

December 11, 2012

Submitted by Board Members Kluberton and Webster

The Upper Cook Inlet Task Force met on November 16, 2012 in Kenai.

PURPOSE OF THE UPPER COOK INLET TASK FORCE:

- To identify and discuss alternative management strategies that allow set gillnetting for sockeye salmon in the East Side Set gillnet fishery (ESSN) and inriver use of Kenai River king salmon during times when the department projects the abundance of late-run king salmon will be below the escapement goal.
 - Input from the public is imperative.
- To bring forward a set of recommendations to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) at the March 2013 Statewide Finfish meeting.
 - Should have board generated proposal several weeks in advance of the March BOF meeting.
 - Town hall style meetings with the focus on task force members similar to BOF committee meetings. Consensus on alternatives is preferred but not necessary for the BOF to discuss changes.
 - Management alternatives would likely be reflected in the Late Run King Salmon Management Plan *5AAC 21.359*.