

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE A**: Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing

February 4, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. Bonnie Williams\*, Chair
2. John Jensen
3. Vince Webster

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Tracy Lingnau CF Reg. Mgt. Biologist (note taker)
2. Paul Salomone CF Area Mgt. Biologist (note taker)
3. Rick Merizon SF Research Biologist (note taker)
4. Sam Ivey SF Asst. Area Biologist
5. Jeff Fox CF Area Management Biologist
6. Dave Rutz SF Area Management Biologist
7. Tim McKinley SF Area Research Biologist
8. Pat Shields CF Asst. Area Mgt. Biologist
9. Jeff Regnart, CF Region II Supervisor
10. John Hilsinger, CF Director
11. Al Cain, Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Bruce Knowles – Susitna Valley AC
2. Andy Couch – Matanuska Valley AC
3. Marvin Peters – Homer AC
4. Jim Stubs – Anchorage AC
5. Mike Crawford - Kenai / Soldotna AC
6. Dave Martin – Central Pen. AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Roland Maw – UCIDA
2. Tom Kluberton – Mat-Su Blue Ribbon Panel
3. Larry Engel – self
4. Pat Donelson – Mat-Su Professional Fishing Guide
5. Vincent Goddard – Processor
6. Steve Runyan – self
7. Tony Russ – self
8. Kenny Rodgers – KPFA / NDSA
9. Mac Minard – KRSA
10. Steve Tvenstrup – UCIDA
11. Mike Fenton – KRPGA
12. Jeff Beaudoin – self
13. Bob Penney – CISC
14. Christine Koski – self

15. Greg Johnson – KPFA
16. Ken Tarbox – Kenai Area Fishermans Assoc.
17. Horace Blanchard – self
18. Bruce Gabrys – self
19. Brent Johnson - KPFA

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rod Campbell USFWS/OSM

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The Committee met on February 4 at 8:30 and adjourned on February 4 at 5:00

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (38 Total) 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 93, 94, 98, 99, 90, 95, 96, 97, 110, 78, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 111, 112, 113, 119, 120

**PROPOSAL 73** - Amend the Central District Herring Management Plan regulations.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 1

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would rewrite the Central District Herring Management Plan to simplify and correct errors that have occurred in the regulation and would have no affect on harvests.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: Kenai/Soldotna, Central Pen., and Anchorage ACs

Oppose: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 74** - Prohibit use of spotter pilots.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 2

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 32, RC 51

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Spotter planes were banned during open periods in Cook Inlet beginning in 1996. At the 2005 Alaska Board of Fisheries regulatory meeting, the use of spotter planes was again allowed during open periods.

The Department of Public Safety also feels that spotters were also spotting enforcement patrols and informing the fleet.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Feels like an allocation issue against some set net fishers

**Opposition:**

- It was boards intent to provide additional fish for drift gill netters in 2005 and this proposal helps
- Doesn't necessarily help and can sometimes hurt as boats may be directed to where fish aren't so why not have it available
- It is a tool to use for finding fish but is dependent upon the fishing boats speed
- Using spotters is okay because of the small area when in corridor

**SSFP:** Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Matanuska Valley and Susitna Valley

Oppose: Homer and Central Peninsula

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 75** - Prohibit use of spotter pilots.

**Taken up with Proposal #74**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 3

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 51

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Spotter planes were banned during open periods in Cook Inlet beginning in 1996.

At the 2005 Alaska Board of Fisheries regulatory meeting, the use of spotter planes was again allowed during open periods. The Department of Public Safety also feels that spotters were also spotting enforcement patrols and informing the fleet.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #74

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #74

SSFP: Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Matanuska Valley and Susitna Valley

Oppose: Homer and Central Peninsula

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on Proposal 74

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 76** - Modify drift gillnet area for the Kasilof Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 3

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would reduce the area open to drift fishing and likely result in a lower harvest by drift gillnets and an increase in set gillnet harvest. It would also require drifters to fish closer to Karluk Reef just north of the Kasilof River in order to stay within open waters.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

Committee members brought to the attention of the board committee and it was noted that there is an error in the original proposal. (C) Kasilof Section: to a point at 60 degrees 27.10' N. lat. 151 degrees **25.05 W. long.** [25.70] should be (C) Kasilof Section: to a point at 60 degrees 27.10' N. lat. 151 degrees **25.50 W. long.** [25.70].

**Support:**

- KPFA is in favor of this proposal in that set netters will get more fish
- Current regulations allows 3-4 additional drift boats in this area which would take fish away from set nets

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to stay on the line and also is less damage to the net
- Only talking about 7 tenths of a mile and because of tides, helps drifters
- Current regulations provide for safety factors as drifters were getting caught up on the reef during ebb
- Could impact quality of fish because of towing to stay on the line
- Chances that if snagged, others could drift in with no chance of moving around
- Felt like it would take away fish for drift gillnets

SSFP: Not discussed

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**POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Anchorage

Opposed: Homer and Central Peninsula

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 77** - Redefine demarcation of Kenai and Kasilof sections.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 4

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would reduce the size of the Kasilof Section by moving the northern boundary south within ½ mile of the northern shore of the mouth of the Kasilof River.

Moving the northern boundary of the Kasilof Section to the mouth of the Kasilof River would decrease rather than improve the department's ability to manage for the escapement goals for the Kasilof or Kenai Rivers, and would tend to increase the king salmon harvest in the remaining area of the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Moving current marker south would most likely catch less Kenai fish and possibly save some Yenta stocks as well
- Intended to be a better tool to provide precision to harvest specific stocks
- Moves fish into rivers and large runs keep coming back into the Kenai
- Helps protect northern bound fish
- Sport Fish Guide Association supports this proposal

**Opposition:**

- Proposal takes away ability to harvest surplus fish going to Kasilof
- Just as important to harvest Kasilof salmon and achieve goals as it is not to harvest stocks that need to be conservatively managed
- Kenai Coalition opposed because of the current inability of making Kasilof River goals and how the migration of salmon move north of Kasilof before they move back south into river
- Terminal fishery would be used more and there would be more Kasilof kings harvested
- ADF&G Already has EO authority if necessary to close the beach
- Exacerbating overescapement problems
- The typical smaller fish caught in the Kasilof not as marketable
- Department needs this tool to provide for Kasilof management
- Don't want to have more people in the terminal harvest area as depletes ability of PU fishers
- Very allocative and would not comply with SSFP
- Concern over numbers of coho reaching spawning streams

- Trigger points already in place in management plans
- Reduction of management flexibility and concern over fixing start/ stop dates in regulation, can't respond to run size or timing.

**SSFP:** Comments made that this proposal would not comply with the SSFP criteria

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Support: Anchorage

Oppose: Homer and Central Peninsula

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 83** - Extend the Upper Subdistrict late-run sockeye salmon season to August 15.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 10

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Kasilof escapement goal has been exceeded and would provide opportunity to harvest additional Kasilof fish
- Helps fishers train a crew at a time when there are few fish
- 2005 Kenai coho conservation repealed by BOF as unnecessary and no coho concerns now
- If the fishery is extended, there are fewer fishers because most fishers have quit by this time of year and the harvest of coho salmon would be minor
- The 2006 late run showed the need to have the ability to fish later, and have more flexibility
- King harvests would very low while a lot of Kasilof sockeye are in the area and would help harvest these surplus sockeye
- It would provide additional harvest of other species such as pinks later in the season
- Dates are purely allocative and could result in a waste of fish
- All monitored northern coho streams have met or exceeded their escapement goals
- Low total catch, self regulating if low numbers of sockeye, few fishers will participate

**Opposition:**

- It would harvest additional coho salmon going into the Kenai later in the season
- Harvests additional coho
- Changes of seasons have long been debated; current management plan works as department does have flexibility to fish earlier
- Would rather have EO opportunity to open later and not have it hard wired
- Kenai fishers feel restricted with a 2 fish bag limit

- Take precautionary approach on northern bound coho
- When later periods aren't commercially fished, additional coho are seen in river
- A lot of coho move through earlier and the earlier start date may harvest those coho
- This would protect northern bound sockeye salmon
- Opposed due to coho harvests

**SSFP:** Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 79** - Remove restrictions from drift and set gillnet fisheries for coho protection.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 5

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would return the opening and closing dates in the Upper Subdistrict set and drift gillnet fishery in the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Forelands sections to what they were prior to 1999. The starting date of commercial fishing in the Kenai and East Foreland sections would be July 1 instead of July 8. In addition, the closing date would be August 15 instead of August 10 and the 1 percent rule would also be deleted. The open area for drift gillnets after August 10 would also change.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 80** - Modify the dates of the Central District for the Kenai and East Forelands sections.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 7

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would return the opening and closing dates in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery in the Kenai and East Forelands sections to what they were prior to 1999. The starting date of commercial fishing in the Kenai and East Foreland sections would be July 1 instead of July 8. In addition the closing date would be August 15 instead of August 10. This closing date of August 15 may also apply to the Kasilof Section although not specifically included in this proposal. This proposal would also delete the current closed mandatory windows.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 81** - Change season dates for Kenai and East Forelands Sections.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 8

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would extend the current fishing season for the Kenai and East Foreland sections by 7 days earlier and 5 days later. It would also allow the season to start prior to July 1, but not earlier than June 25, under the circumstance that 100,000 sockeye salmon have passed the sonar at River Mile 19. Because the Kenai sonar counter is not installed until July 1 the early starting option will never occur.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 82** - Open Kenai and East Forelands sections.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 9

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would return the season opening date to July 1, extending the current fishing season by opening the Kenai and East Foreland sections 7 days earlier. From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 84** - Allow set gillnet fishing until August 15.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 11

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 85** - Delay season closure for Kenai and East Forelands sections.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 12

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would extend the current fishing season for the Kenai and East Foreland sections by something less than 10 days. From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 86** - Specify that the set net fishery will close by emergency order.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 13

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 88** - Amend management plan (fishing season).

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 15

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete current regulatory language that closes the season on August 10 and prescribes a harvest closure based on a percentage of sockeye salmon harvested in the commercial fishery after July 31. From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 93** - Amend management plan (fishing season).

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 16

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow commercial fishing to begin as early as June 15 in the Kasilof Section if the department estimates that 25,000 sockeye salmon are in the Kasilof River by that date. The Kasilof River biological escapement goal has been exceeded 8 of 9 years. Since 2001, when the current OEG of 150,000 to 300,000 sockeye salmon was established, the OEG has been exceeded 6 of 7 years. The Kasilof River sonar project currently begins June 15 so there is little chance of a fishery prior to June 18 or 20.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 94** - Reopen set gillnet season south of Blanchard line after June 15.

**Taken up with proposal #83**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 17

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow commercial fishing to begin on the first Monday or Thursday period after June 15 in the Kasilof Section. The Kasilof River biological escapement goal has been exceeded 8 of 9 years. Since 2001, when the current OEG of 150,000 to 300,000 sockeye salmon was established, the OEG has been exceeded 6 of 7 years. The Kasilof River sonar project currently begins June 15 so there is little chance of a fishery prior to June 18 or 20.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #83

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage, Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 87** - Clarify transition between sockeye management and coho management.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 14

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: From 1978 until 1999 the commercial fishery in the Kasilof Section on the east side was managed from June 25 until August 15 to achieve sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kasilof River. During the same time period the Kenai and East Forelands Sections were managed from July 1 until August 15 for Kenai River sockeye and king salmon escapement goals. Because of a petition filed prior to the 2000 field season, coho salmon management was altered.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Would clarify to everyone on how the fishery is managed and would keep the ADF&G from extending periods
- This would provide more coho for inriver users

**Opposition:**

- Not agreed upon date as others testified
- Would close season earlier in some years, reducing the ability to harvest the excess sockeye salmon
- Want regulations that are easily enforceable and understandable
- Catch reports late and may erroneously affect management decisions
- Allocation to the Kenai has been exceeded and this would only increase overescapement providing fish for inriver harvests that won't be harvested

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Oppose.

AC Positions: Support: Anchorage

Oppose: Ninilchik and Kenai/Soldotna

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 98** - Restrict drift gillnet use in the Upper Subdistrict.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 17

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would not allow drift fishermen to fish within two miles of shore once the set gillnet fishery closes in the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Foreland Sections. The drift gillnet fishery would have a clear open or closed area defined in regulation that would not require an emergency order.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Set net fishers should not have to pull their gear
- Want to protect inside 1-1/2 miles as that is the distance set netters fish out to
- Typically, ADF&G closes 1 mile offshore north of the Kenai River and 1-1/2 mile off shore south of the Kenai River during drift periods, when set nets are closed.
- Major gear issue at the end of the season as set netters needs to go out at low tides to retrieve gear and don't want drifters fishing over the top after the set net season is closed
- Buoys come off and replace with corks which can be pulled
- Don't want to take area away but want to ensure set net gear is not destroyed

**Opposition:**

- Set net buoys are in the water and are difficult for drifters to work around
- Would take 1/2 mile away from drift gillnetters (noted that author would be fine with 1-1/2 mile)
- If set nets are closed and there is a surplus, that surplus should be able to be harvested
- Set net fishing should be open during drift gillnet periods

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral on allocative aspects but supports clarifying the regulations

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Support with amended language

Substitute Language:

**PROPOSAL 99** - Clarify the drift gillnet closure areas.

**Taken up with Proposal 98**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 18

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would not allow drift fishermen to fish within two miles of shore once the set gillnet fishery closes in the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Foreland Sections. The drift gillnet fishery would have a clear open or closed area defined in regulation that would not require an emergency order.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #98

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #98

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Oppose: Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 90** - Change weekly fishing periods.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 19

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase commercial fishing time from 24 to 36 (two periods to three periods) hours per week. At statehood the fishing schedule was often set at three to five days per week, generally in the later half of July. Since 1971 the Upper Cook Inlet fishing schedule has consisted of two weekly fishing periods with adjustments made by emergency order dependant on run strength.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Would place periods to what they used to be
- Effort would be very low and occur on west side fisheries which would have little impact on the west side
- The perception of a lack of chum salmon argument not really valid as there has been a coast wide reduction
- No coho concern in Kenai so why not go to a 3 fish coho sport fish bag limit
- Small fishery and small impact
- Overescapement in general is not sustainable and not a good idea
- In RC 83, pg 24 shows a significant increase in SF harvest for all but pink salmon
- The actual 2006 coho salmon was a larger run

**Opposition:**

- It would take away from inriver sport fishers inriver
- It would result in harvests of additional chum salmon that are important to ecosystems in valley streams
- Additional fish inriver are not "wasted"; worth a lot to sport fisheries; nutrient contribution
- Rainbow fishing far better because of additional fish inriver
- Opposed due to economics for sport fishers; CF effects could be very negative
- Wants to increase use by a small user group
- Would help Northern District set netters to harvest additional coho as well as sport fishers
- 2006 somewhat misleading on coho due to restrictions in the commercial fishery which increased the number of northern bound coho substantially

- Could have huge impact on chum salmon fisheries and currently not as many chum salmon and hoping to have chum as a stock of concern
- Opposed due to lack of system monitoring
- Less net marked fish returning to rivers and clients happier with health of coho salmon
- In previous years had substantial more gear and time in Inlet so how can there be more marked up fish
- West side fisheries are more valuable as those fisheries are fly in only and affects a large number of SF fishers compared to few CF fishers
- A lot of concern on the health of the stocks and northern stocks should not be jeopardized
- 2006 somewhat misleading on coho due to restrictions in the inlet due to closures
- Small stocks could be more sensitive to overharvest
- Reduces management flexibility

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Opposed: Matanuska Valley, Susitna Valley, Anchorage

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 96** - Change Central District fishing periods.

**Taken up with proposal 90**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 21

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase the number of fishing periods in the drift gillnet fishery from two periods to three 12-hour weekly fishing periods. These periods would be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The regular period schedule has been two 12-hour periods per week since 1970. From 1970 to 1999, regular periods were on Mondays and Fridays and from 2000 to present they have been on Mondays and Thursdays.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #90

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #90

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Opposed: Matanuska Valley, Susitna Valley, Anchorage

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 97** - Allow commercial harvests of salmon from time specified on Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the Central District.

**Taken up with proposal 90**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 21

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase the number of fishing periods in the drift gillnet fishery from two periods to three weekly fishing periods. These periods would be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The BOF would establish the period length. The regular period schedule has been two 12-hour periods per week since 1970. From 1970 to 1999, regular periods were on Mondays and Fridays and from 2000 to present they have been on Mondays and Thursdays.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #90

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #90

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Opposed: Matanuska Valley, Susitna Valley, Anchorage

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 95** - Change weekly fishing periods.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 20

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would return the regular fishing schedule to Mondays and Fridays instead of Mondays and Thursdays. This change was made in 1999. From 1970 until 1999, the regular schedule was on Mondays and Fridays. Prior to 1970 the fishing schedule was generally 3 days per week.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Friday would work better for planning purposes and would also spread the harvest among the groups
- May help processor from being overwhelmed if set/drift dates are different and may help manage for escapements
- Saw this as a chance to provide for inriver users
- Management still needs to make escapement goals

**Opposition:**

- Fishing on Friday may reduce weekend opportunity for inriver fishers
- Opposed by inriver fishers so they get a predictable opportunity
- Markets and processing are better served on Thursday fisheries instead of Friday
- It would not provide better weekend fishing
- Proposal could impact "windows"
- Monday / Thursday periods easier on processing logistics.

SSFP: Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula

Opposed: Anchorage

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation:

Substitute Language:

**PROPOSAL 110** - Allow commercial use of reef net gear for harvest of live fish in Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 22

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: None.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Currently only gillnets and seines are allowed in Upper Cook Inlet. Reef nets are not legal gear anywhere in the state. CFEC has established an optimum number of permits based on gillnet gear. A change would likely require another study by CFEC.

Dept of Law comments regarding legality of gear type. No limited entry regulations governing gear, currently not legal; would have to be made a legal gear type and then available to set and drift gear types.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC opposes

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 78** - Reopen the Southside of Chinitna Bay to gillnetting during regular periods.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 23

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC ?

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The south side of Chinitna Bay would be open for set gillnets. Currently this area is open to drift gillnets and seines, only by emergency order. Harvests in Chinitna Bay are currently almost non-existent because there is currently no tender service from any processor. For approximately 30 years the current open set gillnet area has been in effect. Gear conflicts with seine and drift currently fishing this area could result.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- This is an older traditional means of harvesting fish in this area

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Susitna Valley and Central Peninsula

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 102** - Provide flexibility in regulation for the use of single filament gillnet web.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 23

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 32, RC 90,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would continue to allow the use of monofilament mesh by deleting the sunset provision and triple the useable amount of monofilament mesh web allowed in the fishery. It is unclear what the differences in harvest between multi-filament and monofilament have been since the 2005 Board of Fisheries meeting. Personal contacts of commercial fishermen who used monofilament indicated there was little middle ground. Either fishermen liked it or disliked it.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Although difficult to find the correct filament, once found, works well. However it did take some knowledge
- 3 shackles of mono is same price as 2 shackles of multibraid
- Some aspects liked, some not but overall support for the proposal because it's cheaper
- Costs less; no significant performance difference; all studies on dropouts are based on high seas fisheries, not a monitored fishery; essentially same net as monofilament
- Mono is in a state of evolution and little is ordered depending on regulations but does seem to work well if you have the right monofilament gear
- Can't compare herring dropouts to salmon dropouts
- No sea bird issues in Cook Inlet

**Opposition:**

- Seems to be substantially more marked fish later in the season thinking there may be drop outs
- There would be a catch allocation in the two gears
- Mending large problem and mono would be more difficult to mend and less physically capable to wear and tear
- Lack of data may not support adopting mono at this time
- Ecological, allocative issues, higher catch rates of seabirds

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 103** - Allow additional use of monofilament gillnets.

**Taken up with proposal 102**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 25

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 56, RC 90

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase the useable amount of monofilament mesh web from 1/3 of the allowable aggregate length to all of it. For set gillnets it would increase to 105 fathoms and for drift it would increase to 150 fathoms. It is unclear what the differences in harvest between multi-filament and monofilament have been since the 2005 Board of Fisheries meeting. Personal contacts of commercial fishermen who used monofilament indicated there was little middle ground. Either fishermen liked it or disliked it.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal #102

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal #102

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 104** - Prohibit use of monofilament nets in Cook Inlet.

**Taken up with Proposal 102**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 26

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 32, RC 90,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: It is unclear what the differences in harvest between multi-filament and monofilament have been since the 2005 Board of Fisheries meeting. Personal contacts of commercial fishermen who used monofilament indicated there was little middle ground. Either fishermen liked it or disliked it.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 102

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 102

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula

Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 105** - Increase drift gillnet to 200 fathoms in the Upper Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 27

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Legal gear for drifting has been 150 fathoms since this gear type was introduced into Cook Inlet.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Would be a reallocation and would reduce environmental footprint

**Opposition:**

- Would be a significant allocation from set netters to drift gillnetters
- Opposed due to the change in gear and statistics, some management based on CPUE with current gear, may not be comparable if more net allowed
- There could be an additional harvest of northern bound stocks

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: No comments

Opposed: Anchorage and Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 106** - Increase maximum drift gillnet depth to 60 meshes.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 27

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Legal gear has always been 150 fathoms and 45 meshes in depth.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Water temps affect depth of salmon and deeper nets would be able to harvest those deeper fish
- Would support depth studies by department on 45 vs. 60 mesh deep nets
- Increase efficiency

**Opposition:**

- Allocation issues; would be ok if set netters could go deeper but they can't so wouldn't be in agreement
- Although only 15 mesh deep, square area increases significantly
- Could harvest more coho and sockeye moving to the northern district

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: No comments

Opposed: Anchorage and Susitna Valley

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 107** - Allow up to 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear and allow joint ventures with concurrent fishing from one vessel by permit.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 28

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 32,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal may increase the efficiency by co-op permit holders by approximately 30 percent during some fishing periods. The overall effect of this proposal would depend on how many permit holders took advantage of the regulation. Legal gear for drifting has been 150 fathoms since this gear type was introduced into Cook Inlet.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Neutral:**

- Neutral although sees advantage of less gear but more efficient and reduces “carbon” imprint
- Neutral but questions the ability dealing with statistics comparing to historical averages
- Harvests would be more determined by costs; also concerns with enforcement

**Support:**

- Although neutral sees advantage of less gear but more efficient and reduces “carbon” imprint
- Could be adding 25% harvest to a single vessel but would reduce the numbers of participating boats
- No enforcement issue boats have a large “DD” on side of boat indicating participation and also must register with the department. Essentially mirroring what is currently allowed in Bristol Bay
- Would reduce vessels and total gear in the water during most years

**Opposition:**

- Harder to control; allocation of harvest
- 200 fathom could be monofilament and additional chances of harming the environment if lost
- Could reallocate and that a mirror image should be available for set nets
- Could attract fishers that haven’t been participating
- If adopted, needed to ensure what happens in the future and how things may be affected

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Homer, Anchorage

Opposed: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 108** - Increase aggregate set gillnet gear length.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 29

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase the aggregate set gillnet length from 105 fathoms to 140 fathoms in length. This proposal would increase the harvest in set gillnets by an unknown amount. Legal gear for set gillnetting has been 105 fathoms in the aggregate since before statehood.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Proposer was only supporter

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Homer and Anchorage ACs opposed

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 109** - Limit east side set gillnet gear to 3 strands.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 29

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: None.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Three strand gear is not allowed statewide, and only in Upper Cook Inlet, monofilament gear may be used on an experimental basis. Dropout rates for all species may also increase.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- Substantial costs would be required to change gear, entire fleet (drift and set nets) would be subject.

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: No comments.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 111** - Change distance offshore for set gillnets in Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 30

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would not allow set gillnet fishermen to fish within 600 feet offshore from mean high tide. This proposal would hinder the ability to manage for sockeye salmon escapement goals. Upper Cook Inlet king salmon stocks are relatively stable. The Kenai and Kasilof rivers contain both early and late-run king salmon that support sport fisheries. Escapements for the Kenai River stocks have consistently been met or have exceeded spawning escapement goals. The Kasilof early-run king salmon have met or exceeded spawning escapement needs recently.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- Inside nets sites registered with state and unsure what those effects would be
- No science showing this would work and integral to harvest surplus sockeye
- Could impact long term leases of set net sites (generally 10 year span)

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: No comments.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 112** - Allow set gillnet fishing in any district after 48-hour waiting period.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 31

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Area registration for set gillnets went into effect in 1993 in order to prevent fishermen from moving into "hot" fishing areas at the peak of the season and then returning to their original area for the remainder of the season.

**Support:**

- Traditional use was to be able to move around the inlet to harvest the various runs based on their run timing
- makes folks "pick and choose", not allowing to fishers to move around to harvest fish
- Northern District has a harvest cap of king salmon which hasn't been met in a number of years

**Opposition:**

- Set net fleet feels like they would have their harvests essentially reduced
- possible increased harvests
- some streams can't handle a higher harvest rate (small stocks)
- May lead to a one way migration of fishers as most sites in lucrative areas are already taken/leased
- Opposed based on fact that resources important to communities and that part of the equation of this proposal shouldn't change

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula

Opposed: Matanuska, Susitna, and Anchorage

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 113** - Eliminate area registration for vessel for Cook Inlet and Kodiak salmon.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 32

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: None.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Under regulation 5 AAC 39.120 a vessel can only be used in one registration area of the state. Area registration for vessels went into effect before 1982 in order to prevent fishermen and vessels from moving between fishing areas in order to spread out the "wealth".

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Proponent only support. Possibly provide additional economic opportunity for fishers to be able to transfer to different areas while using one vessel diversifying fishing opportunities

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula supported

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

*Sockeye of A*  
**PROPOSAL 119** - Identify Susitna River (and Fish Creek) as stocks with a yield concern under the Sustainable Salmon Policy (and create a conservation corridor).

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 33

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 46, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: There are no stocks designated as a yield concern in Cook Inlet nor is the department recommending any. Neither Fish Creek nor the Yentna River sockeye salmon stocks meets the criteria in 5 AAC 39.222 to consider them stocks of concern.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Introduction to and references RC 92 which is discussed in detail
- Substantial reduction in the Northern District sockeye salmon harvests since 1980s
- Refers to Yukon River kings, Kvichak sockeye salmon, and Kuskokwim kings: SOC found on same concerns as Yentna now.
- Necessary need to meet goals for health of the ecosystem
- Sonar counts has also dropped, similar to the ND catches
- SOC would help provide continuity for staff, research projects (RC 95)
- Opportunities for Northern district commercial fishers and Mat-Su sport fishers have been reduced because of low returns to the Susitna indicating a problem.
- Just because current information indicates that there may be more fish is no reason not to make Yentna an SOC
- Recreational fishers have seen a decline in numbers of fish and have come to address BOF in hopes of getting additional fish

**Opposition:**

- Prime assumptions for SOC depend on accuracy of sonar counter. If accurate possibly yes, if not SOC argument flawed.
- Goes thru RC 92 questioning data provided
- Correlation of decrease in harvest due to lack of effort and opportunity, not due to lack of salmon
- Current sonar counter not a good measure of abundance when looking at other information
- If multiply weir to sonar and look back in time, escapement goals in the Yentna has been achieved
- Felt like CF is only harvesting ~16% of Yentna fish which is atypical to a SOC

- Multiple goals indicating that Yentna goal has actually been met
- Distribution and success of sockeye could easily be driven by a single large productive lake
- Multiple reasons for stock failures among which are pike, dams, environment, etc. and possibly SOC but the most critical factor is to study the various issues and get it settled before stocks become worse
- Supports studies and taking action to ensure conservation of all stocks
- There is not a harvest problem and more of an inriver issue. Corridor is not the correct way to fix the problem but certainly supports studies to determine issues.

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: The department continues to treat the persistently low escapements of sockeye salmon to the Yentna River as a serious issue. In the Central District drift fishery, the estimated Yentna River commercial harvest for the most recent 5-year average (2003–2007) is 59% of the previous 10-year (1993–2002) average and 49% of the previous 20-year (1983–2002) average (Table 1). In the Northern District, the most recent 5-year average is 31% of the previous 10-year average and 22% of the previous 20-year average. Since the total UCI commercial harvest averages 2.9 million sockeye salmon and our age composition allocation model estimate of the Yentna sockeye salmon harvest is only 8.4% of the total, we have low confidence in the accuracy of our estimate of the Yentna sockeye salmon harvest. The difference (53,309 fish) between the 5-year (2003–2007) average yield and the 10-year (1993–2002) average yield for the Yentna stock is only 2% of the average UCI commercial harvest. If the BOF were to determine that the Susitna Sockeye salmon stock were a stock of concern, the department would develop an action plan with both management and research components.

-See attached SOC submitted by ADF&G as RC 12

AC Positions: Support: Matanuska Valley, Susitna Valley

Opposed: Central Peninsula, Kenai/Soldotna

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Support with amendments

Substitute Language:

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

*DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
DIVISION OF SPORT FISH*

**SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR**

*P.O. BOX 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** John Hilsinger  
Director  
Division of Commercial Fisheries  
Headquarters – Anchorage  
and  
Charlie Swanton  
Director  
Sport Fish Division  
Headquarters – Juneau

**DATE:** January 30, 2008

**PHONE:** (907) 267-2376 (LFF)  
**PHONE:** (907) 267-2124 (JJH)  
**FAX:** (907) 267-2442 (LFF)  
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**THRU:** Jeff Regnart  
Regional Supervisor  
Division of Commercial Fisheries  
Region II – Anchorage

**FROM:** Lowell F. Fair  
Regional Research Coordinator  
Division of Commercial Fisheries  
Region II – Anchorage  
and  
James J. Hasbrouck  
Regional Supervisor  
Sport Fish Division  
Region II – Anchorage

**SUBJECT:** Upper Cook Inlet stocks of concern follow-up on Yentna River sockeye salmon

The Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy (SSFP; 5 AAC 39.222) directs the department to provide the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF), at regular meetings, with reports on the status of salmon stocks to identify any salmon stocks that present a concern related to yield, management, or conservation. For example, a "yield concern" means a concern arising from a chronic inability, despite the use of specific management measures, to maintain expected yields, or harvestable surpluses, above a stock's escapement needs. In the Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) Management Area no stock has been identified as a stock of concern. However, with the approaching UCI Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting in February and as a follow up to the September 2007 memorandum, we reviewed the department's stock of concern assessment of the Yentna River sockeye salmon run.

#### Escapement Assessment and Trends

Initial efforts to estimate the number of sockeye salmon spawning and rearing in the Susitna watershed were limited in scope and duration. Various lakes within the drainage were visited sporadically in the 1950s and 1960s by United States Fish and Wildlife Service and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) personnel to collect salmonid juvenile and adult data. Adult spawner counts were primarily the product of aerial surveys (King and Walker 1997). At various times since the early 1970s, weirs monitored sockeye salmon entering selected tributaries (Chelatna Lake, Fish Lakes, Judd Lake, Larson Lake, Shell Creek, and Talachulitna River) to spawn (King and Walker 1997).

Mark-recapture projects were conducted on the Susitna River in 1974 and 1975 as part of an effort to estimate juvenile and adult anadromous fish populations in the upper Susitna River between Devil's Canyon and the confluence of the Susitna and Chulitna rivers. These studies were part of the pre-authorization investigation for the proposed Susitna Hydroelectric Project (Barrett 1974; Friese 1975). The results of these studies indicated that the majority of sockeye salmon in the Susitna River basin were produced in the Yentna and Skwentna river drainages (Namtvedt et al. 1978). Mark-recapture projects were again conducted on the Susitna River during 1982-1985 to estimate the inriver run of sockeye salmon (Barrett et al. 1985; Thompson et al. 1986).

Adult salmon escapements into the Susitna River were monitored with sonar at Susitna Station (river kilometer [rkm] 52) from 1976 to 1980. However, changes in bottom characteristics at that sonar location precluded continuation of the project after 1980. Because no other site suitable for the existing sonar equipment was found in the mainstem of the Susitna River, the project was moved to the Yentna River, the largest tributary in the drainage. From 1981 to the present, the Yentna River daily sonar estimates have been used as an indicator of the sockeye salmon escapement into the Susitna River drainage. The sockeye salmon escapement bound for the Yentna River has been thought to be approximately one half of the total Susitna River sockeye salmon escapement based on a combination of 1981-1985 capture-recapture abundance estimates passing Sunshine (Susitna River rkm 116), and sonar abundance estimates passing Yentna (Yentna River; rkm 7) and Susitna Station (Westerman and Willette 2006).

Currently, the Yentna River sockeye salmon escapement goal, 90,000 to 160,000 fish, is a sustainable escapement goal (SEG) adopted in 2002 (Bue and Hasbrouck *Unpublished*). In 2007, an interdivisional salmon escapement goal team reviewed salmon escapement goals in the UCI Management Area based on the SSFP and the Policy for Statewide Salmon Escapement

Goals (5 AAC 39.223). The team recommended that the current Yentna River sockeye salmon escapement goal remain unchanged (Fair et al. 2007).

Based on Bendix sonar estimates since 1981, the number of Yentna River spawners has ranged from approximately 37,000 to 181,000 sockeye salmon. The sonar estimate of sockeye salmon escapement into the Yentna River has not met the goal in 5 of the past 8 years (Table 1). Unfortunately, the accuracy of escapement enumeration based on sonar in the Yentna River has not been verified. The Yentna River is a large, dynamic glacial river that poses difficulties in assessing salmon escapement using sonar, and significant runs of other salmon species occur, requiring fish wheels to be used to apportion the total sonar count by species. Any one of these issues will create biases in the estimation of species-specific escapement. Whether any of these biases are significant, or if they vary seasonally or annually, is unknown. Additionally, a comparison of historical sockeye salmon escapements in the Yentna River and in four major rearing lakes (Chelatna, Shell, Judd, and Larson) suggests that production may have recently declined in the smaller rearing lakes in the watershed.

#### Yield Assessment

The sustained-yield principal requires an understanding of the relationship between the abundance of spawning fish and the abundance of their offspring that survive to adulthood (known as a brood table) by stock. The number of offspring that survive to adulthood is calculated by adding the number of spawning fish and the number of fish harvested for each parent generation.

Accurately estimating the composition of mixed-stock catch is critical to determining the total run of each stock. Age composition has historically been used to facilitate estimation of stock composition. Stock and age specific catch and escapement data have been the basis for development of long-term brood tables used for both pre-season forecasting and for scientific estimation of escapement goals.

Unfortunately, the allocation methodology used to apportion sockeye salmon catches to component stocks in UCI represents a coarse approximation of the actual catch by stock. Historically, a series of largely untested assumptions have been used to allocate stock composition. ADF&G currently uses age composition estimates from the harvest and escapement, and run timing to allocate the harvest to each stock (Bernard 1983). The current method assumes that the stocks present in a district are equally exploited. This untested assumption could greatly affect the estimated stock compositions. The current method probably underestimates the productivity of some stocks and overestimates the productivity of other stocks. As such, the less abundant stocks such as the Susitna River are prone to the greatest percentage error from the true stock composition of the mixture. To be accurate, the age composition method also requires a representative sampling of the harvest, and accurate estimates of escapement numbers and age composition.

In recent years (2005 to present), ADF&G has developed a genetics program for sockeye salmon in UCI. The primary goal of the program is to develop and apply genetic methods to identify stock composition of mixtures. The first comprehensive baseline using genetic markers in UCI employed microsatellites (Habicht et al. 2007). The need to differentiate among all the stocks led to the development of methods to screen single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) loci under selection. In a recent study of UCI sockeye salmon genetic diversity, simulations indicated that seven regional groups (Kenai River, Susitna River, Yentna River, West Cook Inlet, Kasilof

River, Northeast Cook Inlet, and Knik Arm) could be identified in mixtures at high levels of precision and accuracy (Habicht et al. 2007).

Given the potential errors outlined above for estimating the harvest of Susitna stocks in UCI using catch and escapement age composition information, we are hesitant to estimate the historical yield for Yentna stocks. There are many unsubstantiated assumptions involved in the estimation procedure. Nonetheless, in the context of “stock of concern” we have examined the historical estimates of Yentna River sockeye salmon yield in both the Central and Northern districts.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As explained in the September 2007 memorandum, the recent pattern of low sockeye salmon escapements to the Susitna River drainage has prompted the department to better understand stock productivity, errors in escapement estimation, and harvest in the mixed stock fishery of UCI using genetic markers (Habicht et al. 2007). Sockeye salmon rearing lake investigations are being conducted to estimate embryo-to-smolt survivals in the major lakes in the watershed. Additionally, we are assessing the sockeye salmon escapement into the Susitna River using new and improved methodology. ADF&G, with participation from Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, is estimating the adult sockeye salmon abundance in the entire Susitna River in 2006, 2007, and 2008 with a mark-recapture and radio telemetry study. Such abundance estimates will allow: (1) estimation of the total annual run of Susitna River sockeye salmon, when abundance estimates and genetics-based harvest allocation estimates are combined, (2) evaluation of the accuracy of the Yentna River sonar estimate, and (3) the proportion of Yentna River sockeye salmon in the entire Susitna River sockeye salmon escapement. Additionally, the department is evaluating the current sockeye salmon escapement assessment tool, a Bendix single beam sonar system, with a more advanced and proven hydroacoustic system known as DIDSON (Dual frequency IDentification SONar). Preliminary spawning abundance estimates based on mark-recapture and DIDSON studies suggest that traditional Bendix estimates are much lower than the actual escapements. As shown in the table below, the high variability that we have observed between the various methods has added considerably greater uncertainty to our previous assessments.

Various sockeye salmon escapement estimates for the Susitna River drainage, 2006 and 2007.

<b>2006</b>				
System	Mark-Recapture	Weirs	Bendix	DIDSON
Yentna	Unknown	126,000	93,000	160,000
Susitna	107,000 (95% CI 59-165)	60,000		
<b>Sum</b>		<b>186,000</b>		
<b>2007b</b>				
System	Mark-Recapture	Weirs	Bendix	DIDSON
Yentna	250,000	97,000	80,000	130,000
Susitna	85,000	60,000		
<b>Sum</b>		<b>157,000</b>		

a Weirs monitored escapement at a few select lakes and do not represent total river escapement.

b The 2007 estimates are preliminary.

Similar to escapement, an accurate assessment of Susitna/Yentna River catch has been problematic given the available methodology (age composition method) and limited resources for catch sampling. The sources of error in estimating the stock-specific catch in UCI are many, and this is especially true for the less abundant stocks such as Yentna River sockeye salmon, which are susceptible to the greatest relative errors (Bernard 1983). Although genetic markers have given us the ability to accurately determine stock composition for portions of the past 3 years, this data will not be applied to historical harvests of UCI until the full season analyses have been completed, and we have gained a better understanding of stock vulnerability through time and space.

In the Central District drift fishery, the estimated Yentna River commercial harvest for the most recent 5-year average (2003–2007) is 59% of the previous 10-year (1993–2002) average and 49% of the previous 20-year (1983–2002) average (Table 1). In the Northern District, the most recent 5-year average is 31% of the previous 10-year average and 22% of the previous 20-year average. Since the total UCI commercial harvest averages 2.9 million sockeye salmon and our age composition allocation model estimate of the Yentna sockeye salmon harvest is only 8.4% of the total, we have low confidence in the accuracy of our estimate of the Yentna sockeye salmon harvest. The difference (53,309 fish) between the 5-year (2003–2007) average yield and the 10-year (1993–2002) average yield for the Yentna stock is only 2% of the average UCI commercial harvest. The errors in our stock composition estimates are likely greater than 2%, since we know from comparisons to partial weir counts that the error in our Yentna sonar estimate is at least 28%.

The department continues to treat the persistently low escapements of sockeye salmon to the Yentna River as a serious issue. At this juncture, we are hesitant to make a stock of concern recommendation for Yentna River sockeye salmon given the assumptions and unknowns outlined above, in the memo of September 2007, and in various scientific reports prepared for the BOF meeting in February. With the ongoing studies of escapement assessment and improved stock composition in the catch, we will better understand the productivity and sustainability of the stock. Partial and preliminary information from the DIDSON, mark-recapture, and lake productivity studies will be available to the Board at the Upper Cook Inlet meeting this February.

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- Barrett, B. M., F. M. Thompson, and S. N. Wick. 1985. Adult Salmon Investigations: May-October 1984. Susitna Aquatic Studies Program, Report No. 6. Draft. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Power Authority Document #2748, Anchorage.
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- Fair, L. F., R. A. Clark, and J. J. Hasbrouck. 2007. Review of salmon escapement goals in Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska, 2007. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 07-06, Anchorage.
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- Westerman, D. L., and T. M. Willette. 2006. Upper Cook Inlet salmon escapement studies, 2004. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Data Series No. 06-49, Anchorage.

Table 1. Yentna River sockeye salmon catch and escapement, 1983–2007.

Year	Commercial Catch <sup>a</sup>		Escapement b	Lower Escapement Goal
	Central District	Northern District		
1983	153,417	34,486	104,414	100,000
1984	149,776	49,254	149,375	100,000
1985	150,827	38,473	107,124	100,000
1986	240,686	34,333	92,076	100,000
1987	142,040	18,828	66,054	100,000
1988	120,069	11,545	52,330	100,000
1989	3,343	40,549	96,269	100,000
1990	234,378	19,011	140,290	100,000
1991	107,291	25,193	109,632	100,000
1992	170,969	8,507	66,074	100,000
1993	193,450	20,689	141,694	100,000
1994	131,844	24,349	128,032	100,000
1995	160,320	21,447	121,220	100,000
1996	117,337	13,124	90,660	100,000
1997	136,803	20,814	157,822	100,000
1998	48,113	14,299	119,623	100,000
1999	83,812	12,951	99,029	100,000
2000	66,782	12,144	133,094	100,000
2001	46,431	10,774	83,532	100,000
2002	58,383	5,548	78,591	90,000
2003	116,154	11,535	180,813	90,000
2004	68,546	3,918	71,281	90,000
2005	32,197	3,572	36,921	75,000
2006 <sup>c</sup>	11,610	1,985	92,045	90,000
2007 <sup>c</sup>	80,306	3,333	79,901	90,000
<b>2003–2007 Avg.</b>	61,763	4,869	92,192	
<b>1993–2002 Avg.</b>	104,327	15,614	115,330	
<b>1983–2002 Avg.</b>	125,804	21,816	106,847	

<sup>a</sup> Catch estimates are based on age composition methodology that (1) assumes equal exploitation of stocks in the fishery, (2) requires representative sampling of the harvest, and (3) accurate estimates of escapement numbers and age composition.

<sup>b</sup> Sonar estimates of escapement are based on Bendix.

<sup>c</sup> Preliminary estimates.

**PROPOSAL 120** - Designate Cook Inlet chum salmon as a Stock of Concern.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 34

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, RC 8, RC 13, RC 20-23, RC 28, RC 30, RC 32, RC 42, RC 43, RC 45, RC 51, RC 52, RC 54, RC 57-61, RC 63, RC 68, RC 69-72, RC 74, RC 75, RC 78-84, RC 87, RC 91, RC 92,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: In 2001 and 2002 the department conducted a tagging study in the lower inlet to estimate the number of pink, chum and coho salmon returning to UCI. Results of that study indicated the exploitation rate in the commercial fishery of chum salmon was approximately 6 percent. Acceptable exploitation rates are in the 60-70 percent range.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Chums are very important to the ecology and to the ND economy.
- If any concern, take action now so that those fish don't disappear
- Cook Inlet largest sport fishery in the nation
- SOC status would deal with chum and sockeye by allowing more fish into NCI

**Opposition:**

- Recent study shows 6% and if there is a problem, how can a 6% harvest rate be decreased further and that environmental factors would be far greater than commercial fishing
- Fish are there, being caught and reported in the SF harvest and in some areas SF harvest has increased
- No harvest on chums in the drift fleet and substantial restrictions have occurred. Also multiple restrictions by the drift fleet have occurred on sockeye salmon as well. Feels like total blame being laid on drift fleet.
- Supports studies but don't want CF fisheries closed based without real facts.
- Indications are that the test fish boat indicates a fairly steady run
- Concerns about validity of run strength data.

**SSFP:**

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

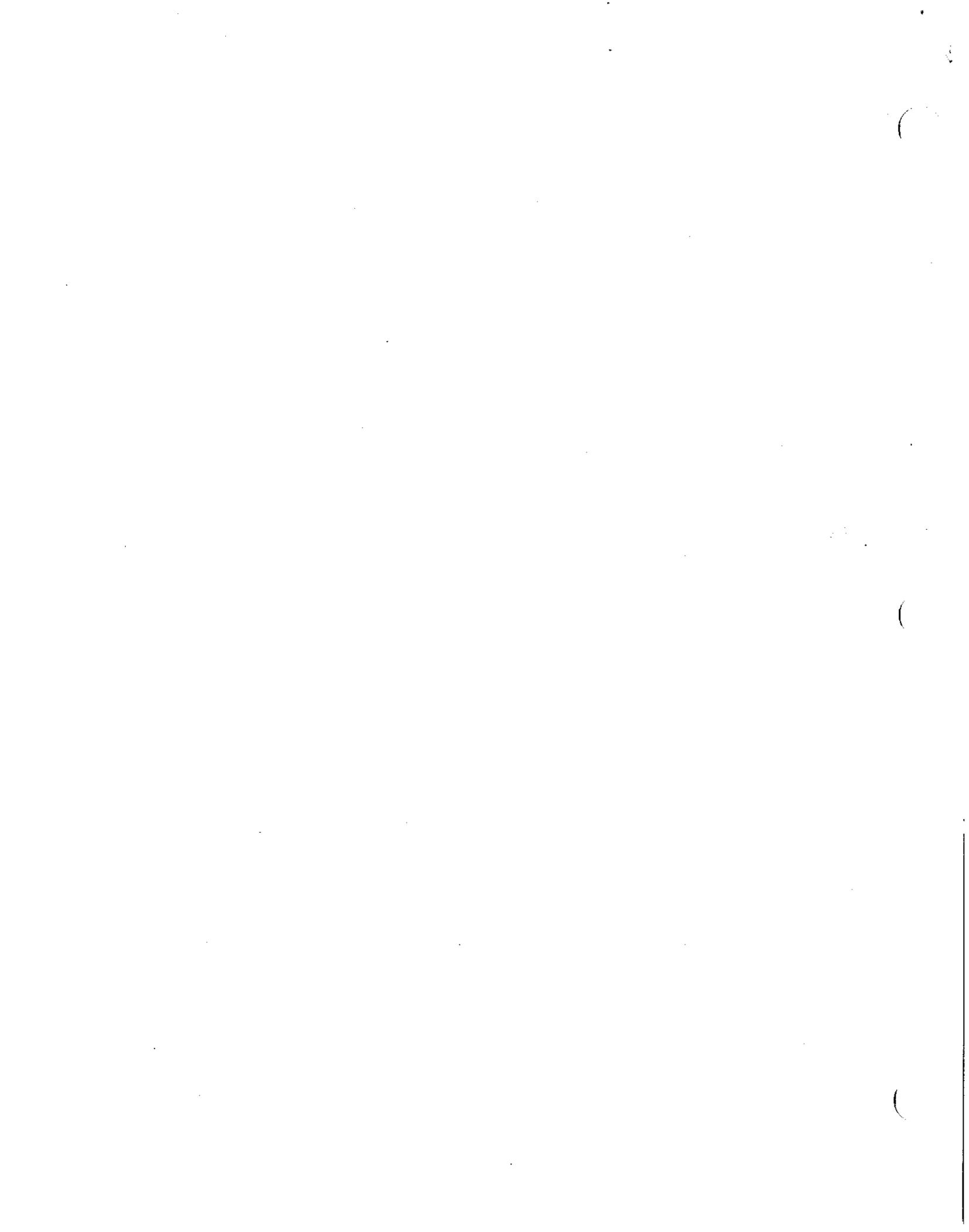
AC Positions: Support: Matanuska Valley, Susitna Valley, Anchorage

Opposed: Homer, Central Peninsula

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None



ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE B**: Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing

February 5, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. John Jensen, \*Chair
2. Bonnie Williams

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Patti Nelson – CF Dep. Director
2. John Hilsinger – CF Director
3. Rob Bentz – SF Dep. Director
4. Charlie Swanton – SF Director
5. Jeff Regnart – CF Reg. Supervisor
6. James Hasbrouck – SF Reg. Supervisor
7. Tracy Lingnau – CF Reg. Mgmt. Biologist
8. Jeff Fox – CF Area Mgmt. Biologist
9. Pat Shields – CF Asst. Area Mgmt. Biologist
10. Dave Rutz – SF Area Mgmt. Biologist
11. Sam Ivey – SF Asst. Area Mgmt. Biologist
12. Chuck Brazil – SF Asst. Area Mgmt. Biologist (note taker)
13. Rick Merizon – SF Research Biologist (note taker)

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rob Campbell – Federal Subsistence
2. Dave Nelson - USFWS/OSM

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Bruce Knowles – Susitna Valley AC
2. Andy Couch – Matanuska Valley AC
3. Dave Martin – Central Peninsula AC
4. Joel Doner / Jim Stubs – Anchorage AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Page Herring – Northern District Set netter
2. Steve Braund – Northern District Set netter
3. Gary Fandrei – CIAA
4. Ricky Gease – KRSA
5. Dave Goggia – KRPGA
6. Paul Shadura – SOKI
7. Edward Beeman – self
8. Drew Sparlin – UCIDA
9. Larry Engel – self

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10. Pat Donelson – Mat-Su Fish Guide
11. Vincent Goddard – Processor
12. Tony Russ – self
13. Bob Penney – CISC
14. Ken Tarbox – KAFA
15. Steve Runyan - self

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The Committee met on February 5 at 8:30am and adjourned on February 5 at 4:30pm

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (46 Total) 152, 100, 101, 146, 147, 150, 148, 149, 151, 121, 122, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 123, 114, 124, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 115, 116, 117, 125, 133, 160, 161, 162, 89, 163, 164, 165, 91

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**PROPOSAL 152** - Modify the plan (5 AAC 21.368).

