



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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November 5, 2015

S-K Program Manager
NOAA Fisheries Headquarters
1315 East West Highway
SSMC3, Room 14358
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Attn: Daniel Namur

Re: Support for ADF&G: Relative Productivity of Hatchery Pink Salmon in a Natural Stream

Dear Mr. Namur and Saltonstall-Kennedy (SK) Proposal Reviewers and Panel,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 35 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters.

We support the proposal "Relative Productivity of Hatchery Pink Salmon in a Natural Stream" submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This study will improve our understanding of hatchery and wild stock interactions and provide scientific guidance for assessing and improving Alaska's salmon hatchery program.

The research proposed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will help inform industry, scientists, legislators, and the public at large about the positive and negative impacts of the hatchery program. This study is part of a larger study plan initiated in 2012 and expected to continue through 2023. It has the financial support of salmon processors, the State of Alaska, the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and regional aquaculture associations.

Alaska's salmon hatcheries contribute to commercial, sport and personal use harvests throughout Alaska's coastal communities.

Sincerely,

Jerry McCune
President

Julianne Curry
Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers • Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association
Alaska Independent Tendermen's Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Scallop Association • Alaska Trollers Association
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association • Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Reserve • Cape Barnabas Inc.
Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Douglas Island Pink and Chum
Freezer Longline Coalition • Golden King Crab Coalition • Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association
Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Herring Conservation Alliance • Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance
Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Catcher Boats • United Cook Inlet Drift Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association