Mat Valley AC Additional Comments from AC Meeting 10-30-13 RC_ BOF Proposals 292 - 308

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Prop	S	0	Α	Title	Author	Date
292	Φ.	0	0	Modify Management Plan to restrict commercial king salmon fishing in the Northern District if sport fishing in the Deshka River is restricted to articifical lures, or close commercial king salmon fishing in the Northern District if sport fishing is restricted to catch and release or closed in Susitna River tributary streams upriver from the Deshka River.	MSBFWC	10/30
				One committee member liked the section (12). that was very clear, and stated with the way (13) was written the commercial season would also be closed if king salmon sport fisheries were closed upstream of Deshka River. He mentioned that there was not a specific number of king salmon fisheries that would need to be closed other than a minimum of 2 streams upstream from Deshka River. Two members of the public mentioned they felt like the idea and it should be in regulation to close the commercial fishery if sport fishing were closed in tributary streams upstream of Deshka River. It was pointed out that when the Department restricts or closes king salmon fishing in Unit 2, it usually puts the same restrictions / closures on all streams in that unit. These are the streams that have road access and are heavily used by the public sport anglers. In 2013 all of the streams were closed to sport king salmon harvest. It was suggested that the Committee might support the proposal but consider some other actions. Should likely be considered by whole Advisory Committee Proposal passed 3-0-0.		
293	9	0	0	Modify management plan to restrict commercial set gillnet fishing to one regular 12 hour period per week in the Northern District if sport fishing in the Deshka River is restricted to artificial lures; or close the Northern District to commercial fishing, if sport fishing is closed in the Little Susitna River, Fish Creek, Jim Creek, or Deshka River	Andy Couch	
				Considering proposal 293 this would put standard restrictions to the commercial fishery when restrictions were put on sport fisheries		
294	9	0	0	Modify management plan to manage Northern District commercial salmon fisheries based on abundance of Northern District sockeye and coho salmon	AOC	

				Proposal 294 Would task ADF&G with using salmon weir counts on FIsh Creek and Little Susitna River in their commercial management on the Northern District commercial salmon fishery. Both FIsh Creek and Little Susitna are much lower in the river systems and should provide better inseason management capability for the Department. Fish and Game comments were that Little Susitna has earlier coho run timing and that Fish Creek has earlier sockeye run timing.		
295	0	9	0	Amend management plan to remove reference to Northern District coho, late-run Kenai River king, Kenai River coho salmon stocks, and add language that states the department shall manage common property fisheries for a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.	CPAC	
				Proposal 295 Removing specific sport oriented language would likely result in much less harvest and fishing opportunity for subsistence, sport and personal use salmon fisheries. Emergency orders based on abundance often impact users differently.		
296	9	0	0	Adopt a Deshka River king salmon management plan	MSBFWC	
				Proposal 296 Requests a Deshka River king salmon management plan that provides considerable leeway for Department management. A preseason plan could eliminate angler confusion and allow year specific changes may be implemented in the regulation book. Department has been opposed to a management plan in the past. Stakeholders have a big problem with not knowing ahead of time what is happening that is not currently being addressed by ADF&G		
297	9	0	0	Adopt a Deshka River king salmon management plan	MVAC	
				Proposal 297 A more rigid management Deshka River king salmon management plan – similar discussion as above.		
298	1	8	0	Allow use of bait in the Deshka River on June 1 instead of May 15	MSBFWC	
				Proposal 298 Would start bait for king salmon fishing on Deshka River on June 1 rather than May 15. May provide additional protection for king salmon bound further up the Susitna River system. No proof that a larger portion of the fish harested at this time of year are bound for systems other than Deshka River.		
299	Т	N	Α	Stock Deshka River with King Salmon	John MCombs	
				Proposal 299 does not address any specific regulation. No Action.		
300	8	0	1	Establish an OEG for Deshka River Coho	MVAC	

