

Contact:
Gage Hoffman
907-543-7308
ghoffman@avcp.org



AVCP Will Testify at Major Fishery Conference

All eyes will be on Sitka, Alaska this week as the North Pacific Fishery Management Council meets to discuss the devastating impacts of the salmon shortage in our region. Among those testifying to demand solutions will be Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Chief Executive Office Vivian Korthuis and AVCP Director of Natural Resources Jennifer Hooper.

“Our region, our way of life is in crisis, and we need action from the council. Data from experts from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game shows that Western Alaska Chinook salmon runs in 2020 and 2021 are the lowest they have been in 30 years. 2022 projects the same dismal forecast. What your reports do not show are the families in Western Alaska who are worrying about putting away enough fish to feed their children throughout the winter and the parents and grandparents who are unable to pass their way of life down to their children and grandchildren.” says AVCP Chief Executive Officer Vivian Korthuis.

The week-long meeting will feature testimony from several stakeholders including Tribes, scientists, and fishery experts from the region.

“Now is the time for the answers and action”, says AVCP Director of Natural Resources Jennifer Hooper. Hooper adds, “we will be calling for Tribes to be engaged on a government-to-government basis, we expect Indigenous knowledge to be used in decision making and we want the immediate reduction of bycatch.”

AVCP is a leading voice of advocacy on matters of natural resources. Our people view subsistence as a foundational part of who we are and what connects generations.

The AVCP communication team is committed to following the North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting from start to finish. Please follow the events at avcp.org by going to the newsroom under News & Events. Our coverage will include complete AVCP testimony and helpful informational stories.

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For additional information, please contact AVCP Communications Director, Gage Hoffman at 907-543-7308 or email at ghoffman@avcp.org

AVCP is a regional nonprofit tribal consortium comprised of the 56 federally recognized tribes of the YK Delta. The geographic boundaries of AVCP extend from the Yukon River Village of Russian Mission downstream to the Bering Sea coast, north up through Kotlik and south along the coastline to Platinum and then extending up the Kuskokwim River to Stony River, including Lime Village on the Stony River tributary. The area encompasses approximately 6.5 million acres, or 55,000 square miles, in Western Alaska.