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 36

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 32, 45, 59, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow drift gillnets to be used to harvest sockeye salmon taken in the Big River Sockeye Salmon Fishery. It would also open the season one month earlier, allowing two gillnets instead of one, and increase the allowable king salmon harvest from 1,000 to 1,500. The Big River king fishery began in 1989. Since area registration began in 1992, effort has been fairly small with only 6 –15 permit holders participating. Harvests have averaged 450 king salmon and 5,300 sockeye salmon each year. Commercial fishing opportunity would likely be reduced if current harvest rates increased with the additional participation.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

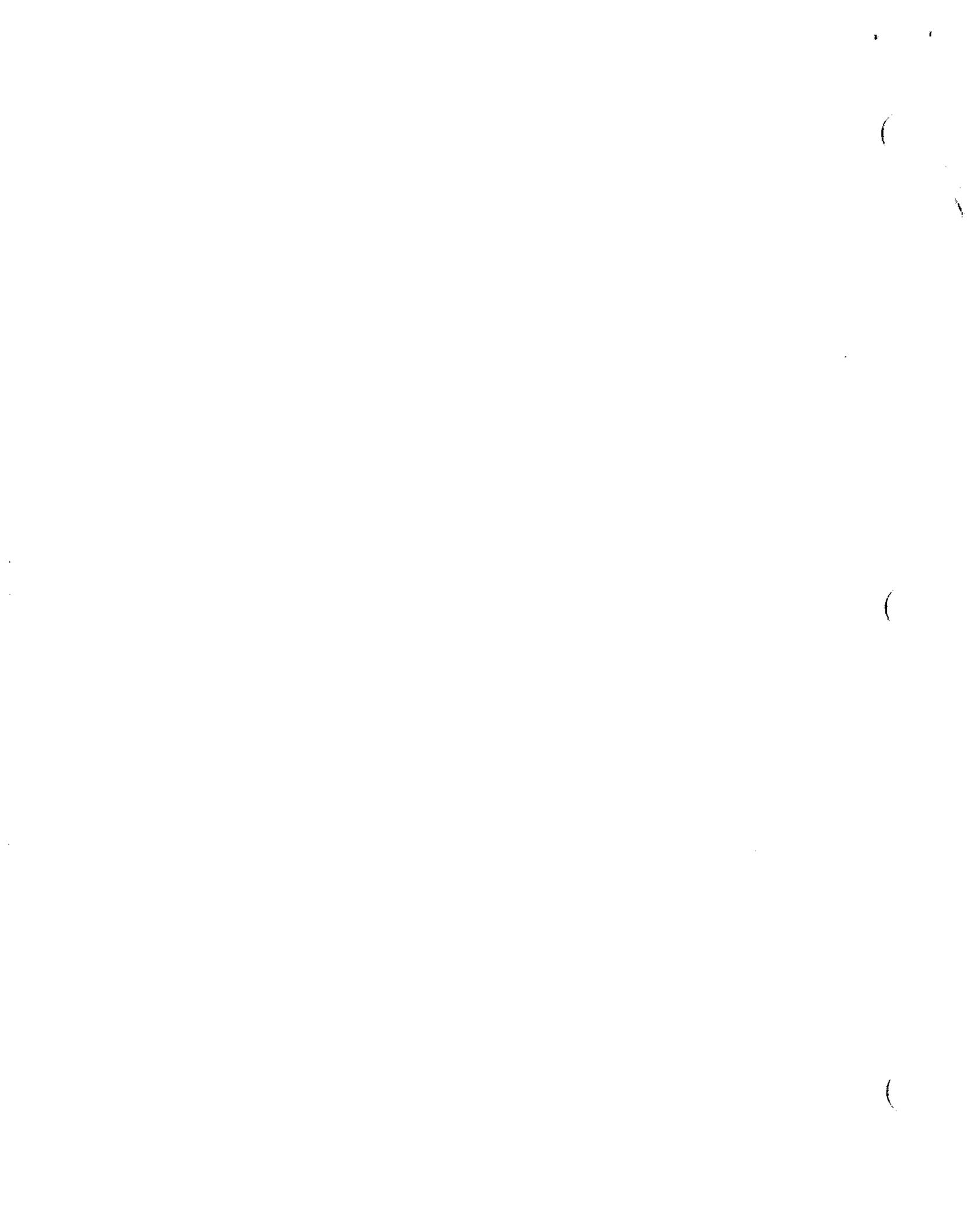
- Escapement estimation (single aerial surveys) may not be accurate and the fishery may have a small impact on these stocks
- The permit holders are “self policing” and monitor Chinook catch to avoid exceeding current 1,000 Chinook cap

**Opposition:**

- Chinook salmon stocks are fully allocated already and would need to be shifted from other users
- Crescent River, an adjacent river system sport fishery exploitation is unknown
- In 2006, a severe flood impacted Susitna / Yentna River stocks to an unknown level that will be realized within the next 5 years
- Deshka River weir met the escapement goals in 2007 however the preseason forecast for Chinook to the Deshka may not meet the escapement goals in 2008.
- The current Big River fishery has only been closed once because it came close to exceeding the cap in its history
- Lack of escapement monitoring for Big River sockeye
- Allowing additional Chinook harvest may negatively impact the targeted sockeye salmon stock
- If additional permit holders enter the fishery the current cap will be exceeded

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed



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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

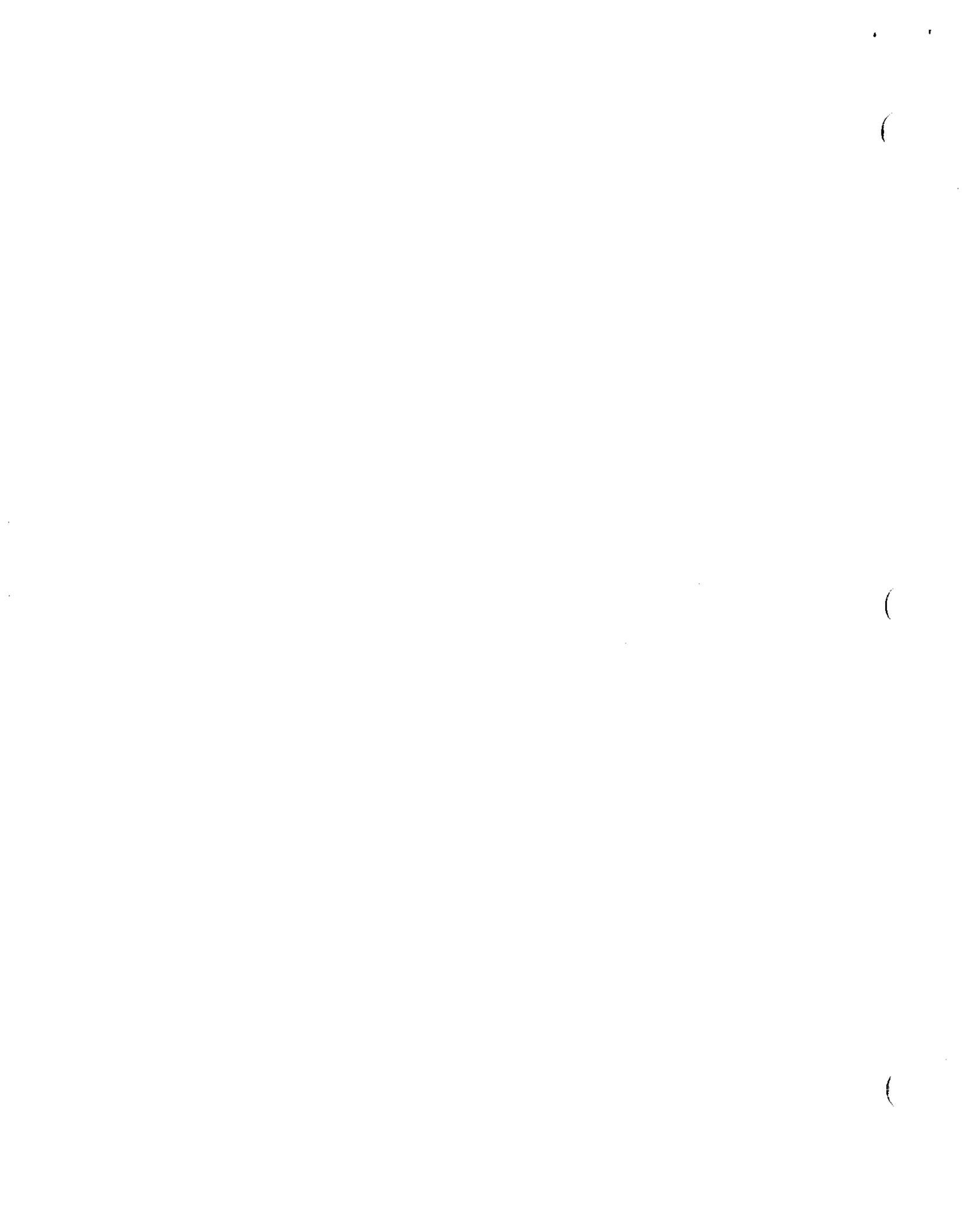
AC Positions: Oppose: ANC AC, Tyonek AC

Support: Central Pen AC,

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 100** - Open a commercial fishery in Tuxendni Bay.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 37

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 32, 45, 59, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow commercial fishing in a portion of the Western Subdistrict to begin 4 weeks earlier on May 15 with a single net and a 1,000 king salmon harvest cap. Currently, the Big River area, including the west side Kalgin Island opens for Monday, Wednesday and Friday periods beginning June 1. An earlier opening would result in additional harvest of Crescent River king and sockeye salmon stocks earlier in the season would occur.

Federal Subsistence Management Program:

**Support:**

- Would like to try fishery on a limited scale
- There is a market for Chinook which would allow commercial fisherman to generate additional income

**Opposition:**

- The fish harvested in this proposed fishery would be bound for the Lake Clark Nat. Park
- Northern District Chinook stocks may not be able to withstand additional harvest

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

National Park Service opposed to proposal 100 and 101 (PC20)

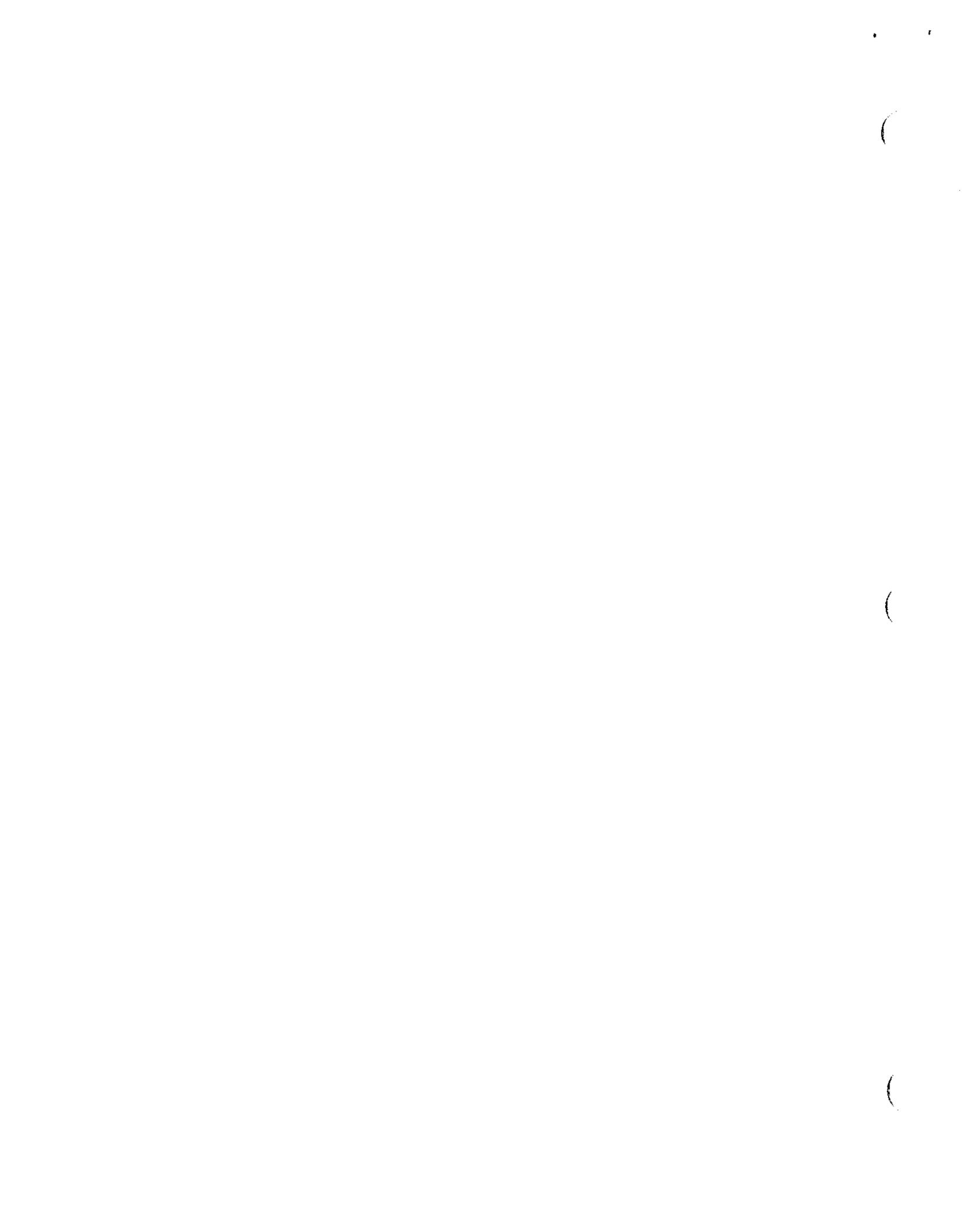
AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: Central Pen AC,

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 101** - Open a commercial fishery in Tuxendni Bay.

**Taken up with Proposal 100**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 37

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 32, 45, 59, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow commercial fishing in a portion of the Western Subdistrict to begin 4 weeks earlier on May 15 with a single net and a 2,000 king cap. The Big River area, including the west side Kalgin Island opens for Monday, Wednesday and Friday periods beginning June 1. an earlier opening would result in additional harvest of Crescent River king and sockeye salmon stocks earlier in the season would occur.

Federal Subsistence Management Program:

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 100

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 100

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

National Park Service opposed to proposal 100 and 101 (PC20)

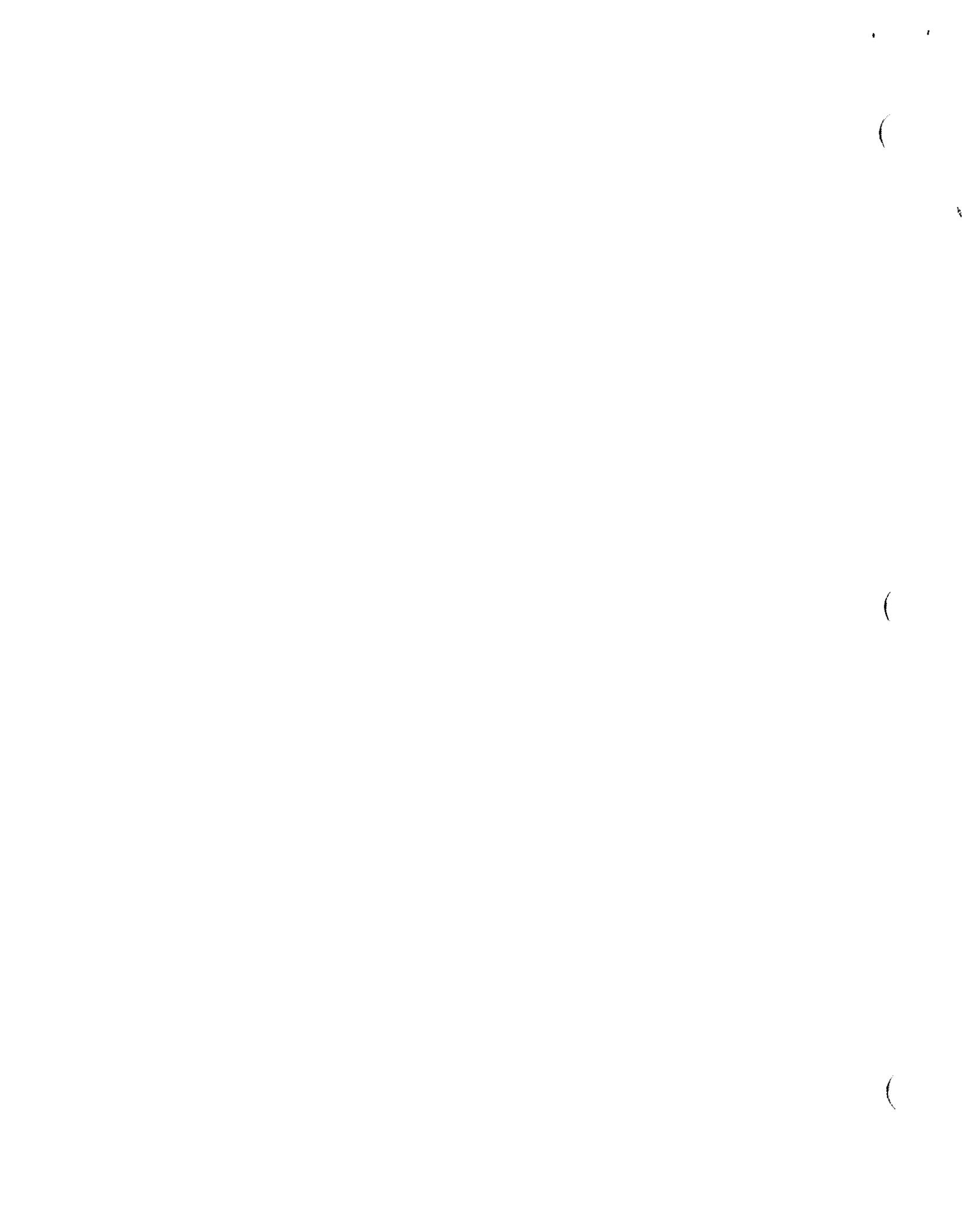
AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: Central Pen AC,

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 100

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 146** - Remove the reference to specific commercial fishing periods in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 38

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 42, 45, 51, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would remove the three period limit and allow king salmon fishing to occur each Monday from May 25 to June 24, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Northern District King Salmon Management Plan was first adopted in 1986. In 2002, a limit of 3 periods was put in place. Restrictions to fishing around the Theodore and Chuitna Rivers were implemented in 1997 in response to low escapements in those streams. This area is now open for a single period. The king salmon harvest has not met the 12,500 harvest cap since 1986 in large part to the declining participation in this fishery, not due to a decline in the northern bound king salmon runs. The average commercial harvest of king salmon in the Northern District is approximately 3,400 fish. The harvest of northern bound king salmon would increase. However, the allowable harvest would remain at 12,500 king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

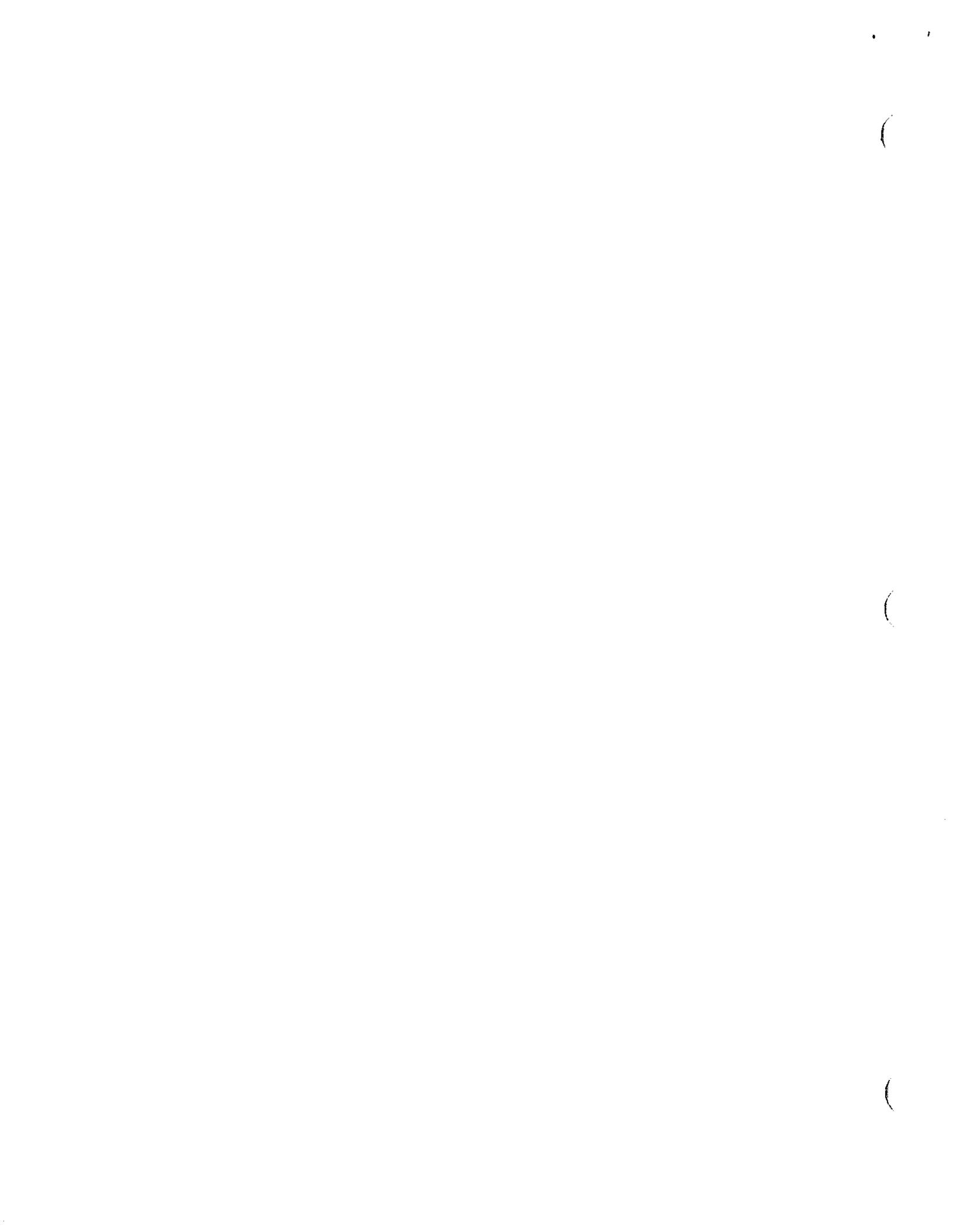
- Increased opportunity for selling of king salmon early in the season
- Increase in harvest may be negligible
- Quality of king salmon may be higher
- In 2008, there will be added value to king salmon in May due to California stocks forecasted to return weak

**Opposition:**

- Northern District fishery was given additional time at the BOF 2005
- Chinook stocks are already fully allocated
- Potential for increased effort that may negatively impact Northern District stocks
- If the 2008 pre-season Deshka River king salmon forecast is realized, may not meet the lower range of SEG
- MatSu / Anchorage metro area has doubled in recent years and has put additional sport harvest pressure on these stocks in the Northern District streams
- King salmon sport harvest / economy is vital to the health of the MatSu / Anchorage area

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed



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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Susitna Valley and Matanuska Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula and Tyonek ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 147** - Add Thursday to the allowed king salmon fishing periods in the Northern District.

**Taken up with Proposal 146**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 39

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 42, 45, 51, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94, 110

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow two periods per week instead of one currently in regulation and would also remove the three period limit and allow king salmon fishing to occur each Monday and Thursday from May 25 to June 24, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Northern District King Salmon Management Plan was first adopted in 1986. In 2002, a limit of 3 periods was put in place. Restrictions to fishing around the Theodore and Chuitna Rivers were implemented in 1997 in response to low escapements in those streams. This area is now open for a single period. The king salmon harvest has not met the 12,500 harvest cap since 1986 in large part to the declining participation in this fishery, not due to a decline in the northern bound king salmon runs. The harvest of northern bound king salmon would increase. However, the allowable harvest would remain at 12,500 king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

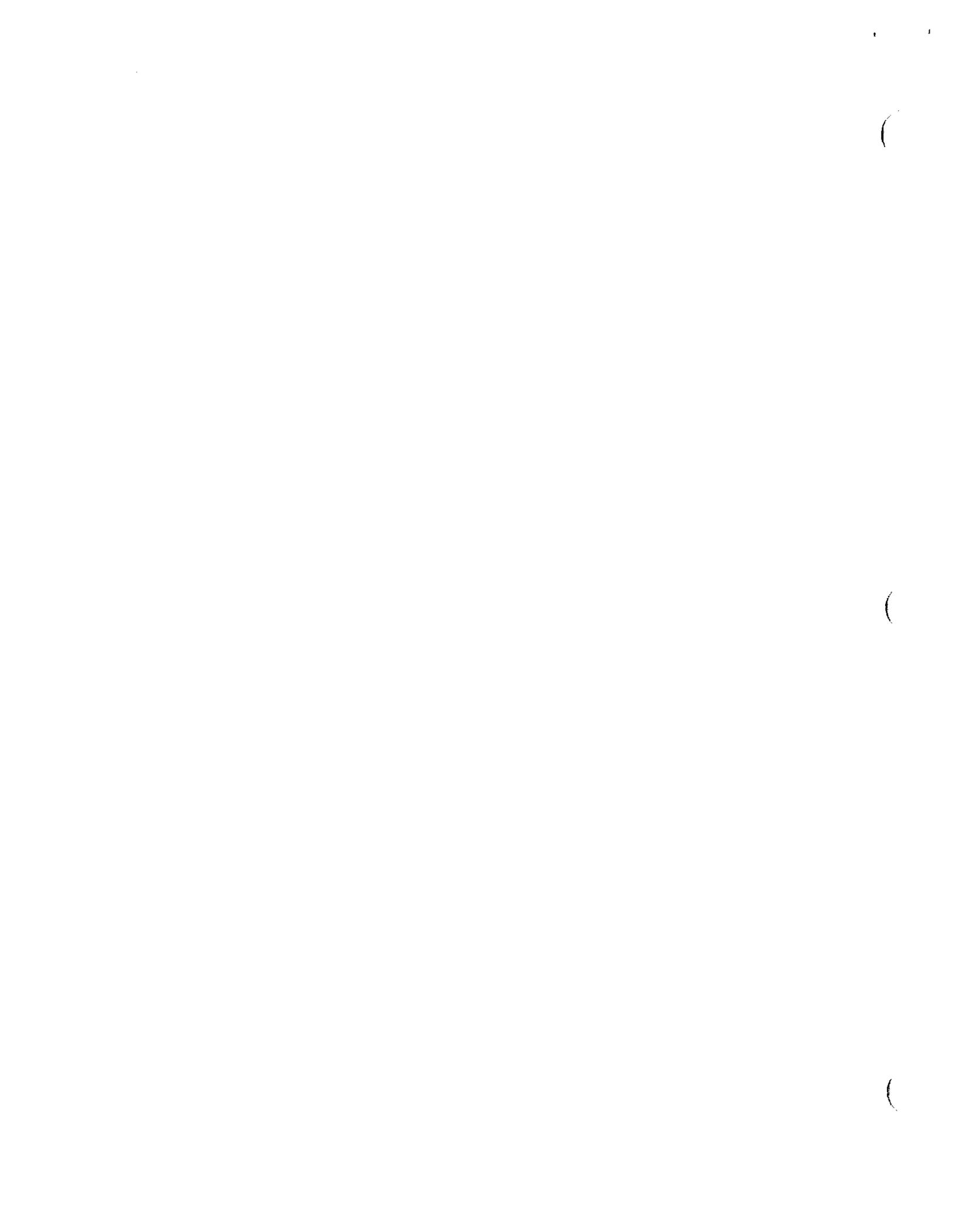
AC Positions: Oppose: Susitna Valley and Matanuska Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula and Tyonek ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 146

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 149** - Allow additional fishing time for the area located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River.

**Taken up with Proposal 146**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 43

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Northern District King Salmon Management Plan was first adopted in 1986. In 2002, a limit of 3 periods was put in place. Restrictions to fishing around the Theodore and Chitna Rivers were implemented in 1997 in response to low escapements in those streams. This area is now open for a single period. The king salmon harvest has not met the 12,500 harvest cap since 1986 in large part to the declining participation in this fishery, not due to a decline in the northern bound king salmon runs. The harvest of northern bound king salmon would increase. However, the allowable harvest would remain at 12,500 king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Susitna Valley and Matanuska Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula and Tyonek ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 146

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 150** - Modify the fishing periods in the Northern District.  
**Taken up with Proposal 146**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 40

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 42, 45, 51, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow two periods per week instead of one currently in regulation and would also remove the three period limit and allow king salmon fishing to occur each Monday and Friday from May 25 to June 24, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Northern District King Salmon Management Plan was first adopted in 1986. In 2002, a limit of 3 periods was put in place. Restrictions to fishing around the Theodore and Chuitna Rivers were implemented in 1997 in response to low escapements in those streams. This area is now open for a single period. The king salmon harvest has not met the 12,500 harvest cap since 1986 in large part to the declining participation in this fishery, not due to a decline in the northern bound king salmon runs. The harvest of northern bound king salmon would increase. However, the allowable harvest would remain at 12,500 king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Susitna Valley and Matanuska Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula and Tyonek ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 146

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 151** - Allow drift gillnets during May and June in west side fishery.  
**Taken up with Proposal 146**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 44

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Current regulations do not allow drift gillnets to participate in the Northern District this fishery. The Northern District King Salmon Management Plan was first adopted in 1986. In 2002, a limit of 3 periods was put in place. Restrictions to fishing around the Theodore and Chuitna Rivers were implemented in 1997 in response to low escapements in those streams. This area is now open for a single period. The king salmon harvest has not met the 12,500 harvest cap since 1986 in large part to the declining participation in this fishery, not due to a decline in the northern bound king salmon runs. Current regulations do not allow drift gillnets to participate in the Northern District this fishery. The harvest of northern bound king salmon would increase. However, the allowable harvest would remain at 12,500 king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 146

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

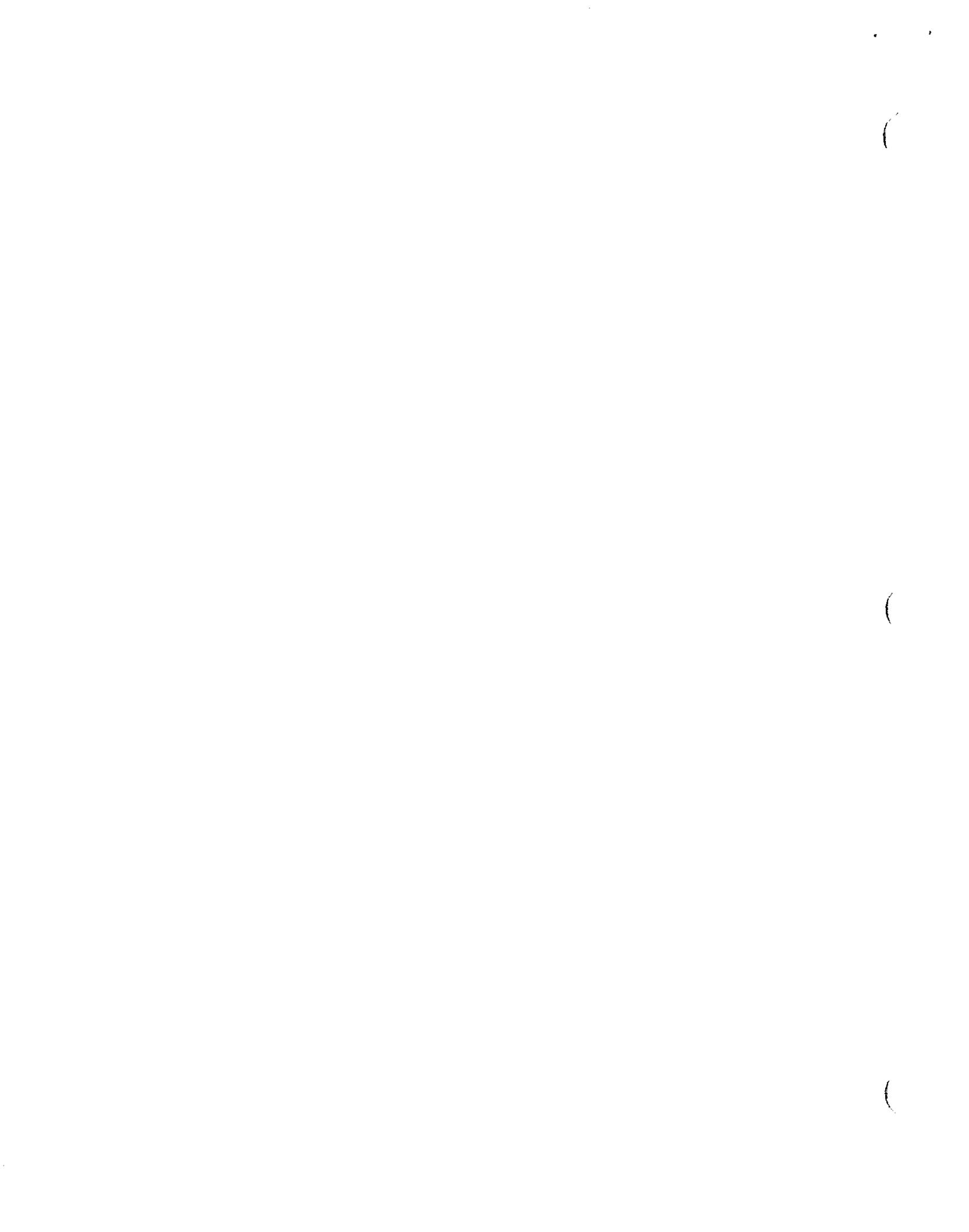
AC Positions: Oppose: Susitna Valley and Matanuska Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula and Tyonek ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 146

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 148** - Increase the maximum king salmon net length mesh size from six inches to eight inches for the Northern District king salmon fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 41

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94, 110

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Northern District King Salmon Management Plan was first adopted in 1986. In 2002, a limit of 3 periods was put in place and the fishery. Restrictions to fishing around the Theodore and Chuitna Rivers were implemented in 1997 in response to low escapements in those streams. This area is now open for a single period. The king salmon harvest has not met the 12,500 harvest cap since 1986 in large part to the declining participation in this fishery, not due to a decline in the northern bound king salmon runs. The harvest of northern bound king salmon would increase. However, the allowable harvest would remain at 12,500 king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- May not increase overall harvest of Chinook salmon
- Would increase the financial value of harvest to the fisherman

**Opposition:**

- Harvests are not proportional to abundance and may not be harvested proportionally to the run
- Size selectivity; harvest larger females may negatively impact productivity / proportions of age classes that spawn

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action because proponent withdrew support for the proposal

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 121** - Modify the Yentna/Susitna escapement goals from 90,000 to 160,000 to 105,000 to 195,000.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 45

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department, not the board, has the responsibility of establishing biological and sustainable escapement goals. The board, may establish an optimal escapement goal, if deemed appropriate, which considers biological and allocative factors and may differ from the BEG or SEG.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Have missed the SEG in recent years
- Commercial harvests have impacted the abundance of Susitna / Yentna sockeye salmon stocks
- Frustration from MatSu user groups in that recent studies are ongoing and there is no clear direction on how the ADF&G will manage to achieve the Yentna SEG
- Sport users in the MatSu would like to have an opportunity to fish as the Susitna River sockeye fishery has been closed the last three years
- Due to the data uncertainty, a precautionary approach needs to be taken as outlined in the SSFP

**Opposition:**

- Difficulty in estimating and evaluating sockeye salmon escapements based on sonar or M-R
- Finding Yentna River sockeye salmon as a stock of concern may negatively impact the Northern District commercial set netters
- Environmental changes may be occurring that are negatively impacting sockeye salmon production
- Not enough data to support changing the current SEG or adopting an inriver goal
- The department already actively manages the Central and Northern District for Yentna SEG prior to any sonar estimates
- This proposal is allocative and will shift harvest opportunity away from the commercial users
- Provide the local biologists the ability to adjust the sockeye salmon bag limit inseason would help sport fishers due to the uncertainty of the sonar (3, 2, 1, or 0)



- A strong statement from the BOF to the State of Alaska Legislature to fund additional studies that would determine if there really is problem

**SSFP:**

- Members of the public recommended a precautionary approach for all fisheries on Northern District sockeye salmon stocks

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

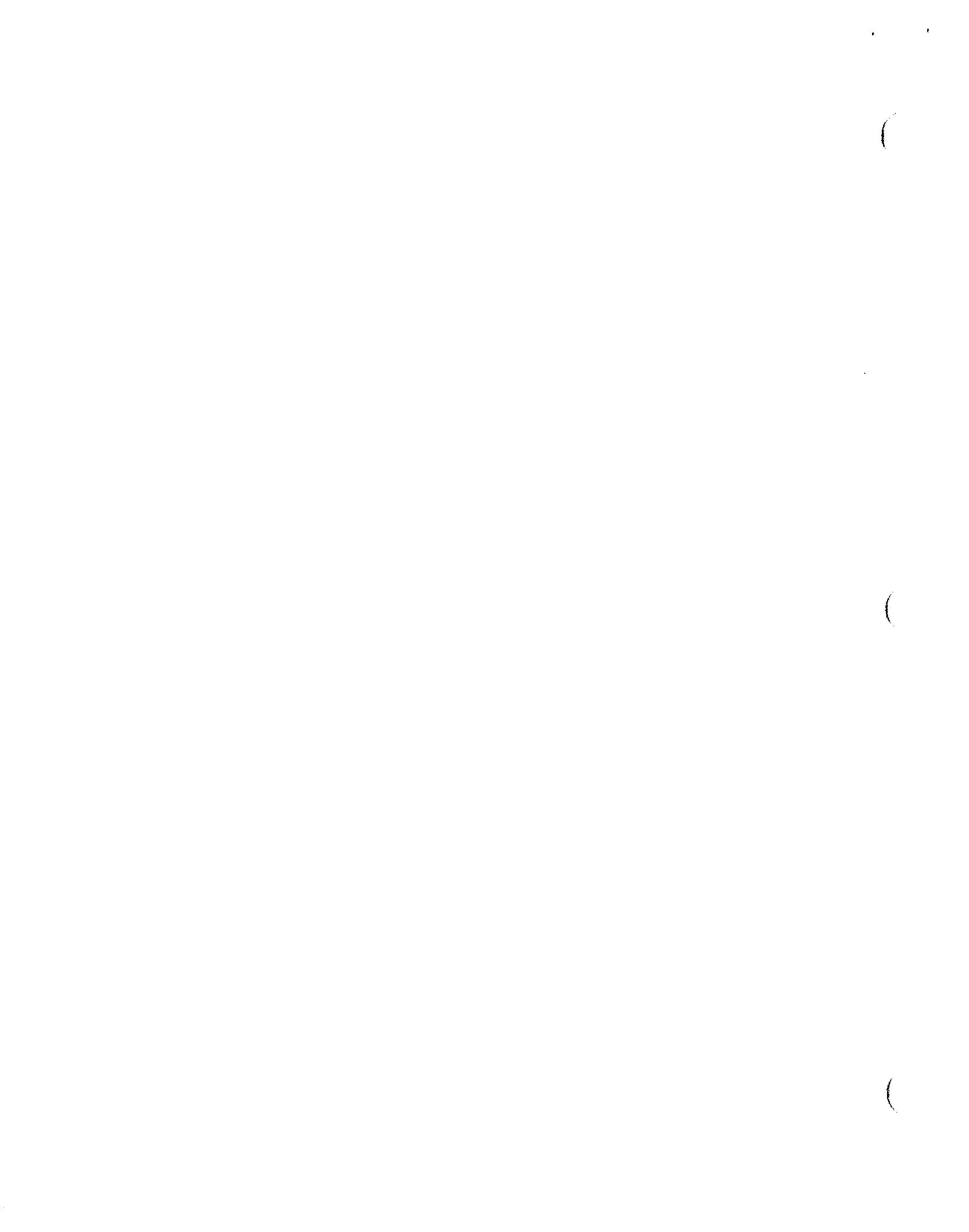
AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Supports: Matanuska Valley and Susitna Valley AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 122** - Modify the Yentna River escapement goal from 90,000 to 160,000 to 105,000 to 195,000..

**Taken up with Proposal 121**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 46

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: Department: The department, not the board, has the responsibility of establishing biological and sustainable escapement goals. The board, may establish an optimal escapement goal, if deemed appropriate, which considers biological and allocative factors and may differ from the BEG or SEG.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 121

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 121

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

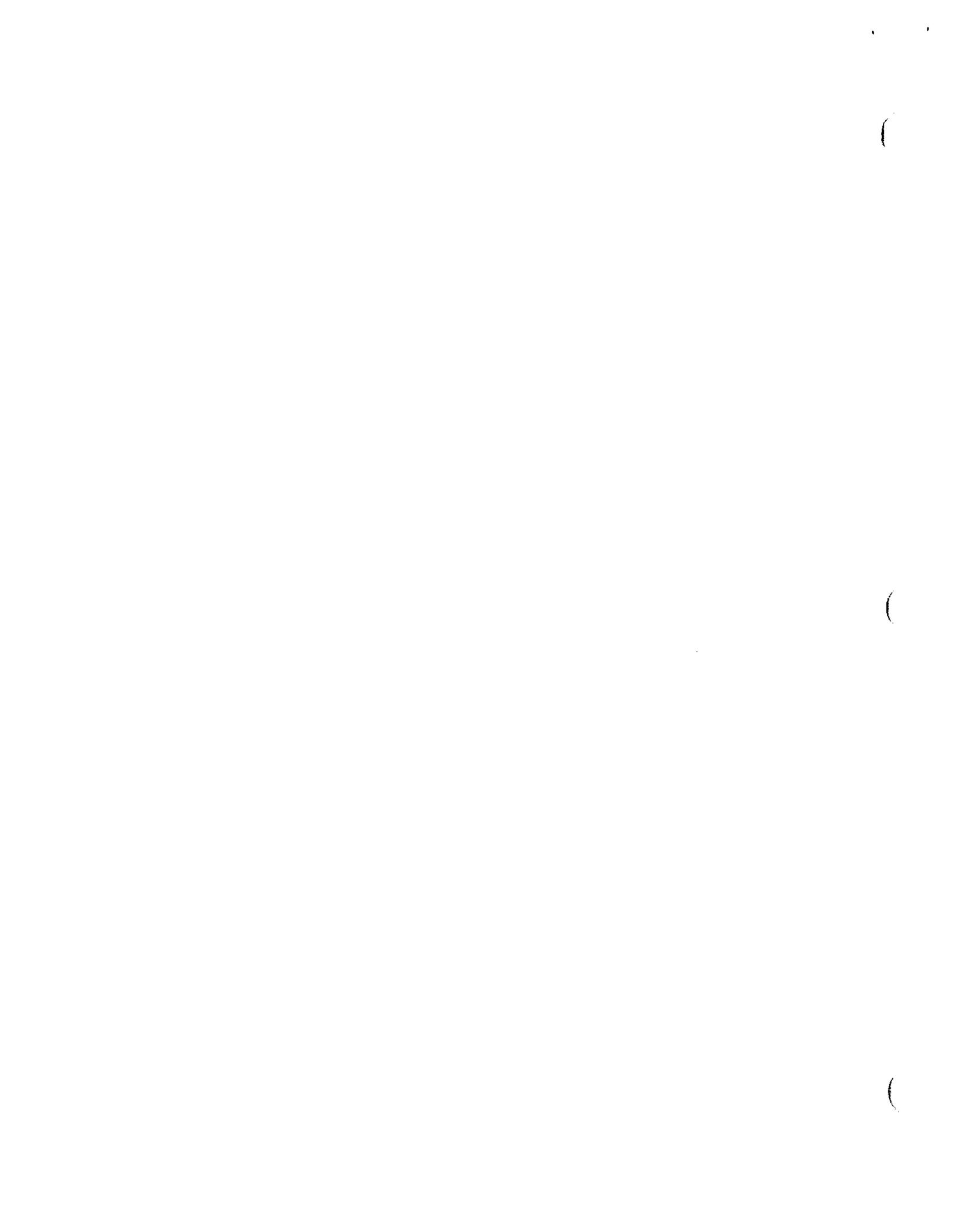
AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Supports: Matanuska Valley and Susitna Valley AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 121

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 134** - Delete portions of Northern District management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 47

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete a large amount of language from the Northern District Salmon Management Plan. The primary effect of this proposal would be to delete the Yentna River OEG when the Kenai River sockeye salmon runs are over 4 million fish. The department would then manage to meet the SEG of 90,000-160,000.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

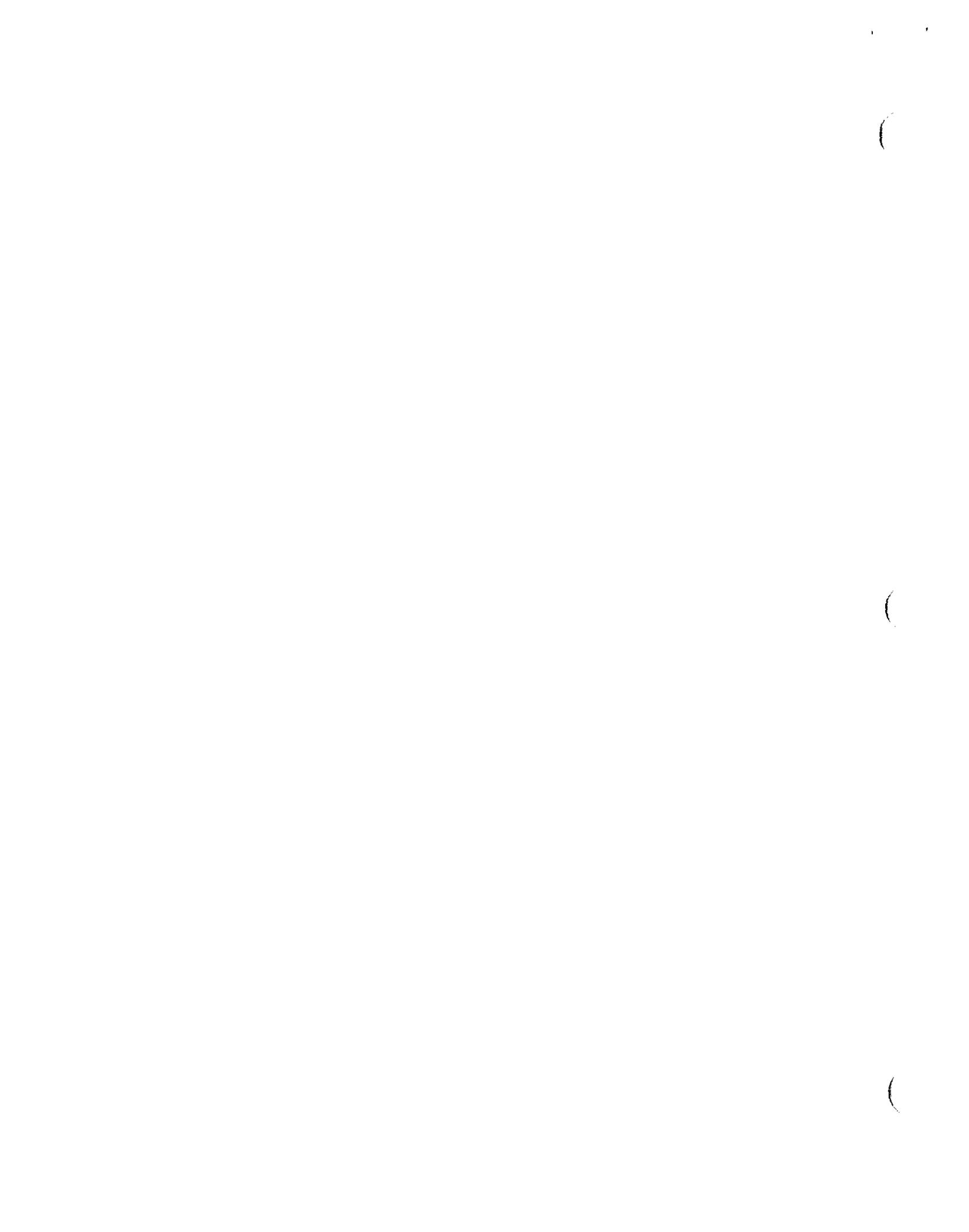
- Reduce potential restrictions on coho salmon for the commercial users
- Sport fishing harvests of coho on the Little Susitna River have been greater in the recent 10 years than the long-term historical average suggesting there is no problem
- Provide economic opportunity

**Opposition:**

- This may negatively impact the abundance of Northern District salmon stocks
- Have worked hard to create the current plan
- This would strip the allocative process out of the Northern District Plan and would force ADF&G staff to make allocative decisions not provided by the BOF
- There would be a net loss of revenue for Northern District set netters
- It would change the public perception of this plan as it relates to coho salmon being managed primarily for inriver users
- Although coho sport harvest is higher in recent years the number of anglers has more than doubled thereby actually reducing overall coho salmon angler success
- Addressing habitat issues to need to remain in the plan
- There would be economic loss to communities through decreased sport fishing opportunities
- Forecasted growth in the MatSu / Anchorage population will put added pressure on the coho salmon stocks in those areas

**SSFP:**

- General discussion SSFP



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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 135** - Amend the Northern District salmon management plan.

**Taken up with Proposal 134**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 48

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete language in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan that directs the department to minimize the harvest of coho salmon while managing for sockeye, pink and chum salmon. The purposes of this management plan are to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. It is likely that there would be no significant change as written.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 134

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 134

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 134

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 134

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 136** - Direct the department to manage chum, pink, and sockeye salmon primarily for commercial uses.

**Taken up with Proposal 134**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 49

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete language in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan that directs the department to minimize the harvest of coho salmon while managing for sockeye, pink and chum salmon. In addition it would delete section (b) and the OEG as well as section (d) dealing with the direction to minimize coho harvests in the Northern District set gillnet fishery. The purposes of this management plan are to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. It is likely that there would be no significant change as written.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 134

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 134

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 134

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

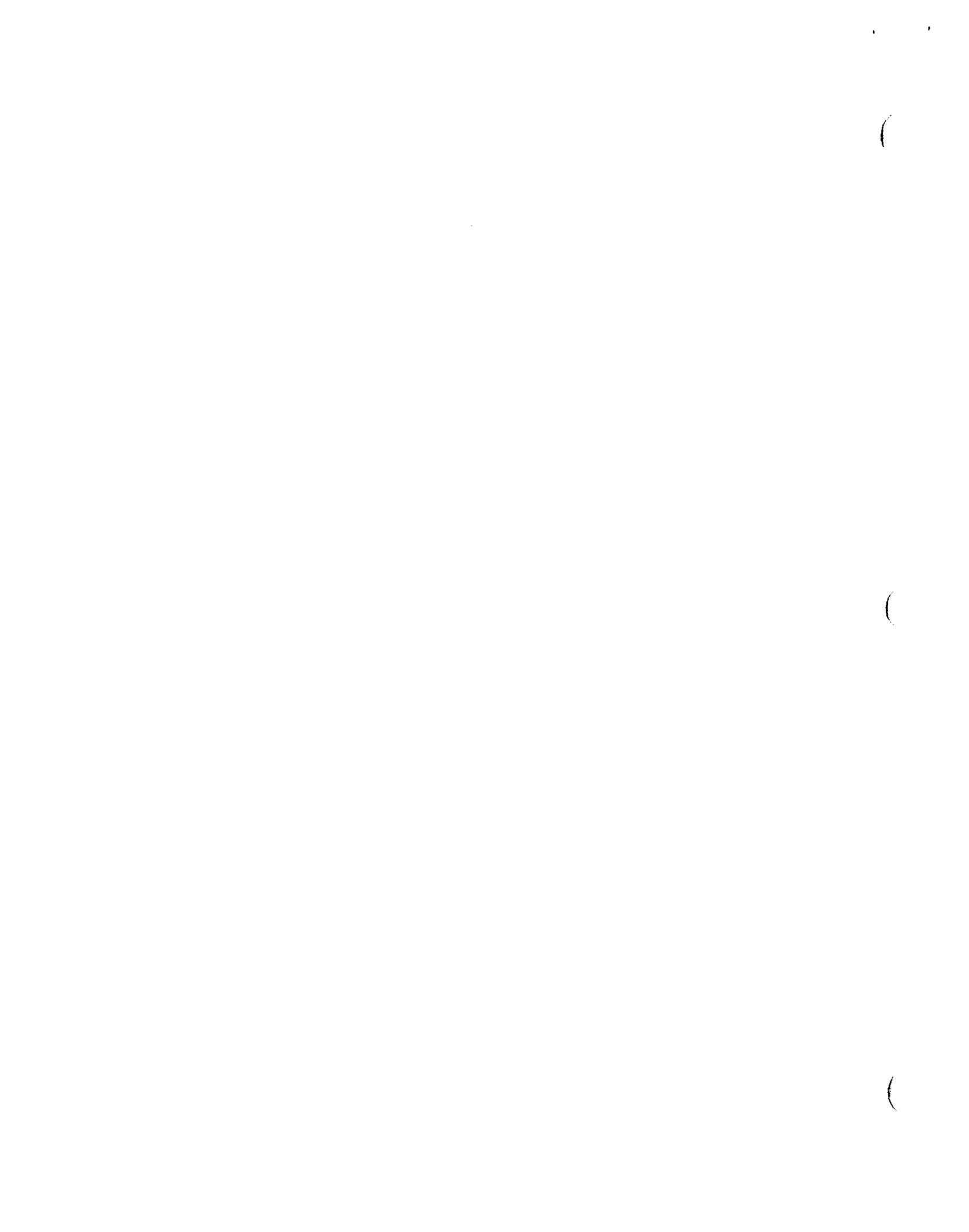
AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 134

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 137** - Eliminate the regulatory language from plans that direct the department to minimize harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho in order to provide personal use, sport.

