeing catlyn (sp??) disappear, which could be king salmon food. Additionally increases in the deadly (virus? Bacteria) affecting kings, which is not much understood.

MSA panel. Tim. There must be a tribal representative on the council. Members must be free of conflict of interest. Tribal consultation process implemented. The application of national standards must be analyzed to further refine and protects our communities and fisheries.

Duncan. Develop a statewide dialog, with state recommendations. State/tribal/federal group. State recommendations in light of tribal concerns. In contrast: one objective stated here, to have a tribal rep, it is a bad idea because it designates a special interest seat—and many interest groups--much more powerful will clamor for additional seats. Arguing for designated seats not what is wanted.

Retention of bycatch. These fish are wasted. 10mm # halibut. 50-100K salmon. Eliminate discards. We need a social or community license, a social contract; the community impact needs a role in MSA discussion. Allocation between sport halibut, subsistence and commercial interests. Need economic reallocation mechanisms--developing constructs where on pays another where there is a higher economic value.

We need a larger state dialog, and support larger state position.

Bob King. The next hearing on MSA will be conducted by Senator Rubio in the Gulf. There are a huge range of issues, needing a deliberative

approach. Recreational and sports fishing is big in Alaska and the gulf of Mexico. Not written in MSA. Resource disaster--below 50% of 5 year avg. Certification of sustainability.

Subsistence concern, consultation needs, use of local traditional knowledge and council seats and representation. I am supportive of tribes submitting name to Governor and they have to meet qualifications and have the ability to spend time required by the meetings.

Comes down to enforcements and the Coast Guard is being cut which may increase illegal fishing.

Historic economy of our tribes. There should be no closures for subsistence. Food on the table. This needs to be recognized.

We need to call for a statewide taskforce by the governor. ID 5 major changes. All stay on message. Help our delegation. With all the interests—industry, tribes and cdq---we get lost in the noise.

AYK CHINOOK SUMMIT

RECOMMENDATIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013

1. Full funding for AYK Department of Fish and Game for management of Alaska's Chinook salmon by the state of Alaska.
2. Full funding for enhancement/hatcheries projects in the AYK region by the state of Alaska.
3. Review and assessment of AYK DF&G personnel and removal, if warranted, depending on performance.
4. Review and adoption of Intensive Salmon Management Plan
5. MSA reauthorization
 - Press for tribal representation on Council
 - Press for State MSA Task Force

- FACA application to Council process
- Conflict of interested language strengthened
- Review of MSA National Standards
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