

Homer Charter Association

Board of Fisheries
Office of the Governor
PO Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811

November 12, 2023

Re: Homer Charter Association supports raising the GHL under Proposition 9

Dear Board of Fisheries members,

The Homer Charter Association (HCA) is a trade group based in Homer, Alaska, that represents guided recreational stakeholders in the Alaskan communities of the Lower Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak. The HCA is a pillar within the cooperative framework of fishers, fleets, and marine trade workers that make our region strong and our communities resilient.

The HCA is writing to support raising the Lower Cook Inlet winter king salmon guideline harvest level (GHL) under Proposition 9 from 4,500 to 5,500.

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Proposition 9 seeks guidance in managing the Lower Cook Inlet winter king salmon fishery. The fishery has exceeded its current GHL every year since it was implemented in 2016. The existing GHL lacks scientific backing and is arbitrary. ADF&G analysis shows that king salmon harvests during the winter months are at and have been at sustainable levels. Consistent overages and ADF&G data support raising the GHL to 5,500 to bring it in line with historic and sustainable harvest levels.

The majority of anglers participating in the winter king fishery are locals and Alaska residents accessing the resource. Therefore, HCA supports raising the GHL to reflect current and responsible harvest levels and bring ADF&G management plan in line with data and usage.

We thank you for your consideration of our stance on the proposal, and if there are any additional questions, please contact the below email.

Thank you,

Avery Ault
President, Homer Charter Association
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