**Taken up with Proposal 134**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 50

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 51, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The purposes of this management plan are to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. It is likely that there would be no significant change as written.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 134

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 134

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 134

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on the action taken on Proposal 134

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 138** - Reinstate the pre-2005 Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 52

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The primary changes would be to have more restrictive fishing for the drift gillnet fleet and reinsert coho restrictions on drift and set gillnet fishers. In addition, the OEG of 75,000 to 180,000 sockeye salmon in Kenai returns of over four million would be deleted. The current escapement goal in the Yentna River is 90,000 to 160,000 sockeye. In addition in large returns of over 4 million sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, there is an OEG in the Yentna River of 75,000 to 180,000 sockeye that was adopted in 2005.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- May improve the ability to achieve the Yentna SEG

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Oppose

AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 140 - Northern District Salmon Management Plan**; Clarify the escapement goal priorities regarding the Yentna and Kenai rivers.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 54

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal seeks to clarify that achieving the lower end of the sockeye salmon escapement goal in the Yentna River shall take priority over any of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goals. In 2002, the escapement goal in the Yentna River was changed to an SEG of 90,000-160,000. When the sockeye salmon returns to the Kenai River are four million or greater, the optimal escapement goal is 75,000 to 180,000 sockeye salmon in the Yentna River. The Board also adopted a priority by stating achievement of the lower end of the Yentna River optimal escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River escapement goal. Travel time of Yentna River sockeye salmon from the Central District to the Yentna River is approximately 10-14 days.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Would like to encourage discussion on creating a clear target for management
- Would provide priority on achieving the Yentna River sockeye salmon SEG
- Would like to avoid tying the abundance of the Kenai run with the success of the Yentna / Susitna River sockeye stocks

**Opposition:**

- This proposal currently does not provide the clarity need make achieving the escapement goal a priority
- There is a concern about how to implement the proposed intent conceptually
- It would reduce the flexibility of the ADF&G
- Northern District sport fisherman are already “getting” enough salmon to provide opportunity
- There would be a loss of commercial fishing harvest opportunity
- Uncertainty about estimated escapement values; may already be achieving goals

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Support: Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 141** - Allow longer sockeye season in Northern District and allow the department could reduce gear of instead of closing the fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 55

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 51, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would allow the department to restrict gear in the Northern District for an additional 6 days instead of closing the fishery if the Yentna River escapement is lagging but expected to meet the escapement goal. Effects of this proposal would be dependent on management actions taken during the season.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Provide the ADF&G additional regulatory flexibility by limiting gear length to avoid closing the fishery
- Limited fishing could provide run strength data
- This would not allow additional periods but rather give the department the ability to reduce gear effort in existing periods

**Opposition:**

- Recently, set net seasons have had to be closed and even with a reduce effort will still cause additional harvest of late Northern District bound salmon stocks
- Concern was raised again about the validity of the Yentna sonar escapement estimates
- Some evaluation of harvests with reduced gear would still be necessary as to whether the escapement goals would be met

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage AC, Susitna Valley AC, Matanuska Valley AC,

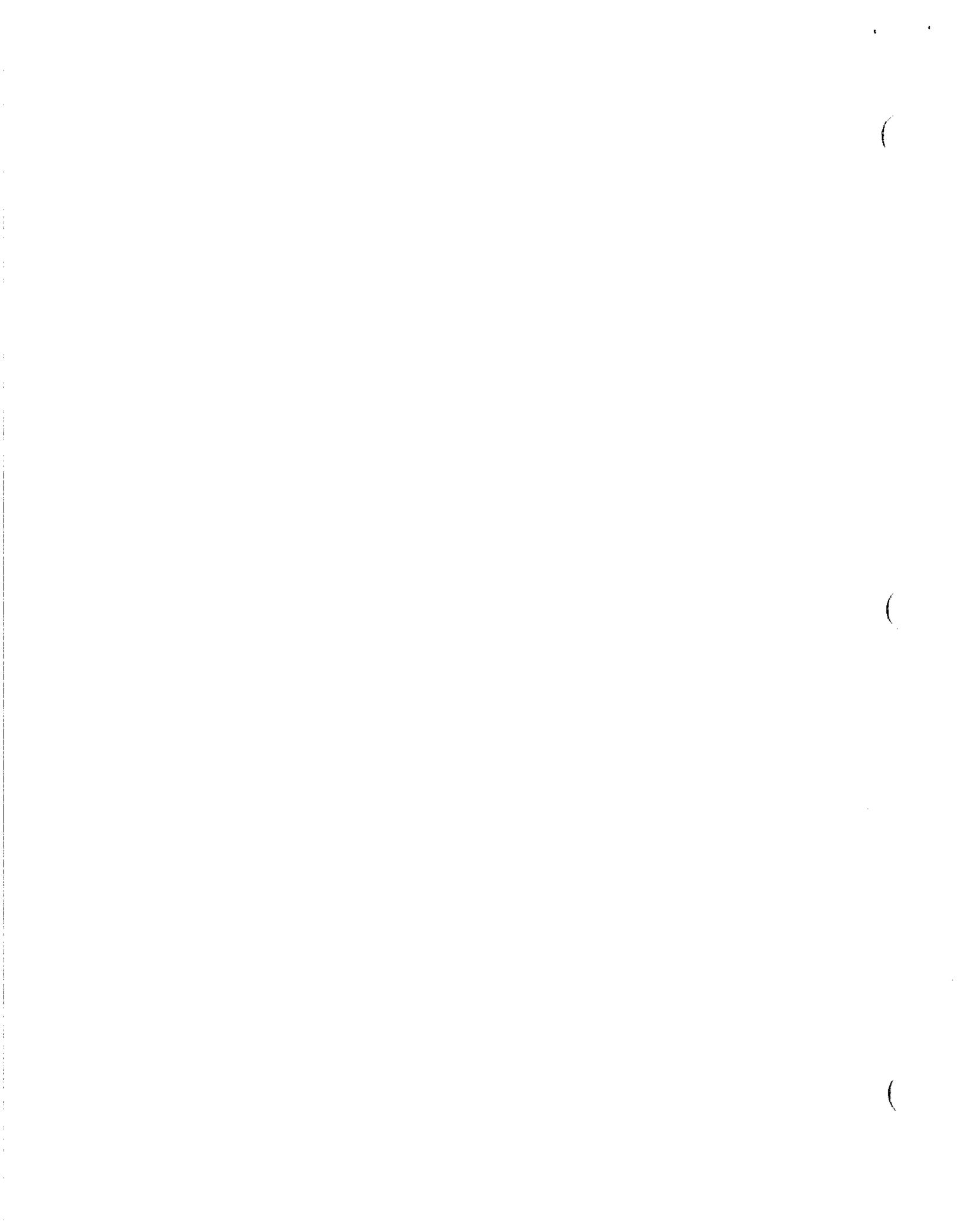
Support: Central Pen AC,



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 142** - Allow additional coho fishing time after August 10 in Northern District.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 56

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 45, 51, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase the amount of fishing time with an additional fishing period each week on Saturdays after August 10. Sockeye salmon bound for the Yentna River move through Upper Cook Inlet during July. The department has used a number of management measures to reduce the harvest rate on fish bound for the Northern District, such as closures in the Central District drift gillnet fishery and the Northern District set gillnet fishery. This proposal would increase the harvest of sockeye and coho salmon in the Northern District by an unknown amount.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- It would allow increased opportunity on coho salmon for Northern District set netters
- In most years, the impact to spawner abundance of Northern District stocks would be negligible
- Commercial fishers feel coho stocks are more abundant than most people believe
- Additional time would help with typical fall rough weather

**Opposition:**

- May decrease coho salmon abundance in Northern District streams
- May jeopardize sport angler opportunity, especially on coho salmon during years of low abundance
- May conflict with “minimize commercial coho harvest” in the Northern District Management Plan

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Matanuska and Susitna Valley ACs

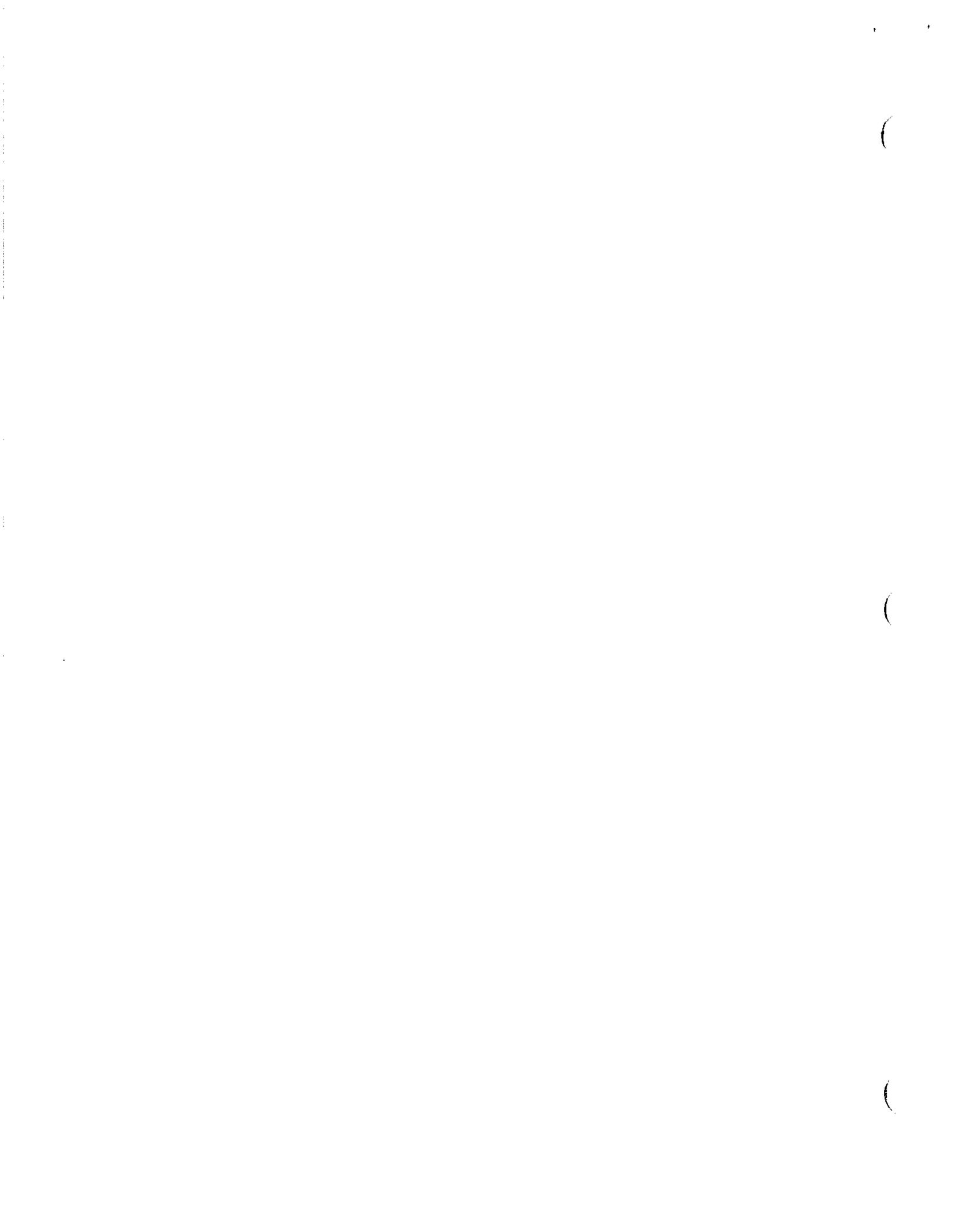
Support: Central Peninsula AC



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 143** - Manage the Northern District Eastern Subdistrict by regular periods not tied to Yentna River escapement.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 157

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 32, 42, 43, 45, 51, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would separate management of the east side statistical areas from the west side statistical areas in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet. The largest stock component of fish moving through the Northern District is the Susitna River sockeye salmon stock. The harvest of sockeye on the east side of the Northern district is small, generally under 15,000 fish. The stock composition of this harvest is likely dominated by Turnagain Arm, Swanson River and other non Susitna stocks.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- It is believed that sockeye caught on the eastside of the Northern District are not bound for the Susitna rather for Turnagain Arm (no genetic data currently). Commercial set netter feel hindered by the recent low escapement estimates from the Yentna
- Would increase flexibility for the ADF&G managers
- Chinook, chum, and pink salmon production capacity has changed in Resurrection Creek in Turnagain Arm potentially allowing reasonable additional harvest opportunity in the eastside Northern District

**Opposition:**

- Currently do not have analyzed genetic data from the eastside set net fisheries
- The Yentna River sonar escapement estimates to monitor these fisheries has suspect estimates
- It is a large area to manage without proper tools
- Some Northern District stocks are small and may be vulnerable to increased exploitation
- The Northern District commercial fishing periods have been closed because of sockeye (Yentna River SEG) not coho salmon abundance

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

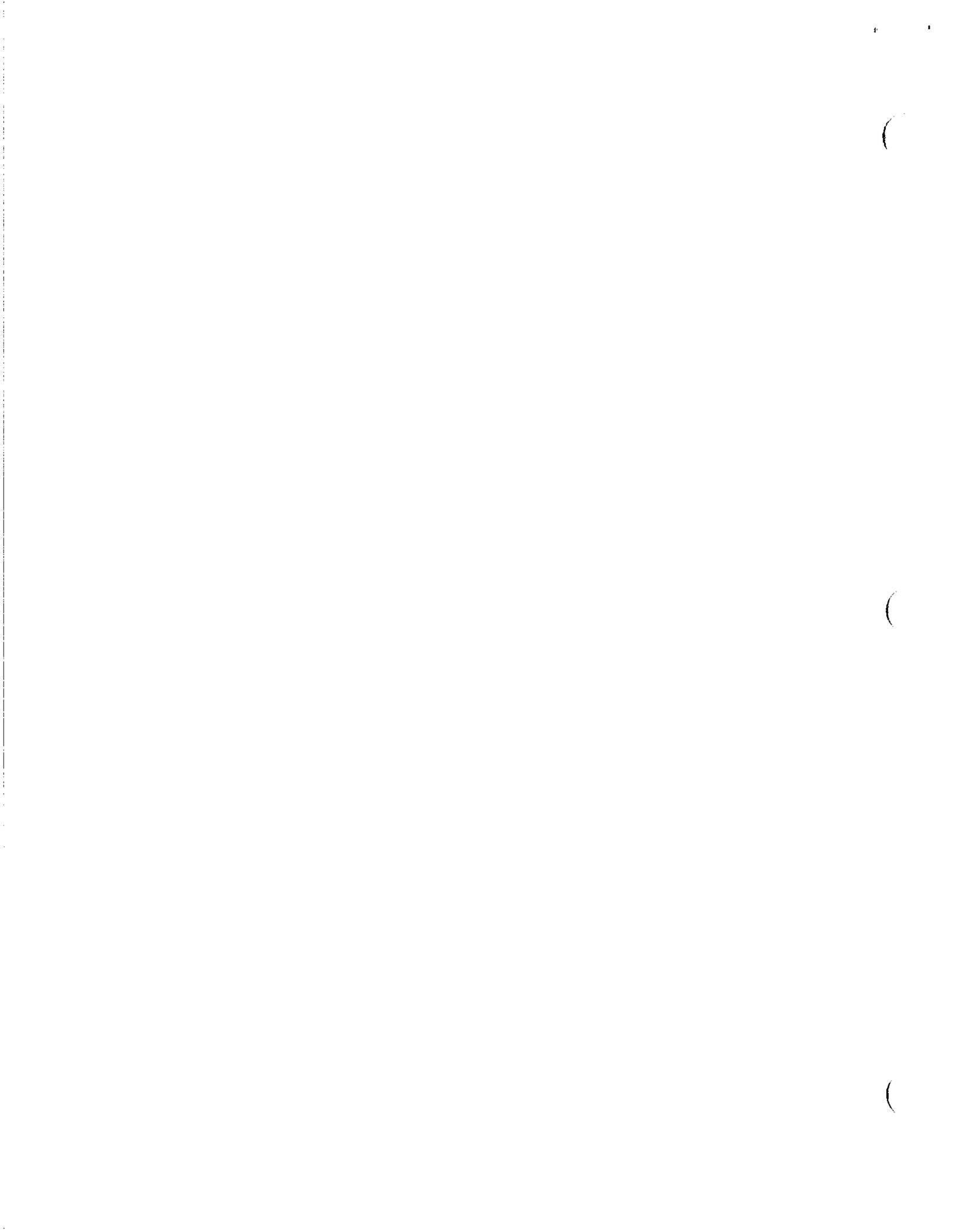
AC Positions: Oppose: Matanuska and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Pen AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 144** - Allow the commissioner to selectively close specific statistical areas in the Northern District commercial salmon fishery.

**Taken up with Proposal 143**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 58

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 42, 43, 45, 51, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would separate management of the east side statistical areas from the west side statistical areas in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet. The largest stock component of fish moving through the Northern District is the Susitna River sockeye salmon stock. The harvest of sockeye on the east side of the Northern district is small, generally under 15,000 fish. The stock composition of this harvest is likely dominated by Turnagain Arm, Swanson River and other non Susitna stocks.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 143

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 143

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

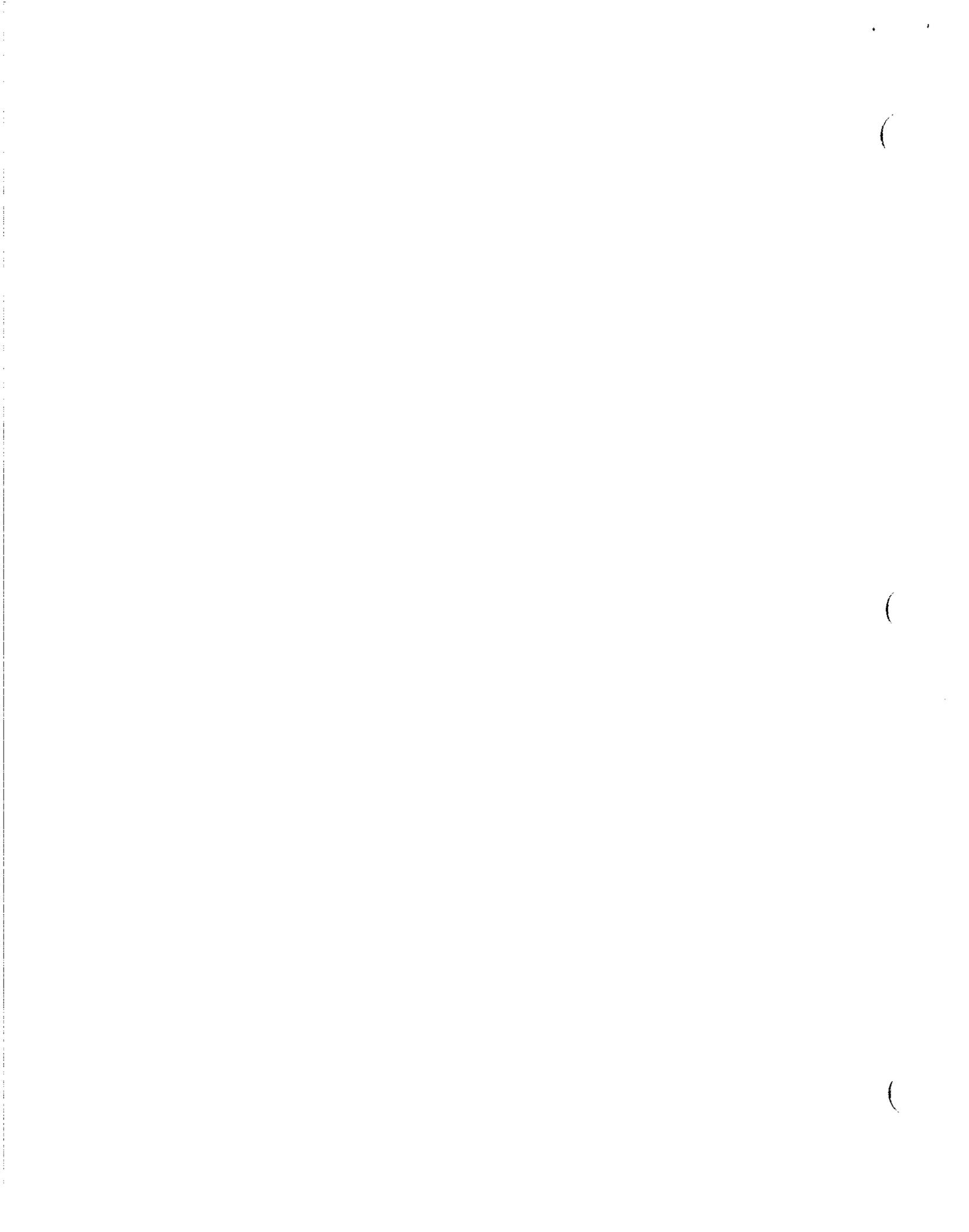
AC Positions: Oppose: Matanuska and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Pen AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 143

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 145** - Modify management of the Northern District.

**Taken up with Proposal 143**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 59

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, 30, 42, 43, 45, 51, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would separate management of the east side statistical areas from the west side statistical areas in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet. The largest stock component of fish moving through the Northern District is the Susitna River sockeye salmon stock. The harvest of sockeye on the east side of the Northern district is small, generally under 15,000 fish. The stock composition of this harvest is likely dominated by Turnagain Arm, Swanson River and other non Susitna stocks.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 143

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 143

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

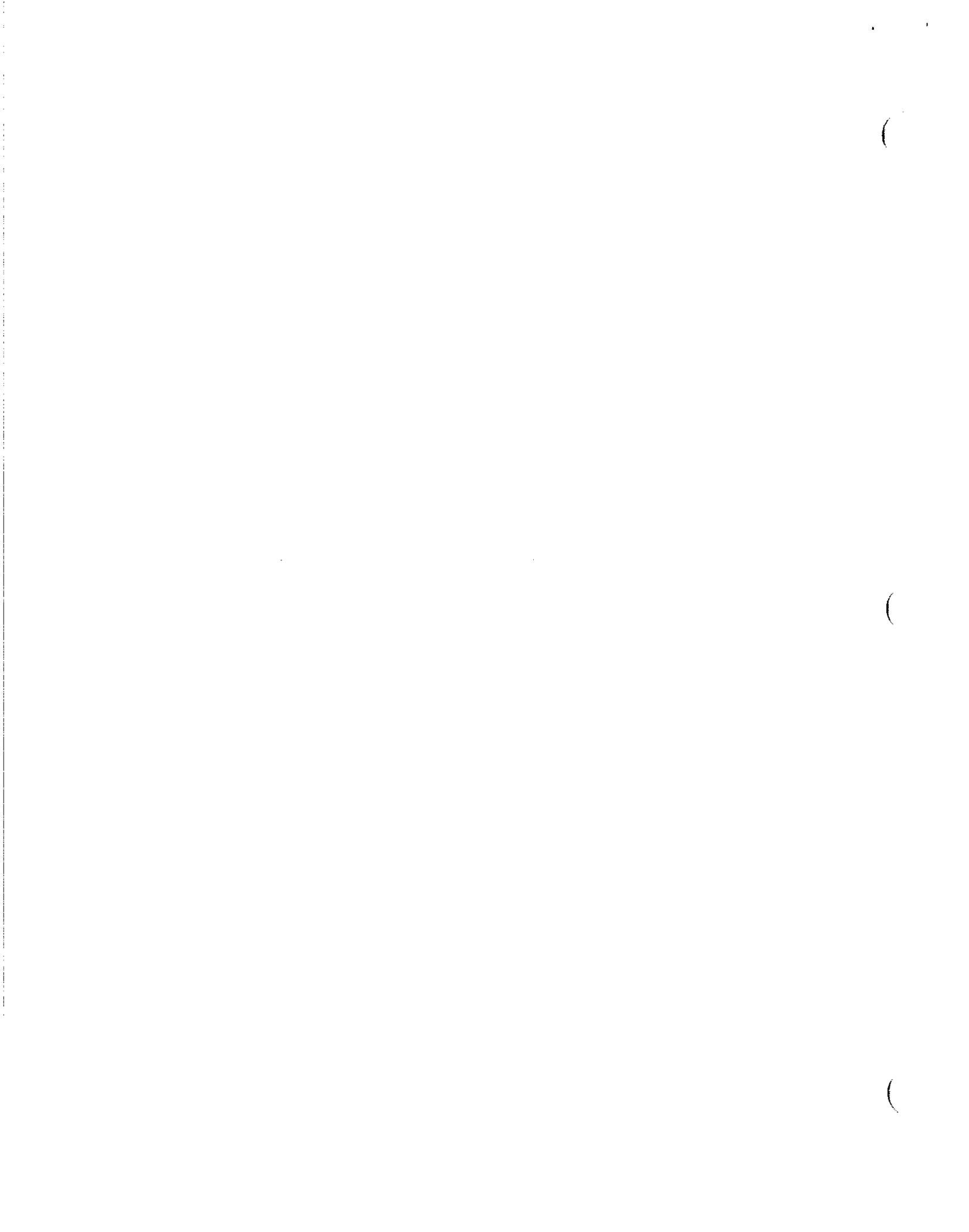
AC Positions: Oppose: Matanuska and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Pen AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 143

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 123** - Eliminate the Fish Creek stocking program until escapement goal met.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 60

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 28, 30, 42, 43, 45, 52, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 94, 95, 111, 112,

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would eliminate the stocking program in Fish Creek until the escapement goal has been met consistently over two life cycles. The board does not have regulatory authority to direct stocking programs for non-profit organizations.

Dept. of Law informed the BOF has limited authority over adjusting stocking programs

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Want to allow time for Fish Creek wildstock sockeye salmon to find a balance over two generations to allow a more informed understanding
- There are concerns this stocking program has been mismanaged
- Need to examine actual survival rates of fry and smolt

**Opposition:**

- Adult sockeye salmon production will decrease if the stocking program is minimized or ceased
- Big Lake (the source of Fish Creek) is polluted with hydrocarbons and may be contributing to the low abundance of wildstock sockeye salmon
- Can no longer identify a second generation hatchery sockeye from a naturally produced sockeye
- Only 4-6% fry to smolt survival is documented in Fish Creek stocking program
- CIAA is currently examining the smolt survival based on different rearing strategies and concerned that adjusting stocking levels now would be premature

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC



Support: Matanuska and Susitna Valley ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on lack of board authority

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 114** - Renumber the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan to put umbrella plan first in the regulations.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 61

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The number and complexity of Upper Cook Inlet management plans have evolved over the years. This proposal may lessen the confusion of these plans by placing it in a more chronological order.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- This was done recently in the Sport Fish regulations
- Could put them in better order

**Opposition:**

- Could possibly reorder plans but would lose the history behind them in doing so
- It may not be approved by the Dept. of Law as there is a shortage of numbers
- Need legislative approval to change numbers

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to approve

Board Committee Recommendation: No action. The department can accomplish this without regulatory action.

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 124** - Reorganize the Upper Cook Inlet Management plans by species.

**Taken up with Proposal 114**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 62

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94, 116

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The number and complexity of Upper Cook Inlet management plans have evolved over the years. This proposal may lessen the confusion of these plans by placing them in a more chronological order.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 114

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 114

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to approve

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 114

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 126** - Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan to clarify board intent regarding the commissioner's emergency order authority.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 63

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The suite of plans that govern the management of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks have a number of complex and competing objectives. Limitations under these management plans, such as closed windows and defined fishing time, have conflicted with the department's ability to manage for established escapement goals. It is unclear at times how to balance these restrictions and the established escapement goals which are often in conflict.

Dept. of Law suggests this may not make any substantive change.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support

AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 127** - Authorize the commissioner to issue EO openings to ensure escapement ranges are met.

**Taken up under Proposal 126**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 64

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would direct the commissioner to manage for escapement goals using emergency order authority. Effects of this proposal would depend on the commissioner's actions. The suite of plans that govern the management of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks have a number of complex and competing objectives. Limitations under these management plans, such as closed windows and defined fishing time, have conflicted with the department's ability to manage for established escapement goals. It is unclear at times how to balance these restrictions and the established escapement goals which are often in conflict.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 126

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 126

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support

AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 126

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 130** - Clarify that achieving the established escapement goals is the primary management objective in the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 67

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 63, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The suite of plans that govern the management of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks have a number of complex and competing objectives. Limitations under these management plans, such as closed windows and defined fishing time, have conflicted with the department's ability to manage for established escapement goals. It is unclear at times how to balance these restrictions and the established escapement goals which are often in conflict.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- It would define the priority of escapement goals among all other management tactics (i.e., "windows", inriver abundance, etc...).
- It was suggested that priorities be outlined as 1) conservation, 2) allocation, 3) not exceeding escapement goals
- Using "windows" may be misleading and not provide long-term yields of healthy salmon stocks

**Opposition:**

- It is very difficult to meet escapement goals in upper Cook Inlet due to the nature of the mixed stock fisheries, however by promoting "windows" (as a priority), escapement goals have been met
- May not provide a stable sport and personal use fisheries on the weekends

**SSFP:**

- General discussion on meeting escapement goals



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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with amended language

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 128** - Clarify the intention to manage fisheries in season to meet the escapement goals.

**Taken up with Proposal 130**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 65

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would clarify that escapement goals are a priority over current regulations which limit allowable fishing time, closed windows, and fishing areas. It would also direct the commissioner to use emergency order authority to manage for escapement goals. The suite of plans that govern the management of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks have a number of complex and competing objectives. Limitations under these management plans, such as closed windows and defined fishing time, have conflicted with the department's ability to manage for established escapement goals. It is unclear at times how to balance these restrictions and the established escapement goals which are often in conflict.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 130

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 130

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 130

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support

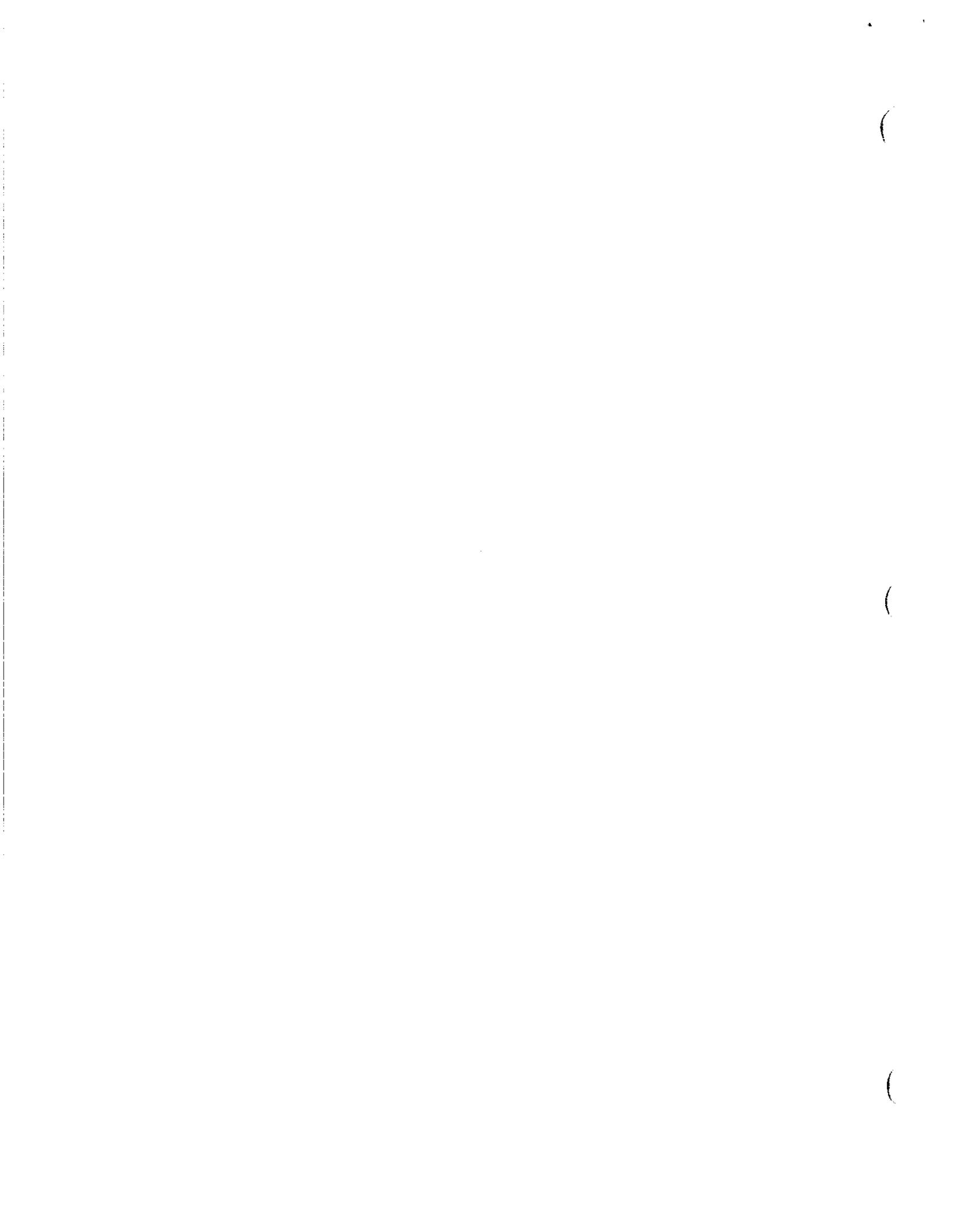
AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 130

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 129** - Clarify the BOF intent that achieving escapement goals supersedes specific time and area managers flexibility.

**Taken up with Proposal 128**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 66

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would clarify that escapement goals are a priority over current regulations which describe allowable fishing time, closed windows, and fishing areas. The suite of plans that govern the management of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks have a number of complex and competing objectives. Limitations under these management plans, such as closed windows and defined fishing time, have conflicted with the department's ability to manage for established escapement goals. It is unclear at times how to balance these restrictions and the established escapement goals which are often in conflict.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 130

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 130

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 130

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support

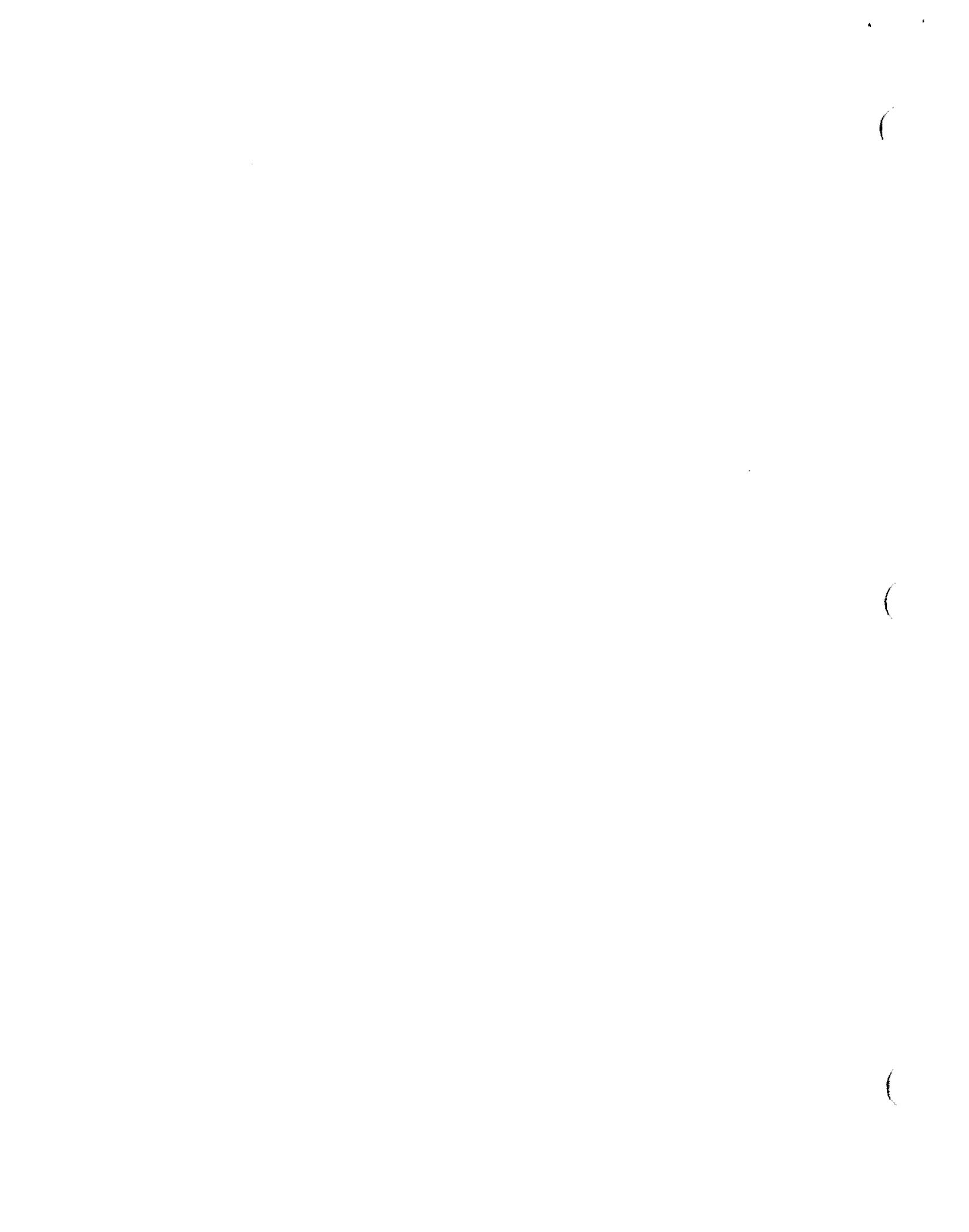
AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 130

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 131** - Manage to achieve in-river goals.

**Taken up with Proposal 130**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 68

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would clarify that escapement goals are a priority over current regulations which describe allowable fishing time, closed windows, and fishing areas. The suite of plans that govern the management of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks have a number of complex and competing objectives. Limitations under these management plans, such as closed windows and defined fishing time, have conflicted with the department's ability to manage for established escapement goals. It is unclear at times how to balance these restrictions and the established escapement goals which are often in conflict.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 130

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 130

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 130

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Support

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage and Susitna Valley ACs

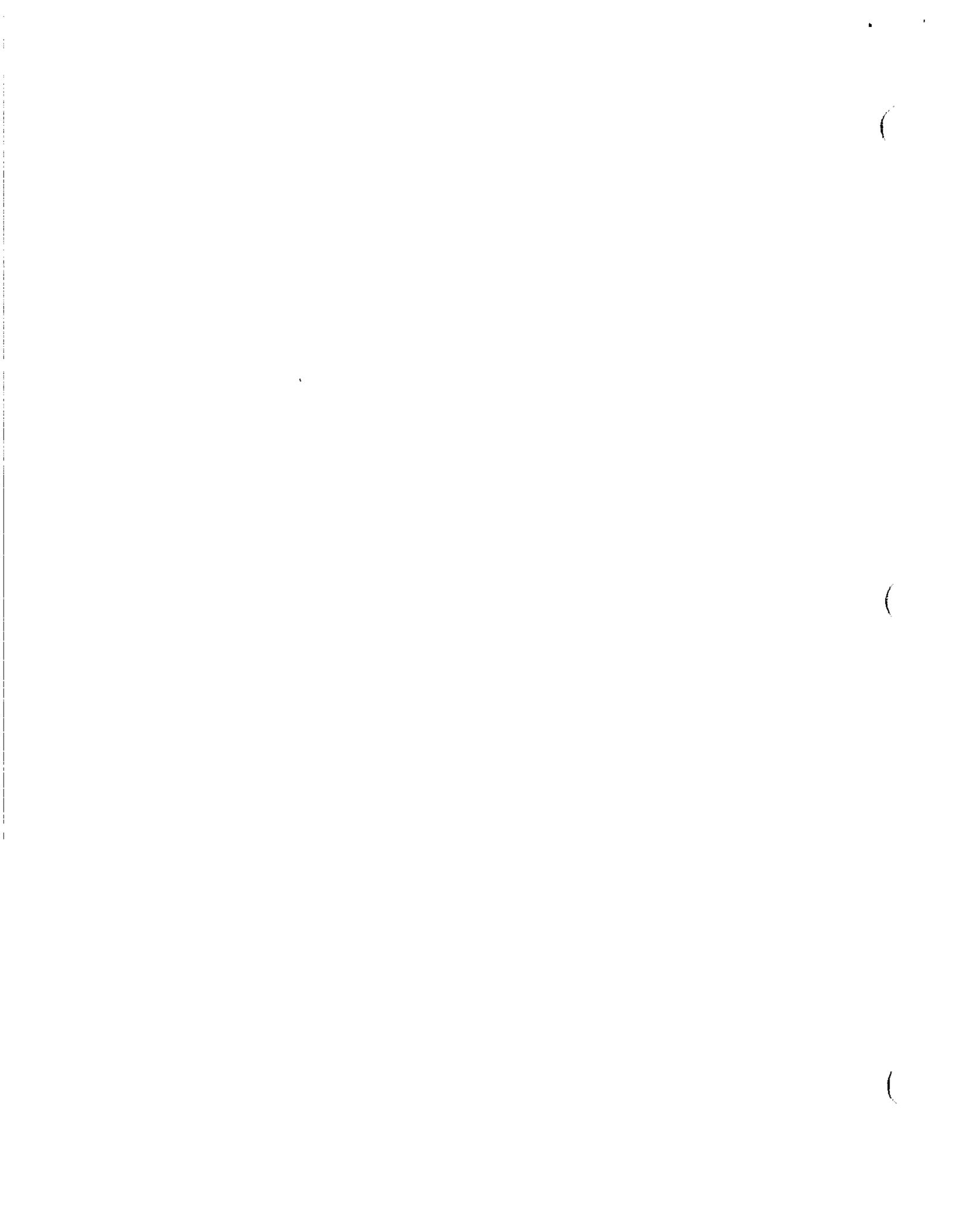
Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 130

Substitute Language: None

Substitute Language:



**PROPOSAL 132** - Implement priorities among salmon management plans for Upper Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 69

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 56, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The proposal places achieving the lower end of escapement goals and closed fishing periods as a higher priority than exceeding the upper end of the goal. It also creates an intent statement that fisheries shall be provided no less than 51% harvest share of species and stocks designated for management priority of that fishery. The department is unable to manage for a harvest share inseason between the different user groups.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Oppose

AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 115** - Return the Upper Cook Inlet management plan to 1995 wording.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 70

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would revert back to a plan which had more flexibility than the current management plan. Substantial changes would be no closed windows, no hour limitations, and a season which was longer. The Upper Cook Inlet Plan first was passed as a policy by the BOF in 1978, was thrown out by court action but readopted again in 1981. The plan changed little between 1981 and 1995. That plan set priorities for management by time period. Prior to July 1 the inlet was managed primarily for recreational purposes with certain exceptions, from July 1 to August 15 primarily for commercial purposes with certain exceptions and after August 15 for a mixture of purposes depending on area..

