

Board-Generated Proposal B

February 13, 2014

Note: This language is presented in the context of changes to the language adopted by the board under Proposal 209 (RC 151)

5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.

5 AAC 21.359(b) is amended to read:

(b) The department shall manage the late run of Kenai River king salmon to achieve a sustainable escapement goal of 15,000 – 30,000 king salmon, as follows:

(1) in the sport fishery,

(A) if the sustainable escapement goal is projected to be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, extend the sport fishing season up to seven days during the first week of August;

(B) from July 1 through July 31, a person may not use more than one single hook in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake;

(2) in the sport fishery, that portion of the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake is open to unguided sport fishing from a non-motorized vessel on Mondays in July; for purposes of this section a non-motorized vessel is one that does not have a motor on board;

(3) from July 1 through July 31, if the projected inriver return of late-run king salmon is less than 17,000 [22,500] fish, in order to achieve the sustainable escapement goal and provide reasonable harvest opportunity, the commissioner may, by emergency order,

(A) establish periods in the sport fishery during which

(i) the use of bait is prohibited; or

(ii) the retention of king salmon is prohibited; if the retention of king salmon is prohibited in the Kenai River, the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict is restricted to no more than 12 hours of fishing time per week, with a 36-hour continuous closure as described in 5 AAC 21.360(c)(2)(C);

(iii) when the use of bait is prohibited the commissioner may

(A) prohibit the retention of king salmon in the personal use fishery;

(B) notwithstanding the provisions of 5 AAC 21.360(c), open fishing periods in the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict, based on the

abundance of sockeye salmon returning to the Kenai and Kasilof rivers, for no more than 36 hours per week, with a 36-hour continuous closure as described in 5 AAC 21.360(c)(2)(C), during which

(i) the number of set gillnets may be restricted to either three set gillnets that are each not more than 35 fathoms in length and 29 meshes in depth or two set gillnets that are each not more than 35 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth; or

(ii) the number of set gillnets may be restricted to either two set gillnets that are each not more than 35 fathoms in length and 29 meshes in depth or one set gillnet that is not more than 35 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth;

(iii) set gillnets used that are 29 meshes in depth must be marked as specified by the department;

[(4) FROM AUGUST 1 – AUGUST 15, IF THE PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT OF KING SALMON INTO THE KENAI RIVER IS AT LEAST 16,500, BUT LESS THAN 22,500 FISH, NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF 5 AAC 21.360(C), THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE COMMERCIAL SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT TO NO MORE THAN 36 HOURS OF FISHING TIME;]