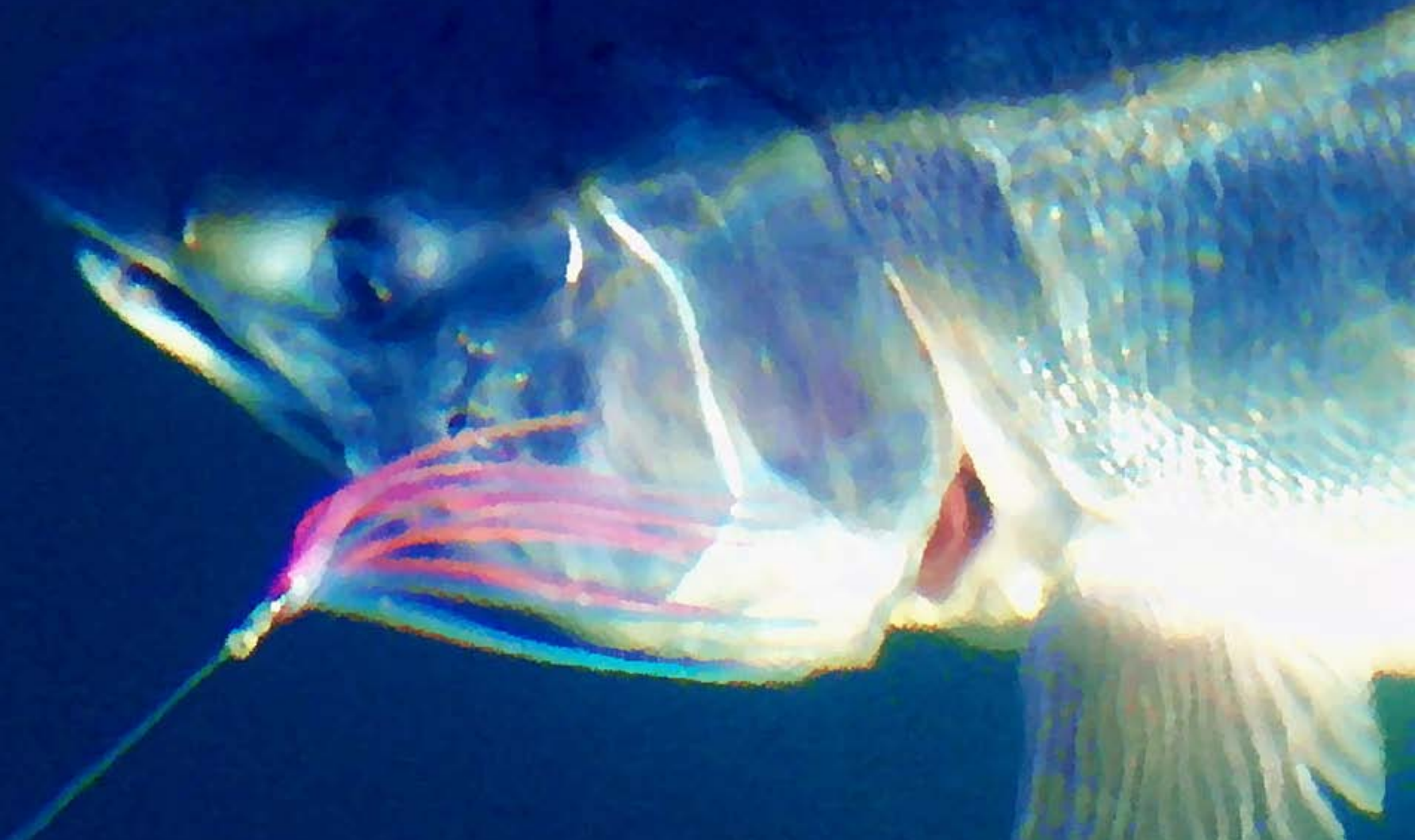


# ***The Best Bitters?***





Perspective of a longtime Hooker

*Here is what I want you to take home from this presentation:*

- Pinks and chums are great biters;
- Troll gear is highly selective at targeting chums
- SE enhanced salmon allocation, markets, and troller innovation means more troll harvest;
- Management needs to recognize and adapt.

