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RE: C2 Chum Salmon Bycatch - Initial Review

As a resident of Alaska who fishes between the Bering Sea and Cook inlet commercially as well as for subsistence I beg and implore you to immediately reconsider the limits currently set on bycatch regulation. The continued destruction of trawl activities and the nearly unmitigated bycatch are destroying our fishery's, coastal communities that rely on the ocean for existence and a way of life that's perpetuated highly unchanged for hundreds of years. The continued pandering to trawl entities and their regulatory demands must stop before the destruction cannot be reversed, many feel it may already be to late. Please look closely at the impacts this fishing practice had on many other regions globally that are no longer viable fishing grounds because of it, which is why many of the vessels used in those now defunct fishery's ply Alaskan waters laying waste in the same way done previously elsewhere. Please recognize these impacts and don't make the mistakes of the past which we know the outcome of if things continue as they are. The limits on chum salmon and other fish bycatch have been perpetually raised at the request of the trawl sector for years on end even though all data shows decline, other fishery's are being affected at great loss and people are starving for their traditional irreplaceable food source. Things have gone entirely to far and the interests of Alaskan people, our ecosystem and ways of life must be protected from the big money trawl industry which has the ability to out spend, out lobby and financially manipulate the NPFMC and regulations. Furthermore the impacts of salmon bycatch are felt directly by Alaskans especially those that live traditionally while the vast majority of products and financial gain is where its landed, allocated and shipped in Washington state giving almost zero benefit to Alaska and saddling its residents with the negative affects. Actions **MUST BE TAKEN** to halt the wanton waste of our depleted resources and **STOP ALL SALMON BYCATCH** before its to late and there aren't any salmon left to needlessly discard. Yet another factor to consider is the activity of trawling doesn't just destroy non target species such as chum salmon but also the sea floor, vegetation and all the sea life that are the inhabitants of this zone while releasing tons of trapped carbon into our atmosphere completely unmitigated while every other industry is highly regulated. Zero checks, zero balances, completely unregulated, proven environmental destruction on a massive scale. The issue of chum and other salmon bycatch as well as dozens of other species and overall impacts of this destructive fishery must be dealt with before we no longer have the opportunity to, we are at that crossroads. Dozens of Alaskan fishery's have been declared a disaster and closed in as many years while the trawl industry profits and bycatch limits have risen yearly. There has been exceptions made to the Jones act for the building of these vessels further hurting our economy and saving them money. I propose the Alaskan trawl fishery be closed for a minimum of two years inorder to further study the implications of their actions and practices as well as studying if we've reached a level of destruction non viable to repopulation of the documented affected species. Perpetuating this fishery's bycatch and destruction only has one inevitable outcome which has already played out for your study repeatedly elsewhere. The inevitable outcome has a monetary factor associated with it and it threatens to destroy **ALL FISHERY'S AND THEIR PROFITS**, not just trawl. Please save what we have left before it's too late, we only have one chance at this. We must err on the side of caution and not million dollar profit or everything can be destroyed. I apologize if I came off as abrasive in any way but this issue has far reaching affect on my life and thousands of others. We beg you consider our input which has the best for all at heart and not just the profit of few.