

Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, Good Morning! My name is Joel Doner and I'm chair of the Anchorage Advisory Committee. Thank You for this opportunity to speak to you today. As chairman of the Advisory committee that represents the largest community in the State, I'd like to spend a moment telling you a little bit about us. I don't know this for a fact, but I would venture a guess that the Anchorage Advisory Committee is among the most diverse of the 84 committees statewide. We have Trappers, Sport fishers, Subsistence users, Hunters, Commercial fishers, Photographers, Guides (both hunting and fishing), Processors, Personal use fishers, Outdoors persons, Association representatives, and Conservationists. We even have a former chairman of the Board of Fisheries. (He's there mainly so we can have someone to blame when things go wrong)...I hope he's not here. Actually, Art has been invaluable these last few months while compiling our comments for this meeting. When it comes to fisheries interests, on our committee we have 15 sport fishers and 8 commercial fishermen. Besides being so diverse in our interest's, I believe our members to be intelligent and thoughtful...as long as you don't judge the committee by their chair. Now, the reason I'm telling you this is that I'm hopeful that you find our written comments to be helpful when exploring the proposals before you. If you find yourself to be wrestling with some of the proposals or management concepts in the next several days

and you'd like some advice from the people of Anchorage, I'd like to challenge you to take a close look at our work.

Now, I'd like to talk about one of the challenges that we, as a committee faced while doing our work. And by the way, you're going to face the same challenge as well. Most of our meetings where we covered Upper Cook Inlet proposals, we discussed issues where the new Chinook Goal was relevant. Whether it was a sportfish proposal, or the Kasilof plan, or the Kenai plan, Paired restrictions, the new Chinook goal has bearing. At each of those meetings we prefaced our discussions on the fact that the new goal directly affects each proposal as written. In other words, proposals were written and submitted without intimate knowledge of or about the new goal. New proposals are submitted in the spring and subsequently the new goal is presented later in the fall. This presented our Advisory Committee, and especially this Board with great challenges. For example, knowing that different user groups harvest Chinook salmon of particular sizes at different rates complicates not only existing regulation, but also each of these proposals.

The in-river sport fishery harvest is approximately 70% large fish; while the East side set net harvest is only around 40% large fish. So as we begin to discuss, say, paired restrictions, there's not only this conversion from the old goal to the new goal when it comes to triggers for management action but there's also this difference in who is harvesting these larger fish. So it seems logical to readjust the "pairings". Why would you restrict

one user group when they harvest only a fraction of the other user group? And the implications do go beyond just paired restrictions.

Now, more specifically, I'd like to talk about a couple proposals that the Anchorage AC authored. The first one is proposal 144. The intent of this proposal is to address Proxy Fishing abuse. In cases where regulation requires that once a bag limit is taken, some fishermen may continue catch and release fishing under the guise of proxy fishing. Our proposal would require that in this situation, once a bag limit is taken the next legal bag limit must be retained. This concept was brought to the AC by a member of the public and we spent quite a bit of time discussing all sorts of proxy abuse but this was the best option that we could agree on presenting, but we were hopeful that the Board could explore other proxy abuse as well.

Another proposal we authored is Proposal 177. This proposal decouples the Kenai/east Forelands and the Kasilof sections in regard to time restrictions upon the set net fishery in the Kenai River Late-run King Salmon Management Plan. Currently, if the use of bait is prohibited in the Kenai River Sport Fishery, commercial fishing is open for no more than 36 hours per week. This proposal would allow the department to manage each section independently so that when one section is open it does not count towards the other section's 36 hour limit. There are approximately 35 miles of beach in the Kasilof Section and 25 miles of beach in the Kenai/East forelands

sections. Localized concentrations of salmon in these 60 miles of beach can occur but if one section of beach is opened to harvest this abundance, the hours used count towards the 36 hour limit for the entire beach. Allowing the department to independently use the 36 hours on each beach will make meeting the objective of maximizing sockeye salmon harvest more effective, and thus, more efficient. After all, isn't that why we have Sections in the first place?

So that's just a couple of our proposals but like I mentioned before, I hope that you consider all of our comments on each proposal. And once again, thank you for your attention. And thank you for the work you do for the State.

## Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee

First Name	Last Name	Profile	Interests	Term Expires
Jim	Bolgiano		2, 4, 10	12/16
Phillip	Calhoun		2, 4, 10	12/16
Neil	DeWitt		2-4, 6, 9-10	6/17
Joel	Doner	Chair	1-2, 4-7, 9-10	12/16
Bryce	Eckroth	Alternate	2, 4, 10	6/17
Gerold	Gugel		2-5, 9	6/17
Willow	Hetrick	Secretary	3-4, 12	6/18
Matt	Moore	Alternate	2, 4, 9-10, 12	6/17
Brian	Nelson		2-6, 10, 12	6/17
Art	Nelson		2-4, 6	6/18
Frank	Neumann	Vice Chair	2-4, 8-10, 12	6/18
Kenny	Rodgers		2-5, 9, 11	6/17
Trevor	Rollman		2, 4-6, 9-10	6/17
Donald "Dino"	Sutherland		2, 5, 9-11	12/16
Kevin	Taylor		1-5, 9-10	6/18
Martin	Weiser		1-2, 4-5, 7-11	6/18
Ernie	Weiss		11	12/16

### INTERESTS REPRESENTED

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 - Trapping           | 7 - Guiding                  |
| 2 - Sport Fishing      | 8 - Processing               |
| 3 - Subsistence        | 9 - Personal Use             |
| 4 - Hunting            | 10 - Outdoorsperson          |
| 5 - Commercial Fishing | 11 - Association/Corporation |
| 6 - Photography        | 12 - Conservationist         |

The Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee will hold elections again April, 2017 where we will complete the process of

shifting to the new term ending dates of June. Officer elections are also held in April for two year terms.