

On the price-fixing lawsuit

A lawsuit is in progress which charges a number of Bristol Bay fish processors with price-fixing. The alleged request was to deprive area fishers of millions of dollars.

Recent news reports indicate that many fishers (as well as local governments and other organizations) are steering clear of the lawsuit in droves. We note their concerns, the fear that joining the suit will compromise their ability to sell current and future catches. It is easy to over-simplify and hard to second-guess from a distance, but we regret this fear-driven rationale.

It's a shame that after all these years our fishing industry is still so captive to foreign economic interests. And it's a shame we can't see that concerted, cooperative action (like a class-action lawsuit and other measures) could make all the difference.

As the patriot once said, we must all hang together, or most assuredly, we'll all hang separately.