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

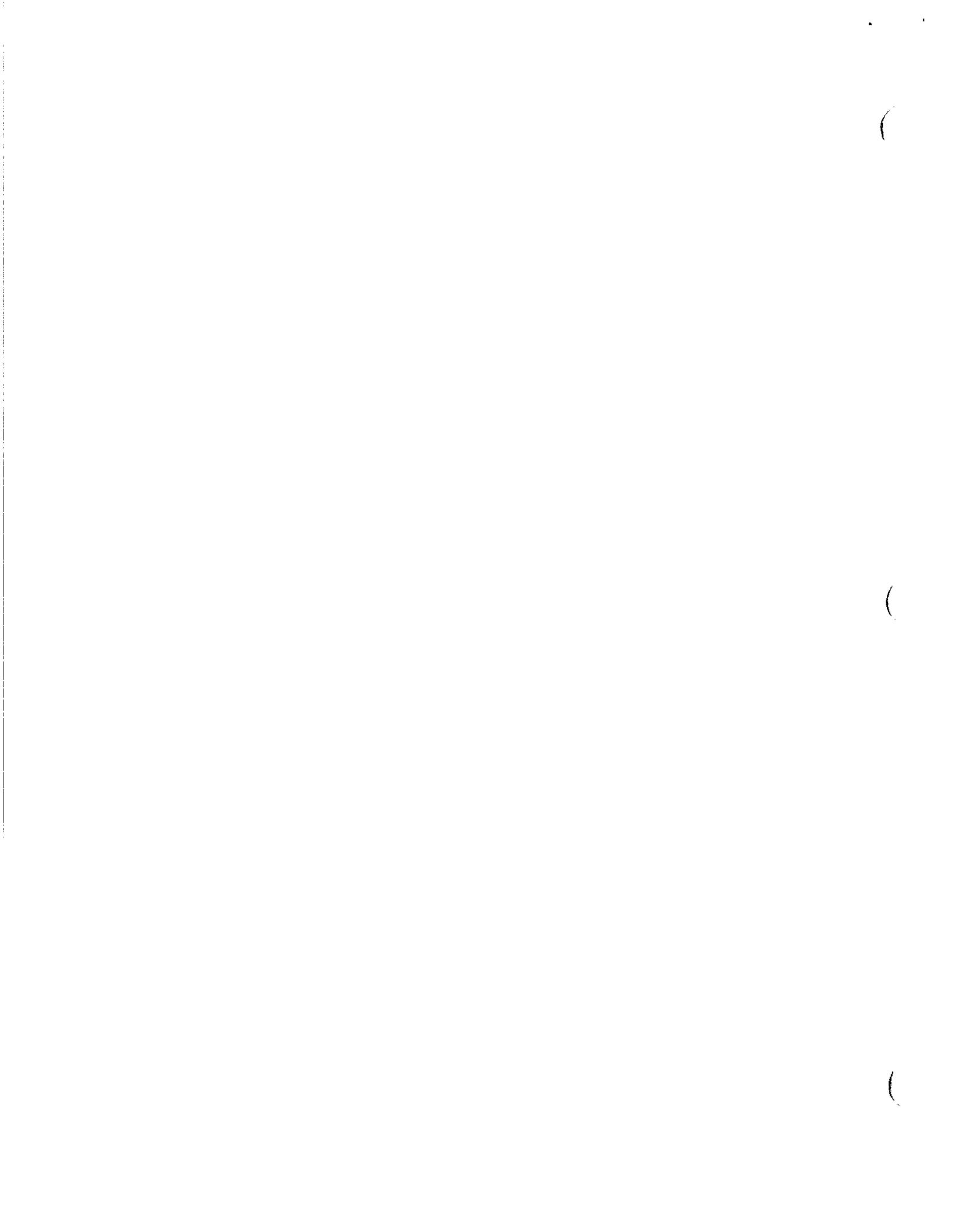
AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 116** - Add personal use, sport and guided sport use to the priority for management purposes in Upper Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 72

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 29, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 56, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal may decrease the commercial salmon harvest or even close the commercial fishery until all other users are satisfied at the “full capacity” level. This proposal may also increase the non-commercial harvest of salmon and may result in escapement goals being consistently exceeded causing a reduction in potential future yields.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

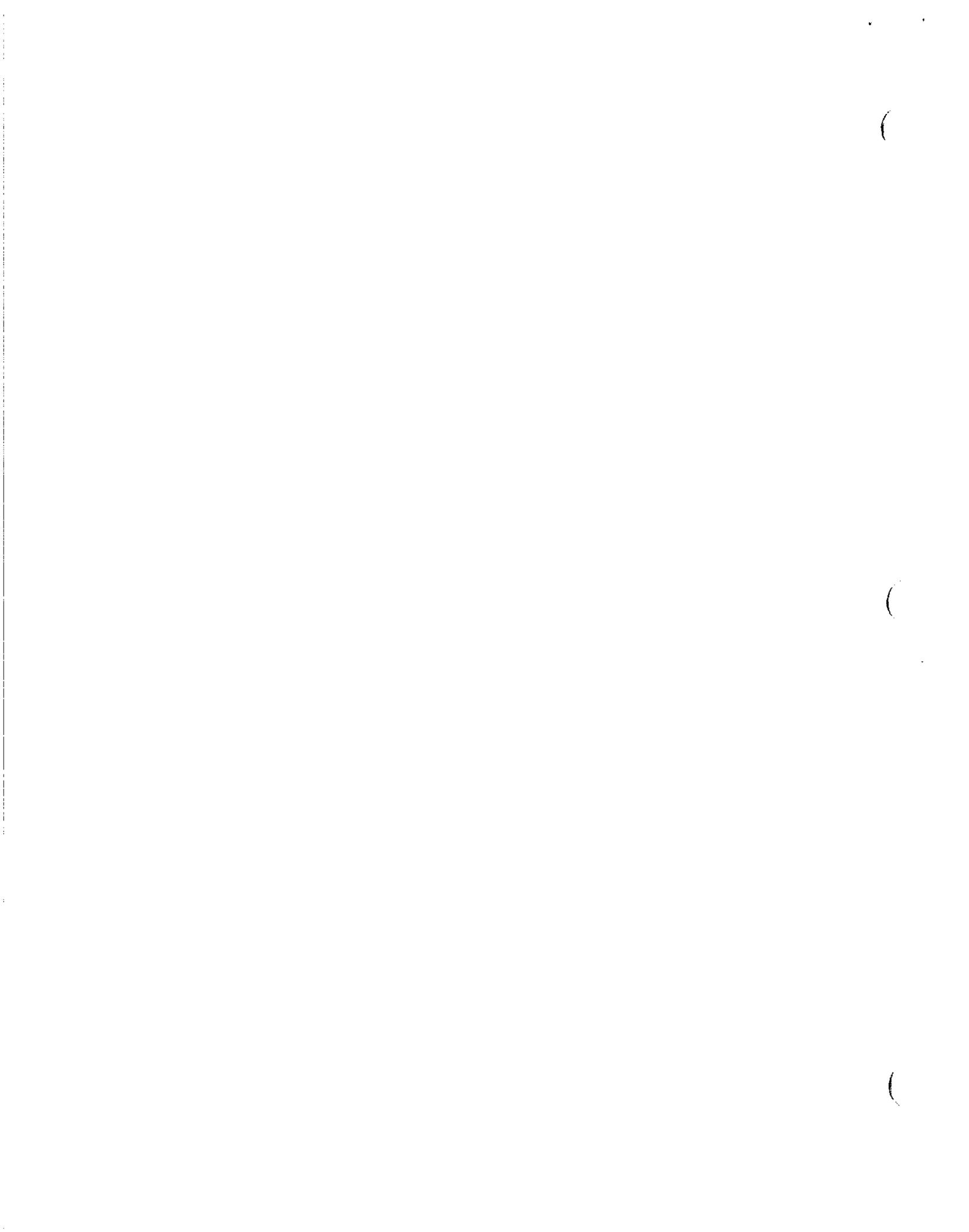
AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 117** - Amend the umbrella salmon management plan to clarify escapement goals based on wild fish.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 73

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: There are no regulations that govern the treatment of hatchery fish with regards to escapement goals. The Policy for Sustainable Salmon Fisheries and Escapement Goal Policy also does not address this issue. Stocks that are enhanced with hatchery supplementation include Kenai, Kasilof, and Fish Creek sockeye salmon as well as several king and coho salmon stocks.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

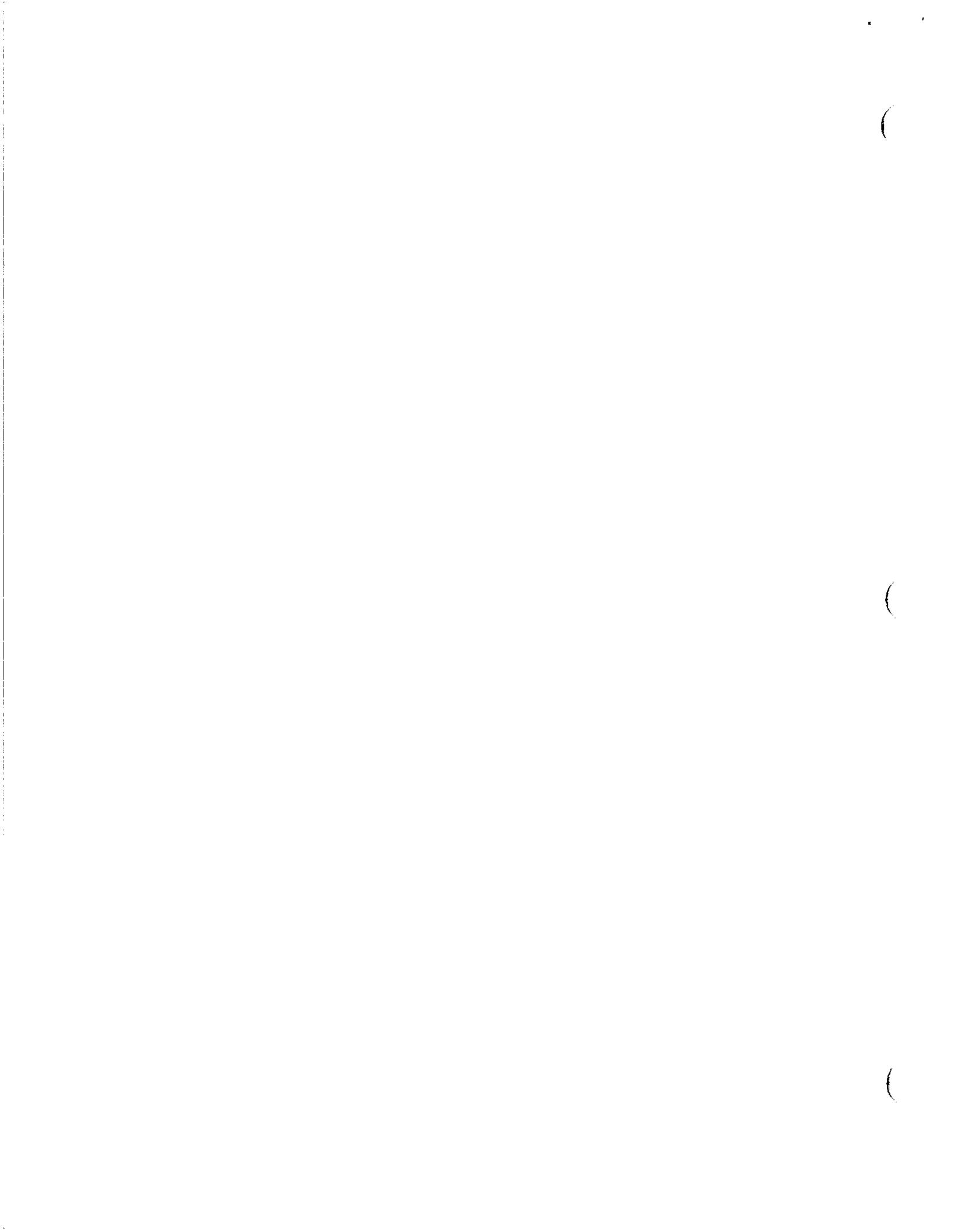
AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 125** - Revise the Upper Cook Inlet area management plans to address quality, sustainability and revitalize the industry.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 74

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal seeks to change a suite of regulations for Upper Cook Inlet salmon fisheries. These proposed changes include, but are not limited to, using 3 million sockeye salmon as a trigger point instead of the now 3 tiered regulations, increase the amount of useable gillnet gear, add a commercial fishing period, directs the department to manage for escapement goals, and changes escapement and inriver goals. The complexity of Upper Cook Inlet management plans has evolved over the years as the Board of Fisheries has struggled to balance the allocation needs and desires of the various user groups. The department does support the development of flexible management plans.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- The proposal was designed to improve efficiency, which would provide a higher quality fishery

**Opposition:**

- Needs to go through the restructuring process
- Numerous allocative measures embedded in this proposal that could negatively impact commercial fisherman

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

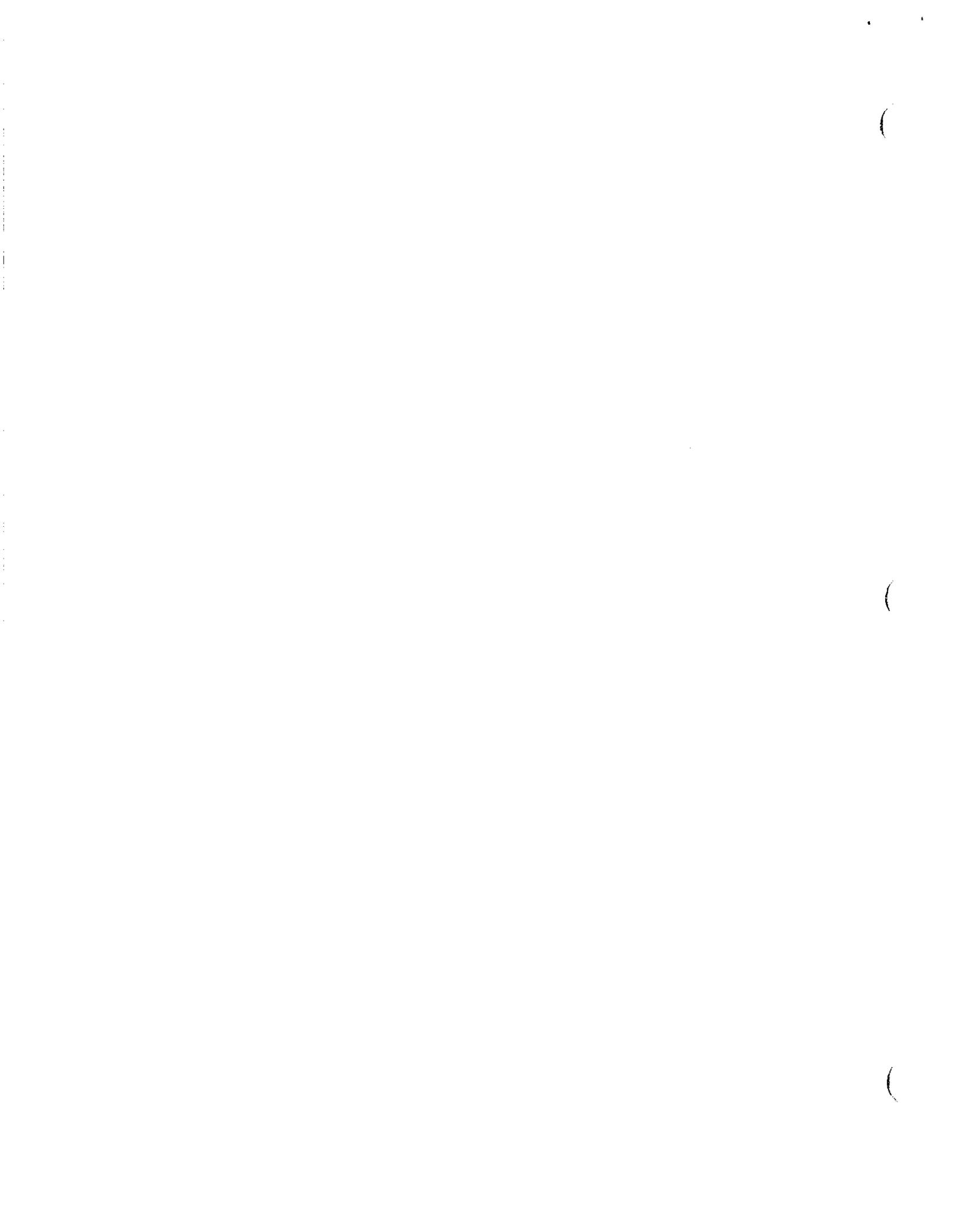
AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 133** - Specify from June 20 to August 20, Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks will be primarily managed for high quality.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 75

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 12, 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 45, 59, 61, 68, 69, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 91, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would specify that from June 20 to August 20 salmon stocks in Cook Inlet will be managed primarily for “high quality commercial uses”. If passed, “high quality” would need to be defined.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- May improve fish quality and production efficiency

**Opposition:**

- May create low abundance of salmon stocks to Northern District streams

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Matanuska and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 160** - Modify the Central District Gillnet Fishery Management plan to allow the area managers flexibility.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 76

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete mandatory restrictions during July that pertain to drift gillnet time and area. Commercial fishing would occur during regular periods and additional time or restrictions would occur by emergency order if necessary and be implemented by the department to meet escapement goals. Effects of this proposal would be dependent on the run strength and the management actions necessary to manage the fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- This would increase the managers flexibility
- It provides increased harvest opportunity

**Opposition:**

- Concerns the Central District Management Plan needs additional precautions to increase salmon abundance to Northern District streams

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC, Homer AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 161** - Repeal the Central District Drift Gillnet fishery management plans.

**Taken up with Proposal 160**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 77

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete mandatory restrictions during July that pertain to drift gillnet time and area. Commercial fishing would occur during regular periods and additional time or restrictions would occur by emergency order if necessary and be implemented by the department to meet escapement goals. Effects of this proposal would be dependent on the run strength and the management actions necessary to manage the fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program:

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 160

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 160

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC, Homer AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 160

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 162** - Delete the Central District Gillnet plan.

**Taken up with Proposal 160**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 78

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would delete mandatory restrictions during July that pertain to drift gillnet time and area. Commercial fishing would occur during regular periods and additional time or restrictions would occur by emergency order if necessary and be implemented by the department to meet escapement goals. Effects of this proposal would be dependent on the run strength and the management actions necessary to manage the fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 160

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 160

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

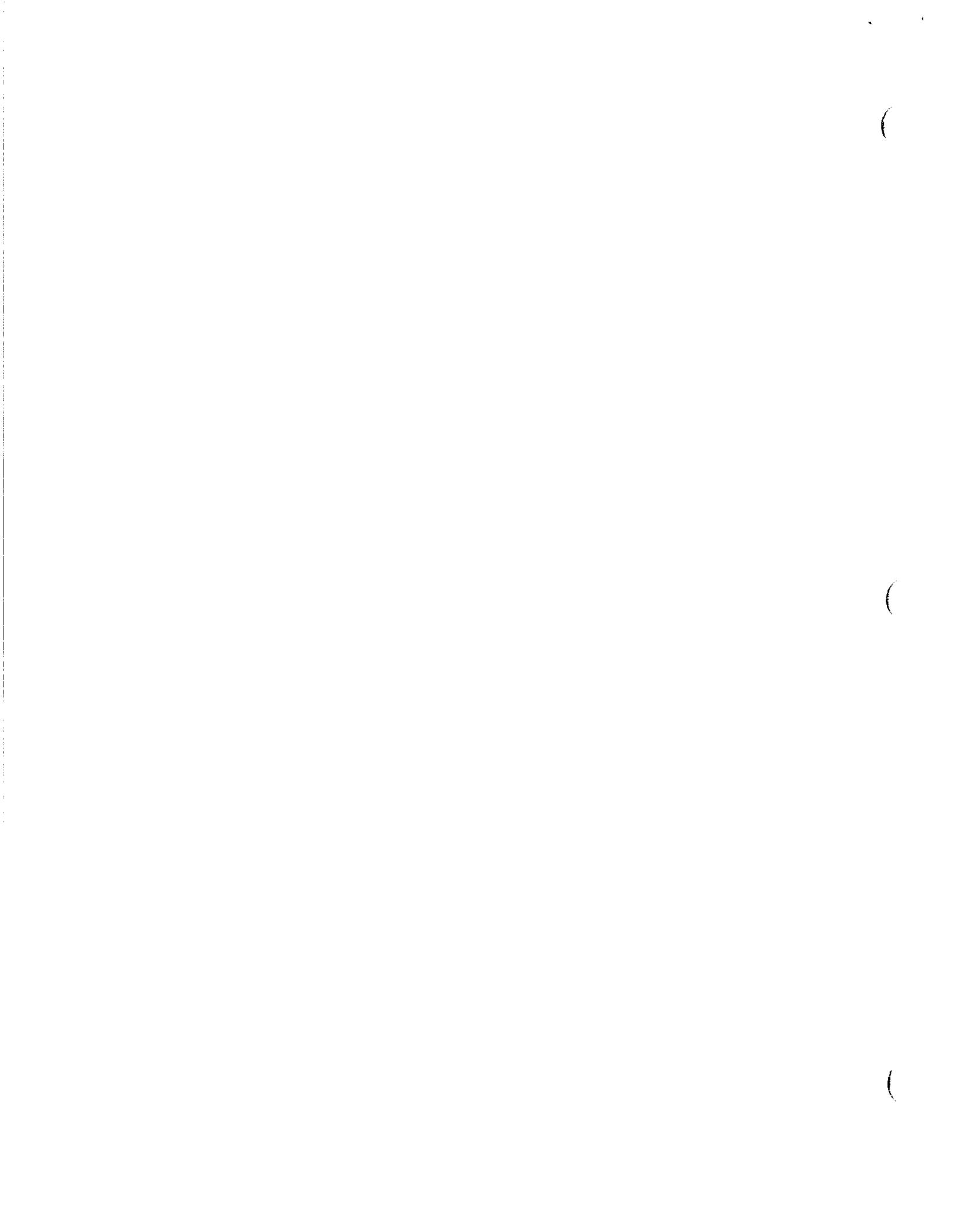
AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, and Susitna Valley ACs

Support: Central Peninsula AC, Homer AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 160

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 89** - Close the Central District commercial fishery by executive order.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 80

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: It is unclear exactly what this proposal requests. However, it is thought that the proposal requests area managers to have the ability to open and close the drift gillnet fishery as necessary by emergency order.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

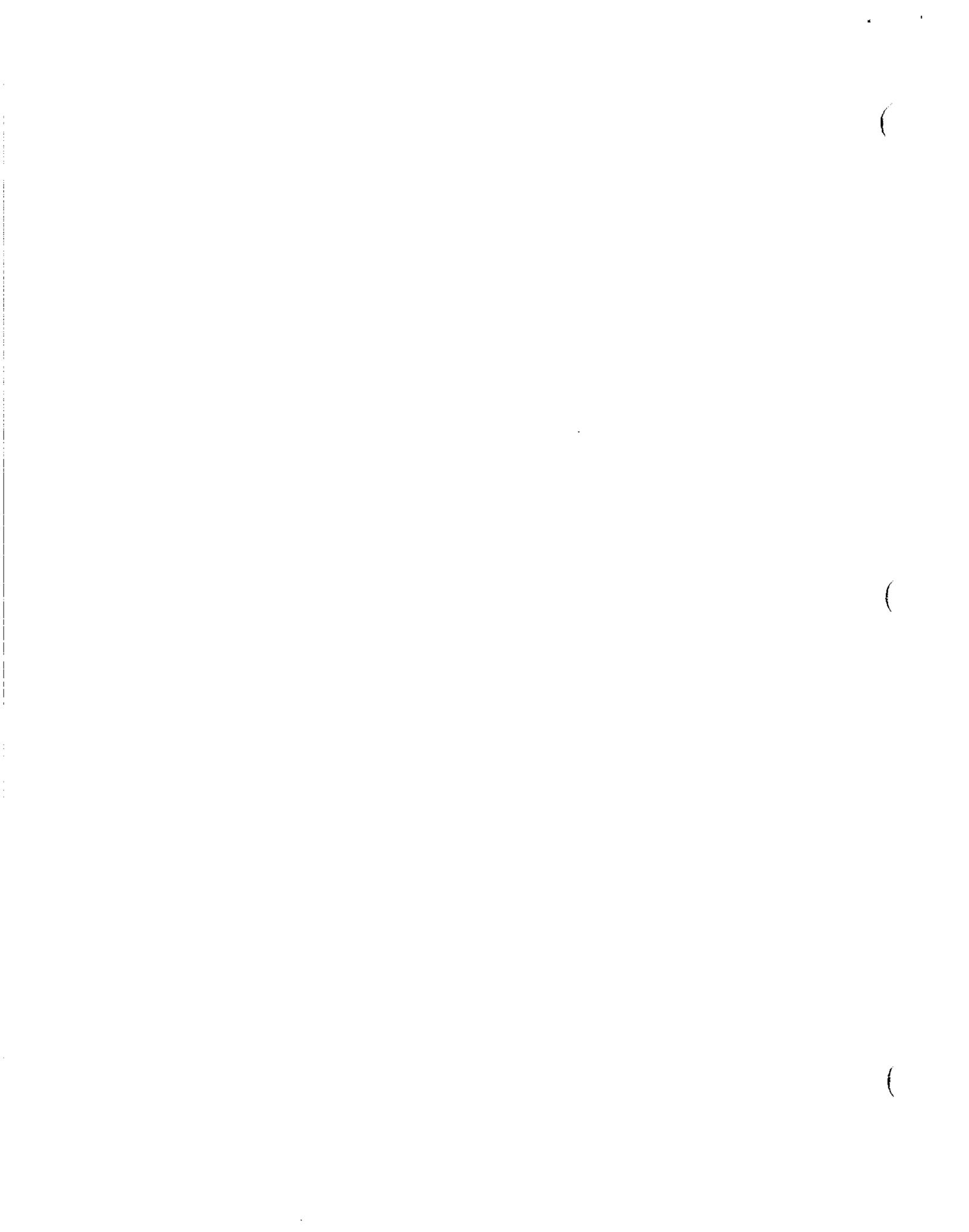
AC Positions: Oppose: No comments

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal based on Proposal 160

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 163** - Amend the Central District drift gillnet fishery management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 81

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 45, 51, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would restrict the commercial drift gillnet fleet to the Kasilof and Kenai sections for two regular periods between July 9 and 15 and two additional periods from July 16 to July 31 in runs under 4,000,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River. In returns of over 4,000,000 there would be two restrictions from July 9 to July 15 only. It would also create an area that could not be fished when the Northern District is closed to conserve Susitna River sockeye salmon. The drift gillnet fleet's effectiveness would be reduced and controlling escapements to the Kasilof and Kenai Rivers would be compromised. In all likelihood, escapements would consistently be exceeded in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers by significant amounts absent liberalizations in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnets fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

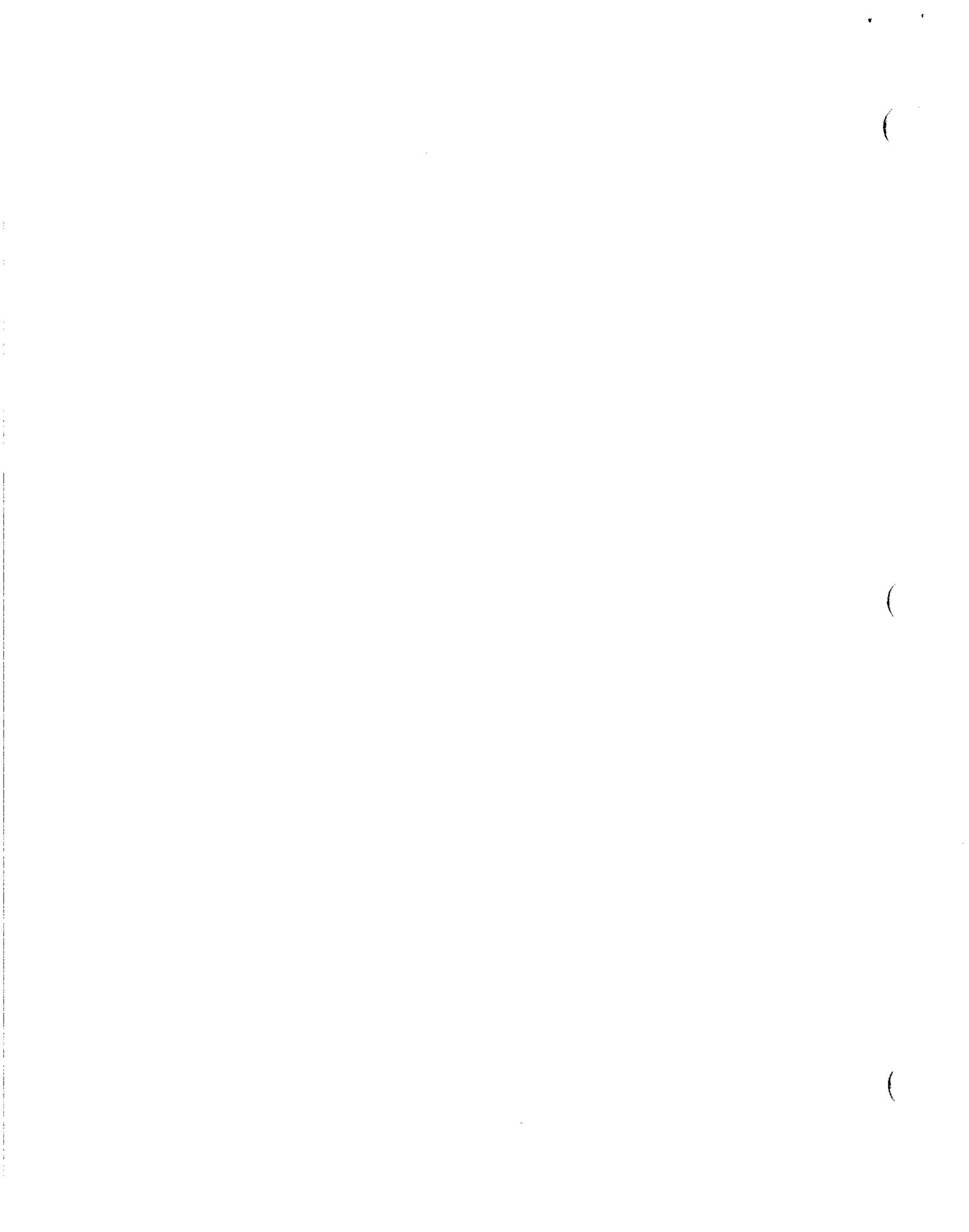
- Would return Central District Drift Gillnet Management Plan regulations similar to pre-2005
- Would increase salmon run strength to Northern District streams as was observed by coho stocks in 2006
- Severe restrictions have been implemented affecting Northern District.

**Opposition:**

- Having "Areas" (as outlined in the management plan) really does not benefit the commercial users
- This proposal may hinder the department's ability to effectively manage the Central District commercial fishery
- It is a mixed stock fishery and one cannot draw lines to determine the location of where specific fish stocks are migrating to

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed



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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Oppose

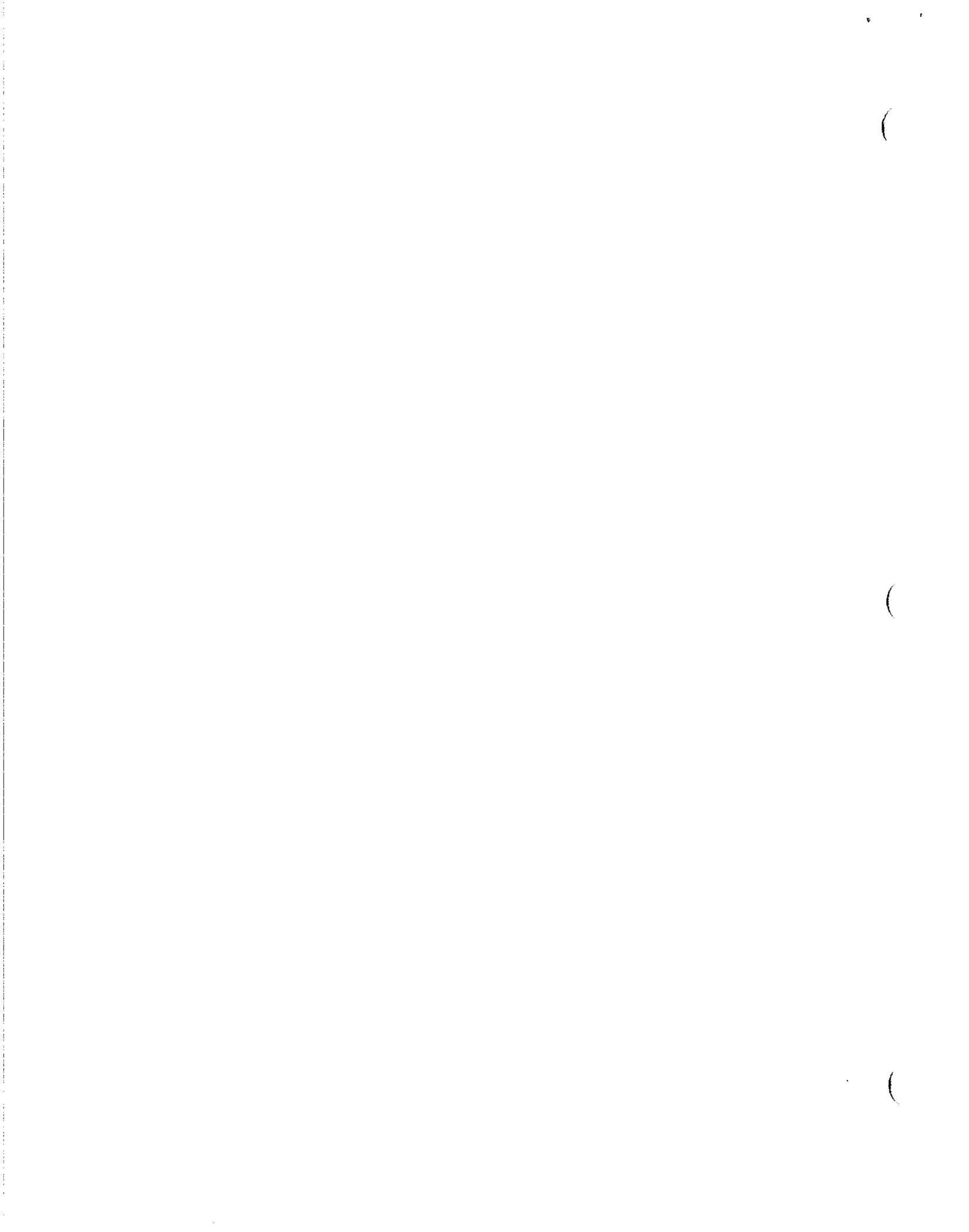
AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Support: Matanuska Valley, Susitna Valley, and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 164** - Clarify the August fishing periods in the Central District.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 82

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would add specific language to the drift gillnet management plan to address the period from August 1 to August 10. Specific instructions outlined by the BOF during this time period are unnecessary. The time period from June 19 until July 9 is also not covered under the plan as the BOF did not institute specific instructions during this time frame. That being, the regular fishing schedule applies.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- The intent of this proposal is unnecessary, the proposed intent would not be accomplished
- Recent genetic analysis of Cook Inlet harvested sockeye salmon show Yentna / Susitna stocks are in low abundance during this time period (referred to ADF&G addendum – RC 3, tab 7)
- This proposal may unnecessarily restrict the drift gillnet fleet

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

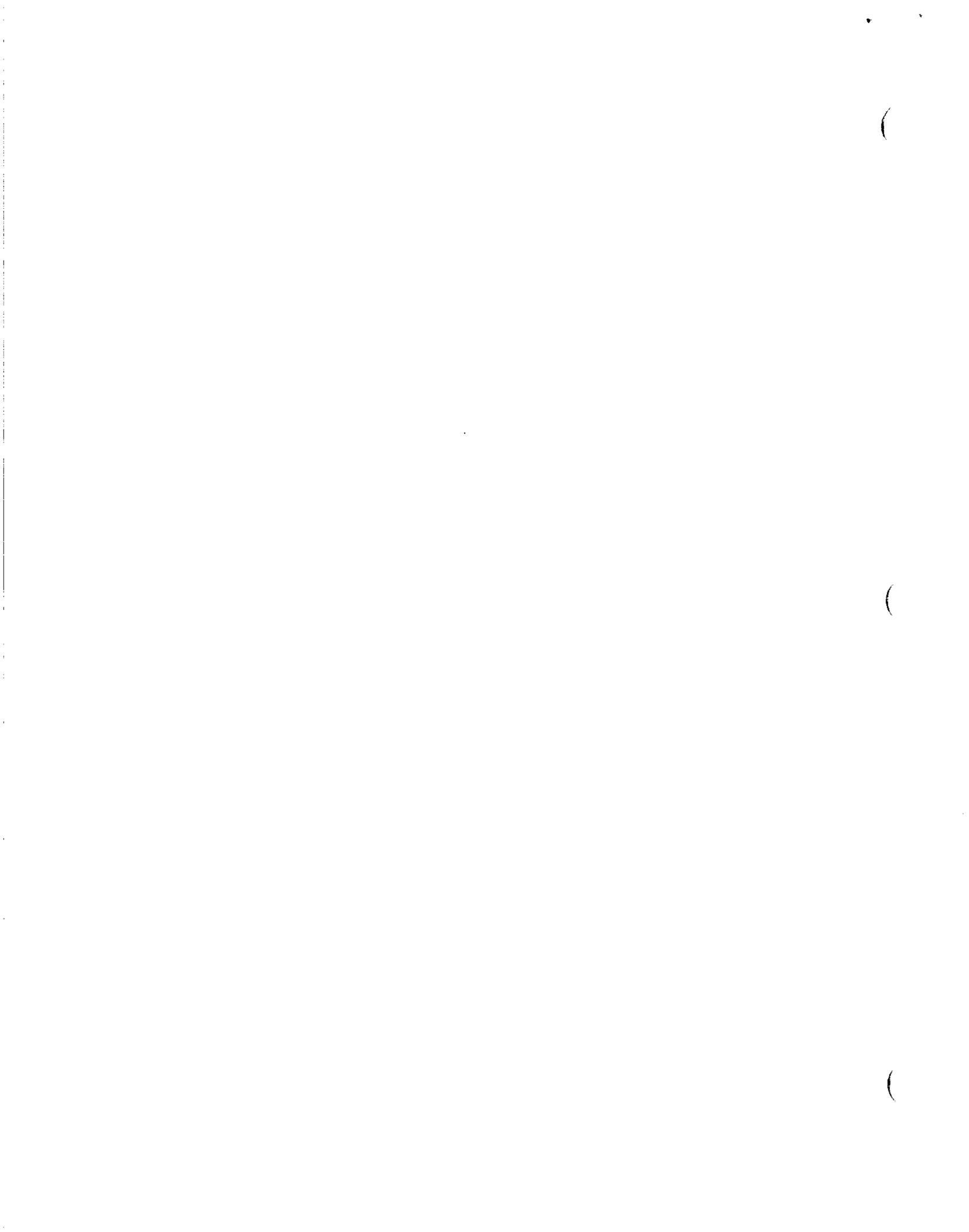
AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Support: Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 165** - Reinstate the sunset provision for directed Cook Inlet west side drift gillnet fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 83

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This language should be deleted from the plan because Chinitna Bay is covered under another regulation.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- If the BOF does not take action, the Chinitna Bay commercial fishery after August 10 would no longer exist.
- Potential loss of economic opportunity

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

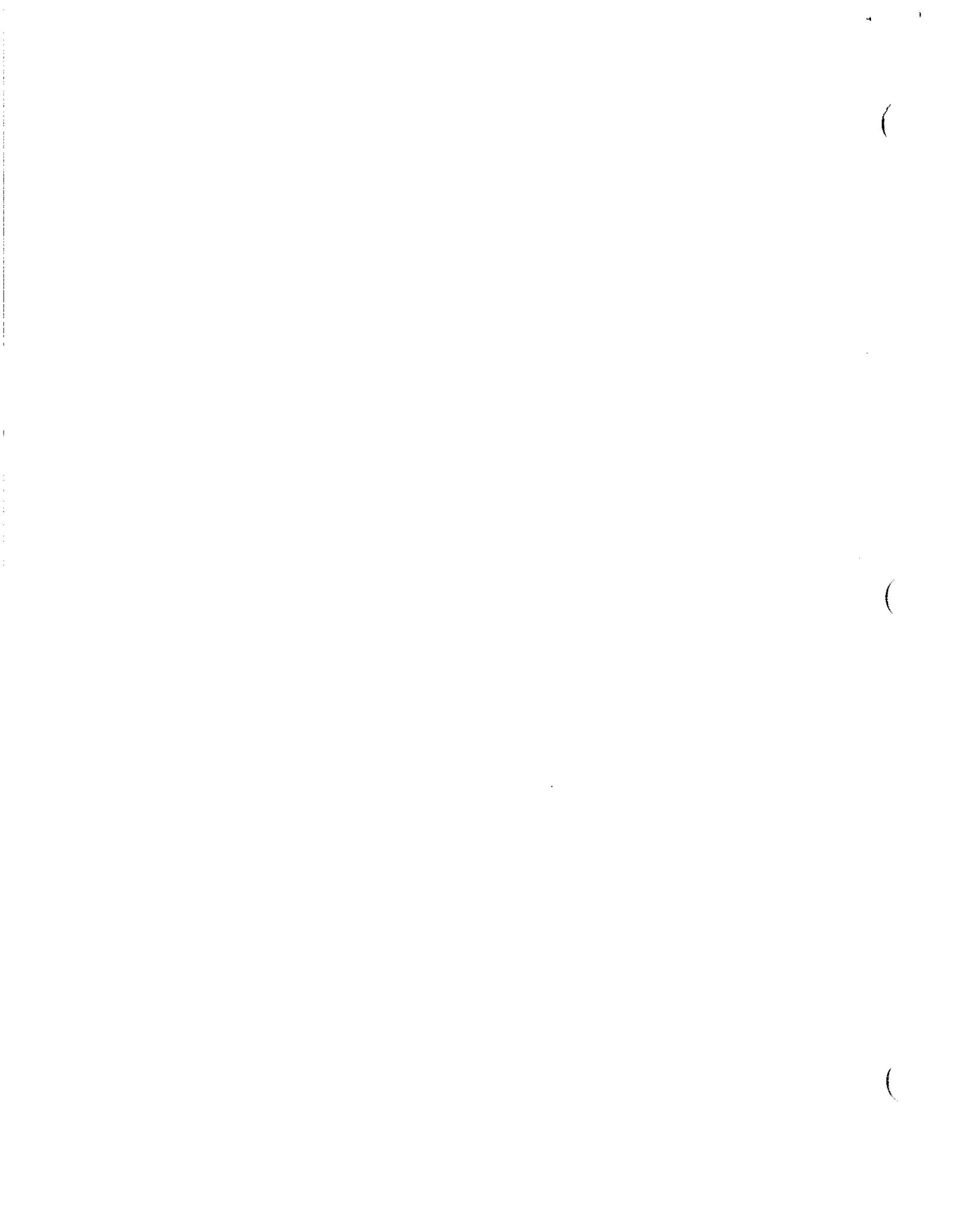
AC Positions: Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 91** - Repeal the mandatory July 17 and 26 restrictions for the Kenai and Kasilof rivers.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 84

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 45, 59, 68, 69, 75, 78, 82, 83, 94

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would repeal the restrictions in the plan for drift gillnets during July 16-31. These restrictions have been moved from 5 AAC 21.360 to 5 AAC 21.353. In 1996, the BOF added a restriction in regulation to restrict a single period immediately after July 25 to the Kenai and Kasilof Sections. In 1999 the BOF added a second restricted period to occur immediately before July 25. In 2005 the BOF relaxed these restrictions to include the possibility of adding drift areas one and two. These actions were taken to provide the department additional tools to manage for escapement goals.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- Would be a reallocation of stocks
- The number of Susitna / Yentna bound stocks harvested would be small
- May increase salmon abundance to the Northern District streams and provide additional sport harvest opportunity

**SSFP:**

- Not Discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Oppose: Anchorage AC

Support: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

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ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE C: Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing**

February 6, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. Jeremiah Campbell\*, Chair
2. Howard Delo

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Patti Nelson, CF Deputy Director
2. Tracy Lingnau, CF UCI Management Coordinator
3. Jeff Fox, CF UCI Area Management Biologist
4. Pat Shields, CF UCI Assistant Area Management Biologist
5. Tom Vania, SF UCI Management Coordinator
6. Rob Bentz, SF Deputy Director
7. Mark Willette, CF UCI Area Research Biologist
8. Al Cain, Alaska Wildlife Troopers
9. Katie Sechrist (CF) / Mark Burch (SF) - (note takers)

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rod Campbell USFWS/OSM

Advisory Committee Members:

- |                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. David Martin, Central Peninsula AC | 4. Andy Couch, Matanuska Valley AC  |
| 2. Jim Stubbs, Anchorage AC           | 5. Bruce Knowles, Susitna Valley AC |
| 3. Marvin Peters, Homer AC            |                                     |

Public Panel Members:

- |                               |                                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Vincent Goddard, Processor | 10. Steve Tvenstrup, UCIDA          |
| 2. Dave Brindle, Processor    | 11. Ken Tarbox, KAFC                |
| 3. Mac Minard, KRSA           | 12. Dwight Kramer, KAFC             |
| 4. Ricky Gease, KRSA          | 13. Kenny Rodgers, NSDA             |
| 5. Gary Hollier, KPFA         | 14. Paul A. Shadura, SOKI           |
| 6. Brent Johnson, KPFA        | 15. Horace Blanchard, KPFA (member) |
| 7. Mike Fenton, KRPGA         | 16. Dennis Gease, P/U Fishery       |
| 8. Dave Goggia, KRPGA         | 17. Jeff Beaudoin, KPFA (board)     |
| 9. Bruce Gabrys, UCIDA        | 18. Roland Maw, UCIDA               |
- 

The Committee met on February 6 at 8:30am. and adjourned on February 6 at 5:00pm. The committee met again on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am and adjourned on February 6 at 9:30am.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (52 Total) 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 187, 188, 204, 118, 189, 190, 191, 192, 195, 200, 202, 194, 196, 197, 198, 199, 201, 203, 205, 209, 210, 206, 207, 208, 166, 167, 168, 169, 177, 180, 178, 179, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 170, 171

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**PROPOSAL 153** - Amend the Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 86

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20-23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. This fishery was again adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) in 2005. However, at that time the description of the fishing area was omitted. Since then, the department has had to describe the open area by emergency order. This proposal would place the fishing area description into regulation.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Housekeeping

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions: None

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support (viewed as a housekeeping proposal)

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 154** - Allow earlier and more fishing periods for pink salmon harvest and delete permit requirements.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 86

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20–23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was formulated and put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. These stocks were returning on even years but were unharvested in large part because of restrictions on fishing time and seasons in the two fisheries that are the primary harvesters of this stock, the drift fleet and east-side set gillnet fishery. Most of these restrictions were put in place to conserve coho salmon bound for the Northern District and the Kenai River after two poor returns in 1997 and 1999. Since the restrictions were put in place, coho returns have been sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

### **Support:**

- Should have the ability to harvest surplus pinks with a fishery directed for pinks.
- The drift fleet would be able to adapt gear or buy new gear for a meaningful pink fishery.
- Viable economics in pink salmon due to low cost of fuel to run a delivery to the beach not very far away.
- Separate commercial fishery management issue from inriver exploitation issue.
- Lots of pinks, sockeye and coho going to waste and no one to fish them. Gear restrictions should be left up to the fishermen.
- A higher price is an incentive to harvest a higher ratio of pinks than coho.
- Some commercial fishermen may be able to use gear that selects for pink salmon.

### **Opposition:**

- The pink fishery would harvest coho which are important to the valley.
- Kids like pinks and fishing on Kenai as first experience important.
- Large percentage of pink catch still takes away coho from a valuable inriver coho salmon sport fishery, configure fishery in manner that it isn't driven to target "bycatch" of coho.
- Set net super exclusive fishery, allocative aspects should be worked out, set net 1% of total amount of return of coho on a daily basis, very small number of participants, mainly local residents; pertain to 155 and 156.
- Don't want commercial fishermen to catch steelhead.

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- Concentrate on certain areas, go with 3 extra days. Was drift before and now adding set net – getting too big, stick with 3 days.
- Not out of woods with coho salmon.
- SF going to give up 1,000 coho, would like to see the most effective gear harvest them.
- An allocation to sport fishery is important.

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC supports

Opposed: Susitna Valley and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 155** - Allow set gillnet use for harvesting pink salmon.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 87

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20–23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: There are no set gillnet regulations for pink salmon management in Upper Cook Inlet. The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was formulated and put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. These stocks were returning on even years but were unharvested in large part because of restrictions on fishing time and seasons in the two fisheries that are the primary harvesters of this stock, the drift fleet and east-side set gillnet fishery. Most of these restrictions were put in place to conserve coho salmon bound for the Northern District and the Kenai River after two poor returns in 1997 and 1999. Since the restrictions were put in place, coho returns have been sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Should have the ability to harvest surplus pinks and that a fishery should be directed for pinks.
- Set nets have the location to catch pink salmon and are effective.
- East side historical harvester of surplus stocks of pinks and reds and has been shut out for pinks and when there is a harvestable surplus.
- Lots of pinks, sockeye and coho going to waste and no one to fish them. Gear restrictions should be left up to the fishermen.
- Separate commercial fishery management issue from inriver exploitation issue.
- A higher price is an incentive to harvest a higher ratio of pinks than coho.
- Some commercial fishermen may be able to use gear that selects for pink salmon.
- Set net is more selective and is a better gear type to harvest pinks than drift because set nets catch fewer coho salmon per 1,000 pinks harvested than drift.

**Opposition:**

- The pink fishery would harvest coho which are important to the valley.
- Kids like pinks and fishing on Kenai as first experience important.
- Large percentage of pink catch still takes away coho from a valuable inriver coho salmon sport fishery, configure fishery in manner that it isn't driven to target "bycatch" of coho.

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- Set net super exclusive fishery, allocative aspects should be worked out, set net 1% of total amount of return of coho on a daily basis, very small number of participants, mainly local residents; pertain to 155 and 156.
- Don't want commercial fishermen to catch steelhead.
- Concentrate on certain areas, go with 3 extra days. Was drift before and now adding set net – getting too big, stick with 3 days.
- Not out of woods with coho salmon.
- SF going to give up 1,000 coho, would like to see the most effective gear harvest them.
- An allocation to sport fishery important.

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC

Opposed: Susitna Valley and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation based on actions on Proposal 154

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 156** - Add set and drift gillnet opportunities to harvest pink salmon.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 88

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20–23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was formulated and put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. These stocks were returning on even years but were unharvested in large part because of restrictions on fishing time and seasons in the two fisheries that are the primary harvesters of this stock, the drift fleet and east-side set gillnet fishery. Most of these restrictions were put in place to conserve coho salmon bound for the Northern District and the Kenai River after two poor returns in 1997 and 1999. Since the restrictions were put in place, coho returns have been sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as 154

**Opposition:**

- Same as 154

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC

Opposed: Susitna Valley and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposals 154 & 155

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 157** - Amend the Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 89

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20–23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was formulated and put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. These stocks were returning on even years but were unharvested in large part because of restrictions on fishing time and seasons in the two fisheries that are the primary harvesters of this stock, the drift fleet and east-side set gillnet fishery. Most of these restrictions were put in place to conserve coho salmon bound for the Northern District and the Kenai River after two poor returns in 1997 and 1999. Since the restrictions were put in place, coho returns have been sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Abundance of all species, escapement goals met, restriction of time and area will take away from surplus not being harvested – pinks going to waste for whole industry.
- Allows managers to manage for escapement goals.
- Pink fishery would be managed for commercial use and coho fishery managed primarily for sport use.
- Pink harvest during this time frame always high, sockeye vary greatly, coho can vary, few steelhead caught over years during this time.

**Opposition:**

- Fish into the stream are not wasted, valuable to the ecosystem.
- Historical users concerned about gear type and location.
- Kenai River SF sees value of current plans and wants to keep management plans because of allocation issues.

**SSFP:**

- Proposal fits with SSFP abundance based management.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

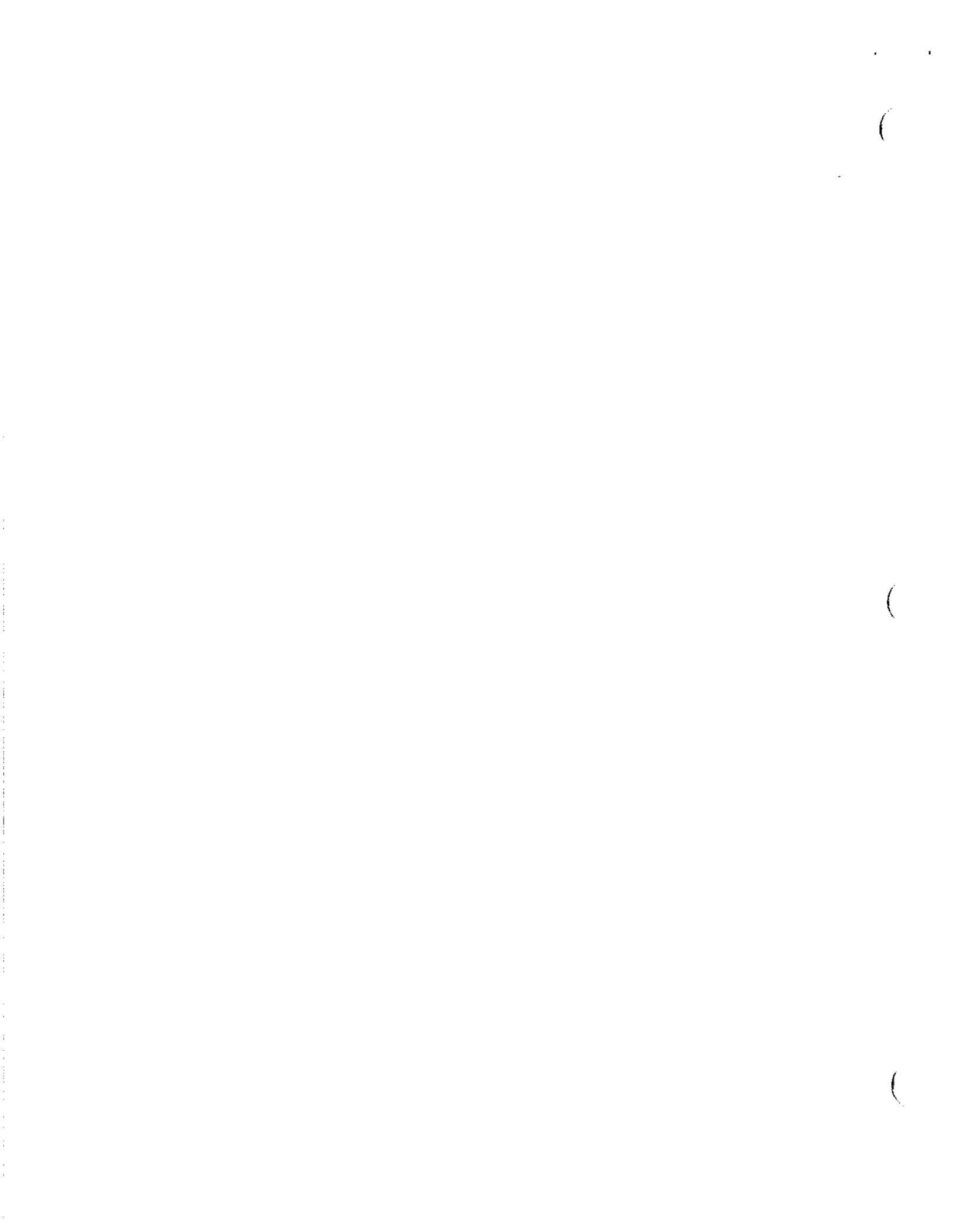
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC

Opposed: Susitna Valley and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposals 154 & 155

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 158** - Allow the department to open set gillnet periods in Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 89

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20–23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: There are no set gillnet regulations for pink salmon management in Upper Cook Inlet. The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was formulated and put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. These stocks were returning on even years but were unharvested in large part because of restrictions on fishing time and seasons in the two fisheries that are the primary harvesters of this stock, the drift fleet and east-side set gillnet fishery. Most of these restrictions were put in place to conserve coho salmon bound for the Northern District and the Kenai River after two poor returns in 1997 and 1999. Since the restrictions were put in place, coho returns have been sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as 154

**Opposition:**

- Same as 154

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC

Opposed: Susitna Valley and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposals 154 & 155

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 159** - Delete the Cook Inlet Pink Salmon plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 90

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20–23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, and 130.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses was formulated and put in regulation in 2002 to allow the harvest of abundant pink salmon stocks. These stocks were returning on even years but were unharvested in large part because of restrictions on fishing time and seasons in the two fisheries that are the primary harvesters of this stock, the drift fleet and east-side set gillnet fishery. Most of these restrictions were put in place to conserve coho salmon bound for the Northern District and the Kenai River after two poor returns in 1997 and 1999. Since the restrictions were put in place, coho returns have been sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as 154

**Opposition:**

- Same as 154

**SSFP:**

- Not discussed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC

Opposed: Susitna Valley and Anchorage ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 187** - Direct the Kenai River late run sockeye salmon management plan to be abundance based for all user groups.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 91

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would make substantial changes to the current management plan. Significant changes would be to change the current three tiers to two and within those tiers, change the inriver goals and create allocations to sport and P/U fishers below the sonar counter at mile 19. It would also ask the BOF to nullify the current optimal escapement goal (OEG) in language, and for the BOF to adopt an OEG of 400,000 to 700,000 sockeye salmon. The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks are managed primarily for commercial uses. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho and late-run Kenai River king salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with an opportunity to harvest these resources.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

### **Support:**

- Need to go back to one tier.
- 3 tier to 2 tier allocation is trying to separate into discrete bunches; simplification of the plan necessary; hard to forecast, can start the season off in the wrong tier and then switch to the other one, catches everyone off guard. 3 tier results in changing user expectations and leads to erratic returns and confusion among users.
- Shift in expectation of users in the tiers – for better expectation of the run through the season. Run size varies substantially. Aggressive management changes at 5 million to try to absorb sockeye. Real management shift comes when run is over 5 million.
- Need to manage within the goals and distribute within the range inriver allocation of 600,000 to 900,000.
- One tier system 80% accuracy up to 1 million and in place for 20+ years – have to get back to sustained yield system based on escapement goal ranges.
- Tier system brought more confusion, uneven distribution of the harvest, genetics.
- Need fair and equitable distribution of the resource.
- Need consistent returns based on allocation management
- Simplify management consistent with sustained yield principal.
- Plans weren't affective anyway because of low success of correct forecasting.