*Which salmon species bites the best?*

*Why?*





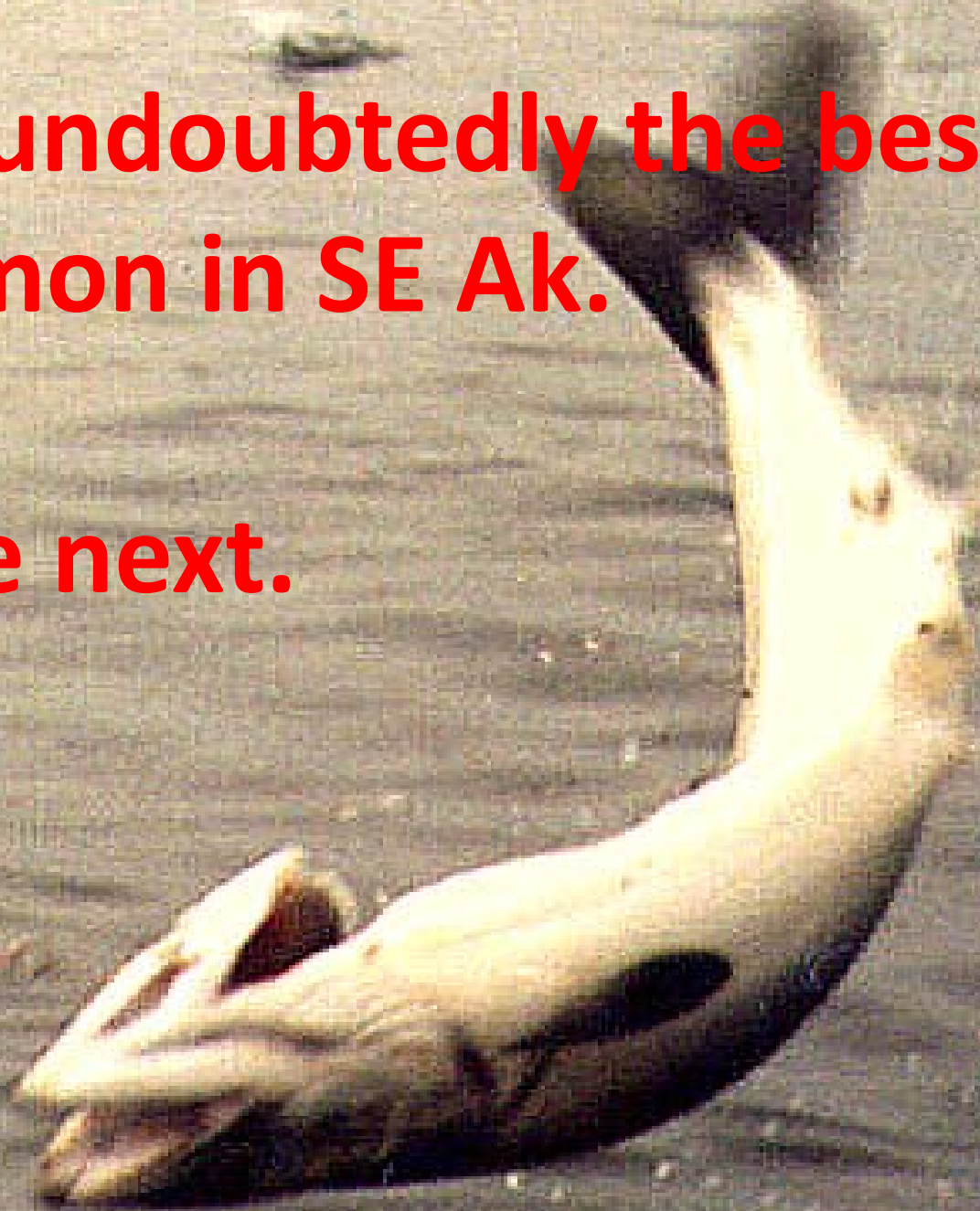




**Pinks are undoubtedly the best  
biting salmon in SE Ak.**

**Chums are next.**

**But why?**



*Chinook and coho are predators.*

*Predators hunt, capture, gorge, and then digest  
for hours or days.*






*“Chums are plankton eaters they  
have to feed all day, every day.  
We will catch hundreds  
a day.”*

