

**Chairmen Morisky and Board Members**

I'm ~~am~~ providing Testimony in support of proposal 181 . My family and I own six setnet permits and fish the first sites north of the BLanchard line in the North K-Beach (NKB ) subsection. I setnetted for 16 years just south of the BLanchard Line as deckhand/ foreman and as a single permit holder. In 2004 my family purchased our current business which includes 18 sites , three of which are beach nets. What became clear to me after fishing our sites for a couple of years is that the abundance of Kasilof sockeye were equally abundant both north and south of the BLanchard Line , especially as it relates to the near shore area.

It has been stated by ADFG Staff that both the Kenai and Kasilof sockeye migrate past there rivers of origin at a rate of nearly 70 percent. It is my perspective that the inability to harvest Kasilof Sockeye in a more efficient manner is due to the lack of harvest capacity north of the river. Current management strategy utilizes 3.5 - 4 miles of fishing area north of the Kasilof. The area North of the Kenai river utilizes 20 miles. If only 4 miles of beaches were utilized north of the Kenai River significant sockeye would not be harvested and staying within escapement goal would not be possible. Utilizing the NKB area would increase the area north of the Kasilof river by 4 miles for a total of 8 miles and significantly increase the efficiency of Kasilof directed harvest. The passage of proposal 181 is essential for the NKB area to be used as a tool as the Board intended in 2017.

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