

Eagle AC  
Supplementary Comments to BOF  
2025

Prop. 15 & 16 Yukon River 4” mesh

1. Mainstem Fall Chum have not met escapement Goals for 6 Straight years.
2. Mainstem Fall chum are in great danger of extirpation. **Every Fish Count now**
3. Purpose of the Proposals is to put in place strong conservation measure to protect mainstem Fall Chum
4. Original proposals are Stronger Regulations then Amended Proposals. Setting years for closures as opposed to In Season assessment Management ...Strongest protection would be for “INSEASON projections” to be replaced with “PRESEASON projections” in the proposal language.
5. Oopps! management is a very strong concern. Contributing to declines over time not meeting escapement goals.
6. Chum Stocks this depleted will not recover in 2 years. More likely 1-2 life cycles 4-8 years
7. Current management does not protect Discreet stocks and smaller more dispersed stocks. Fall Chum Stocks are spread out over a huge Geographic area!
8. Fish are getting smaller less fecund, therefore less productive. Size matters greatly, larger older fish have a much greater values to reproduction due to more Egg mass and genetics to produce larger older fish.
9. MDN) Marine Derived Nutrients are critical for ecosystem health and survival in very early life stages of fry. Past Chum salmon massive runs also benefitted Chinook Salmon rebuilding as well in shared eco systems habitat, also crucial now for Chinook rebuilding.
10. Upper river community have the highest dependance on Salmon resources on the entire Yukon River. Loss of Salmon, (Chinook and Chum) along with very low Moose and Caribou, and Bear numbers are greatly impacting food security and cultural practices. In our community.

## Proposal 17. 6” mesh allowance

1. Split vote 2 support 5 oppose.
2. We strongly support subsistence fisheries that target NON Salmon Species for the purpose of food security and Salmon conservation.
3. We have strong Concerns for Over Harvest of Older Age class fish.
4. These fish once depleted take decades to rebuild. It is not clearly understood the Stock composition of age classes for non-salmon fish that would be harvested in larger mesh gear in these areas.
5. Sport fish regulations often protect larger older age class fish in recognition for conservation management to protect the most productive component of the local stocks. This should also be foundational to subsistence fishing management.
6. **We would recommend to the BOF that increasing mesh size be delayed until quality analysis of what harvest pressure it can maintain of stocks can be determined.**
7. Our position is strongly affected by our personal experience with Over Harvest of older more productive age classes and how that loss has led to complete Subsistence closers in our area, and the extreme hardship it has placed upon us.

We do not want to see others suffer this same fate, due to poor long-term conservation of local stocks.

## Resolutions: Stock of Conservation Concern.

Eagle AC passed Resolutions to Classify both Mainstem Chinook and Fall chum As a Stock of Conservation Concern

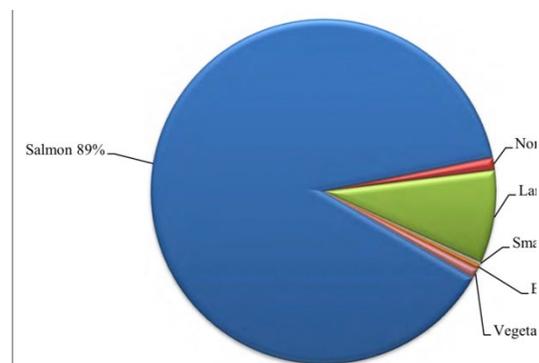
We are shocked to find out that the State of Alaska Dept of Fish and Game has no method or means to place an endangered Stock with this designation, at this time.

The Sustainable Salmon policy has been in place for over two decades, with many stocks statewide in a slow steady decline. How is it that this oversight has happened?

Eagle AC makes a strong recommendation to the current BOF to make this a top priority through its authority, and in close collaboration with the Alaska State legislative body.

