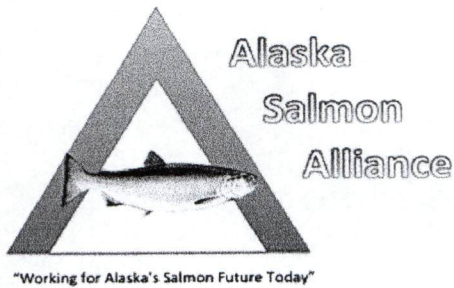


RC 195



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February 7, 2014

Mr. Glenn Haight  
Executive Director  
Alaska Board of Fisheries  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: Harvest priorities and needs of Alaska Salmon Alliance seafood processing companies; also reference ASA RC 114.

The Alaska Salmon Alliance would like to inform the Board of Fisheries of the harvest priorities and needs of our member seafood processing companies.

**Our top priority is an orderly harvest spread out over an extended period of time.**

- Cook Inlet sockeye salmon caught in saltwater in early and mid July is of a higher quality and is of more value to seafood processors than sockeye caught in later July.
- Sockeye sold on the fresh market has a significantly higher value than when frozen. Supplying a fresh market requires regular, predictable harvests of fish spread out over time.

**Compressed harvests cause serious problems.**

- In recent years, processors have purchased up to 30% of the sockeye pack in one day.
- Product quality and value inevitably suffer.
- Maintaining a stable labor force is made enormously more difficult.
- Processors may be forced to put harvesters on limits during peak abundance, with economic loss to all.

Arni Thomson  
Alaska Salmon Alliance