From: <u>greg.streveler@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Greg Streveler</u>

To: Sam Owen

**Subject:** Comment on the Eklutna River Draft Fish and Wildlife Program

**Date:** Monday, February 19, 2024 5:25:04 PM

## Dear Owners of The Eklutna Hydroelectric Project,

I am a retired biologist and consultant with long experience in multidisciplinary, complex resource questions. It is rare in my experience that you are within grasp of rolling back an obvious ecological/social wrong of such major dimensions. There will always be appetite for satisfying human "needs", invariably by invoking "balance", an equation where the environment always have to retreat.

Don't we all see that we have come to a point where this has to stop; that when an opportunity like Eklutna comes along to actually tip things back toward nature, this must be done?

Despite the Governor's sentiments, our emphasis should not always be toward d"developing" Alaska; its golden characteristic is NOT that so much remains to exploit, its that there is so much intactness to cherish - in a world where intactness is vanishingly rare.

Please opt for fish, all species, in the Elkutna system - don't leave out sockeyes, whose prognosis in the region is good and bids well to make the lake highly productive for this particularly valuable species. This is not only correct on its face, it would also stand as a pivot point, where the boosterism Anchorage has perennially stood for was reversed in favor of the future.

Thank you. Greg Streveler

Sincerely, Greg Streveler 23 Spruce Ln Gustavus, AK 99826 greg.streveler@gmail.com