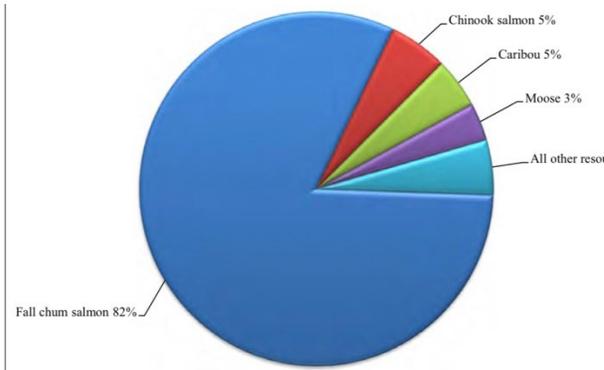
## Closing Recommendations

1. We are in a new Paradigm in the Ecosystem. **Status Quo of management and regulations will not benefit wild fish stocks.** Attention to Hatchery over production, Area M Intercept, and Trawl fleet BYCATCH must be addressed with long term sustainable resource management plans, taking into account the unknowns in a fast-changing Marine Eco system.
2. Regulatory bodies BOF, NPMC, YRP, NOAA must begin to form a collaborative effort to manage our fisheries alongside indigenous people through Co Management of our Shared resources.
3. Wild Stock Must be given TOP priority. All Alaskans share and Benefit from these resources, They ARE the most cost effective and sustainable resource of the state if managed with long term sustainability in mind.
4. **When we Take care of the Fish,  
WE take care of the people who rely on them**
5. **It is better to have less for a short time,  
Than nothing forever!**



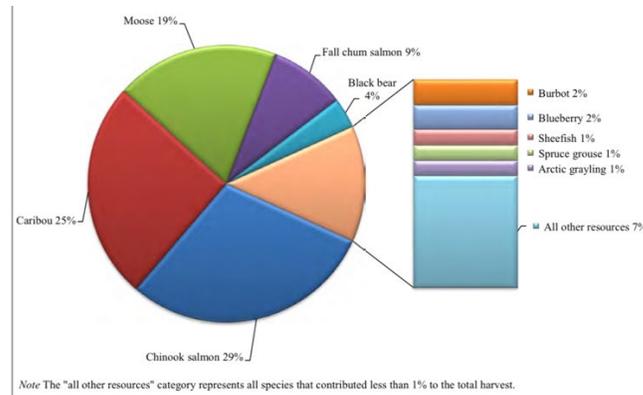
*Note Categories that have 0 lb of usable weight are not included.*

Figure 4-13.—Composition of harvest by percentage of edible weight, Eagl



Note The "all other resources" category represents all species that contributed less than 1% to the total harvest.

Figure 4-14.-Top resources harvested by percentage of total harvest weight, Eagle



Note The "all other resources" category represents all species that contributed less than 1% to the total harvest.

Figure 4-15.-Top resources harvested for human consumption by percentage of harvest for human consumption, Eagle, 2017.

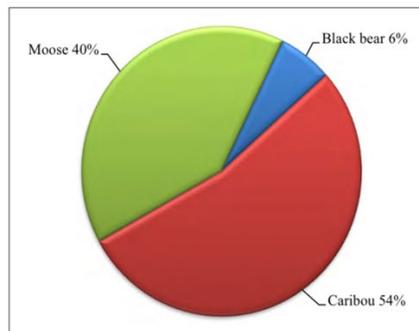


Figure 4-22.-Composition of large land mammal harvest by percentage of edible weight, Eagle, 2017.



Size Matters 30lbs v.s. 12lbs fecundity at Eagle 2005 Chinook



14 lbs Chinook “Torpedo fish” loss of girth and egg mass capacity



Teslin river Chinook 1980's massive egg mass



4" mesh 50mm MEF Shee fish. average catch two days Eagle



middle/ lower Yukon Pike

Wolves pulling & destroying 4" x 30' net (3 times this summer