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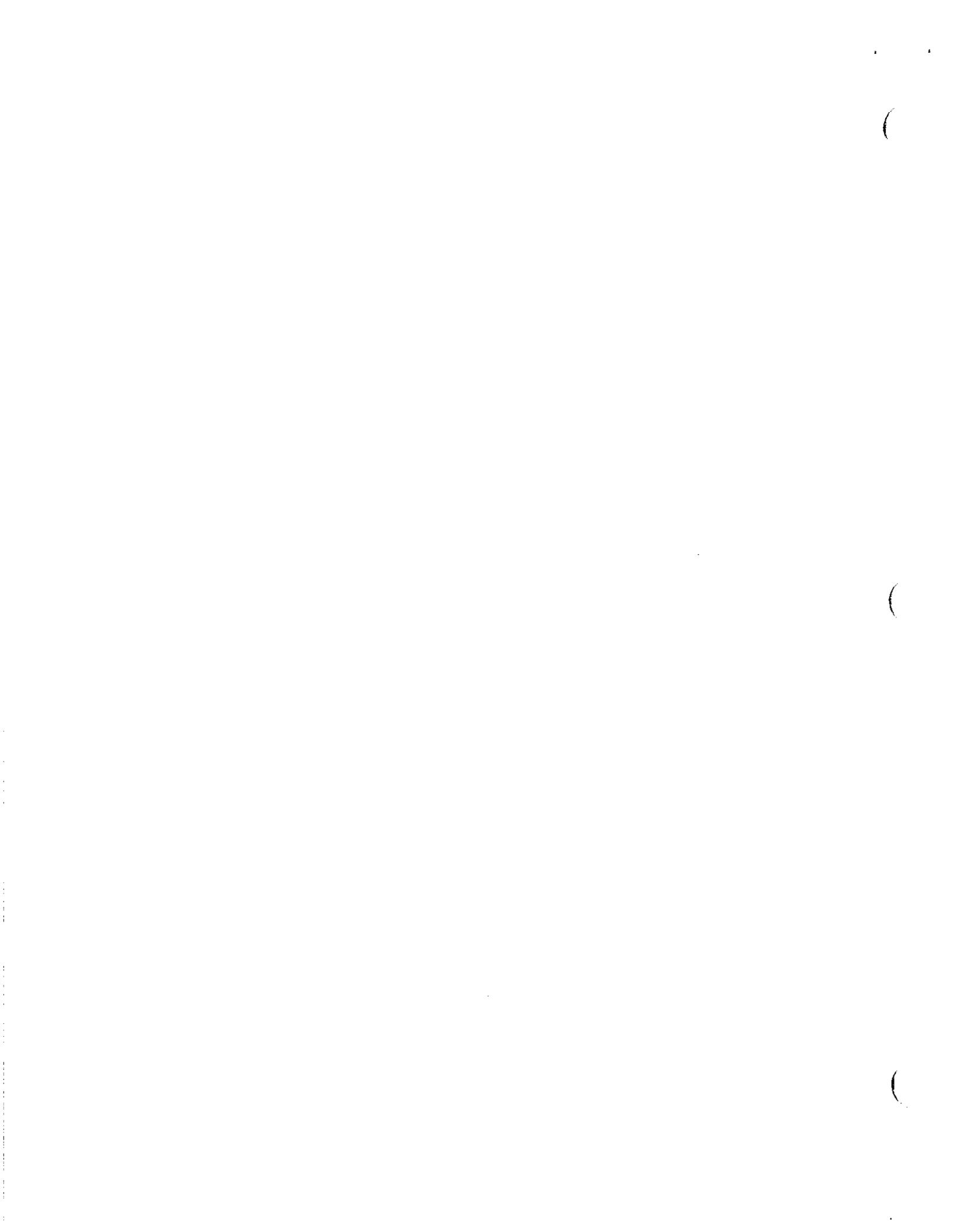
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- Window closures may occur during critical times (peaks) that make commercial fishing economically viable.
- Should be looking for consistent returns and allow adaptive management for sport fish, personal use, and commercial fisheries.
- Effects of overescapement could be disastrous.
- Need to give ADF&G ability to manage for goal.
- BOF set escapement goals and does not give managers the ability to manage to those goals.
- Set nets north of Blanchard line don't get to fish because SF and PU harvest – takes more time to reach minimum goal. Inseason changes affect all user groups.
- Important to keep 600,000 inriver goal.
- Commercial fisheries valuable to prevent overescapement which is detrimental.
- Debate of 3 tier vs. 2 is probably better to go to 2 tiers at 3 million break. Give SF opportunity and CF opportunity. No change in goal recommended but the break can be adjusted.

### **Opposition:**

- Northern District stocks increased harvest of sockeye and coho.
- Don't create expectations that can't be met. Commercial fisheries of 4 million or more give large escapements.
- 2 tier does not give protection to Northern District stocks and must have relief for these sockeye, this proposal would have detrimental affect on it.
- Concern about when the tier gets split in the middle and how that affects conservation of Northern District stocks.
- Trying to describe central tier management system to most common range of run size – tails describe very low or exceptionally large run.
- Not appropriate to play catch up in a system that's hard to obtain goals to begin with.
- Concerns about outcome of this proposal not increasing manager's flexibility.
- 3 tier system doing a good job to allow all fisheries opportunity. Uncomfortable to go to a 2 tier system and still provide enough opportunity.
- This plan caused concern with Northern District and returns to the Yentna, why not 4 tier and break at 1 million increments? This plan affects the Northern District coho.
- This proposal is not precautionary to protect Kenai and Kasilof. Plans allow appropriate fishing time (windows) for each run size.
- Central Peninsula not in support of tiers. Submitted Proposal 198. Concerned about economic loss and hardship affecting the community and fishermen. Tiers do not solve problems.
- Should have been an array options presented to the BOF. Other parts of the state to allow CF to diversify, CI treats different.
- Tiers relate to biology of sockeye salmon, does it help or not? Management – can managers with reasonable accuracy meet those biological bounds? Allocation of users and expectations – can be met or not?
- These plans are allocative and changing them has an effect on users.
- Strongly object – taking fish away (reallocating) from the largest sport fishery that is economically important to the state. Growing sport fishery wants more, not less.



- Magic numbers that produce ideal yields, CF important tool, predictability on escapement and following returns.
- Kenai and Kasilof rivers recently experiencing high harvest levels compared to other stocks from historical levels.
- Support existing goals and existing goal ranges. Looking at issues that are the result of increased use and urbanization. Looked at escapement goals and allocations. Feel that status quo has been good so far.
- Ill advised to make a bunch of changes at once. Counter productive to throw away everything in the plan and start over.

**SSFP:**

- Refers to SSFP pertaining to achieving escapement goals throughout the range.
- SSFP precautionary approach is built into 3-tier approach.
- SSFP need to be used in Northern District.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

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**5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan** (a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, late-run Kenai River king, and Kenai River coho salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.

(b) The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries shall be managed to

(1) meet an optimum escapement goal (OEG) range of 500,000 - 1,000,000 late-run sockeye salmon;

(2) achieve inriver goals as established by the board and measured at the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19; and

(3) distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly with the OEG range, in proportion to the size of the run.

(c) Based on preseason forecasts and inseason evaluations of the total Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon return during the fishing season, the run will be managed as follows:

(1) at run strengths of less than 2,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 650,000 - 850,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) subject to the provisions of other management plans, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will fish regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320, through July 20, unless the department determines that the minimum inriver goal will not be met, at which time the fishery shall be closed or restricted as necessary; the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow extra fishing periods of no more than 24-hours per week, except as provided in 5 AAC 21.365;

(2) at run strengths of 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 750,000 - 950,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19;

(B) subject to the provisions of other management plans, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will fish regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320, through July 20, or until the department makes a determination of run strength, whichever occurs first; if the department determines that the minimum inriver goal will not be met, the fishery shall be closed or restricted as necessary; the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow extra fishing periods of no more than 51-hours per week, except as provided in 5 AAC 21.365; and

(C) the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will be closed for one continuous 36-hour period per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday and for an additional 24-hour period during the same management week;

(3) at run strengths greater than 4,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 850,000 - 1,100,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19;

(B) subject to the provisions of other management plans, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will fish regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320, through July 20, or until the department makes a determination of run strength, whichever occurs first; if

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the department determines that the minimum inriver goal will not be met, the fishery shall be closed or restricted as necessary; the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow extra fishing periods of no more than 84-hours per week, except as provided in 5 AAC 21.365; and

(C) the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery will be closed for one continuous 36-hour period per week, beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday.

(d) The sonar count levels established in this section may be lowered by the board if noncommercial fishing, after consideration of mitigation efforts, results in a net loss of riparian habitat on the Kenai River. The department will, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the Board of Fisheries (board) triennial meeting cycle. If the assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modification of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal.

(e) Repealed 6/11/2005.

(f) Repealed 6/11/2005.

(g) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall provide for a personal use dip net fishery in the lower Kenai River as specified in 5 AAC 77.540.

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

(1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and

(2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 2,000,000 salmon, at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit to six sockeye salmon.

(i) For the purposes of this section, "week" means a calendar week, a period of time beginning at 12:00:01 a.m. Sunday and ending at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday.

**History:** In effect before 1984; am 5/3/84, Register 90; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 6/10/89, Register 110; am 6/15/95, Register 134; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 7/20/2004 - 11/16/2004, Register 171; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 7/9/2005, Register 175

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.251

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**PROPOSAL 188** - Modify the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 94

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would make substantial changes to the current Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Significant changes would be to change the current three tiers to two and within those tiers, change the inriver goals and create allocations to sport and P/U fishers below the sonar counter at mile 19. It would also ask the board to nullify the current OEG in language, and for the board to adopt an OEG of 400,000 to 700,000 sockeye salmon. The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks are managed primarily for commercial uses. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho and late-run Kenai River king salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with an opportunity to harvest these resources.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

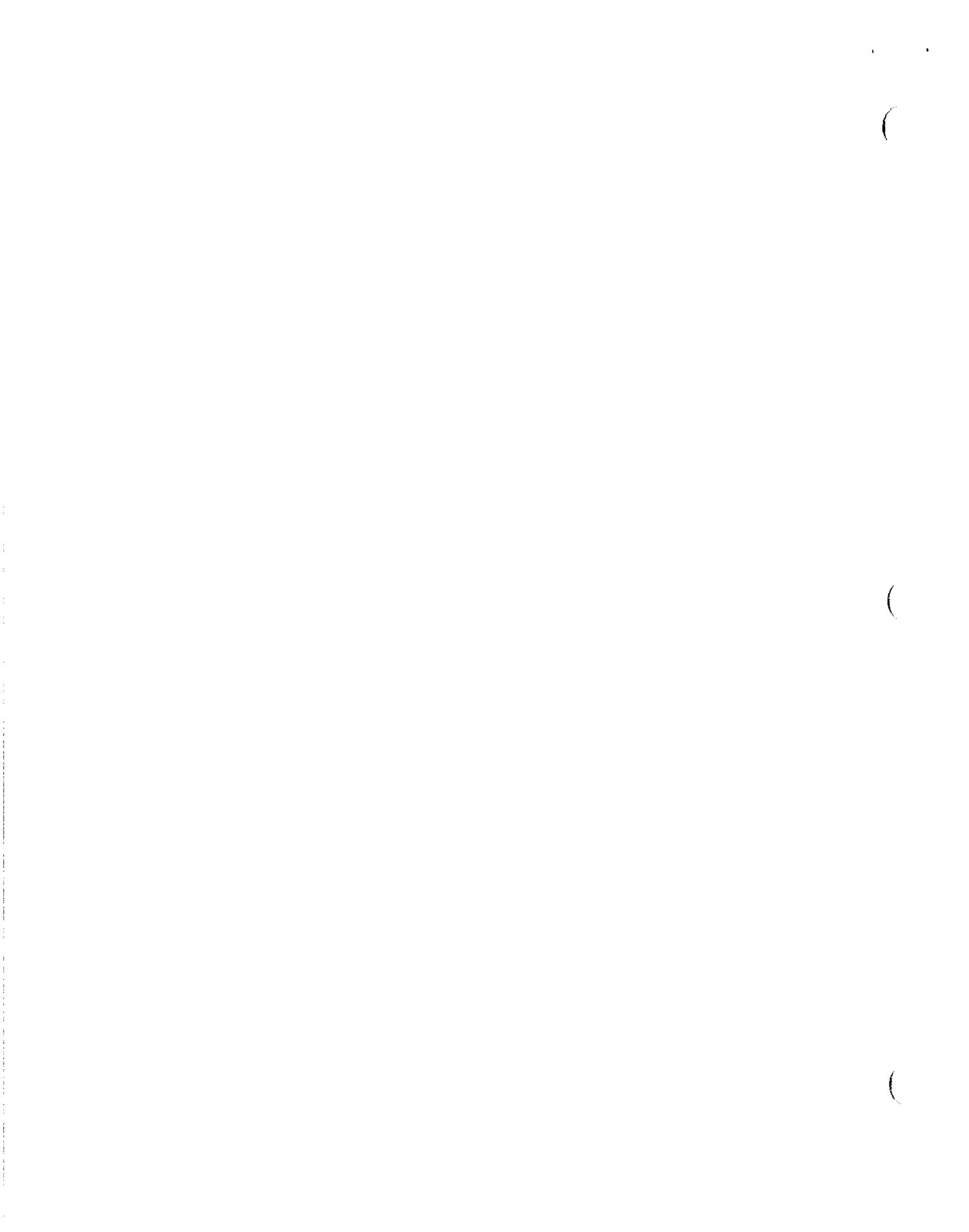
Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus



Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 204** - Eliminate regulatory language from the commercial plans that direct department to minimize harvest of late run Kenai River kings in order to provide personal use, sport use.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 96

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This minimized language first appeared in the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan in 1981. It has changed slightly over the years as the BOF has struggled to balance the allocation needs and desires of the various user groups. This proposal would likely have no effect on current harvest levels since fishing time, closed windows, and fishing periods are all described in the Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 118** - Return to the 1996 Kenai River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan..

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 97

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks are managed primarily for commercial uses. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho and late-run Kenai River king salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with an opportunity to harvest these resources. This proposal would return Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management to a plan where the inriver goal was 550,000 to 800,000 fish. No closed window(s) or a determined amount of fishing time were in effect at that time either. In the sport fishery, the department would manage the fishery consistent with achieving the BEG that was in effect at that time and the sport fish bag limit would be six fish.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

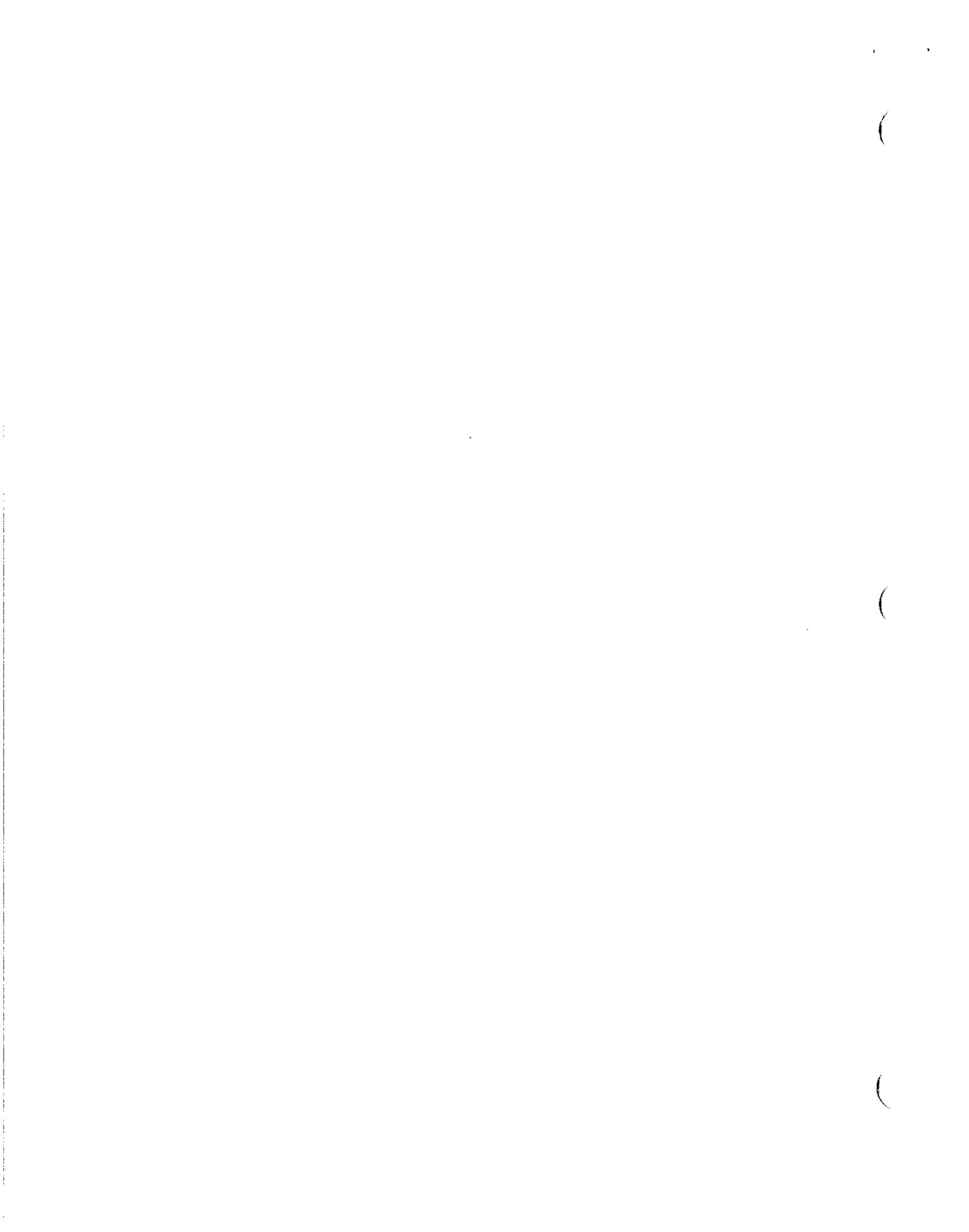
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 189** - Modify the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Management Plan escapement goals.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 99

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks are managed primarily for commercial uses. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho and late-run Kenai River king salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with an opportunity to harvest these resources. This proposal would make substantial changes to the current management plan. It would remove windows and fishing hours within the plan, replace the OEG with the sustainable escapement goal, delete the different tiers based on run strength, lower the minimum inriver goal, and require the in-river sport and personal use fisheries to be subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the in-river goal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 190** - Modify the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan escapement goals.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 101

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal is fairly broad in its scope and seeks to remove all restrictions to fishing time and mandatory closed windows. In years of abundant sockeye salmon returns there would be additional fishing in the drift fishery and the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to manage for escapement goals. Many of these management actions would likely occur when sockeye salmon are concentrated along the east-side beaches. It is likely there would be changes to harvest patterns, which would increase sockeye harvests to achieve the escapement goal. The BOF and public need to understand that this approach would result in user group allocations becoming incidental to management directed at achieving a certain level of escapement in each system with a goal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 191** - Delete portions of the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan..

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 104

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal is fairly broad in its scope and seeks to remove all restrictions to fishing time and mandatory closed windows. In years of abundant sockeye salmon returns there would be additional fishing in the drift fishery and the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to manage for escapement goals. Many of these management actions would likely occur when sockeye salmon are concentrated along the east-side beaches. It is likely there would be changes to harvest patterns, which would increase sockeye harvests to achieve the escapement goal. The BOF and public need to understand this approach results in user group allocations becoming incidental to management directed at achieving a certain level of escapement in each system with a goal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 192** - Modify the Kenai River late-run sockeye plan.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 107

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal is fairly broad in its scope and seeks to remove all restrictions to fishing time and mandatory closed windows. In years of abundant sockeye salmon returns there would be additional fishing in the drift fishery and the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to manage for escapement goals. Many of these management actions would likely occur when sockeye salmon are concentrated along the east-side beaches. It is likely there would be changes to harvest patterns, which would increase sockeye harvests to achieve the escapement goal. The BOF and public need to understand this approach results in user group allocations becoming incidental to management directed at achieving a certain level of escapement in each system with a goal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 195** - Repeal regulations that require mandatory time and area closures, windows, and limit the commissioner's emergency authority.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 110

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal is fairly broad in its scope and seeks to remove all restrictions to fishing time and mandatory closed windows. In years of abundant sockeye salmon returns there would be additional fishing in the drift fishery and the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to manage for escapement goals. Many of these management actions would likely occur when sockeye salmon are concentrated along the east-side beaches. It is likely there would be changes to harvest patterns, which would increase sockeye harvests to achieve the escapement goal. The BOF and public need to understand this approach results in user group allocations becoming incidental to management directed at achieving a certain level of escapement in each system with a goal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 200** - Remove the windows for Kenai area.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 112

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal is fairly broad in its scope and seeks to remove all restrictions to fishing time and mandatory closed windows. In years of abundant sockeye salmon returns there would be additional fishing in the drift fishery and the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to manage for escapement goals. Many of these management actions would likely occur when sockeye salmon are concentrated along the east-side beaches. It is likely there would be changes to harvest patterns, which would increase sockeye harvests to achieve the escapement goal. The BOF and public need to understand this approach results in user group allocations becoming incidental to management directed at achieving a certain level of escapement in each system with a goal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

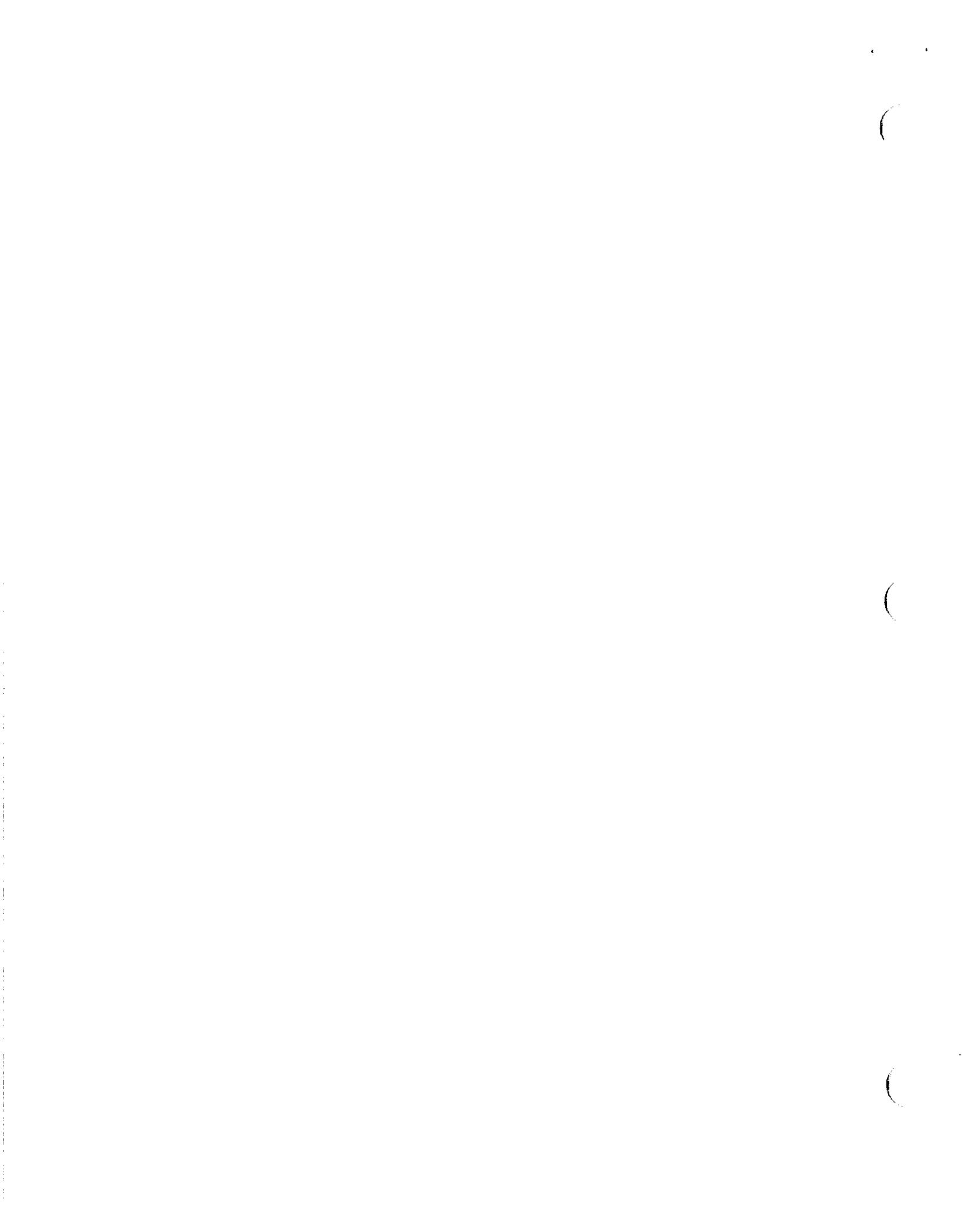
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 202** - Amend the windows provisions for Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Plan.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 114

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would increase the duration and number of closed windows currently in regulation for runs less than 4,000,000 sockeye salmon returning to the Kenai River. There would be a reallocation of sockeye salmon to sport and personal use fishers and a reduction in commercial harvest by an unknown amount. Such a regulation change may lead to situations where the escapements far exceed established escapement objectives in many run scenarios.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

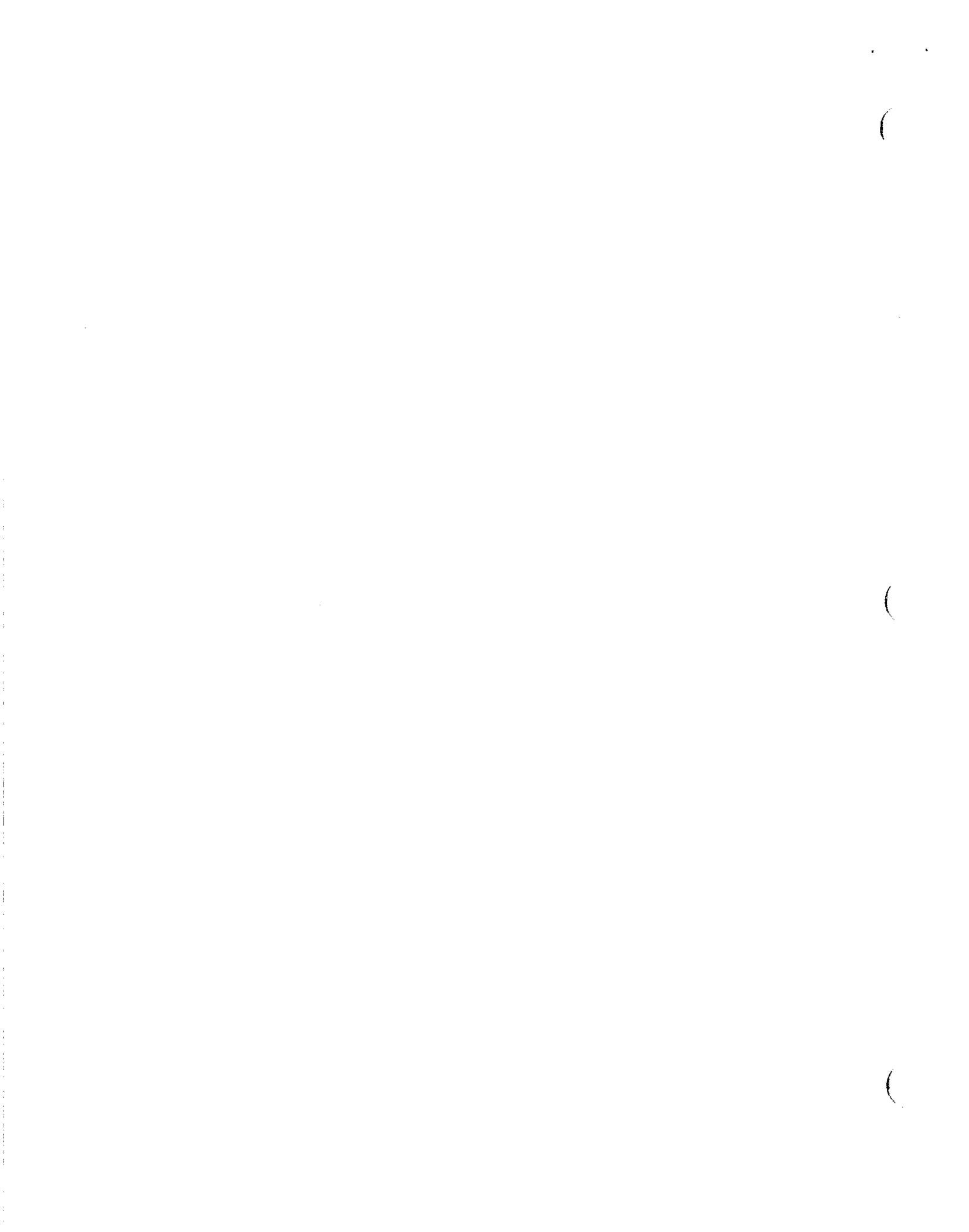
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 194** - Set the Kenai River late run sockeye escapement goal range of 400,000 to 700,000.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 116

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The current escapement goal range of 500–800 thousand spawners for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock was adopted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999. The department is not recommending a change to this goal. Under the Policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (SSFP), the BOF may set an OEG different from the SEG set by the department.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 196** - Modify the Kenai River late run sockeye escapement goals.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 117

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The current escapement goal range of 500–800 thousand spawners for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock was adopted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999. The department is not recommending a change to this goal. Under the SSFP, the BOF may set an OEG different from the SEG set by the department.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

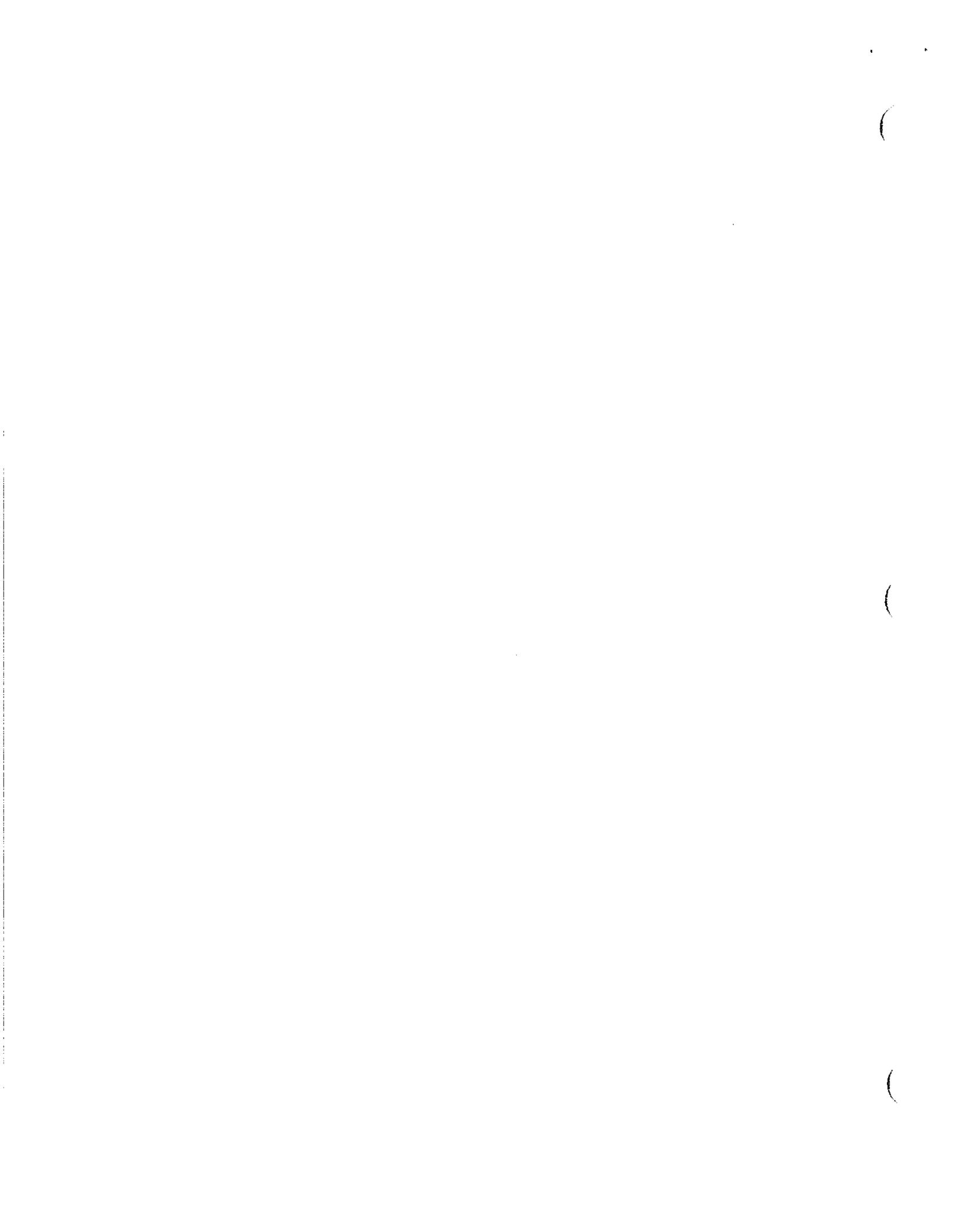
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 197** - Establish the Kenai River late run sockeye escapement goal range of 400,000 - 700,000.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 118

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The current escapement goal range of 500–800 thousand spawners for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock was adopted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999. The department is not recommending a change to this goal. Under the SSFP, the BOF may set an OEG different from the SEG set by the department.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

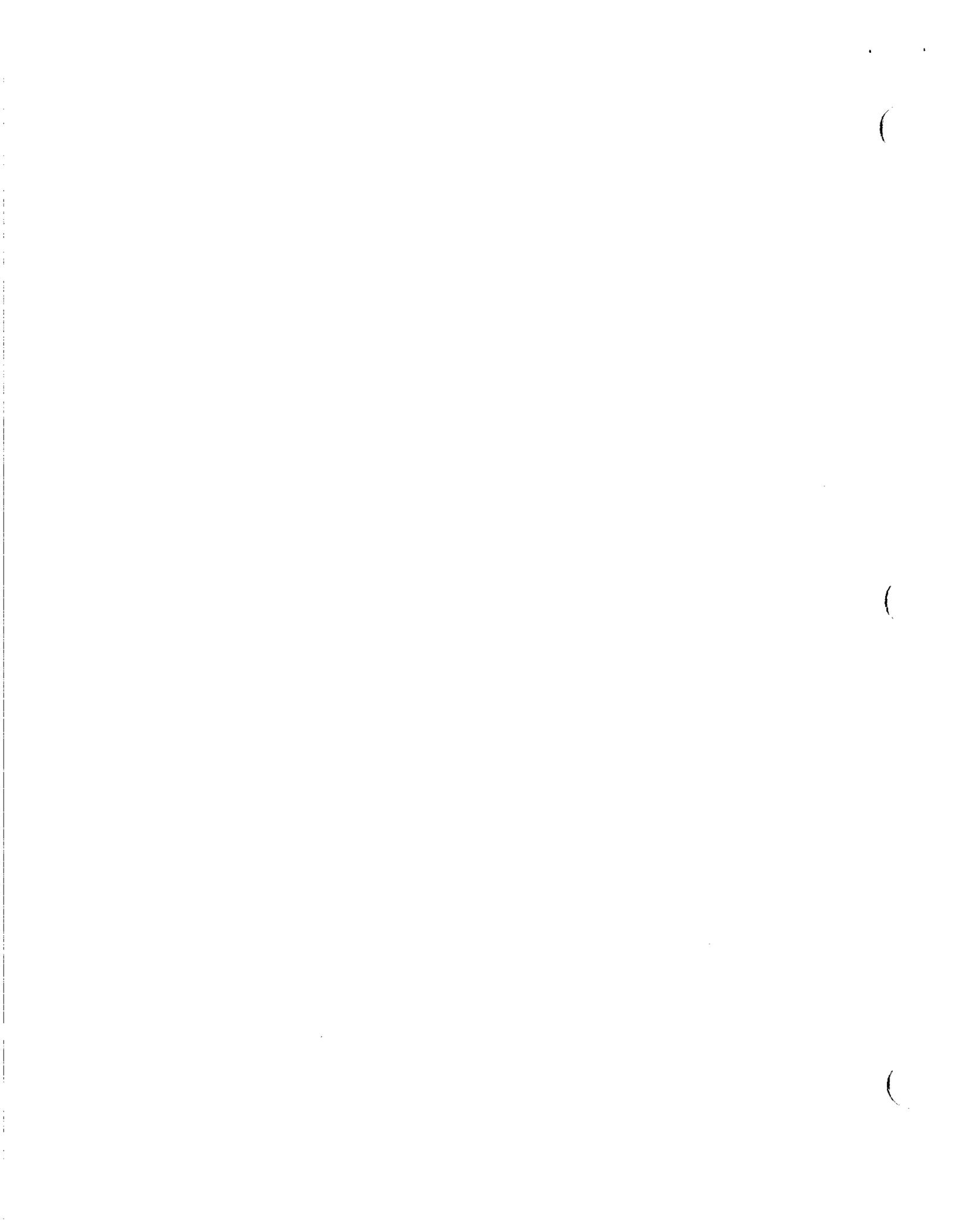
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 198** - Amend the Kenai River late run sockeye management plan for commercial uses and establish escapement goals.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 119

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The current escapement goal range of 500–800 thousand spawners for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock was adopted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999. The department is not recommending a change to this goal. Under the SSFP, the BOF may set an OEG different from the SEG set by the department.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

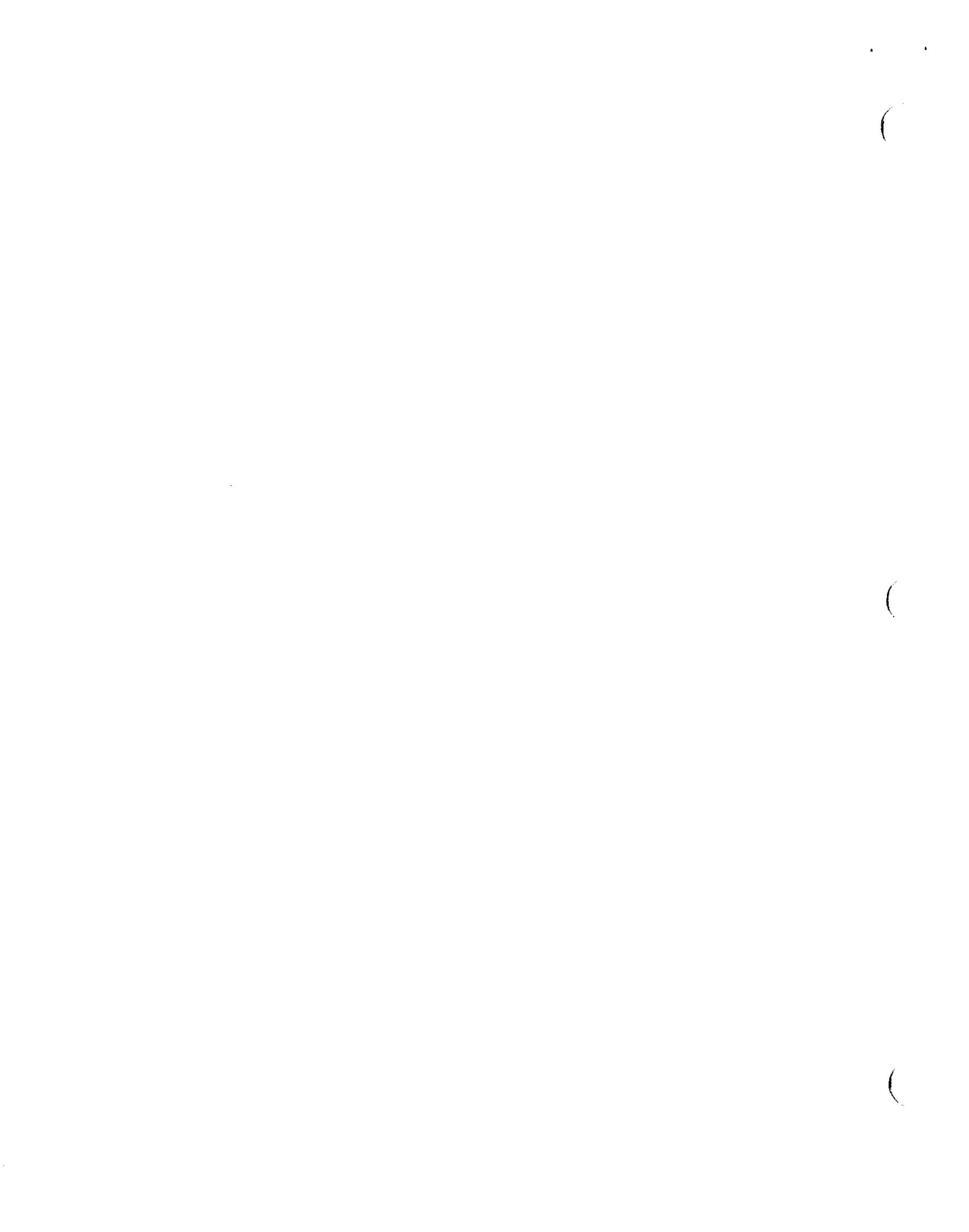
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 199** - Modify the Kenai River salmon escapement goals.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 119

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The current escapement goal range of 500–800 thousand spawners for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock was adopted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999. The department is not recommending a change to this goal. Under the SSFP, the BOF may set an OEG different from the SEG set by the department.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

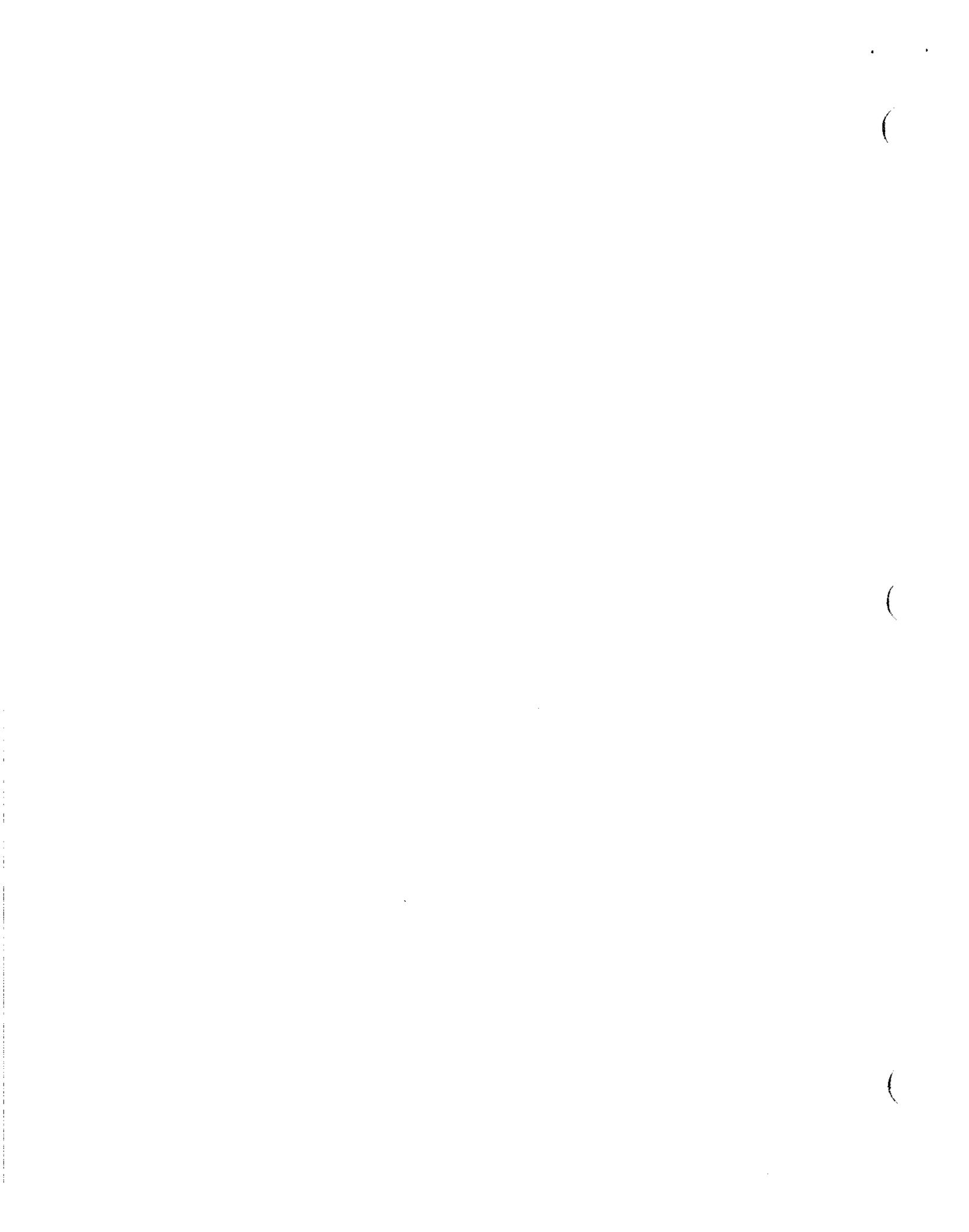
AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 201** - Modify the Kenai River escapement goals.

**Taken up under Proposal 187**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 120

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The current escapement goal range of 500–800 thousand spawners for the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock was adopted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999. The department is not recommending a change to this goal. Under the SSFP, the BOF may set an OEG different from the SEG set by the department.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 187

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 187

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula not in support of tiers but supports 198

Oppose: Matanuska Valley, Anchorage AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 203** - Limit commercial fishing prior to availability of in-season run strength estimate.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 121

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The set gillnet fishery in the Kenai and East Foreland section begins July 8 based upon the preseason projection of sockeye salmon returning to the Kenai River. The department then reevaluates the Kenai River sockeye salmon run strength using information from an off shore test fishery, Kenai River sonar counts from the project at mile 19, and drift test fish catches. Typically, this projection occurs the fourth Tuesday or Wednesday after the Monday drift period. Management strategies are then adjusted to the new inseason run projection.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Support – would allow more fish to pass to the Northern District.

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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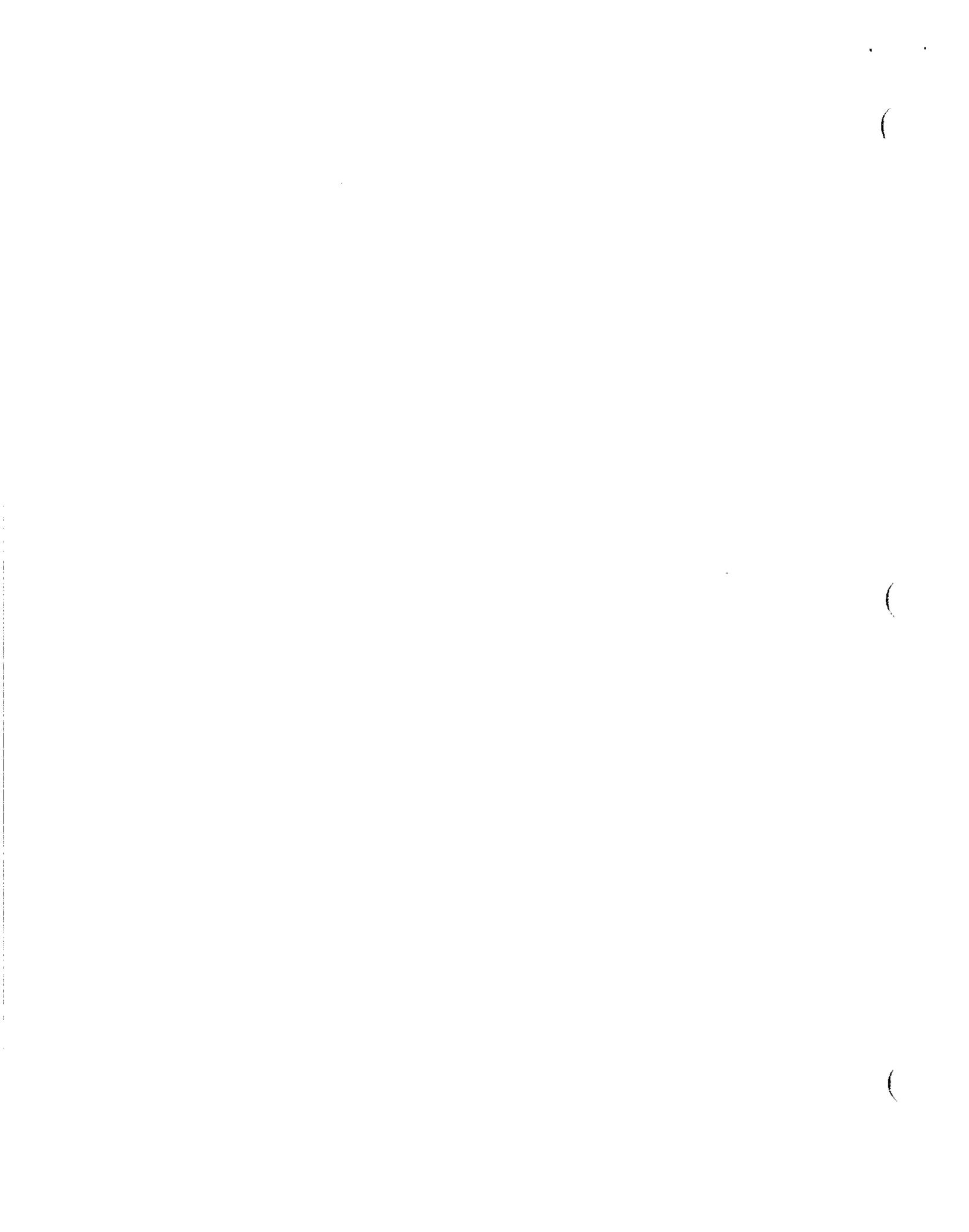
ADF&G Position: Opposed

AC Positions: Anchorage AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 205** - Revise the Cook Inlet management plan and allocation.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 123

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, late-run Kenai River king, and Kenai River coho salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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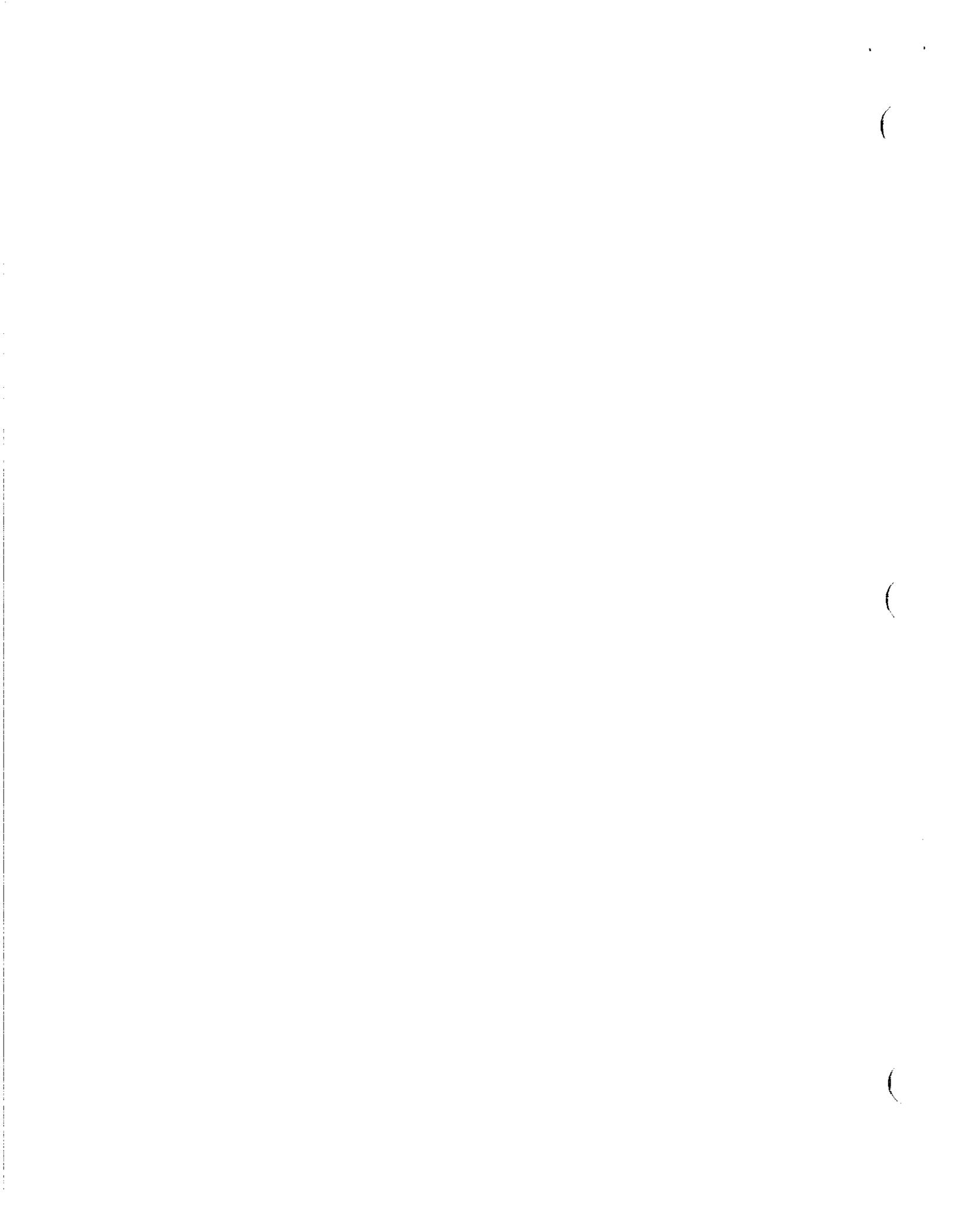
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 187

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 209** - Open a Kenai River Special Harvest Area.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 123

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The closed waters at the mouth of the Kenai River has not been used since 1988. Currently this area can only be used if over 40,000 late-run king salmon are inriver.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- Opposed based on previous discussion

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Opposed

AC Positions: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 210** - Increase the commercial allocation of Russian River sockeye.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 124

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would open a commercial fishery directed on a stock that historically has been allocated to the sport fishery. The bulk of the early Kenai River sockeye salmon run (those salmon passing the department sonar counter located near Soldotna before June 21) is comprised of Russian River sockeye salmon stocks. There are biological aspects of this proposal because of its potential to overexploit the Russian River early-run sockeye salmon stock and the Kenai River early-run king salmon stock.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Rod Campbell, USFWS – 692 sockeye taken from Kenai and of these 690 were taken from Russian River.

