

Response to RC 183. Modify proposal 117 as proposed in RC 183

Board members and all. After much contemplation I have decided I can support 117 as modified by the proposer in RC 183. I like the spirit of working things out. Let's see if that works for a couple of years.

I fish chums different than some others. It is kind of like fly fishing with a dry fly you tied yourself, I tie my own chum bugs, versus throwing hardware and bait at trout. I have fished a lot of gear for chums as we were learning how to maximize production. I had my two boys, champion wrestlers, and myself in my 40's running gear. We ran up to 50 spreads a line and the boys raced each other pulling fish and setting gear. But, then when they moved on to other boats, my wife and I fished together in our 50's. We could not run the volumes of gear I used to. So I started running less gear, 10-12 spreads a line, and concentrating on putting the bugs they wanted, and they were different every year, or week, on the fish. I learned so much. It made me a much better troller for all species. So, running vast volumes of gear and trolling in a straight line as described in RC 183 is called "power" while putting less gear on the fish, with all kinds of tricks to get them to bite, is called "finesse" on my boat. I am 72 years old now and my wife has retired so I mostly take young women athletes, who are good working gear with their nimble hands, and have rebuilt my boat to be ergonomic for them, and me. But, because of "finesse" I am still a top chum salmon producer. Last year was one of my best ever even though I did not fish long hours. I heard some of the testimony that "chums" often don't bite. To me, they always bite. It just takes me and my partners longer some years to figure out exactly what it will take to trigger them to load the gear. But, once we started figuring it out, I have found they always bite. From the net pens in Neets Bay, to miles off shore, I can get them to bite. The best places are when they are schooled up like Crawfishes or Neets Bay, or Deep Inlet. But they have always bit with a little "finesse".

Thank you for all your good work on all the proposals.

Eric Jordan

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