

AFOGNAK RESERVATION.

The usual requirements in respect to commercial fishing in the Afognak Reservation were complied with by the issuance of fishing licenses to <sup>about</sup> some 45 natives who desired to engage in such activities. Their work was placed under the immediate supervision of W. E. Baumann, of Afognak, who was temporarily employed as a patrolman.

The natives lost the usual May and June fishing on account of delays in securing licenses and were therefore unable to begin operations until July. Though a considerable part of the run of salmon had passed into the streams before that date, the natives made a fair catch (of salmon) and averaged a higher return for their season's <sup>work</sup> fishing than ever before. This was due largely, if not wholly, to the fact that the Federal Food Administration fixed the price <sup>of</sup> salmon at a considerably higher rate than they <sup>natives</sup> had ever before received (for their salmon). The bulk of the catch was sold to the Kodiak Fisheries Co., at Kodiak, <sup>although</sup> Wasilie Necrassoff, a native of Afognak, pickled a few barrels of cohos, humpbacks, and reds, and the Northern Fisheries, Inc., secured <sup>a few</sup> some cohos from Litnik Bay. ~~If the Afognak natives~~

No special close seasons were enforced at any of the <sup>localities</sup> fisheries, except that all commercial fishing was prohibited in Pauls Bay and Litnik Bay at which places the salmon were desired for ~~purpose~~ of propagation. Just before the run of cohos began in Litnik Bay, this <sup>prohibition</sup> order was <sup>withdrawn</sup> rescinded to meet the recommendation of the superintendent of the fishcultural station on Afognak Lake that the taking of cohos would be beneficial to the hatchery work ~~maintained~~ by reducing the number of enemies of the red salmon fry and fingerlings. Young coho salmon grow much more rapidly than ~~the~~ red salmon, usually attaining a length of six to eight inches in the two years of their <sup>they</sup>

to eating  
more paid the price fixed by the Federal Food Administration  
they received approximately \$7.75 for their catch.

*remain*  
 life in fresh water during which time, it is said, they feed largely <sup>up</sup> on the common fry of the red salmon. Considerable credence had been placed in the report that the run of ~~adipose~~ cohos in Litnik Bay attained fair proportions sufficient to attract and induce the natives to undertake commercial fishing for them. The results of fishing ~~which was~~ carried on during September seem to ~~show that only a few cohos~~ negative these reports, as the catch was less than <sup>3,000</sup> ~~2,500~~ fish.

Catch of Salmon by Species, in the Afognak Reservation in 1918 ~~which was sold to the Kadiak Fisheries Co.~~

Locality.	Species.				Total.
	Coho.	Chum.	Humpback.	King.	
Malena . . . . .	....	3	7247	...	12899
Paramanoff . . . . .	..	118	40500	...	22335
Seal Bay . . . . .	6	...	2	1	6544
Little Afognak . . . . .	1881	...	23042	...	7884
Danger Bay .. . . .	1012	...	.....	...	.....
Litnik Bay . . . . .	2252	...	.....	...	.....
Total . . . . .	5151	121	70791	1	80662

*The above table does not include the small number of coho salmon purchased by the Northern Fisheries, Inc. as not included in the above table.*

*Comment  
 added  
 to  
 Northern Fisheries*

A system of apportioning the district among the fishermen so as to prevent overfishing and at the same time <sup>to enable all to enjoy equal</sup> ~~provide for a more equitable division of opportunity~~ was tried in 1918 and seemed to be very satisfactory to the natives of Afognak. Under this <sup>plan</sup> ~~order~~ of things, the number of natives at any one fishery was limited; the various fields were assigned to natives from certain localities who were to enjoy the ~~slight~~ privileges thus guaranteed with-

out interference on the part of ~~whom~~ those whose object seemed to be to  
take the <sup>best</sup> cream at each place. This ~~movement~~ <sup>moving</sup> from place to place, just as the  
run of fish was good, benefitted comparatively few of the fishermen and always  
the ~~same~~ <sup>one</sup> ones. All fields on the west side of Afognak Island were reserved  
for the exclusive use of the natives of Afognak, while the ~~Quinika~~ <sup>Spence Id</sup> natives  
could operate only at the fisheries on the east side of ~~the~~ <sup>Afognak</sup> island but not  
exclusively. All the fishing <sup>grounds</sup> ~~places~~ on the island were ~~to be~~ open to the  
Afognak natives as distinguished from those <sup>from Spence Id.</sup> of ~~Quinika~~ <sup>prescribed</sup> within the limits ~~regarding~~  
~~regarding~~ the number of men who might fish at any given place.

Though no seasonal closings were observed in 1918, it does not seem ad-  
visable to discontinue such regulations at the chief points of operation.  
~~While the primary purpose of is the conservation of the fisheries,~~  
~~Ordinarily, the Bureau is not especially concerned with the condition of the~~  
~~natives of Alaska, but in a general way the work affects more closely their~~  
~~vocations, than any other branch of the Government's service, because the most~~  
~~of them are fishermen and trappers. In the Afognak Reservation, however, the~~  
~~Department of Commerce has absolute control and any thing it may do in the re-~~  
~~gulation of fishery operations therein should be directed toward the greatest~~  
~~benefit to the natives without injury to the fisheries.~~

*its operations very*  
*for the reason that*  
*every*  
*possibl. will be done*  
*for*

~~Table~~

*northern fisheries. One took salmon  
from Afognak waters, but has  
not reported.*

*EMB. - April 5, 1919.*

*is being*

Apparatus and Approximate Fishing Season,  
Afoognak Reservation, 1918.

Beauties	Seined						Fishing Season Began Ended,
	Coho	Chum	Humpo	Kings	Redo	<del>Redo Looney</del> Gilled	
Seal Bay	6		2	1	6160	384	6/17- 8/2
Little Afoognak	1881		23,042		7834	50	6/15- 9/20
Danger Bay	1012						9/3 - 9/10
Litnik Bay	2252						9/3 - 9/14
Molina		5	7247		12,674	1225	6/18- 8/3
Param <sup>an</sup> off		118	40,500		22,335		6/13 - 8/3
	5157	121	70,791	1	49,003	1659	

This table excludes the small number of salmon from Afoognak waters purchased by the Northern Fishers, Inc.