**Support:**

- Support – setnets would be allowed to fish in a limited way, would be shut down if too many kings were harvested.

**Opposition:**

- Concerns of Kasilof king salmon stocks in this proposal.
- Reminder that Russian River is allocated 100% to the sport fishery.
- Reminder that there is a new (Federal) subsistence fishery in this area also.
- Harvest would occur on a small, discrete stock.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Opposed/Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC opposed

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 206** - Allow the department to reduce the sockeye salmon bag limit in the Kenai River sport fishery when the projected passage of sockeye salmon is less than 650,000.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 125

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kenai River late-run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan provides direction to the department for liberalizing the inriver sockeye salmon sport fishery based upon the inseason evaluation of sockeye salmon abundance, a commensurate sliding scale of inriver goals, and a bag limit of three to six sockeye salmon. However there are no step-down provisions to allow limited harvest opportunity that would still achieve the OEG of 500,000-1,000,000 fish by reducing the sockeye salmon bag limit before it is closed.

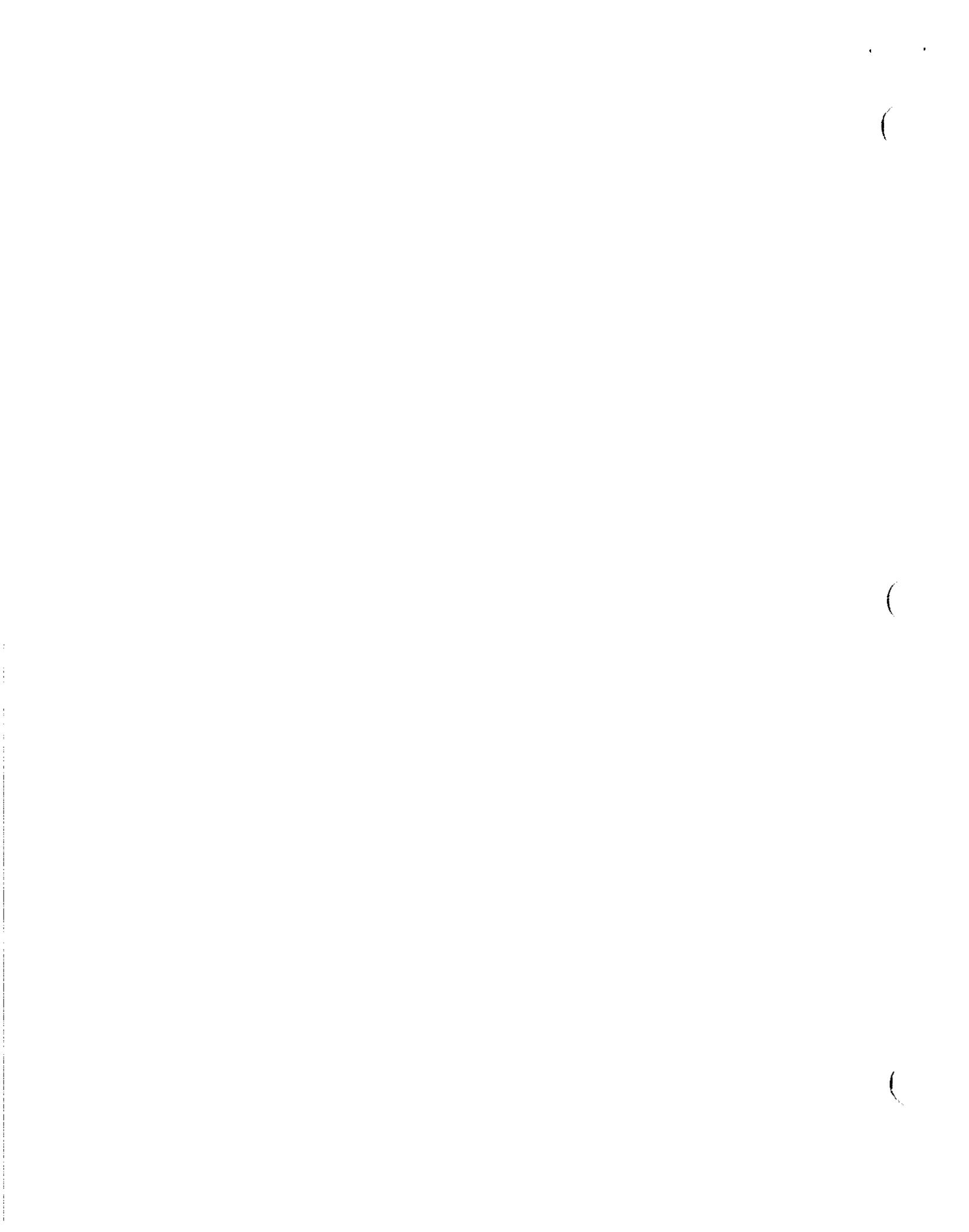
Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

#### **Support:**

- Shapes the expectation of anglers that would drive down to catch fish by reducing the bag limit and gives the department flexibility.
- Supports flexibility in the management.
- Similar to Northern District idea to fish one net to allow CF fishery – would provide a step down.
- Guide Association in support of reasonable proposal.
- Support in context that 650,000 is about 200,000 too high – don't want to restrict the commercial fishery.
- 

#### **Opposition:**

- Directly affects setnet reallocation of the fishery; make changes above the sonar counter and not below the sonar.
- Opposes for allocative issues as mentioned above.
- Opposes as written. This proposal is in conflict with the department (SF and CF divisions) actions as department-wide actions. Would allow SF to continue while CF and PU closed.
- Biological and allocative concerns regarding this proposal – allow fishing on escapement goal.
- Going into “spawning capitol” with this proposal – others disagreed
- Mortality caused by snag/release could prevent reaching escapement in low years.



**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions: Support: Matanuska Valley and Anchorage ACs

Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

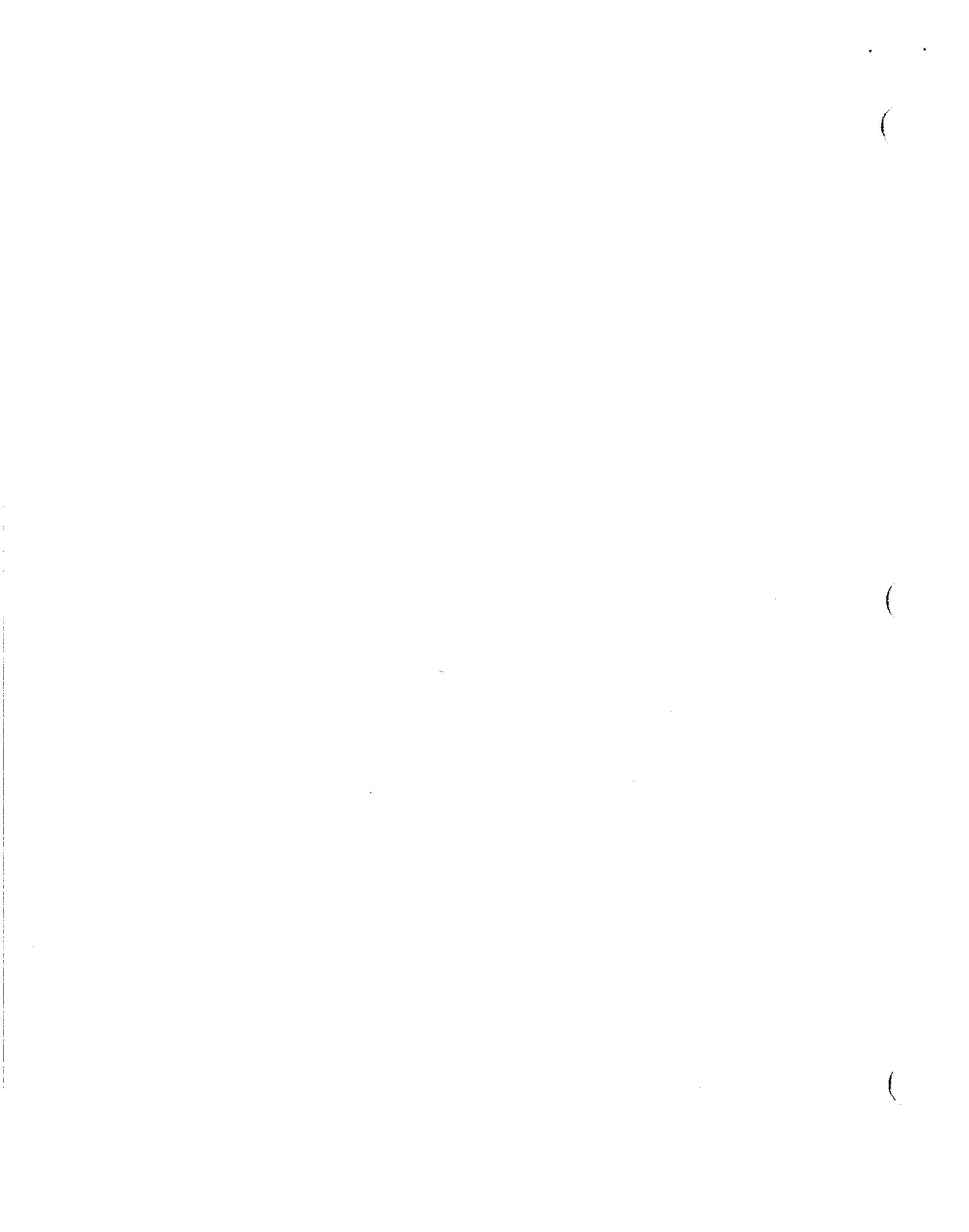
Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

**(3) if the projected inriver goal of sockeye salmon is less than 650,000 and the inriver sport fishery harvest is projected to result in an escapement below the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reduce the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the sport fishery, above the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19, as specified in 75.003 (1)(A).**



**PROPOSAL 208** - Allow additional harvest opportunity when in-river sockeye abundance warrants.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 128

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kenai River late-run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan provides direction to the department for liberalizing the inriver sockeye salmon sport fishery and personal use fishery based upon the inseason evaluation of sockeye salmon abundance, a commensurate sliding scale of inriver goals, and a bag limit of three to six sockeye salmon. However there are no provisions to allow an increase in harvest opportunity for inriver users when the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 4,000,000.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Supports the increase for fishers
- Wouldn't have to make as many trips.
- 12 in possession would make it worth while for non local anglers to make the trip and drive down for 2 days of bag limits in possession.

**Opposition:**

- Highly opposed due to allocative issues – detrimental to commercial fishermen.
- Could create inriver problems and habitat issues with additional pressure from the public.
- Kenai Coalition opposed to 9 & 18 portion of this proposal. Opposed to expectation that can't be met.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Susitna Valley, Matanuska Valley, and Anchorage ACs

Oppose: Central Peninsula AC

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Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

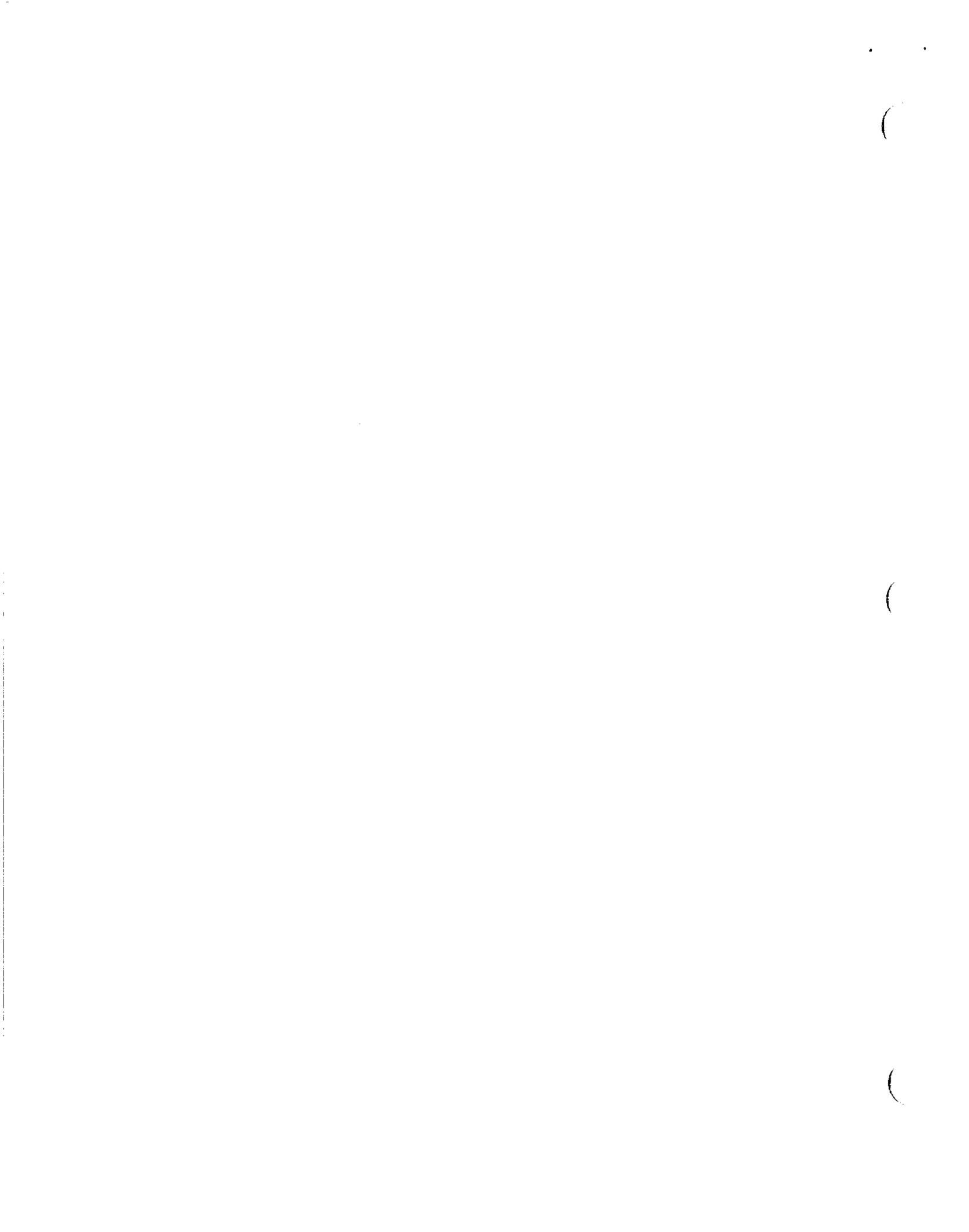
Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

- (1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and
- (2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 2,000,000 salmon, at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit for [TO SIX] sockeye salmon.



**PROPOSAL 207** - Allow the commissioner to increase the bag and possession limit in the Kenai River up to 12 sockeye; increase the personal use salmon fishing permit limit of 25 to 35 per head of household; and allow dip netting from a boat from the Kenai City Dock to the Kenai River king salmon sonar counter.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 126

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kenai River late-run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan provides direction to the department for liberalizing the inriver sockeye salmon sport fishery and personal use fishery based upon the inseason evaluation of sockeye salmon abundance, a commensurate sliding scale of inriver goals, and a bag limit of three to six sockeye salmon. However there are no provisions to allow an increase in harvest opportunity for inriver users when the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 4,000,000.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

### **Support:**

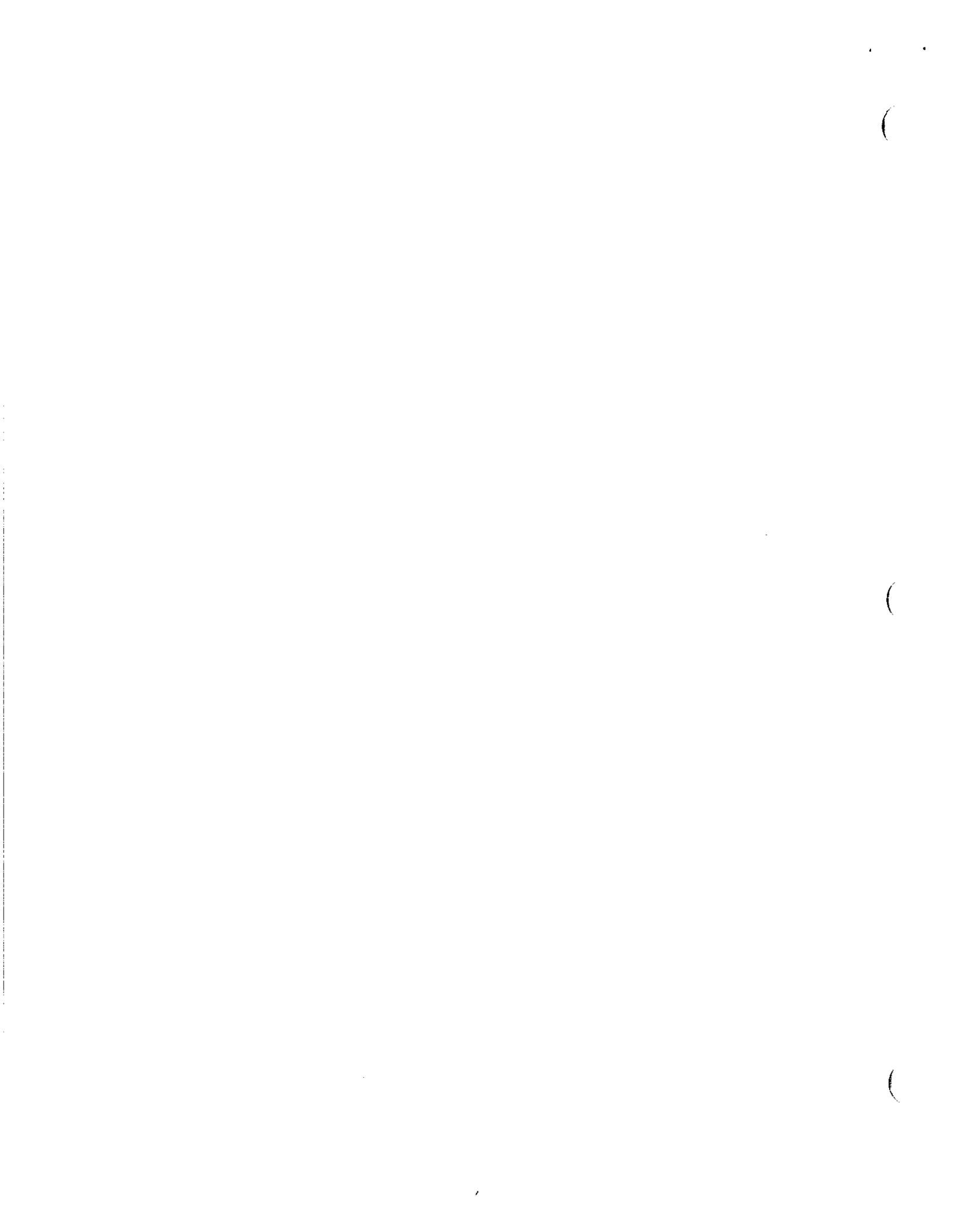
- Some support with the possibly with bag limit alterations
- Supports increasing possession limits in years of large runs.
- Wants to keep numbers down inriver and could help control escapement
- Good way to use surplus fish, helps deal with overescapement.
- 12 in possession would make it worth while for non local anglers to make the trip and drive down.

### **Opposition:**

- Bad management all together.
- Keep Warren Ames bridge a good divider between PU and king fishery.
- If liberalized to death still wouldn't take to capacity – liberalization may not result in that much more harvest. Feels ADF&G has authority and has managed well in the past.
- Could create inriver problems and habitat issues with additional pressure from the public.

### **SSFP:**

- No comments



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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

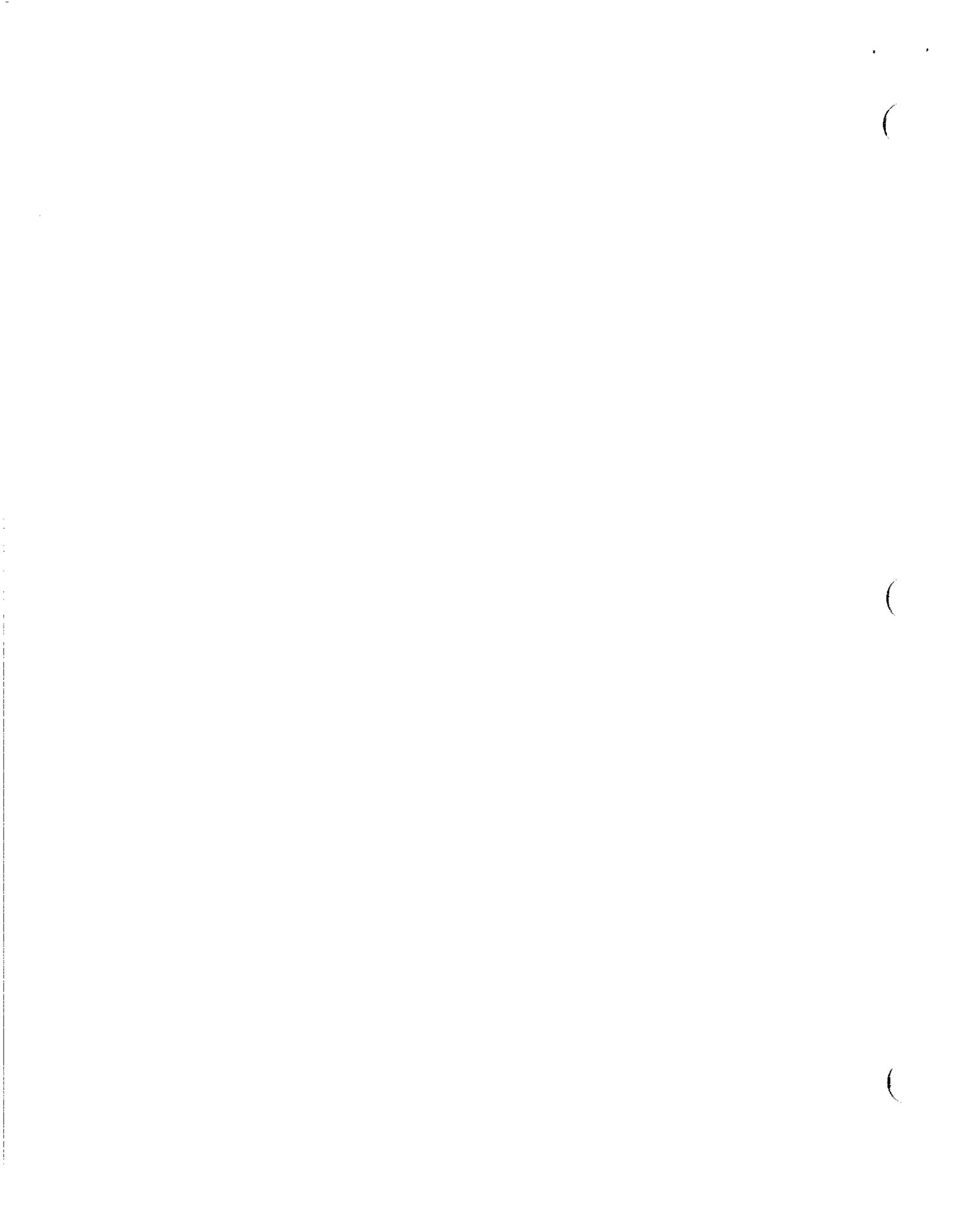
AC Positions: Support: Susitna Valley, Matanuska Valley and Anchorage ACs

Oppose: Central Peninsula and Homer ACs

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 208.

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 193** - Allow the department to increase the Kenai River sockeye salmon bag and possession limit when liberalizations to the commercial fishery exceed those provided by the management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 129

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 115, 119, 120, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kenai River late-run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan provides direction to the department for liberalizing the commercial fishery, inriver sockeye salmon sport fishery and personal use fishery. These provisions are based upon three levels of sockeye salmon abundance that are linked with a commensurate sliding scale of inriver goals.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Support any increase in opportunity.

**Opposition:**

- Opposed to this proposal and is in favor of the previous approach.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 166** - Amend the Kasilof River Salmon Management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 130

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

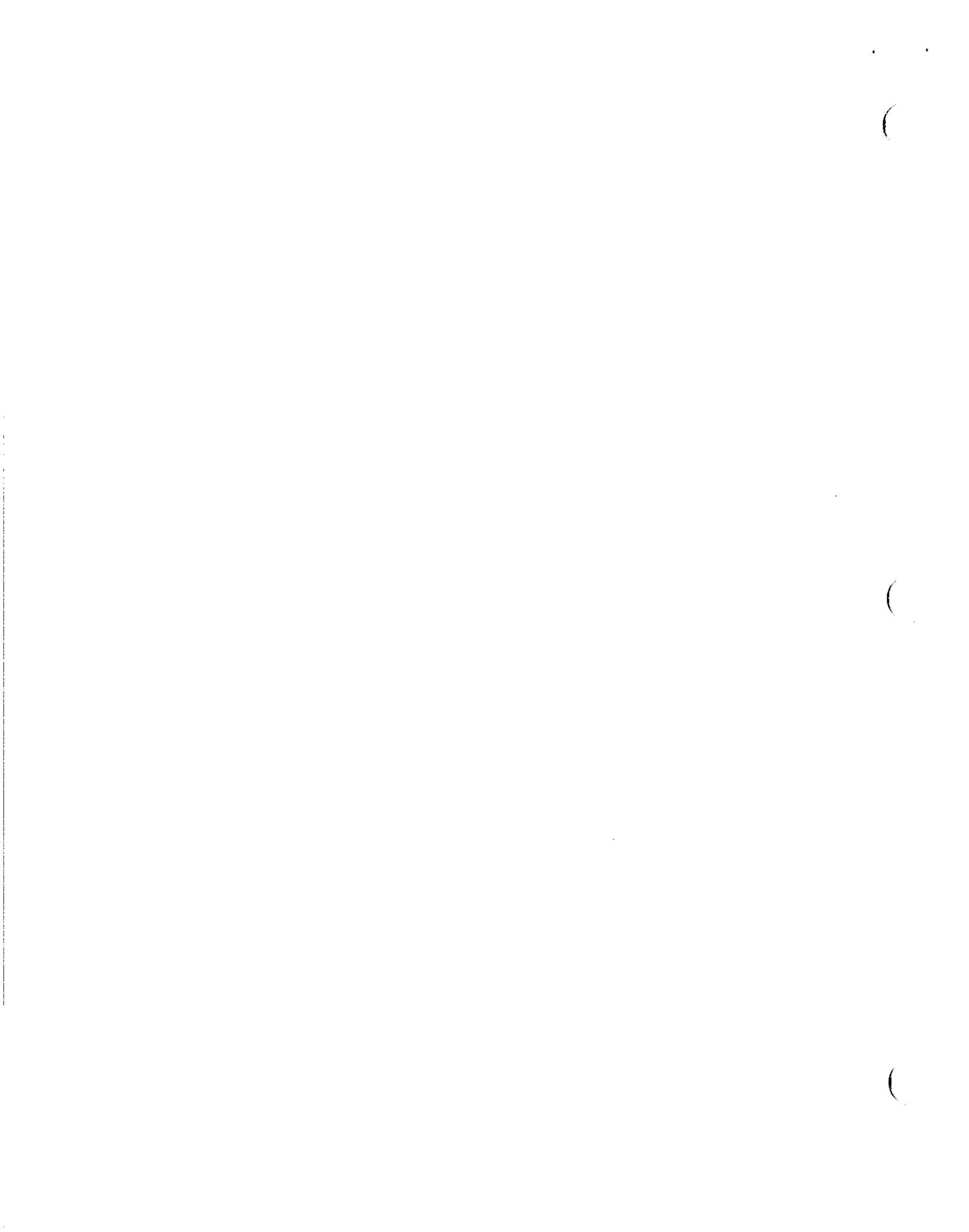
**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would clarify that meeting the escapement goal is the primary objective for management, delete the currently required 48 hour closed window, allow the department to manage Kasilof River sockeye salmon independent of the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan, and delete the regulatory language that specifies that achieving the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River OEG range of 150,000 to 300,000 sockeye salmon. The Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the BOF that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Supports along same justification of Kenai issues. Windows don't work, loss of economic benefit to users, this plan spells things out – back to abundance based management.
- Helps simplify a biological escapement goal on the Kasilof.
- In support of this proposal based that things are not unlinked with other plans.
- Support this proposal but would be opposed to any Kasilof management plan like 167, 168 that removes the lower end of the Kenai lower river goal priority.
- Gives managers better ability to manage.
- Escapement goals have been exceeded often since windows were established.
- No. 1 issue identified in Kasilof management plan is 48 hour window and how it interferes with meeting escapement goals in this river. RC 83 - alternatives to deal with this, modify 48 hour window, modify the terminal harvest area (which would not support), or extend seasons to be a little bit later.
- Acknowledges negative affects of terminal fisheries – want plans to rectify negative affects of plans
- No minimum distance between nets in the terminal fishery and difficult for kings to bypass Kasilof terminal fishery area.



- Kasilof river king late run general concerns. Issues with the terminal fishery – would like to see another plan to keep from terminal area.
- Terminal fisheries should be a tool but not used like it was in 2006.
- Overescapement is exploitation rate of msy – currently harvesting Kenai over msy. 80% harvest rate highest for sockeye in the state, very high harvest rate. Drop down the window but still harvesting at high rates.
- Concerns about escapement and wild smolt production, terminal fishery area and relationship to an unassessed king salmon stock while covering concerns on the Kenai.
- Spawning limited, maybe rearing limited. Have healthy ocean survival rates on Kasilof stocks and good to have coming back at a higher percentage

**Opposition:**

- Windows are the only way to make sure some fish bypass commercial fishery.
- PU fishery and other concerns as mentioned before.
- Opposed to 167, 168 – concerns of active monitoring of Kasilof King plan. 48 hour floating window reduced the escapement risk entering the river and provide for the maximum number of people using it
- If low run on the Kenai instead of KRSHA open expanded area south of the river that harvests Kasilof stocks. Favor 166.
- Would raise exploitation rate on king salmon on the Kasilof River and puts the manager in a box
- 15,000 to 22,000 kings harvested in East side setnet fisheries – don't know if Kenai or Kasilof fish. Research needs to be done on king fishery.
- King fishery affected by additional fishing as noticed not as many large kings laying on sand bars as have seen in the past.
- Windows are needed to let kings up the river – starting to see a stronger run in August and less in July.
- Early run component that also needs to be addressed. SF can only retain 2 days per week, concerns over conservation and windows for this fishery.
- Smolt leaving the system are getting larger as evidence of not being rearing limited.

**SSFP:**

- Current plans aren't in compliance with SSFP
- Helps direct management to achieve what's outline in the SSFP
- Should be same yield with SSFP
- Overescapement is not sustainable and results lead to management plans with windows

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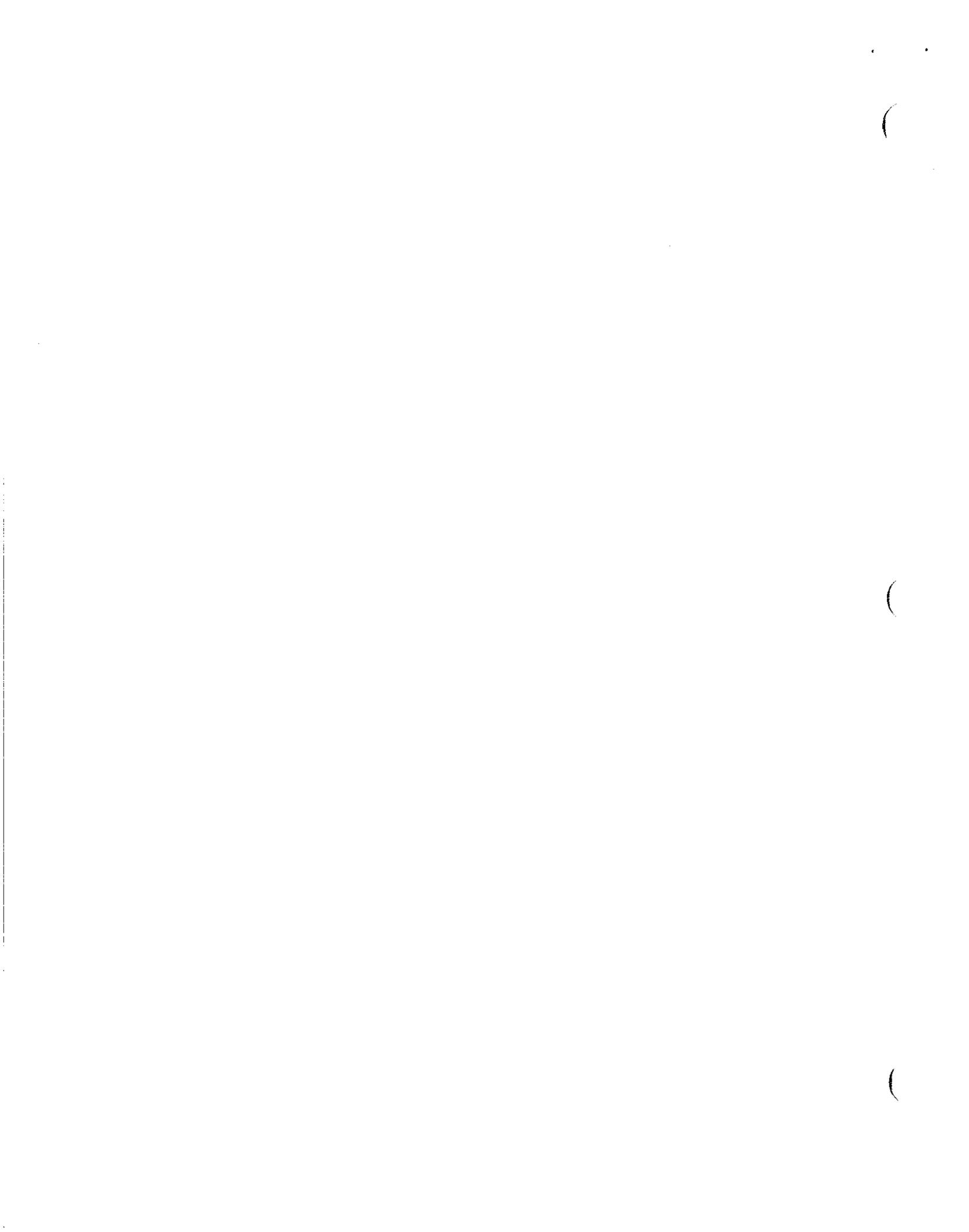
***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Supports

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula ACs

Oppose: Susitna Valley, Matanuska Valley, and Anchorage ACs



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None



**AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan** (a) This management plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the BOF that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries. Openings in the areas historically fished must be consistent with escapement objectives for upper Cook Inlet salmon and with the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.363).

(b) Achieving the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal range of 150,000 to 300,000 sockeye salmon.

(c) The commercial set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section shall be managed as follows:  
(1) fishing will be opened as described in 5 AAC 21.310(b) (2) for regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320;

(2) from the beginning of the fishing season through July 7,

(A) the commissioner may, by emergency order, open additional fishing periods or extend regular weekly fishing periods to a maximum of 48 hours of additional fishing time per week;

(B) the fishery shall remain closed for at least one continuous 48-hour period per week;

(3) beginning July 8, the set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section will be managed as specified in 5 AAC 21.360(c); in addition to the provisions of 5 AAC 21.360(c), the commissioner may, by emergency order, limit fishing during the regular weekly periods and any extra fishing periods to those waters within one-half mile of shore, if the set gillnet fishery in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections are not open for the fishing period;

(4) after July 15, if the department determines that the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon run strength is projected to be less than two million fish and the 300,000 optimal escapement goal for the Kasilof River sockeye salmon may be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing for an additional 24-hours per week in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore and as specified in 5 AAC 21.360(c).

(d) The personal use fishery will be managed as specified in 5 AAC 77.540(b) and (c).

(e) In addition to the provisions of 5 AAC 56 and 5 AAC 57.160 applicable to the Kasilof River, from January 1 through July 31, the guided sport fishery for early-run and late-run Kasilof River king salmon will be managed as follows:

(1) a sport fishing guide may not sport fish while a client is present or is within the sport fishing guide's control or responsibility; notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a sport fishing guide may provide assistance to a client with a disability in order to enable the client to engage in sport fishing; in this paragraph, "disability" has the same meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (C), as amended as of February 8, 1994;



(2) during any one day, a sport fishing guide may guide only that client or group of clients initially guided by the sport fishing guide that day; different or additional clients may not be guided;

(3) repealed 2/10/2005.

(f) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to the taking of salmon by gillnets when it is projected that the Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement will exceed 275,000 fish. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within one and one-half miles of the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the river and waters open to set gillnetting under 5 AAC 21.330(b)(3)(C)(ii) and (b)(3)(C)(iii). The following apply within the special harvest area when it is open:

- (1) set gillnets may be operated only within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark;
- (2) a set gillnet may not exceed 35 fathoms in length;
- (3) drift gillnets may not be operated in waters within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark;
- (4) no more than 50 fathoms of drift gillnet may be used to take salmon;
- (5) a permit holder may not use more than one gillnet to take salmon at any time;
- (6) a person may not operate a gillnet outside the special harvest area when operating a gillnet in the special harvest area;
- (7) there is no minimum distance between gear, except that a gillnet may not be set or operated within 600 feet of a set gillnet located outside of the special harvest area; and
- (8) a vessel may not have more than 150 fathoms of drift gillnet or 105 fathoms of set gillnet on board.

(g) For the purposes of this section,

- (1) "client" has the meaning given in 5 AAC 75.995;
- (2) "sport fishing guide" has the meaning given in 5 AAC 75.995;
- (3) "week" means a calendar week, a period of seven consecutive days beginning at 12:01 a.m. Sunday and ending at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday.

**History:** Eff. 4/18/86, Register 98; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 7/3/2002, Register 163; am 9/28/2002, Register 163; am 7/20/2004 - 11/16/2004, Register 171; am 2/13/2005, Register 173; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 10/1/2006, Register 179

**Authority:** AS 16.05.060



**PROPOSAL 167** - Revise Kasilof River management plan.

**Taken up under Proposal 166**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 131

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would clarify that meeting the escapement goal is the primary objective for management, delete the currently required 48 hour closed window, allow the department to manage Kasilof River sockeye salmon independent of the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan, and delete the regulatory language that specifies that achieving the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal range of 150,000 to 300,000 sockeye salmon. The Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the BOF that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 166.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 166.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 166.

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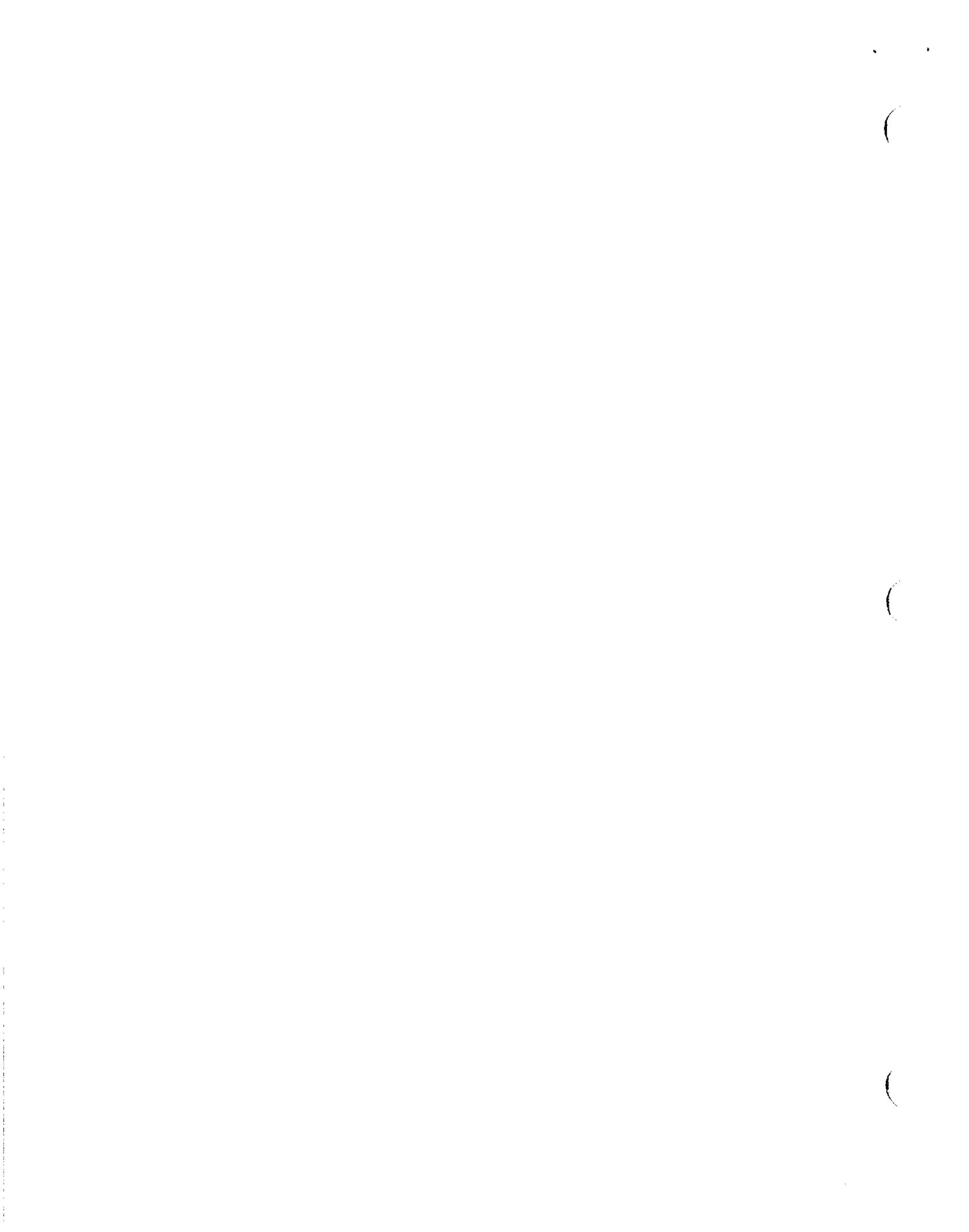
***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Supports

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula ACs

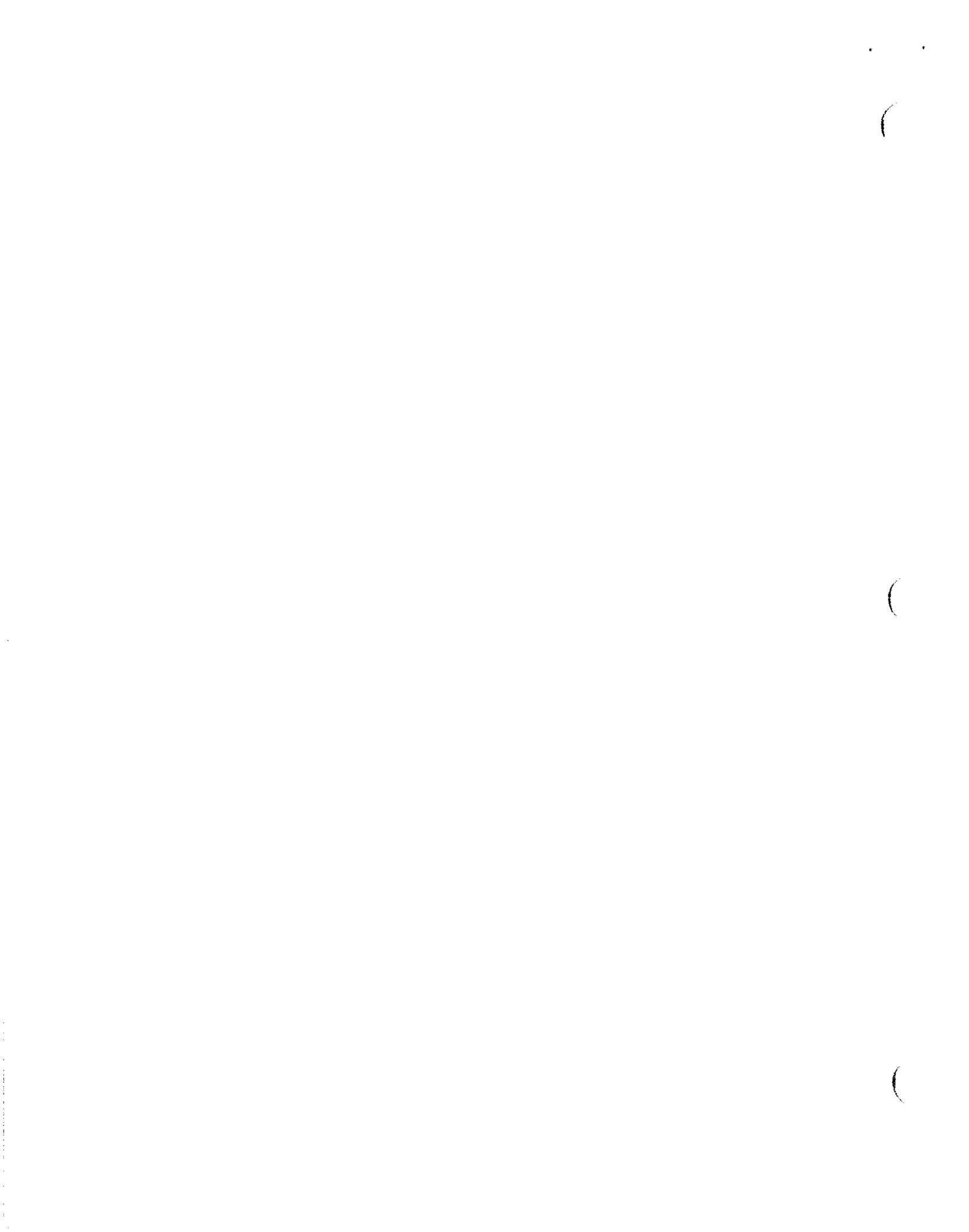
Oppose: Susitna Valley, Matanuska Valley, and Anchorage ACs



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 168** - Modify the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

**Taken up under Proposal 166**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 133

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: This proposal would clarify that meeting the escapement goal is the primary objective for management, delete the currently required 48 hour closed window, allow the department to manage Kasilof River sockeye salmon independent of the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan, and delete the regulatory language that specifies that achieving the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal range of 150,000 to 300,000 sockeye salmon. The Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the BOF that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 166.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 166.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 166.

