

December 21, 2019

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Board Support Section

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**Subject: Cape Igvak Sockeye Salmon Fishery**

Dear Honorable Chairmen and Board Members,

I am a full-time resident of Chignik Lagoon and have been for over 35 years. For those on the Board that are not familiar with Chignik it is no stretch to say that Chignik's sockeye salmon fishery, economy, and culture are totally dependent on the two sockeye runs that return to the Chignik River system.

Regrettably our two runs are not doing well, and as a consequence we are in serious trouble. Most of us have bills that cannot be paid, boats that are in severe need of maintenance, and many of our residents are on welfare, something that was never thought of in the past. We are not looking for a handout just some fair changes, and one of those is in the Igvak fishery.

In the 1970's when the Board assigned a 15% allocation to the Igvak fishery it was justified because Chignik was doing extremely well and Kodiak was not. At the time the Kodiak sockeye runs were weak, too weak to support a healthy fishery. Now their runs are strong and Kodiak no longer needs Igvak. It is Chignik that now needs relief and the Board can provide it.

Because of our situation, I ask on behalf of my family and other Chignik Lagoon residents that the Board end the Igvak fishery by reducing the allocation from 15% to 0%. It would be a fair thing.

Sincerely,