

I am Mary Matthias, I am the Natural Resource Director of the Orutsararmiut Traditional Native Council (ONT) and am a traditional fisher. I have fished in the in the YK Delta for over 30+ years. I am testifying on behalf of my tribe. ~~at~~

First off, I would like to thank the Chair and members of the Board for allowing my written comments to be reviewed and considered among those testifying on the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim proposals. I will be testifying on the Kuskokwim Proposals 105-122.

Proposal 105 • Our Subsistence Committee chose to hold on taking any action for this proposal until amendments are made.

I think that if using larger mesh sizes other than 4" mesh would allow smaller whitefish to escape and allow larger whitefish to be harvested due to the declines witnessed by Kwethluk and other subsistence users.

Proposal 106 • Was supported for a revised regulation that will meet the needs of all set netters

Proposals 107 + 108 were unanimously supported to allow the use of dipnets throughout the year and especially during times of conservation of King Salmon.

Proposal 109 • was unanimously supported.

Proposal 110 • was opposed because in those non-salmon tributaries/non-salmon spawning rivers the people dwelling along the Kuskokwim fish for other non-salmon species during the conservation periods. They rely on harvesting whitefish, burbot, and sheefish. The other reason is subsistence users don't catch as much

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Prop 110

fish in those areas listed in this proposal

Proposal 111 - was opposed. If the gillnet mesh is increased, we all will start harvesting the larger females of the King Salmon species. This will not allow conservation to continue as larger king salmon females carry more eggs and need to migrate up to their spawning areas. We should continue to sustain and keep them protected.

Proposal 112 + Proposal 113 - were supported unanimously
Proposal 114 - was bit of a challenge. After considerable review and understanding, we supported this with amendments.

Proposal 115 - was supported with requests to have 100 yard markers put in place in areas where subsistence users can see and know where they are allowed/not allowed to fish because there are none in place which makes it become a guessing game.

Proposal 116 - was supported with request to add Gweek River to both proposals 115 + 116 adding 100 yard markers.

Proposal 117 - was also supported - requesting 100 yard markers as well - Proposals 115-116

Proposals 118, 119, 120 - were supported

Proposal 121 - no action was taken, this was difficult not to support and feels there is no way to enforce it.

Proposal 122 - was opposed.

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This concludes my testimony on behalf of
my tribe