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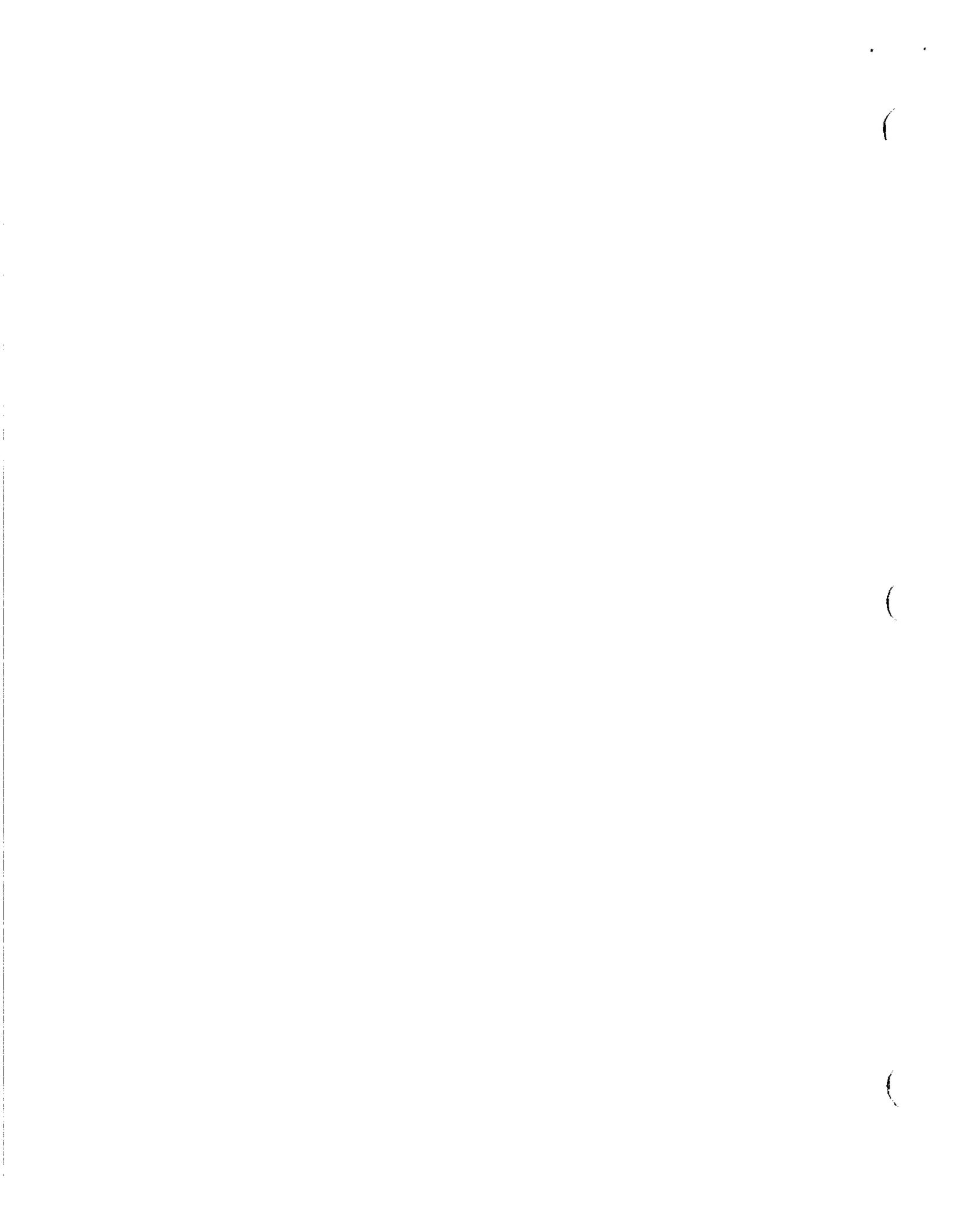
***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Supports

AC Positions: Support: Homer and Central Peninsula ACs

Oppose: Susitna Valley, Matanuska Valley, and Anchorage ACs



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 169** - Increase OEG based on updated data in the Kasilof and modify fishing periods.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 135

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 125, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan was first adopted following the 1985 season due to escapement in excess of 500,000 sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. Until 2002 its sole function was to address the harvest within the special harvest area when the escapement exceeded 275,000 sockeye salmon. In 2002, many other provisions were added including the OEG. The department would lose its ability to manage most runs to meet the established OEG and SEG for sockeye salmon in the Kasilof River.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Any changes leave the only alternative for management to keep the special harvest area all the time.
- Processors don't like fish that go back and forth between fresh water and salt water -- no good for the market. Must be a better way to harvest.
- Doesn't make sense to close a traditional harvests fishery (set net).

**Opposition:**

- Opposed because of the terminal area and did not agree with extension of window during particular time when trying to achieve the escapement goal.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

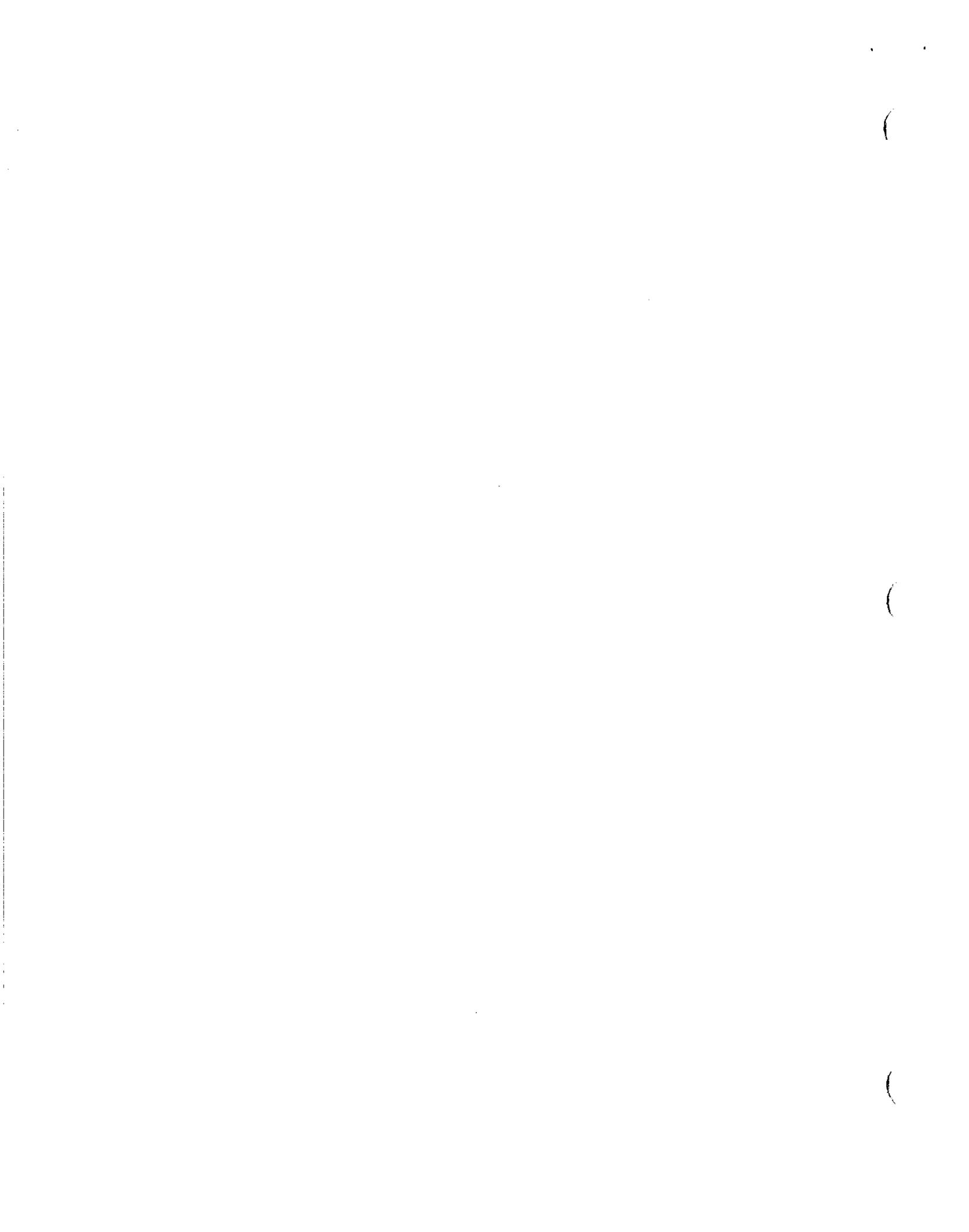
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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Opposed

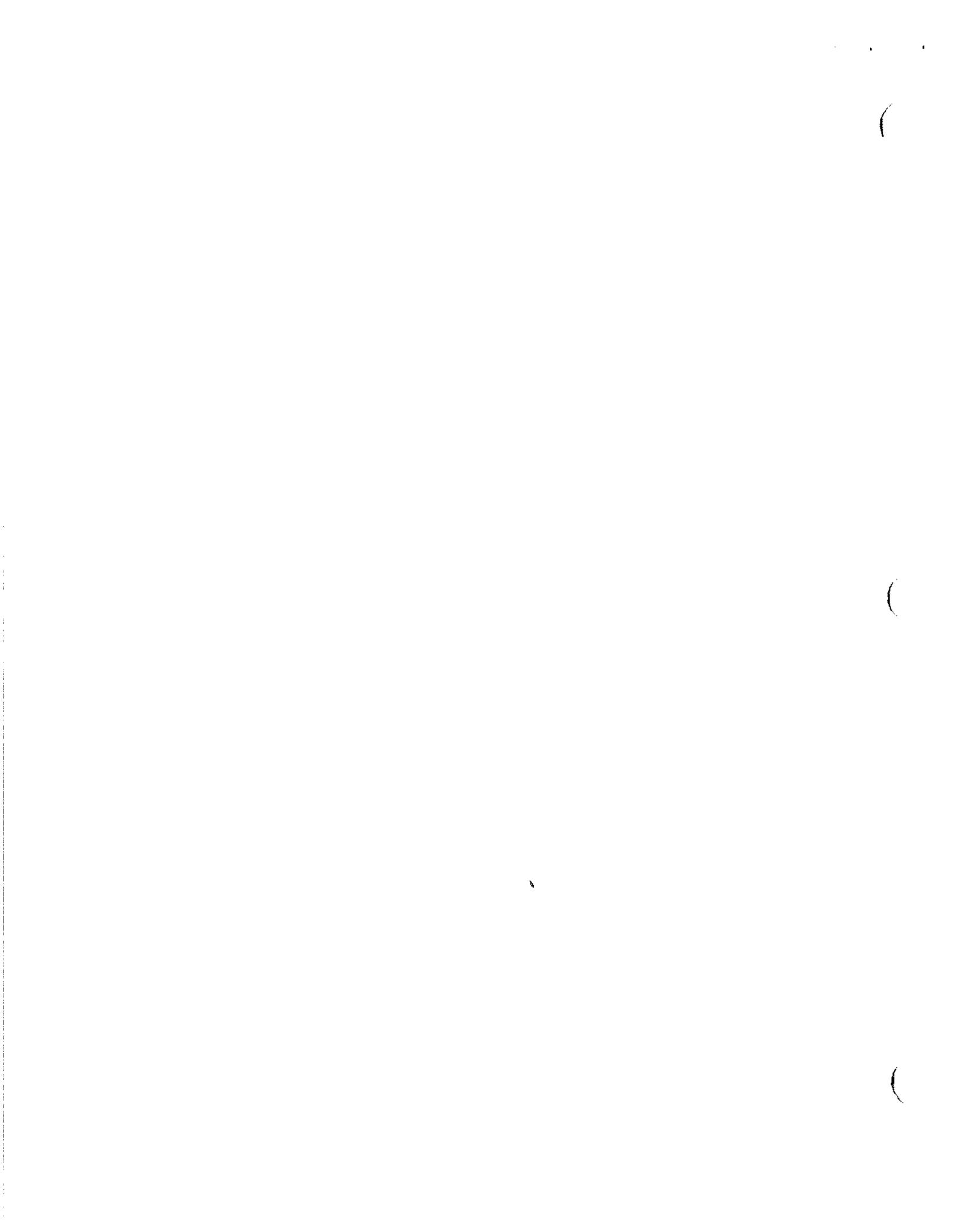
AC Positions: Kenai AC opposes



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 177** - Direct department to manage the Kasilof River sockeye salmon primarily for commercial uses.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 136

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan was first adopted following the 1985 season due to escapement in excess of 500,000 sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. Until 2002 its sole function was to address the harvest within the special harvest area when the escapement exceeded 275,000 sockeye salmon. In 2002, many other provisions were added including the OEG. The department would lose its ability to manage most runs to meet the established OEG and SEG for sockeye salmon in the Kasilof River.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Current plans aren't working. Gives managers flexibility to manage this area, windows in current plan put in excess of 100,000 fish in one tide because managers didn't have the flexibility. Simplify the plan and keep in the BEG.

**Opposition:**

- Current plan works fine.

**SSFP:**

- Plan fits with the SSFP

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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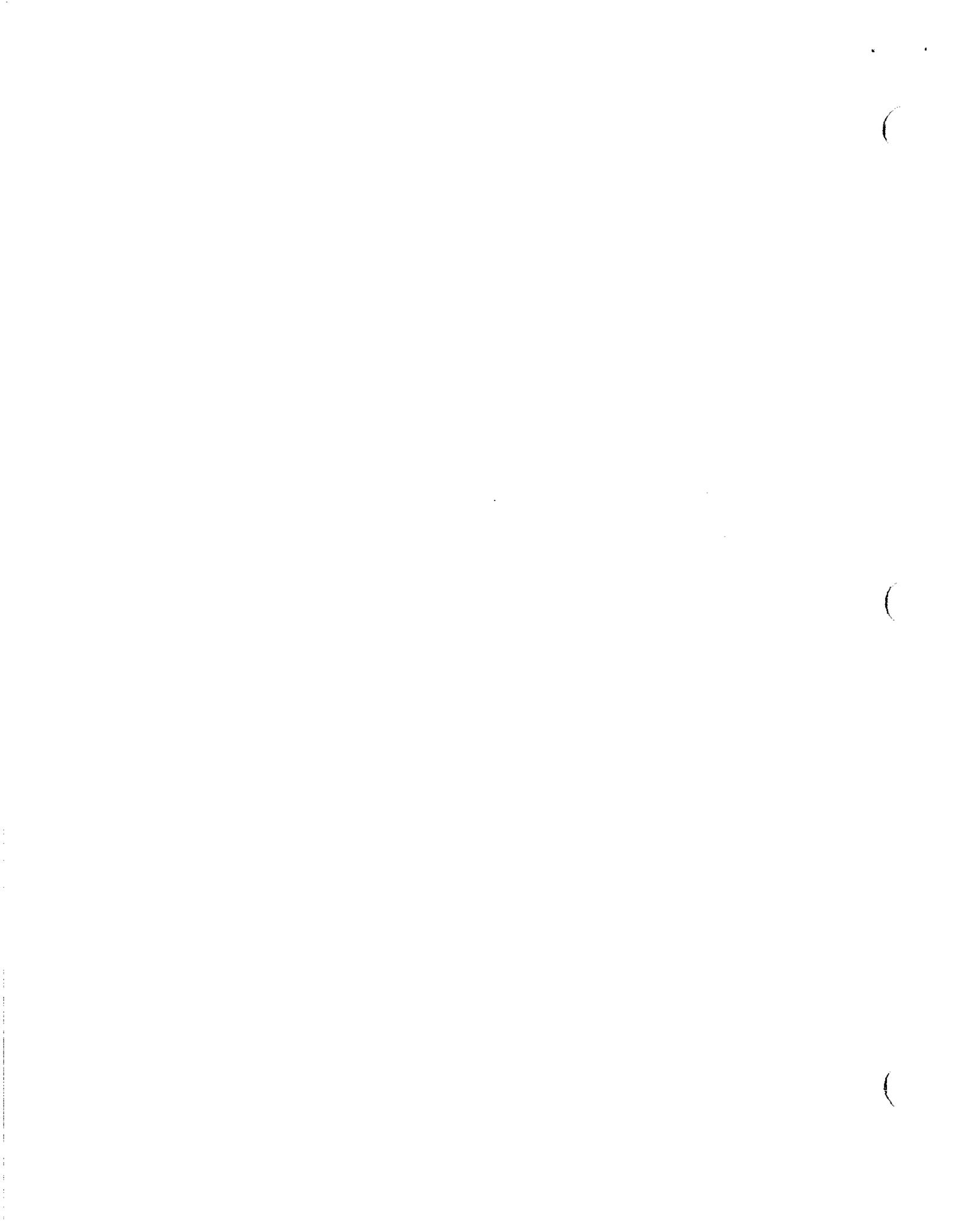
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 180** - Repeal the Kasilof Salmon Management plan.

**Taken up under Proposal 177**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 137

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan was first adopted following the 1985 season due to escapement in excess of 500,000 sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. Until 2002 its sole function was to address the harvest within the special harvest area when the escapement exceeded 275,000 sockeye salmon. In 2002, many other provisions were added including the OEG.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 177

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 177

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 177

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 178** - Modify the OEG for Kasilof River sockeye.

**Taken up under Proposal 177**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 138

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan was first adopted following the 1985 season due to escapement in excess of 500,000 sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. Until 2002 its sole function was to address the harvest within the special harvest area when the escapement exceeded 275,000 sockeye salmon. In 2002, many other provisions were added including the OEG. Such a regulation change may lead to situations where the escapements far exceed established escapement objectives in many run scenarios.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 177

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 177

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 177

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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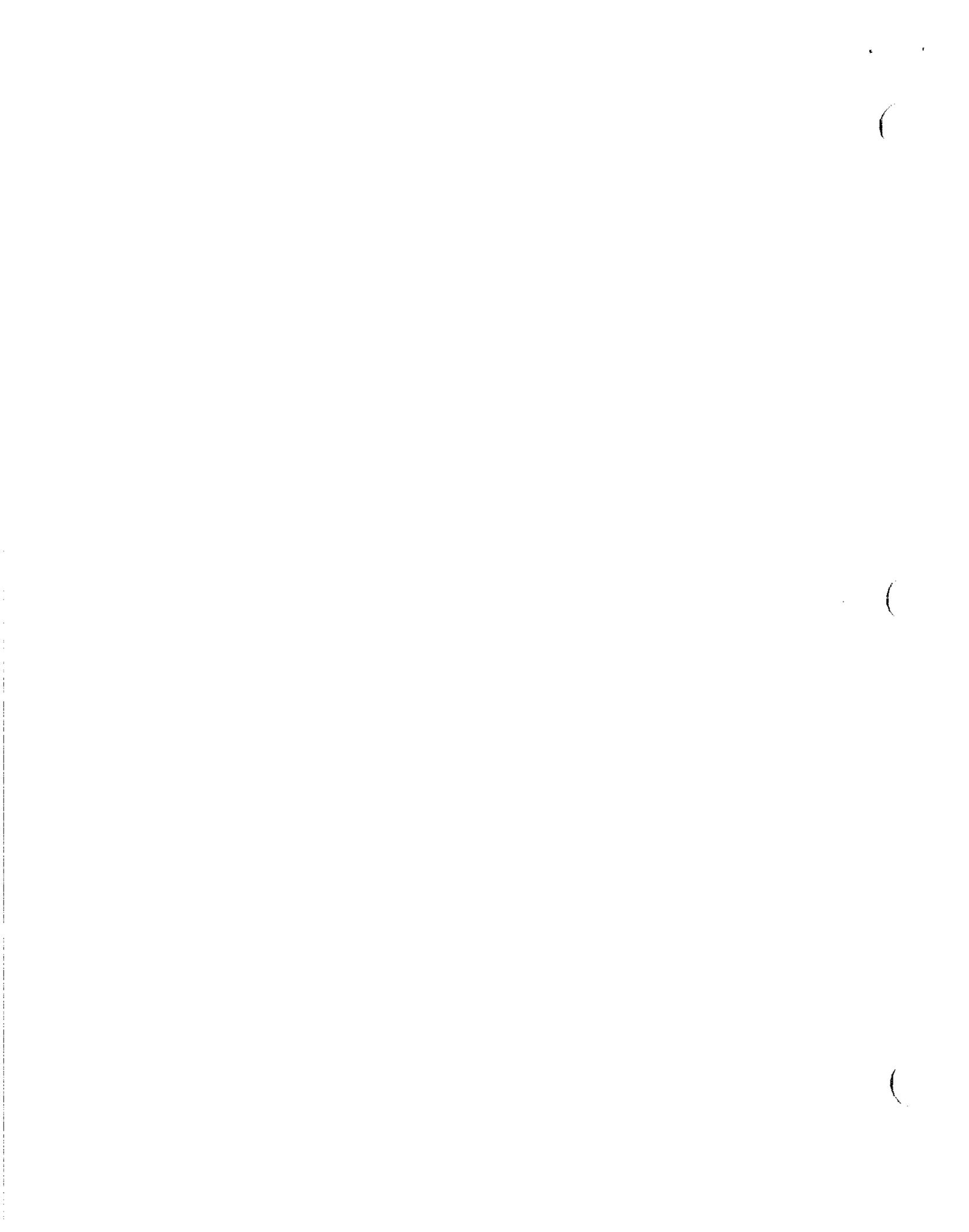
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 179** - Increase the Kasilof River OEG.

**Taken up under Proposal 177**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 139

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan was first adopted following the 1985 season due to escapement in excess of 500,000 sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. Until 2002 its sole function was to address the harvest within the special harvest area when the escapement exceeded 275,000 sockeye salmon. In 2002, many other provisions were added including the OEG. Such a regulation change may lead to situations where the escapements far exceed established escapement objectives in many run scenarios.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 177

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 177

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 177

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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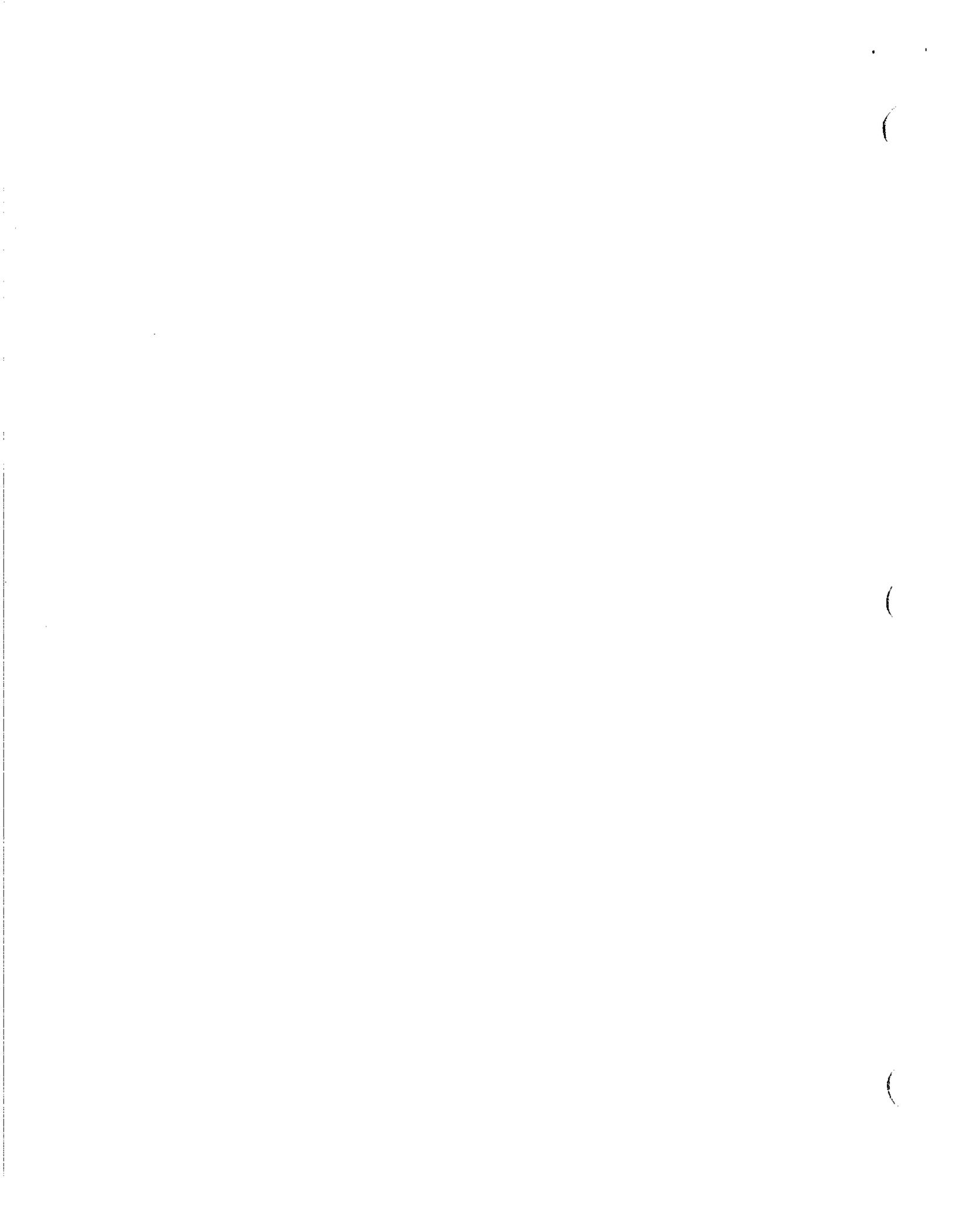
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 166

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 181** - Increase the area for set gillnet use and reduce area for drift gillnet use.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 140

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons to the taking of salmon by gillnets.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- 600 feet goes dry so wanted to be able to fish if KRSHA ever opens again.
- Would like to have reasonable opportunity to catch sockeye. Concerns that might have a chance to reach escapement in the Yentna.
- Concerns with terminal fishery, created '85 first used in '04. Concerns with 600 foot area going dry and not being able to fish. Just asking for a little more area.
- Issues with unorderly flood fishery, like PU fishery, hay day, no minimum distance between nets, enforcement issues. If problems then give some relief in this area.
- Disparity between area available for set and drift gillnet

**Opposition:**

- Dilemma between dipnet fisheries and moving effort away from northern bound fish.
- Don't want to use terminal fishery but wants to keep the KRSHA on the books, when windows were put in triggered terminal area.
- All dry at minus tides, start changing gear is going to cause problems.
- Fix plans so the KRSHA area won't be used
- Felt they all tied in the same with others.
- Enforcement nightmare, isn't going to work.
- Drift fleet on minus tide is dry – don't create plans that force to use special harvest area. Maybe use the same percentage of drift and set net traditional area.
- Majority of setnet harvest is caught in first 600 feet.
- Concern how to measure 1200 feet – not reasonable – measure with GPS.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC oppose but want to keep KRSHA

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language

Substitute Language:

5AAC 21.365 Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan

(f) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to the taking of salmon by gillnets when it is projected that the Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement will exceed 275,000 fish. **It is the intent of the board that the Kasilof River Terminal Harvest Area (KRSHA) should rarely, if ever be used and then only for conservation reasons. Prior to using the KRSHA, it is the board's intent that additional fishing time be allowed in the remainder of the Kasilof Section first and secondly the mandatory closed "windows" could be reduced in duration, if necessary, to meet the escapement goals contained within this and other management plans.**

The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within one and one-half miles of the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the river and waters open to set gillnetting under 5 AAC 21.330(b) (3)(C)(ii) and (b)(3)(C)(iii). The following apply within the special harvest area when it is open:

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**PROPOSAL 182** - Amend the Kasilof River plan to limit Kenai River sockeye harvest.

**Taken up under Proposal 166**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 141

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons to the taking of salmon by gillnets. The department has the authority to reduce this area from ½ mile to 600 feet by emergency order.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 166

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 166

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 166

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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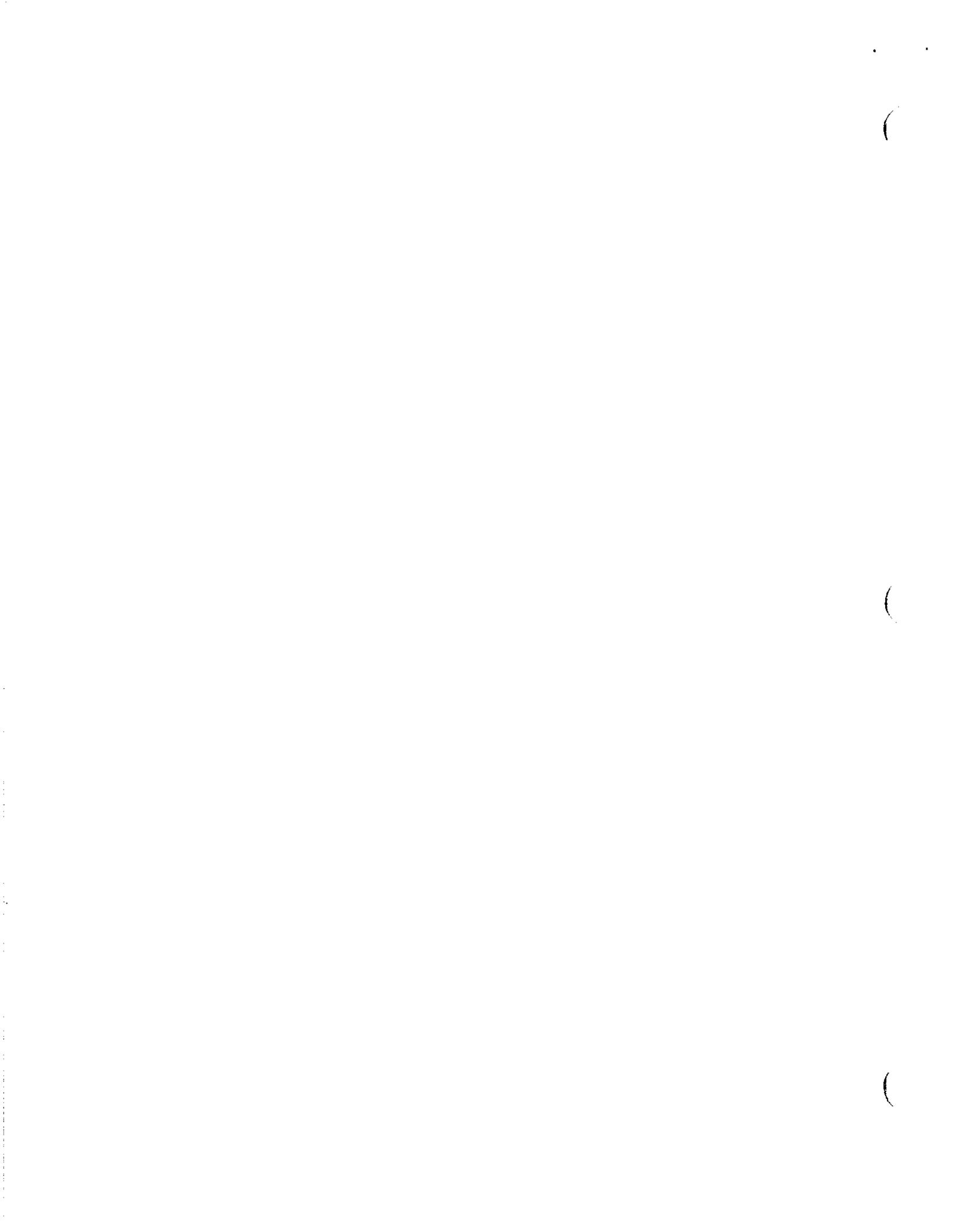
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC opposes but want to keep KRSHA

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 183** - Limit gill netters to one half mile from shore.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 142

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons to the taking of salmon by gillnets.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Department already has this authority.

**Opposition:**

- Department already has this authority.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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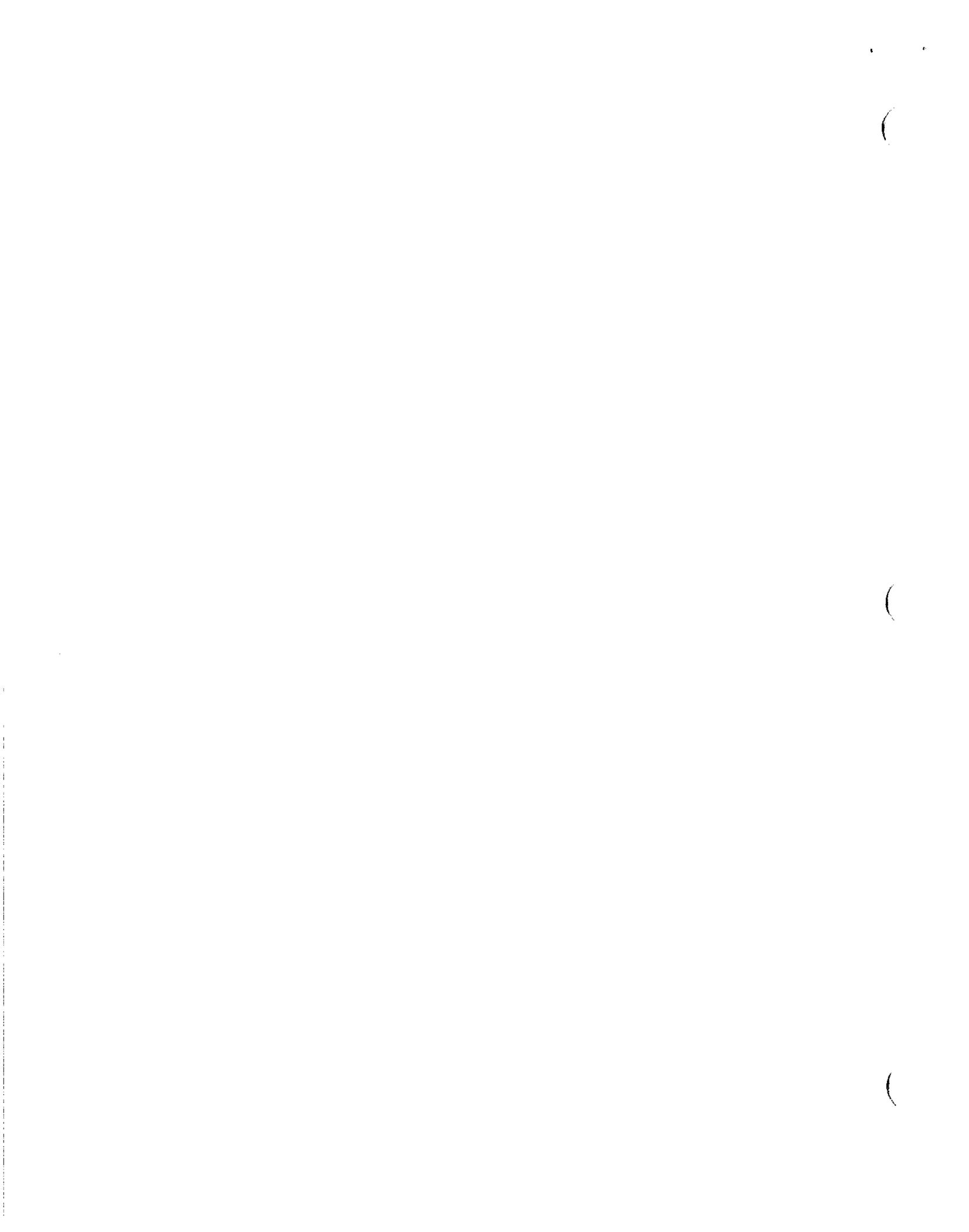
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 184** - Change the area for set and drift gillnet use for Kasilof River.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 143

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons to the taking of salmon by gillnets.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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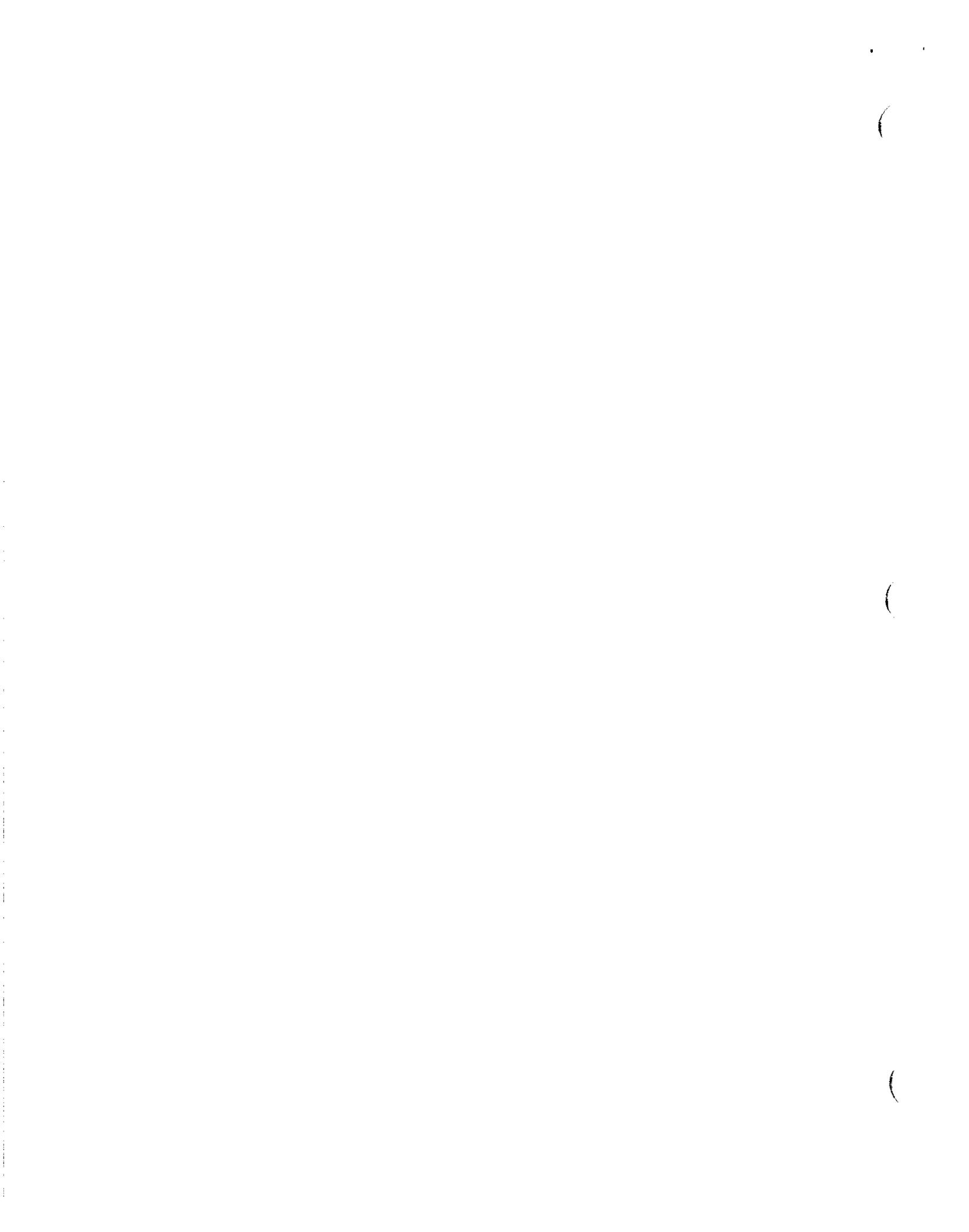
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No action based upon the author's intent to withdraw support for the proposal

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on author's intent to withdraw support for proposal

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 185** - Expand the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 144

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 125, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons to the taking of salmon by gillnets.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Put the 1/2 mile in the toolbox and would rather see that happen than the using the terminal area when it is appropriate.
- Amended this proposal to give ADF&G flexibility and hopefully won't be the case to use it.
- Use EO authority and window limitations to harvest excess sockeye and use terminal area less
- This option should be available by regulation regarding windows; conservation manners appropriate and necessary.
- Supports this proposal as amended; windows are not a factor
- PU and recreational fisheries are liberalized during this time; ample opportunity and fish in the system for the user.
- Windows are the reason the terminal area is open; can't liberalize the area.

**Opposition:**

- Need to provide method that's predictable and provides opportunity to harvest.
- Social issue of weekend anglers and that windows are needed to provide for angling opportunity on weekends.
- Windows close setnet move fish into the river and then the special harvest area opens and reopens; it works.

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**SSFP:**

- This proposal consistent with SSFP
- Fits with the SSFP
- Ensure it follows the SSFP
- Windows achieve a biological component as prescribed by the SSFP
- Windows are inconsistent with SSFP to manage for optimum sustained yield.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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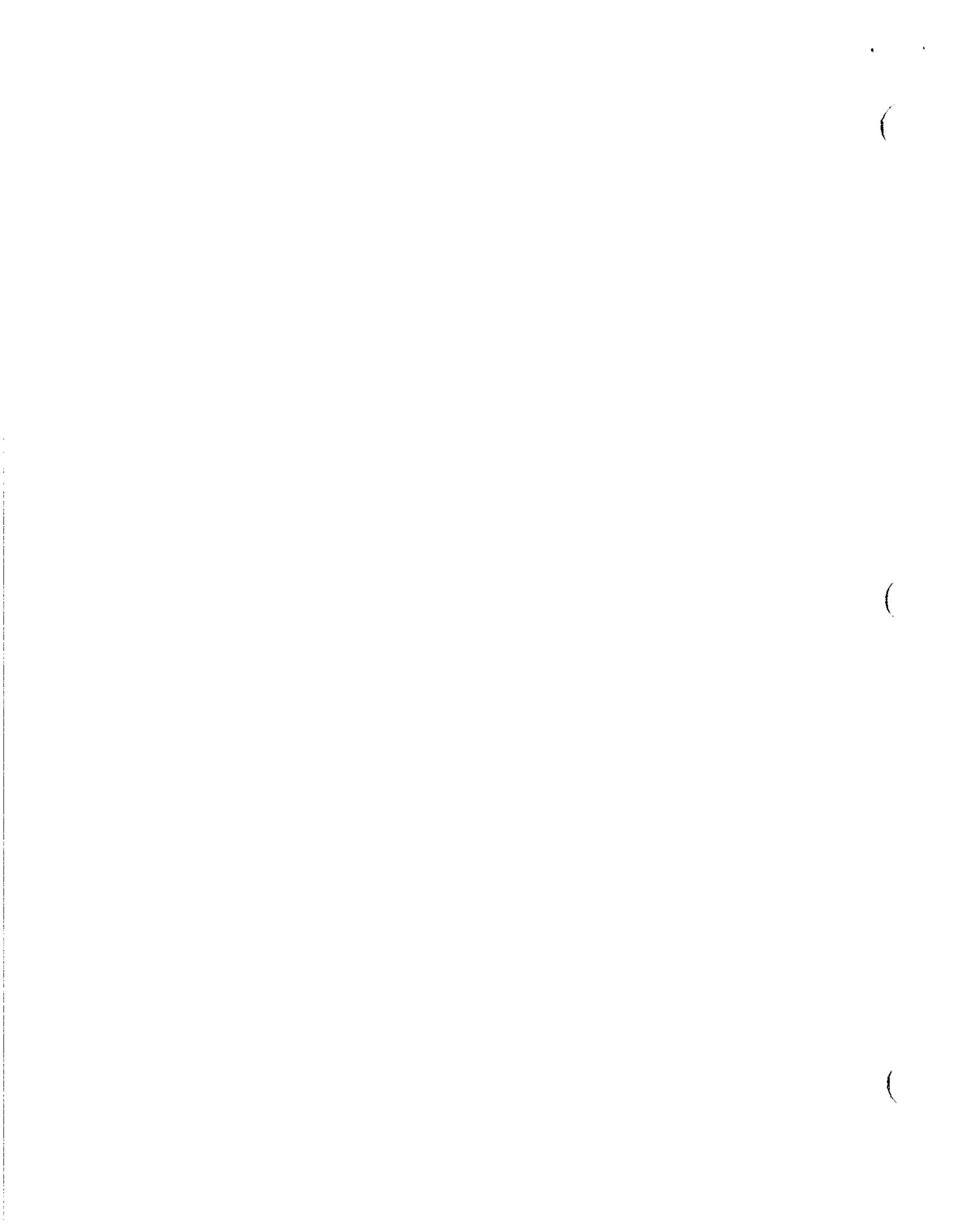
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Support: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 186** - Change the area for set and drift gillnet use for Kasilof River.

**Taken up with Proposal 181**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 145

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons to the taking of salmon by gillnets.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 181

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 181

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 181

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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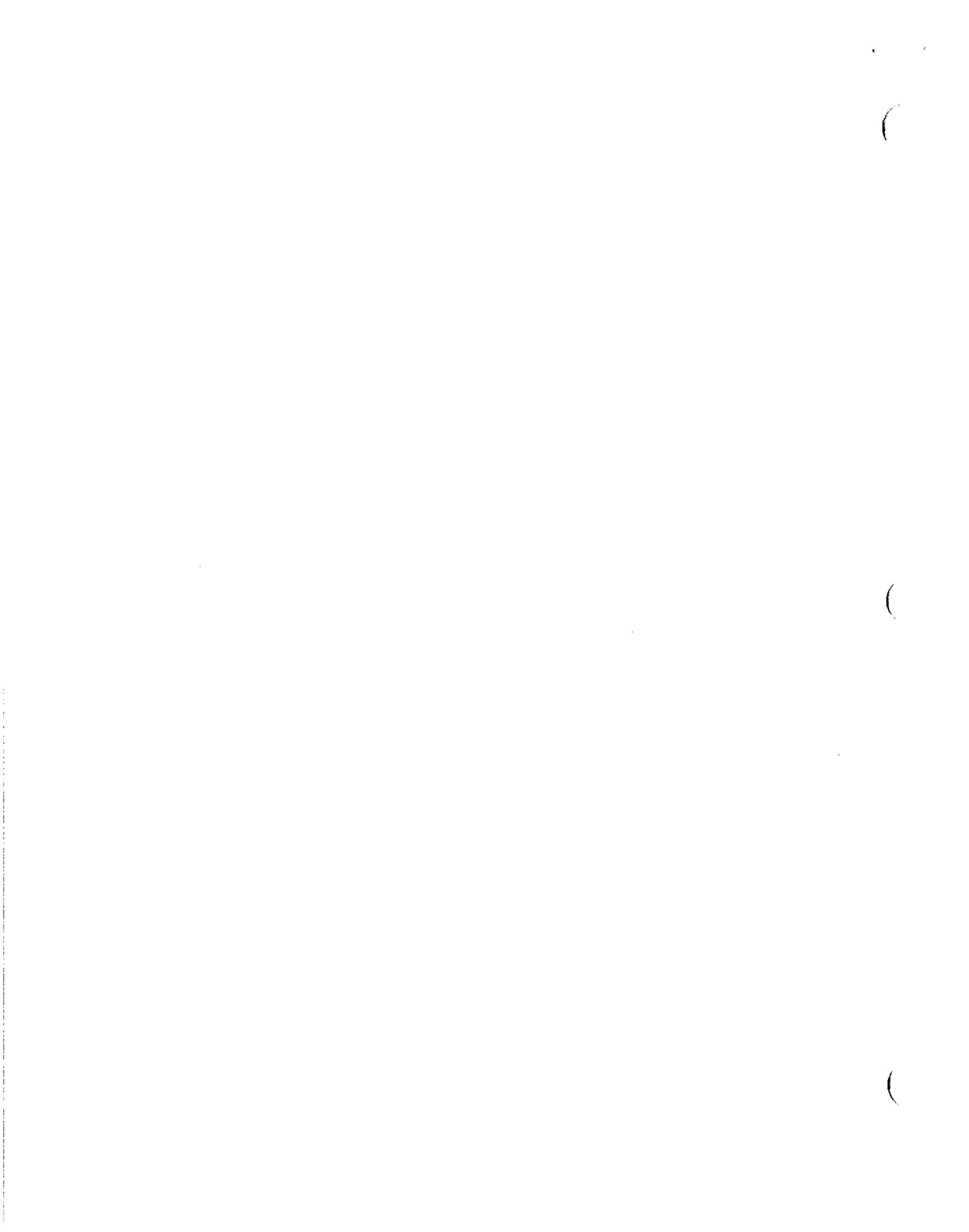
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC oppose but want to keep KRSHA

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 172** - Specify the use of Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 146

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons and used more extensively in 2006 when directed fisheries on Kenai River sockeye salmon were closed for conservation reasons and the only tool available to harvest the abundance of Kasilof River sockeye salmon was the KRSHA. In 2007, this area was only used towards the end of the season in large part because the commissioner allowed commercial fishing during the closed windows in the Kasilof Section only.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as 173 with caveat of adding additional fishing time when in special harvest area
- Discussion about allowing more time under the special harvest area restriction.
- KRSHA wasn't used prior to windows and need to clarify use of the terminal area to allow direction for ADF&G and operators when in use in the terminal fishery.
- Concern that all the fish are caught in the terminal area at the start of the season because they could foresee that they would reach overescapement. Current management doesn't do that but want to put it on the books to prevent from happening as did in the past.
- Support the proposal as a tool in the tool box for managers to use
- Terminal fisheries should be used when a slug of fish hits the river and then open the terminal area and take the big push in the harvest
- Concern about overescapement in the system
- Social problem with people fishing (PU) in the mouth of the river and not catching fish
- Agreement on overuse of the terminal harvest area. Need to get off of kings because of lack of assessment tools
- 48 hour window too long –need to give managers some triggers for the window time. Need to differentiate the circumstances for going over; sometimes protection of Kenai fish and sometimes for protection of Kasilof fish.

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**Opposition:**

- Keep the priority in the plan of achieving the lower end of the Kenai goal over exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof goal.

**SSEP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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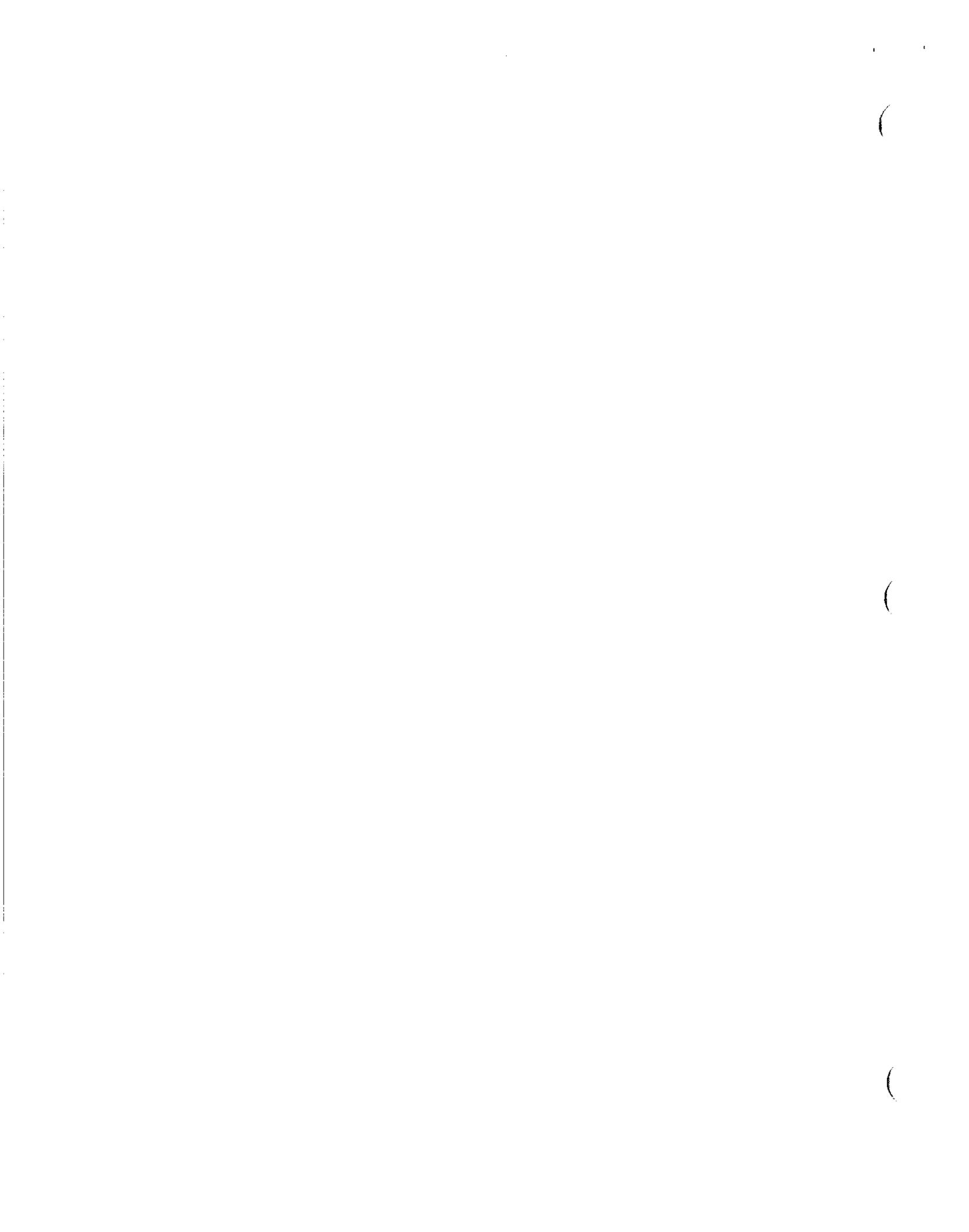
ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 173** - Limit the use of Kasilof Special Harvest Area.

