

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
AMENDED FINDINGS AND POLICY REGARDING
SUBSISTENCE USE OF COOK INLET SALMON

Resolution
#81-91-FB

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see also #77-27-FB,
#78-42-FB,
#79-50-FB,
#81-88-FB,
#81-90-FB,
#81-95-FB

The Board of Fisheries finds that the past and current permitting system and regulations governing subsistence fishing in Cook Inlet do not necessarily reflect and protect the customary and traditional use of salmon resources in the area. Evidence presented to the Board at its fall 1980 meeting described certain customary and traditional practices and procedures of utilizing fish in Cook Inlet. This evidence described and established a basis for allowing those persons who engage in the uses to be given a reasonable opportunity to harvest fish in the historically established places, manners, times, and quantities.

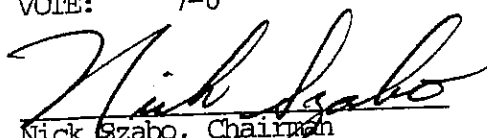
The evidence suggests that customary and traditional uses continue to be nutritionally, economically, and socially important, particularly in the non-road-connected villages of Cook Inlet. These uses shall be identified by applying all of the following characteristics:

- (1) A long-term, stable, reliable pattern of use and dependency, excluding interruption generated by outside circumstances, e.g., regulatory action or fluctuations in resource abundance.
- (2) A use pattern established by an identified community, subcommunity, or group having preponderant concentrations of persons showing past use.
- (3) A use pattern associated with specific stocks and seasons.
- (4) A use pattern based on the most efficient and productive gear and economical use of time, energy, and money.
- (5) A use pattern occurring in reasonable geographic proximity to the primary residence of the community, group, or individual.
- (6) A use pattern occurring in locations with easiest and most direct access to the resources.
- (7) A use pattern which includes a history of traditional modes of handling, preparing, and storing the product (without precluding recent technological advances).
- (8) A use pattern which includes the intergenerational transmission of activities and skills.
- (9) A use pattern in which the effort and products are distributed on a community and family basis (including trade, bartering, sharing, and gift-giving).
- (10) A use pattern which includes reliance on subsistence taking of a range of wild resources in proximity to the community or primary residency.

Evidence indicates that these use patterns may occur in road-connected communities as well as in the non-road-connected areas. The Board intends that these use patterns be identified and acknowledged in regulations. The Board will apply all of the above-described characteristics to communities, subcommunities, groups, and individuals in order to determine which uses are customary and traditional and therefore are eligible for the subsistence priority.

ADOPTED: Anchorage, Alaska
April 6, 1981

VOTE: 7-0


Nick Szabo, Chairman