				Proposal 300 would establish a Deshka River coho salmon goal. ADF&G memo does not support a coho goal on Deshka River. Inseason management wise run timing may not offer much improvement. ADF&G questions is Deshka River a reliable index of the Susitna River? Department wonders if perhaps a drainage wide approach would be better — But how long would it take to develop a drainage-wide coho salmon escapement goal. Coho are different than king salmon in that they to some extent they seek out the farthest available spawning areas and scatter all over. ADF&G has 11 years of complete weir counts and many additional years of minimum counts (with additional fish likely past the weir). A weir goal would be valuable for post season assessment. Real obvious large or small numbers of coho salmon passing the weir would allow inseason management changes. Members of the subcommittee are quite upset that ADF&G has not established a coho salmon goal for any stream on the Susitna River system. There is an extreme shortage of coho salmon escapement goals throughout Upper Cook Inlet and coho salmon are particularly important for both commercial and sport users in this portion of Upper Cook Inlet. Approximately 2 years ago ADF&G personal including the Regional Supervisor came before the Matanuska - Susitna Borough FIsh and Wildlife Commission and said the Department would be developing a Deshka River coho salmon goal. With only more additional information available what has caused the Department to change its position. Deshka River coho salmon is a large enough coho salmon fishery and stock that a goal should be established.		
301	9	0	0	Adopt a SEG or OEG for Kashwitna	MSBFWC	
				Proposal 301 requests the Board adopt a sustainable king salmon escapement goal for the Kashwitna River. ADF&G position — Sheep Creek is already difficult to count because of high water conditions. North Fork of Kashwitna is usually very clear, but somewhat of a smaller stream — ADF&G has been counting this stream since at least 1977. Kashwitna has better data than many of the other king salmon streams with goals when their goals were established. If state is paying people to count fish — we would like to see the department use that information for management purposes. For active management this stream needs a goal. King salmon stocks throughout the Northern Management area are in trouble, so it is more important at this time to track this stream with a call.		
302	0	9	0	Prohibit sport fishing for all salmon in Larson Creek and its confluence with the Talkeetna river from june 1- sept 30	UCIDA	

				Proposal 302, 303, and 304 would prohibit all fishing within one quarter mile of the mouth of Larson Creek in the Talkeetna River Drainage from June 1 - September 30. Sport fishing for salmon in Larson Creek was already greatly reduced by area and this is the only area that still remains open to salmon. This is already a very small and limited fishery that allows anglers to catch a limited number of sockeye salmon. ADF&G may oppose these proposals. Angler days or effort at this location may be less than 500 days per season — harvest is very low perhaps 500—600 fish or up to 1600 in a higher year. This proposal seems to be an attempt to force sport anglers to shoulder most of the escapement burden with a total closure at this location. According to ADF&G there is no biological reason to support these proposals.		
303	0	9	0	Prohibit sport fishing in larson creek and its confluence with Talkeetna River from June 15 - Aug 15	Steve Vanek	
				See above		
304	0	9	0	Prohibit Sport Fishing a the outlet of Larson lake	John Mcombs	
				See Above		
305	0	9	0	Close the Fish Creek drainage to sport fishing for Salmon	Mat Schwab	
				Proposal 305 would close a portion of Fish Creek in the Talkeetna River drainage to salmon fishing. Current regulation already allows only one unbaited artificial lure. Fish Creek can provide a clear water area to target salmon off the Talkeetna River and there fore a good area to fish for salmon in a place where good fishing spots are limited especially when the Talkeetna River is high and muddy. Concerning the area near Papa Bear lake if this is where a problem occurs with fish staging to spawn then perhaps something could be done at that upstream location. There are already regulations in place that sport anglers follow. Motion Failed 0-4-0. At this point we see no biological reason to support.		
306	9	0	0	Move several lakes from Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage to Unit 1 House keeping	Dept	
307	9	0	0	Extend subsistence salmon fishery from july 31 to the 1st MWF in Aug	Tom Payton	
				Proposal 307 Would allow a more reasonable opportunity to harvest sockeye salmon in a subsistence fishery — this would allow the fishery to have 3 open dates in August. Harvest has been approximately 300 - 500 per year. Motion Unanimously approved 4-0-0. ADF&G subsistence division should be providing the data on this fishery, but we did not have the benefit to hear from the subsistence division concerning how this fishery might work.		

308	8	1	0	Allow salmon to be harvested by dip net upstream of the Yentna/Susitna Confluence to an ADF&G marker 300 ft downstream	SCADA	
				Proposal 308 would expand the open area of the subsistence fishery and allow the use of dip net harvests in the fishery. Members are conflicted in that they would like to allow all Alaskans an opportunity to participate in a subsistence fishery — at the same time AC members recognize that Susitna River sockeye salmon are a stock of concern and there is trouble achieving the 3 Susitna River goals. What does it mean if subsistence is a priority, yet because of the current restrictions to the fishery only XXX salmo are harvested per year. In the Copper River subsistence fishery it should be noted that each wheel permit is allowed to harvest up to 500 salmon. One member mentioned that there are management problems.		