*Pat Wood,  
troller,  
circa 1990.*



*Pat was right!*





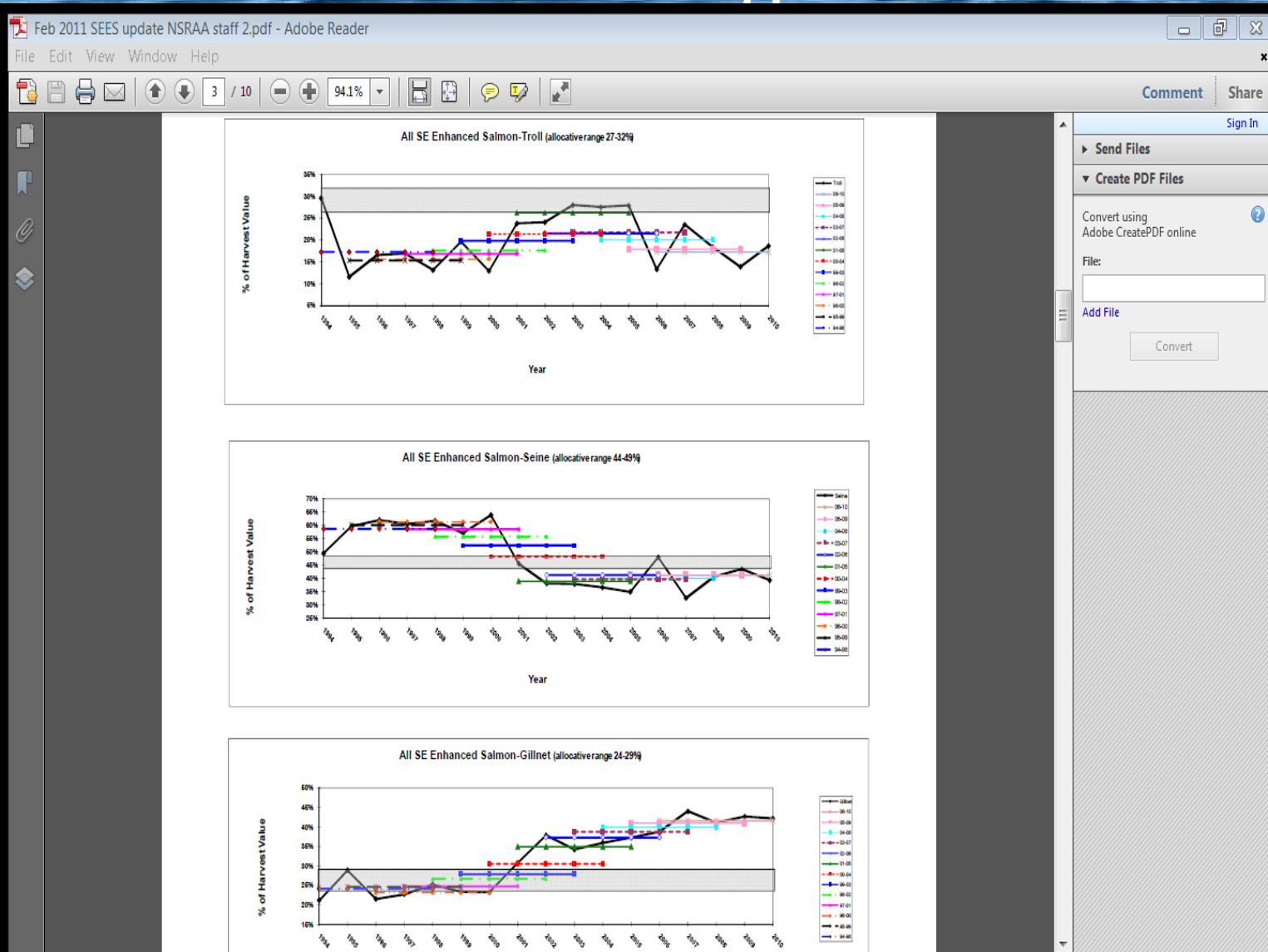
*Trollers started targeting chums in SE Alaska in 1988 when they were abundant, the coho run was weak, and the dressed chum price was over \$2.00 per lb.*

*In 2011 SE trollers harvested 680,000 chums worth over \$4,000,000.00.*





# What does this mean for management?



2011 Directed Troll Chum salmon vs all salmon harvest ratio's 2011					
Chum vs.	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	
Icy Strait	633:01	394:01	81:01	1.2:1	harvest during spring troll fisheries
Neets/W.Behm	471:01	812:01	160:01	11:01	harvest during summer retention

2010	Troll Chums	Hatchery	Wild	Icy Straits
Stat. Wk	Number Sampled	Number Marked <sup>1</sup>	Number No Mark	% Marked <sup>1</sup>
26	213	188	25	88%
27	163	152	11	93%
Grand Total	752	680	72	90%
2011				
Stat. Wk	Number Sampled	Number Marked <sup>1</sup>	Number No Mark	% Marked <sup>1</sup>
25	220	187	33	85%
26	242	205	37	85%
27	91	85	6	93%
Grand Total	553	477	76	86%

*Pinks and chums are great biters;*

*Troll gear is highly selective at targeting hatchery chums.*

*SE enhanced salmon allocation, markets, and troller innovation means more troll harvest;*

*Management needs to **recognize and adapt.***