**Taken up with Proposal 166**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 147

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 125, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons and used more extensively in 2006 when directed fisheries on Kenai River sockeye salmon were closed for conservation reasons and the only tool available to harvest the abundance of Kasilof River sockeye salmon was the KRSHA. In 2007, this area was only used towards the end of the season in large part because the commissioner allowed commercial fishing during the closed windows in the Kasilof Section only.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 166

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 166

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 166

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 174** - Eliminate the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 148

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 125, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons and used more extensively in 2006 when directed fisheries on Kenai River sockeye salmon were closed for conservation reasons and the only tool available to harvest the abundance of Kasilof River sockeye salmon was the KRSHA. In 2007, this area was only used towards the end of the season in large part because the commissioner allowed commercial fishing during the closed windows in the Kasilof Section only.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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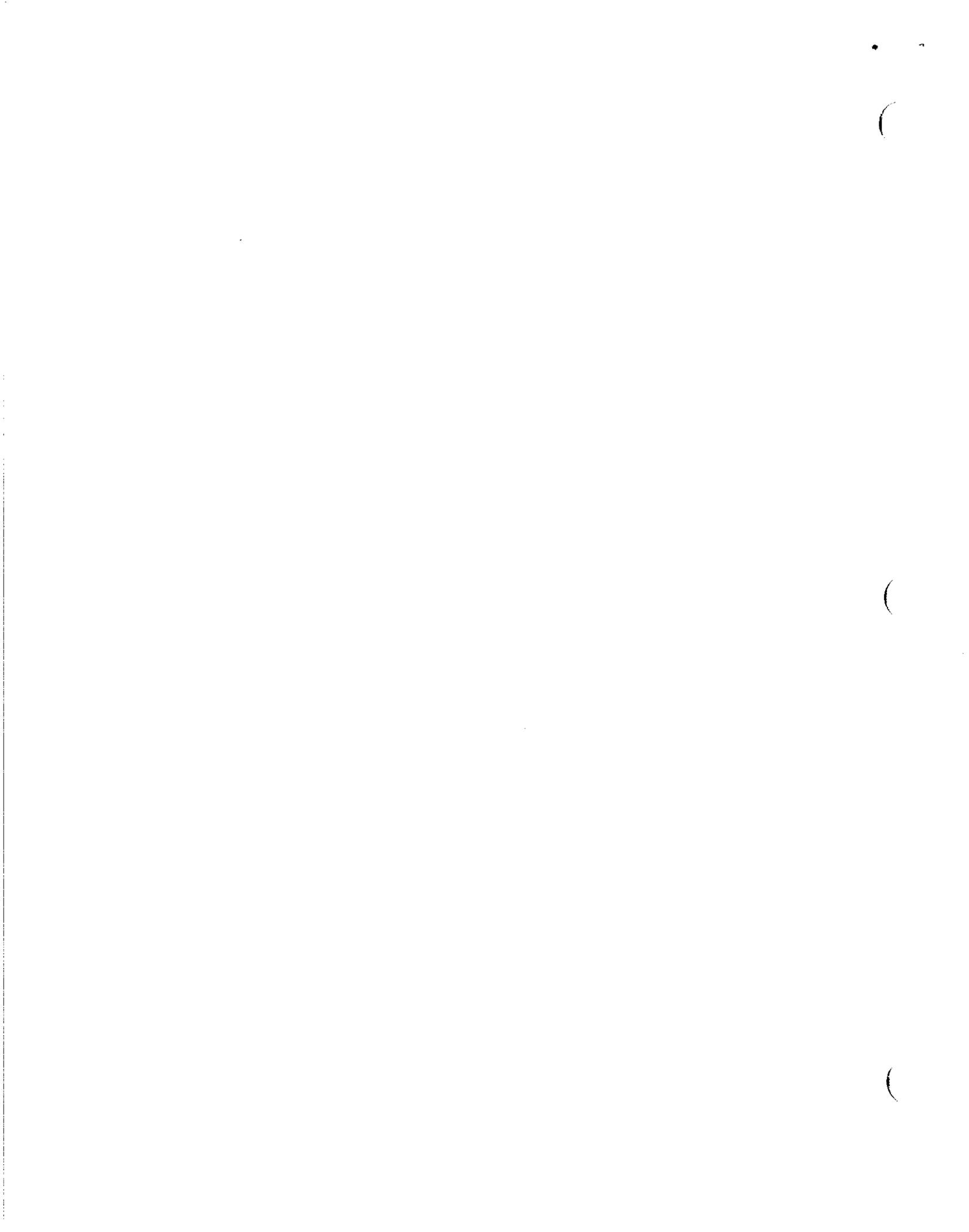
ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: None

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 175** - Establish the corridor or time limits on nets to increase number of kings entering the Kasilof River during July.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 149

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons and used more extensively in 2006 when directed fisheries on Kenai River sockeye salmon were closed for conservation reasons and the only tool available to harvest the abundance of Kasilof River sockeye salmon was the KRSHA. In 2007, this area was only used towards the end of the season in large part because the commissioner allowed commercial fishing during the closed windows in the Kasilof Section only.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- No comments

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: No Comments

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 176** - Modify the Kasilof River late-run king salmon periods.

**Taken up with Proposal 172**

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons and used more extensively in 2006 when directed fisheries on Kenai River sockeye salmon were closed for conservation reasons and the only tool available to harvest the abundance of Kasilof River sockeye salmon was the KRSHA. In 2007, this area was only used towards the end of the season in large part because the commissioner allowed commercial fishing during the closed windows in the Kasilof Section only.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 172

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 172

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 172

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC supports



Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None



**PROPOSAL 170** - Open the South Kenai Beach district whenever necessary to harvest in the Kasilof terminal area.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 152

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 125, 127, 130, and 131.

### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area was developed by the BOF in 1986 to be used in a year when the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is strong while the Kenai River sockeye salmon run is either average or below. The KRSHA has been opened by emergency order in three of the last four seasons and used more extensively in 2006 when directed fisheries on Kenai River sockeye salmon were closed for conservation reasons and the only tool available to harvest the abundance of Kasilof River sockeye salmon was the KRSHA. In 2007, this area was only used towards the end of the season in large part because the commissioner allowed commercial fishing during the closed windows in the Kasilof Section only.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

### **Support:**

- Would make an orderly fishery on the set net end of things and would pull setnet in to 600 feet out and give management an option
- Would run in concurrence with the terminal fishery.
- Concerns about the ½ mile fishery in that too many kings were harvested, drift possibly would give 2/3 of that up to fish the terminal fishery.
- Because these fishermen are close to the terminal fishery, expanding would leave room for other fishermen to move down from further up the beach to have some room and reasonable opportunity to fish.
- Concern that board take some action to improve the last tool or management action and make more manageable and spread out the distance to add a 600 foot boundary.
- Average quality would be improved and an additional small slice of beach would keep setnet out of special harvest area.
- Would solve a lot of problems and become effective without impacting Kenai River stocks.

### **Opposition:**

- Part of the concept is good to reduce the impact but wouldn't solve problem of special harvest area; would still be too many people with too small an area.

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- Have to provide some opportunity for everybody if move out of the terminal area.
- Kasilof fishermen don't like the terminal fishery
- Supposed to be used as last resort and supposed to be rarely if ever used. Last tool in the tool box because of overescapement that realized less than escapement
- Has been used more frequently because of windows later in '05 put in the SHA.
- When SHA in effect then no drifters in district and ND should be fine. Have to have minimum distance between gear.
- EO option should be tied in to give ADF&G flexibility to manage. Drifter area shouldn't be reduced.
- RC 205 shows that nets closest to the beach are taking Kasilof fish.

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral/Oppose

AC Positions: No comments

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on Proposal 181

Substitute Language: None

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**PROPOSAL 171** - Move guided sport fishing regulations out of commercial fishing regulations.

Staff Reports: RC 3 & 4

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 153

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab

Record Comments: RC 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 103, 119, 122, 127, 130, and 131.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan was first adopted following the 1985 season. In 2002 many other provisions were added including the sport fish regulations. The department considers this a housekeeping proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comments

**Support:**

- Housekeeping to put in the proper regulatory framework – move to SF regs

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:**

- No comments

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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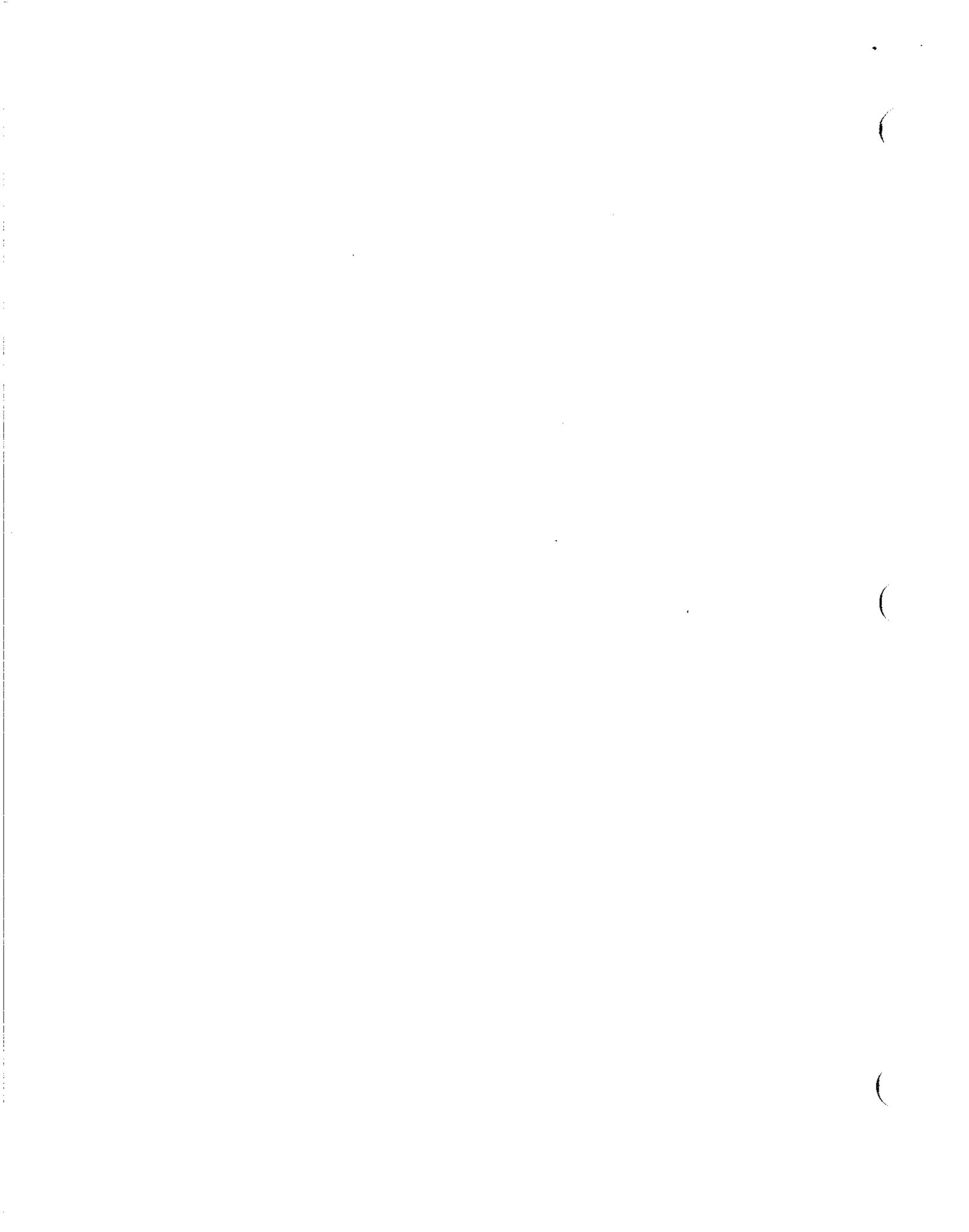
ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions: Anchorage and Central Peninsulas support

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support; viewed as housekeeping proposal.

Substitute Language: None



Alaska Board of Fisheries  
**DRAFT** Committee Report  
Kenai Peninsula Personal Use/Kenai River Resident Species  
**COMMITTEE D**  
**RC#104**  
**February 6, 2008**

**Regional Review**

CF Regional Supervisor or designee

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SF Regional Supervisor or designee

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Subsistence Regional Supervisor or designee

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**HQ Review**

Patti Nelson or designee

---

Rob Bentz or designee

---

Elizabeth Andrews or designee

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Kerri Tonkin (if Substitute language is presented) \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Members**

List BOF member names

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1. Mel Morris – Chair
  2. Howard Delo
  3. Jeremiah Campbell
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ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT

RC # 104  
COMMITTEE D

Kenai Peninsula Personal Use/Kenai River Resident Species  
February 6, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. Mel Morris – Chair
  2. Howard Delo
  3. Jeremiah Campbell
- 

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Jack Erickson - Sport Fish Division: Regional Research Coordinator
2. Robert Begich - Sport Fish Division: Area Management Biologist, Soldotna
3. Tom Vania - Sport Fish Division: Regional Management Coordinator
4. Tony Eskelin - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
5. Jason Pawluk - Sport Fish Division: Asst. Area Management Biologist, Soldotna
6. Al Cain - Sport Fish Division: Statewide Enforcement Liaison
7. Kristine Dunker - Sport Fish Division: Regional Coordinator for Personal Use and Invasive Species
8. Jim Hasbrouck - Sport Fish Division: Regional Supervisor
9. Charlie Swanton: Director of Sport Fish
10. Matt Miller - Sport Fish Division: Area Management Biologist, Anchorage
11. Chuck Brazil – Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Anchorage
12. Rob Bentz - Sport Fish Division: Deputy Director
13. Rob Massengill (notetaker) - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
14. Patti Berkhahn (notetaker) - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Diane Dubuc – Seward AC
2. Any Szczesny - Cooper Landing AC
3. Zach Stubbs - Anchorage AC
4. Gary Diamond - Central Peninsula AC
5. Mike Crawford - Kenai/Soldotna AC

Public Panel Members:

1. George - Heim – self
2. Ken Federico - SCADA
3. Don Rapp - self (absent)
4. Ted Wellman - self
5. Ty Wyatt - KRSA
6. Dick Erkeneff - KRSA
7. Dennis Gease - SCADA
8. Jack Dean – self
9. Dwight Kramer – self

10. Monte Roberts – KRPGA
11. Ed O’Conner – KRPGA
12. Paul Shadura – SOKI (absent)
13. Bruce King – KAFC
14. Gary Sisk – self
15. Eldon Mulder - self

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rod Campbell – USFWS/OSM
2. Dave Nelson - National Park Service

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The Committee met on February 4 at 8:30 am and adjourned on February 4 at 12:00 pm.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (31 Total) 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252

**PROPOSAL 211** - Prohibit dipnetting on the Kenai River until the BEG is met as follows:

The dipnet fishery starts after 450,000 biological escapement goal reached.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 155

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 RC 16, RC 89 and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 2, RC4 tab 5, RC 34, RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The management plan in regulation provides direction to liberalize and to also restrict the fishery based upon meeting abundance goals outlined in the plan when circumstances require. The fishery was liberalized in the past by increasing the daily hours the fishery is open and was the result of the sockeye salmon runs that were projected to be greater than 2.0 million fish during those years. This fishery has also been restricted in the past.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- This is relatively new fishery on a fully allocated stock
- Needed tool to reach minimum escapements on low returns
- PU fishery does not have a priority on sockeye salmon harvest

**Opposition:**

- Escapement goals have been met in recent times and sometimes exceeded
- Discriminates against some user groups
- Current regulations work, can liberalize or restrict as needed under current plan
- Condenses effort into a short window of time
- Effort already self-regulates based on abundance of fish
- Better to harvest throughout season

**SSFP:** (2-I) Are abundance trends monitored and considered in harvest management decisions?

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC – oppose, Seward AC – oppose, Central Peninsula AC – support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 212** - Close personal use dipnet fishery on Kenai River until escapement goals are met as follows:

Dipnetting on the Kenai River will commence only after the lower end of the BEG is reached at the counter.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 156

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 2, RC4 tab 5, RC 34, RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The management plan in regulation provides direction to liberalize and to restrict the fishery based upon meeting abundance goals outlined in the plan when circumstances require. This plan was in effect for the 1981 season and was later adopted as regulation by the board in 1982. The plan has undergone several amendments since that time. The fishery was liberalized in the past by increasing the hours fishery is open per day and was the result of the sockeye salmon runs that were projected to be greater than 2.0 million fish during those years.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment.

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 211

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 211

**SSFP:** Same as proposal 211

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC – oppose, Seward AC – oppose, Central Peninsula AC – support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - support

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 213** - Link the opening date of the Kenai River personal use dip net fishery to abundance of sockeye salmon by not allowing the dip net fishery to begin until some number of sockeye has passed the Department sonar by certain dates.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 158, RC 34

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 RC 16, and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 2, RC4 tab 5, RC 34, RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The management plan in regulation provides direction to liberalize and to also restrict the fishery based upon meeting abundance goals outlined in the plan when circumstances require. This plan was in effect for the 1981 season and was later adopted as regulation by the Board in 1982. The plan has undergone several amendments since that time. The fishery was liberalized in the past by increasing the daily hours the fishery is open and was the result of the sockeye salmon runs that were projected to be greater than 2.0 million fish during those years.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 211 & 212

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 211 & 212

**SSFP:** Same as proposal 211 & 212

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC – oppose; Seward AC – oppose, Central Peninsula AC – support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - support

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 214** - Extend dipnet season on Kenai River as follows:

This proposal would allow the Kenai River personal use dip net fishery season to be extended if it was previously closed then reopened inseason by emergency order.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 160

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC7 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 16, RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Beginning with the 1996 season, the Board established a season of July 10 - August 5 (later amended to July 31) for the dip net fishery in the Kenai River. The Kenai River personal use dip net fishery was closed inseason by emergency order in 1998 due to a weak return of late-run sockeye salmon to the Kenai River and in 2006 due to a late return. From 1999-2001, the Kenai River personal use dip net fishery was not liberalized or restricted due to the average strengths of the sockeye salmon runs. The Kenai River personal use dip net fishery was liberalized annually during the 2002-2005 and 2007 seasons

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment.

**Support:**

- Some agree with intent of adding lost days due to an earlier closure

**Opposition:**

- Concern over additional king salmon and coho harvest during an extension
- Prefer that liberalization is handled inseason by E.O.

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC - oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 215** - Increase harvest opportunity in personal use fishery in Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:

5 AAC 77.540 (c)(1)(B) is amended to read:

- (i) The annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that only one king salmon may be retained per household and,
- (ii) When sockeye salmon in-river run strength exceeds 850,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19, the annual head of household limit is 50 salmon and an additional 15 salmon for each dependant of the permit holder.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 161

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 89

### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The 1999-2003 average harvest of sockeye salmon in the Kenai River is nearly 163,000 fish. From 2004-2006, sockeye salmon harvest has averaged 228,652 fish. The permit returns for the Cook Inlet personal use fisheries for the years 2004 - 2006 indicate that an average of 22% of permit holders obtained the allowable permit limit. A larger percentage of households with 2 or less individuals attained the allowable permit limit (average=14%), compared to the percentage of household with more than 2 individuals (average=7%) from 2004 - 2006

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

### **Support:**

- Opportunity to increase harvest during returns of relative high abundance
- Would only happen late in the season
- Give ADF&G another tool to prevent over escapement
- Allows residents to participate and receive some of the fish in years of high abundance
- Currently the only additional fishing time would be at night

### **Opposition:**

- Need a habitat study before any increase because the river is being abused by overuse
- Why lock into 850K – other issues involved confounding this proposal
- Current bag limit is already adequate
- City of Kenai is stressed- financial loss has occurred lately, there are issues with needing more police protection, trash issues, need fencing for dunes
- King salmon harvest doubled between 2004-2007
- Might raise false expectation of success with public

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: None

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 216** - Increase Kasilof River personal use household limit as follows:

If the upper end of the OEG is projected to be exceeded, then additional opportunity may be provided by increasing the fishing area, extending the area, and/or doubling the personal and household limit.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 163

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 16, and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. By regulation the Kasilof River personal use fishery occurs 24 hours per day. High sockeye passage rates and inriver returns projected to be greater than the upper end of the OEG range warranted liberalization of the dip net fishery in 2004-2007 by emergency order. The liberalizations included an increase in the area open to dip netting from shore from the ADF&G markers located in Cook Inlet outside the river mouth upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge. In addition, the area from which fish could be dip netted from a boat was increased from approximately river mile 1 to about river mile 3. From 2004-2006 sockeye salmon harvest has averaged 49,203 in the Kasilof River dip net fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Kasilof River has exceeded sockeye escapement most recent years
- Allows for increased opportunity

**Opposition:**

- Shoreline habitat loss likely – beach/dune loss is possible
- Lack of infrastructure to support increased use/ no facilities on south side of river
- Bathrooms are needed first
- Parking and access issues

**SSFP:** (1-E) Habitat Loss is a concern, (3) Have not addressed how to handle the increase human activities/use of this fishery– possible degradation of water and shoreline habitat.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: None

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 218** - Lower annual limits for personal use salmon harvest to 20 for head of household and 5 for each dependent and no more than 50% of limit may be taken from the Kenai River as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(c)...the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is **20** [25] salmon for the head of household and **5** [10] salmon for each dependant of the permit holder. **However, no more than 50 percent of the annual limit may be taken from the Kenai River.**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 167

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 16, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. From 2004-2006 sockeye salmon harvest have averaged 228,700; 27,000 and 49,200 in the Kenai River dip net, Kasilof River set gillnet and Kasilof River dip net fisheries, respectively. Permit returns for the Cook Inlet personal use fisheries for the years 2004 - 2006 indicate that an average of 22% of permit holders attained the allowable permit limit. A larger percentage of households with 2 or less individuals attained the allowable permit limit (average=14%), compared to the percentage of household with more than 2 individuals (average=7%) from 2004 - 2006.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- See proposal 216 opposition comments
- Existing triggers in the plan already work well

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Consensus to oppose - same as proposal 217

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 217** - Reduce personal use fishery limit to 5 salmon per person, 25 per household as follows:

Personal use limit is 5 salmon per person or 25 per household.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 165

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 16, PC 2

Record Comments: RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. From 2004-2006 sockeye salmon harvest have averaged 228,700; 27,000 and 49,200 in the Kenai River dip net, Kasilof River set gillnet and Kasilof River dip net fisheries, respectively. Permit returns for the Cook Inlet personal use fisheries for the years 2004 - 2006 indicate that an average of 22% of permit holders attained the allowable permit limit. A larger percentage of households with 2 or less individuals attained the allowable permit limit (average=14%), compared to the percentage of household with more than 2 individuals (average=7%) from 2004 – 2006.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- No comment

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 218

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Seward AC – oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC – oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 219** - Lower annual limits for personal use salmon harvest to 15 for head of household and 5 for each dependent as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(c)...the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permits is **15** [25] salmon for the head of household and **5** [10] salmon for each dependent of the permit holder.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 168

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. From 2004-2006 sockeye salmon harvest have averaged 228,700, 27,000 and 49,200 in the Kenai River dip net, Kasilof River set gillnet and Kasilof River dip net fisheries, respectively. Permit returns for the Cook Inlet personal use fisheries for the years 2004 - 2006 indicate that an average of 22% of permit holders attained the allowable permit limit. A larger percentage of households with 2 or less individuals attained the allowable permit limit (average=14%), compared to the percentage of household with more than 2 individuals (average=7%) from 2004 - 2006.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- No comment

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposals 217 & 218

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Consensus to oppose - same as proposal 217 & 218

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 220** - Prohibit personal use dipnets with mesh size over 2 1/2 inches as follows:

A personal use dipnet cannot have a mesh size more than 2 1/2 inch in stretched length.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 170

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 16, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The decreased harvest is an allocative issue rather than a biological issue. The regulation which stipulates the maximum mesh size allowed for use with a ‘dip net’ is a statewide provision under 5 AAC 39.105 and would need to be addressed statewide in order to ensure regulatory consistency. A uniform statewide standard is easier to enforce. Alaska Wildlife Troopers reports that abuse of net size is minimal and only a few cases of gear violations have been cited in the personal use fisheries in recent years. This regulation was in response to staff and public observation indicating more fish were “gilled” than “dipped” when larger mesh was used. At that time, the Board agreed that smaller mesh should be used to ensure that the fish were dipped. There is no restriction on the material that can be used to form the dip net bag.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Note: Author of proposal (not present) was concerned that released king salmon have damaged gills when larger mesh is used

**Opposition:**

- Would prolong time to get fish – counter productive to getting in and out
- Enforcement concerns, different mesh sizes would exist amongst differing statewide PU fisheries
- Violations likely- need Statewide regulations to be consistent
- No conservation concern warrants this proposal

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC - oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 221** - Implement motor type restriction for dip net fishing from vessel as follows:

Amend this regulation to prohibit personal use dip netting on the Kenai River from a vessel that has on board a motor that is not a four-stroke or direct fuel injection two-stroke motor beginning in 2010.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 171

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 44, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 9, RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department submitted and supports this proposal. However, the department recommends that this proposal be modified to begin when the changes to the DNR regulations are implemented. A coordinated effort will better enable DEC to measure and report changes to hydrocarbon levels within their waterbody recovery plan. It targets hydrocarbon emissions from vessels operating in the personal use dip net fishery on the lower Kenai River during July. Although the contribution of hydrocarbon pollution by the dip net fishery is undetermined, this measure is consistent with an element of the Board adopted policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries that salmon habitat in fresh water should be protected on a watershed basis including appropriate management of water quality. The Upper Cook Inlet personal use salmon fisheries are managed by the department under the terms of the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 77.540).

Those harvesting salmon by boat in the personal use fishery are not restricted with regard to outboard motor. The ADF&G, DEC, & DNR have been working together to put controls in place that will return this waterbody back into compliance with state water quality standards. DNR has adopted regulation changes in Title 11 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with boat and motor restrictions in the KRSMA. The regulations are planned to take effect beginning March 1, 2008, requiring 1) all power boats operating in the KRSMA during July to use either four-stroke or DFI two-stroke motors, 2) all power boats between 35 and 50 horsepower and operating in the KRSMA must have either four-stroke or DFI two-stroke motors year round.

This action by DNR would still leave the area of the personal use dip net fishery susceptible to exceeding state water quality standards and possibly preventing a delisting from the impaired waterbody list

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Large tides push hydrocarbons upstream from dipnet fishery so this is needed
- Would align efforts to bring compliance with Statewide water quality standards
- Water quality standards are now exceeded at times
- Everyone needs to share the burden- should be applied to all user groups below the bridge, not just PU fishers

**Opposition:**

- There is a need to allow commercial fishing interests to access tidewater with 2-stroke for shuttling crew and tendering
- Below Warren Ames bridge is an industrial area
- Amount of PU contribution to hydrocarbon level is unknown

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions: Anchorage AC supports as written, Central Peninsula AC – was split on issue, Seward AC consensus to support with modified date

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support; with a start date in 2008, make it uniform

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: 5 AAC 77.540(c)(1)(C) is amended to read:

(c) Salmon may be taken by dip net in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:

(C) from a boat, **powered by a motor that is either a four-stroke or a direct fuel injection two-stroke**, in the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge;

**PROPOSAL 222** Restrict 2-stroke motor boat use in personal use fishery as follows:

One option for consideration could be, under the heading “all boats” add: **During July no one with a 2-stroke motor (other than DFI) may fish or participate in the personal use motorized dipnet fishery except; From those boats with a current AK boat registration number who’s last number is odd may fish only on odd numbered days an those with last numbers that are even may fish on even numbered days.**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 173

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 9 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. The Department is supportive of taking action to reduce hydrocarbon contributions from vessels operating in the personal use dip net fishery on the lower Kenai River during July. However, this proposal still allows a source of hydrocarbon pollution to persist in the lower Kenai River during July. The Upper Cook Inlet personal use salmon fisheries are managed by the Department under the terms of the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 77.540). Those harvesting salmon by boat in the personal use fishery are not restricted with regard to outboard motor. The ADF&G, DEC, & DNR have been working together to put controls in place that will return this waterbody back into compliance with state water quality standards. DNR has adopted regulation changes in Title 11 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with boat and motor restrictions in the KRSMA. The regulations are planned to take effect beginning March 1, 2008, requiring 1) all power boats operating in the KRSMA during July to use either four-stroke or DFI two-stroke motors, 2) all power boats between 35 and 50 horsepower and operating in the KRSMA must have either four-stroke or DFI two-stroke motors year round.

This action by DNR would still leave the area of the personal use dip net fishery susceptible to exceeding state water quality standards and possibly preventing a delisting from the impaired waterbody list.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- No comment

**Opposition:**

- KAFC submitted this proposal but later withdrew its support

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: No action based upon author withdrawing support of proposal

Public Panel Recommendation Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on withdraw of support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 223** Require motorized boats utilizing the personal use fishery to be anchored or without power while fishing as follows:

From a boat, in the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge; **vessels must be anchored with the engine off before fishing.** Or the alternative language of

**Vessels with 2-stroke outboard motor (other than DFI) are limited to 0.75 miles on upstream of the public boat launch and must be anchored with the engine off before fishing.** Or

**Vessels with 2-stroke outboard motor (other than DFI) are limited to the west side of the river from the downstream boundary marker upstream to the Kenai Landing dock and must be anchored with the engine off before fishing.**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 174

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 9, RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments:

#### **Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. The Department is supportive of taking action to reduce hydrocarbon contributions from vessels operating in the personal use dip net fishery on the lower Kenai River during July. However, it is unclear whether or not the aim of the proposal is to reduce a source of hydrocarbon pollution in the lower Kenai River or to change boat dip netting fishing methods. If this proposal is to make the fishery less efficient, then the department is neutral on the allocative aspect of the proposal. Decreased harvest in the personal use fishery is an allocative issue rather than a biological issue. The Upper Cook Inlet personal use salmon fisheries are managed by the department under the terms of the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 77.540). Those harvesting salmon by boat in the personal use fishery are not restricted with regard to outboard motor. The ADF&G, DEC, & DNR have been working together to put controls in place that will return this waterbody back into compliance with state water quality standards. DNR has adopted regulation changes in Title 11 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with boat and motor restrictions in the KRSMA. The regulations are planned to take effect beginning March 1, 2008, requiring 1) all power boats operating in the KRSMA during July to use either four-stroke or DFI two-stroke motors, 2) all power boats between 35 and 50 horsepower and operating in the KRSMA must have either four-stroke or DFI two-stroke motors year round.

This action by DNR would still leave the area of the personal use dip net fishery susceptible to exceeding state water quality standards and possibly preventing a delisting from the impaired waterbody list.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- No comment

**Opposition:**

- KAFC withdrew support

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Consensus to oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee: Recommendation: No action based on withdraw of support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 224** Allow rod and reel in personal use fishery and identify consumptive users as a person fishing for winter supply as follows:

Consumptive users should be identified as a person that is fishing to take their fish home for a winter food supply. I identify them in the regulations an individual that are using a rod and reel to collect the food supplies.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4, RC 34

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 176

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 16 and PC 2

Record Comments: RC 89

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. Introducing a less efficient gear type into a fishery designed for greater harvest efficiency will compromise the intent of the fishery and the public's recognition of the purpose of a personal use fishery. The introduction of a gear type that will conflict with the existing harvest methods is not supported by ADF&G. The areas in which personal use salmon fisheries occur in Upper Cook Inlet are generally not conducive to harvest of sockeye salmon with a rod and reel. The department is uncertain what the proposer is seeking regarding identifying consumptive users as a person fishing for winter food supply.

Open seasons, bag limits, types of legal gear and areas open to fishing are addressed within the regulatory framework established by the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Currently, there are three locations in Upper Cook Inlet that are open to personal use fishing with either a set gillnet or a dipnet. Those areas are the Kasilof and Kenai Rivers on the Kenai Peninsula and Fish Creek in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The designated areas that are open to personal use fishing in these three locations are all within the terminus areas of the specific river mouth and Cook Inlet. Legal fishing gear is restricted to a dipnet in the Kenai River and Fish Creek fisheries and either a set-gillnet or a dipnet in the Kasilof River, depending on the season.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- No comment

**Opposition:**

- Enforcement concerns with multiple gear/fisheries operating in same area and determining bag limits between sport and PU fishery even if areas are separate

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: No comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 236** Modify rainbow trout bag limits for Kenai River drainage lakes and ponds as follows:

Here is what it would say...(e) may be taken from January 1-December 31 in lakes and ponds of the Kenai River and Kenai lake Drainage; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length.

Eliminate entire "for the purpose of" subparagraph "stocked lakes and ponds" means .... Lake waters and flowing waters need to only be clarified. Don't always complicate things. This fishery is complicated enough already.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 177

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 25, PC 2 and PC 31

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. The current regulations for Kenai River drainage rainbow trout provide harvest opportunity, regulatory consistency and a fishery thought to be sustainable given the current level of participation. Twenty-seven Kenai Peninsula lakes are stocked with rainbow trout and other lakes and ponds supporting rainbow trout that are not in the Kenai River Drainage provide additional harvest opportunity under a bag limit of 5 fish per day. Currently, Kenai River drainage native rainbow trout are conservatively managed under the framework of the Board adopted statewide management policy for wild trout. This policy established in 2003 was developed by the Board and the department along with stakeholders and implemented throughout the state since its adoption. The policy has standardized the regulations for optimal sustained yield of wild trout stocks for waters in areas for which the Board has not established a regional trout management plan and adopted provisions of the plan as regulation. Specifically, conservative management for wild rainbow trout means a bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length, with an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Neutral. Increasing bag limit might cause conservation concerns for trout in non-stocked lakes; Federal subsistence bag limit are same as Sport Fish limit. See PC 31, RC 25

**Support:**

- Provides families opportunity to harvest more fish

**Opposition:**

- No need for this - currently ADF&G has an appropriate strategy in place for rainbow trout

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC - supports

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 237** - Modify rainbow trout bag limits for Kenai River drainage lakes and ponds as follows:

(E) may be taken from January 1 - December 31, in stocked lakes and ponds of the Kenai River and Kenai Lake drainage; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; for the purpose of this subparagraph, “stocked lakes and ponds” means Aurora Lake, Barbara Lake, Cabin Lake, Carter Lake, Cecille Lake, Chugach Estates Lakes, Douglas Lake, Elephant Lake, Island Lake, Longmere Lake, Loon Lake, Rainbow Lake, Scout Lake, Sport Lake, Thetis Lake, Tirmore Lake, and Vagt Lake;

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 178

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. The current regulations for Kenai River drainage rainbow trout provide harvest opportunity, regulatory consistency and a fishery thought to be sustainable given the current level of participation. Twenty-seven Kenai Peninsula lakes are stocked with rainbow trout and other lakes and ponds supporting rainbow trout that are not in the Kenai River drainage provide additional harvest opportunity under a bag limit of 5 fish per day.

Currently native Kenai River drainage rainbow trout are conservatively managed under the framework of the board-adopted statewide management standards for wild trout. This plan established in 2003 was developed by the department along with stakeholders and has been implemented in various areas throughout the state over the past several years. Its use has standardized the management regulations for the optimal sustained yield of wild trout stocks for waters in areas for which the board has not established a regional trout management plan and adopted provisions of the plan as regulations. Specifically, conservative management for wild rainbow trout means a bag and possession limit of two fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length, with an annual limit of two fish 20 inches or greater in length. The board adopted the statewide standards for lakes of the Kenai River drainage.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- More fish provide a meal when fish are small
- Enough fish available to support a harvest of 5 fish

**Opposition:**

- In many lakes of interest, rainbow trout native to the Kenai River will overwinter there so they need protection -not just while inhabiting the river during open water season.

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC – supports; Cooper Landing AC – None; Kenai/Soldotna AC – oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 238** - Expand rainbow trout spawning closure from the outlet of Skilak Lake to the Upper Killey River to include Dolly Varden as follows:

No fishing from April 15 - June 11 on the Kenai River from 1/4 mile of the outlet of Skilak Lake downstream to the upper (northern) edge of the Upper Killey River.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 180

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department supports this proposal with modifications to extend the area of closure to fishing for Dolly Varden and rainbow trout from the Moose River upstream to the waters of Skilak Lake within one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet at Skilak Lake from May 2 through June 10. This change would align the rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fishing seasons in the waters below Skilak Lake to the Moose River with the fishing season above Skilak Lake. The principal regulatory measures to meet the management objective of a sustainable wild rainbow trout fishery in the Kenai River are the spring closure and maximum size limit regulations. The spawning closure is consistent with the Board adopted policy for the management of sustainable wild trout fisheries as it protects wild trout stocks within the trout's spawning habitats. This regulation would also serve to discourage illegal fishing activities.

The current regulations were adopted in 2005 as a result of considering several proposals related to the Kenai River rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fisheries. The new regulations resulted in a net gain in fishing time and area, allowed harvest opportunity, and a more consistent regulatory framework for both species throughout the drainage. However while closed to rainbow trout fishing from May 2–June 10 the area from the mouth of the Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake remained open to fishing for Dolly Varden. Maturity samples collected from Kenai River rainbow trout during the spring from 1998-2002 were used to develop the spawning season closure dates. As indicated by the numbers of spawning rainbow trout in the samples collected across all years, spawning occurred from late in April through mid-June.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Support

**Support:**

- Prevents anglers fishing for rainbow trout/salmon under the guise of Dolly Varden fishing.
- Some support only the proposed ADF&G amended date change
- Provides consistency in regulations; keep middle and upper river closures the same
- Helps protect rainbow trout resource
- KAFC supports as written but supports consistency between closures on the river; keep middle and upper river closures the same; supports mid-May closure.

**Opposition:**

- A total fishing closure between Moose and Killey Rivers would prevent sockeye fishing – popular now near Bings Landing
- Some unhappy with dates suggestions ( May 2-June 10 vs. May 15-June 10) either too restrictive or not long enough
- Need to close to all species to avoid enforcement difficulties – it’s hard to say what you are fishing for
- Would like to see the entire river closed during this period to protect spawning rainbows

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions: Seward AC supports amended area language; Cooper Landing AC opposes proposed amended date language, they want to begin closure on May 15.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support to total fishing closure in the area above Upper Killey River. No consensus on proposed dates

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language

Substitute Language: 5 AAC 57.121(2) is amended with a new subparagraph to read:

(2) the following waters of the Kenai River are closed to sport fishing, as follows:

**(K) from May 2 - June 10, in the Kenai River from the mouth of the Upper Killey River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake;**

**PROPOSAL 239** - Reduce spawning closure season for rainbow trout as follows:

Move the beginning date of the spawning season closure from May 1 back to May 15. The ending date can remain the same (June 11).

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 182

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. The current regulations for Kenai River drainage rainbow trout provide harvest opportunity, regulatory consistency and a fishery thought to be sustainable given the current level of participation. The current regulations were adopted in 2005 as a result of considering several proposals related to the Kenai River rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fisheries.

The new regulations resulted in a net gain in fishing time and area, allowed harvest opportunity, and a more consistent regulatory framework for both species throughout the drainage. However while closed to rainbow trout fishing from May 2–June 10 the area from the mouth of the Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake remained open to fishing for Dolly Varden. Maturity samples collected from Kenai River rainbow trout during the spring from 1998-2002 were used to develop the spawning season closure dates. As indicated by the numbers of spawning rainbow trout in the samples collected across all years, spawning occurred from late in April through mid-June.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Oppose

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 238

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 238

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Same as proposal 238

Public Panel Recommendation: Same as proposal 238

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based upon proposal 238

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 240** - Prohibit all sport fishing during the rainbow trout spawning closure as follows:

Leave the entire fishery closed until June 15.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 183

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. Closing this area to all sport fishing unnecessarily restricts fishing opportunity on salmon species. The department does support aligning the Arctic Char/Dolly Varden and rainbow/steelhead trout seasons as described in our comments under proposal 238.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Oppose

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 238

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 238

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: Same as proposal 238

Public Panel Recommendation: Same as proposal 238

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based upon proposal 238

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 241** - Prohibit removing rainbow trout from the water during spawning closure as follows:

(6) rainbow/steelhead trout

**(F) from May 2 – June 10, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a rainbow/steelhead trout from the water;**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 185

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29, and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department submitted and supports this proposal. The Department recognizes that a consistent spring closure to rainbow trout fishing throughout the drainage would make this regulation unnecessary. A resolution to the issue of rainbow trout fishing during the spring spawning closure is to extend the area of closure to fishing for Dolly Varden and rainbow trout from the Moose River upstream to the waters of Skilak Lake within one-half mile radius of the Kenai River inlet at Skilak Lake from May 2 through June 10. This change would align the rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fishing seasons in the waters below Skilak Lake to the Moose River with the fishing season above Skilak Lake. The principal regulatory measures to meet the management objective of a sustainable wild rainbow trout fishery in the Kenai River are the spring closure and maximum size limit regulations. The spawning closure is consistent with the Board adopted policy for the management of sustainable wild trout fisheries as it protects wild trout stocks within the trout's spawning habitats. This would also serve to discourage illegal fishing activities.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Some on panel prefer to support proposals 238 & 239, but if they fail, would support this proposal
- Removing fish for a picture is often the primary attraction for this fishery, but doing so can stress fish

**Opposition:**

- Some would oppose this proposal only if 238/239 is not amended to get consensus with the dates of closure.

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support, but proposal is unnecessary if rainbow trout and Dolly Varden season closures align

AC Positions: Same as proposal 238

Public Panel Recommendation: Would support if proposals 238 and 239 fail

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based upon proposal 238

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 242** - Prohibit removing rainbow trout or Dolly Varden from the water in catch and release fishing as follows:

In the Kenai River, rainbow trout/Dolly Varden may not be removed from the water after they are caught if they are to be released.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 186

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this proposal because it is a social issue not a biological one. Rainbow trout fishing is closed during spawning to protect the breeding segment of the population during an important stage of their life history. Proper catch and release handling throughout the remainder of the year that includes removing small fish from the water prior to release may largely be a philosophical argument since there is evidence to suggest that it does not have a significant impact on viability or cause increased mortality, when done properly. The photograph of a rainbow trout or a Dolly Varden may be considered as the harvest for many anglers who practice catch and release. Data points out the facts that catch of these species in the Kenai River is high in relation to their abundance indicating that many survive multiple captures repeatedly. Enforcement may currently issue citations to those excessively handling a fish after it is removed from the water under the definition of “molesting” which in part includes dragging, kicking, throwing, striking, or otherwise abusing a fish that is intended to be released.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Removing from water stresses the fish - particularly for large fish
- People have observed stressed fish from being removed for photos, etc.
- Similar regulation already in place for king salmon and steelhead

**Opposition:**

- Most folks take good care of fish prior to release, just need to educate others on how to handle fish
- Trophy fish are “picture worthy”
- Trout population is healthy – no conservation concern
- Could cause economic impact to some guide businesses – careful handling already observed
- This is a social issue – population is healthy

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC wrote this but did not unanimously approve it; Kenai/Soldotna AC opposes; Central Peninsula AC supports.

Public Panel Recommendation No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 243** - Require single, barbless hooks in Kenai River upstream of Lower Killey River from August 21 - June 10 as follows:

Only single, barbless hooks may be used in the flowing waters of the Kenai River drainage from the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream from August 21 through June 10 each year.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 188

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC29, and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal because there is no biological evidence to support the conclusion that fishing with barbless hooks will result in a measurable increase in the abundance of rainbow trout or Dolly Varden. The area and dates specified under this proposal are already managed primarily under unbaited, one single-hook, artificial lure only regulations.

The current management objectives for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fisheries of the Kenai River are:

1. To provide the opportunity for angler participation at a level that can be supported by the fisheries resource and associated habitat.
2. To ensure, through appropriate management and research programs, that the rainbow trout and Dolly Varden populations do not decline below levels necessary to ensure sustained yield.

Based upon the increases in population size of rainbow trout as well as high catch rates of both rainbow trout and Dolly Varden the management objectives for these fisheries are being met.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (for proposals 243-245) Oppose all because all are gear restrictions that reduce efficiency of subsistence fishery.

**Support:**

- Would reduce head/eye/jaw damage.

**Opposition:**

- Mouth damaged fish appear healthy
- Some want barbed hooks for silver fishing
- Complicates the regulations
- Population is healthy – no conservation concern
- Enforcement for crimped or debarbed hook regulation is difficult
- Hard to land silvers with barbless hooks
- Numerous studies between barbed and barbless hooks shows no significant difference in mortality of released fish

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Opposed

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC – None - but says it is important to discuss this issue, recognizes it is hard to enforce; Kenai/Soldotna AC opposed; Central Peninsula AC – oppose; KAFC is neutral because it is a social issue

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 244** - Require barbless hooks for rainbow trout or Dolly Varden in the Kenai River as follows:

Any angler targeting rainbow trout or Dolly Varden in the Kenai must use barbless hooks or hooks with pinched barbs, with a hook gap no greater than 3/8”.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 191

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29, RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC , RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal because there is no biological evidence to support the conclusion that fishing with barbless hooks will result in a measurable increase in the abundance of rainbow trout or Dolly Varden. The area and dates specified under this proposal are already managed primarily under unbaited, one single-hook, artificial lure only regulations.

The current management objectives for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fisheries of the Kenai River are:

1. To provide the opportunity for angler participation at a level that can be supported by the fisheries resource and associated habitat.
2. To ensure, through appropriate management and research programs, that the rainbow trout and Dolly Varden populations do not decline below levels necessary to ensure sustained yield.

Based upon the increases in population size of rainbow trout as well as high catch rates of both rainbow trout and Dolly Varden the management objectives for these fisheries are being met.

Federal Subsistence Same as proposal 243

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 243

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 243

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: Same as proposal 243

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 245** - Restrict gear for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden in portion of Kenai River as follows:

Ban the use of treble hooks, barbed hooks, and any hook larger than No. 6 size for fishing for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden in the Kenai River above its intersection with the Moose River. Use of smaller barbless hooks allow a good fishery and less injury to released fish.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 193

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal because there is no biological evidence to support the conclusion that fishing with barbless hooks will result in a measurable increase in the abundance of rainbow trout or Dolly Varden. The area and dates specified under this proposal are already managed primarily under unbaited, one single-hook, artificial lure only regulations. Furthermore, the variation in hook sizes for 6/0 hooks makes this section of the proposal ineffective and the inability to identify a 6/0 hook makes it unenforceable. There is a substantial variation among hook brands and styles as to what is designated as a 6/0 hook. Unless an enforcement officer could readily determine the brand and model of hook, it would be virtually impossible to determine if the hook was 6/0 or smaller. If the board adopts a hook size limitation, we recommend that hook requirements be defined by the following language: “a hook with gap between the point and shank greater than x/y inches” (3/8 inch, ½ inch, etc.).

The current management objectives for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden fisheries of the Kenai River are:

1. To provide the opportunity for angler participation at a level that can be supported by the fisheries resource and associated habitat.
2. To ensure, through appropriate management and research programs, that the rainbow trout and Dolly Varden populations do not decline below levels necessary to ensure sustained yield.

Based upon the increases in population size of rainbow trout as well as high catch rates of both rainbow trout and Dolly Varden the management objectives for these fisheries are being met.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Same as proposal 243.

**Support:**

- Author states that his concern for small fish (Dolly Varden) when caught with treble hooks because it stresses these fish - he'd be willing to omit hook size language.
- Similar comments from proposal 243

**Opposition:**

- No issue with hooks currently being used
- Manufactured hooks vary in size specification
- Similar comments from proposal 243

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: See proposal 243

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 246** - No fishing from anchored vessel in the swan sanctuary area, Skilak Lake /Kenai River from June 15 – December 31 as follows:

**No fishing from an anchored vessel from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign at approximately river mile 47 from June 15 - December 31.**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 195

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal addresses a social issue between competing uses of the river or a potential safety issue with no biological concerns that require Board action. Current DNR regulations stipulate that no one may anchor a boat such that it obstructs the primary traffic channel. U.S. Coast Guard regulations for inland waterways also state that obstruction of the navigable channel is prohibited for reasons of safety. Nonetheless, during the past several years members of the fishing public using this area of the river have complained of conflicting uses by powerboat and anchoring, drift boat fishermen.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Some support but suggest extending dates to entire year
- Current State Parks DNR regulation causes an enforcement issue because channel is not defined – this would eliminate this issue.
- Support this over concerns of “anchor dragging”
- Difficult to navigate stretch below Skilak Lake is a problem because anchored craft are clogging channel
- Some suggest amend this proposal to be germane to RM 47 only (Dunes area)
- Major sockeye spawning area

**Opposition:**

- Impacts silver fishery with the current dates proposed
- There is concern for local fisherman losing opportunity to fish the way they have for years and others fish it now without blocking main channel
- Difficult for enforcement – need to define “anchored” vessel and “navigational channel”

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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## ***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC supports as written; Central Peninsula supports; Kenai/Soldotna AC is concerned about anchor dragging but supports it

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with date change (Aug 1-Dec 31) and anchoring language inserted

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language

Substitute Language: Substitute language is amended as follows:

**No fishing from an anchored vessel from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign at approximately river mile 47 from August 1-December 31**

**“anchored vessel” means a vessel on which any device other than oars or paddles is used to slow or stop the downstream drift of the vessel.**

**PROPOSAL 247** - Eliminate size restriction on Dolly Varden for Kenai River as follows:

Dolly Varden - Entire Kenai River System - 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size restrictions.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 196

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department opposes this proposal. The current regulations for Dolly Varden incorporate important biological and social factors that the Board, Department, and stakeholders have previously reviewed.

Research indicates that approximately 30% of Dolly Varden female spawners are less than 18 inches. The proportion of female spawners less than 20 inches is nearly 70%. Within the two-inch range between 18 and 20 inches contains approximately 40% of the spawning female Dolly Varden. Length distributions for captured Dolly Varden indicate that 85% of all Dolly Varden are less than 20 inches and 70% are less than 18 inches. Providing for an 18 inch harvest limit protects twice as many female spawners as the 20 inch limit; 15% of the total population versus 7.5%, assuming that 50% of the total population are females. The abundance of Dolly Varden has not been estimated historically however, given that the majority of the reproductive segment in the population is protected under the current regulation the fishery is thought to be sustainable under the existing regulatory structure

Federal Subsistence Management Program: Opposed – current regulations are adequate

**Support:**

- No population concern or reason for restriction
- Folks want to keep a larger fish
- Easier, don't have to measure fish

**Opposition:**

- Larger females need protection
- Current regulations are sufficient to protect spawning females

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC opposed; Anchorage AC opposed; Kenai/Soldotna AC opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 248** - Increase the bag limit for Arctic Char in the Cooper Lake as follows:

Under Arctic Char/Dolly Varden “in lakes and ponds” add: Cooper Lake...5 per day / 5 in possession only (one) over 20” or longer.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 197

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6, RC 76 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this proposal. Although this proposal conflicts with the consistent regulatory package for Kenai River drainage Arctic Char/Dolly Varden. An acceptable solution in response to the low harvest levels and abundant population would be to align limits at Cooper Lake with the stocked lake limits for the Northern Kenai Peninsula Management Area. The estimated abundance of Arctic Char/Dolly Varden in Cooper Lake from the various models ranged from approximately 58,000 to 109,000 fish, however, the model likely to be the most accurate estimated the abundance at approximately 94,000 Arctic Char/Dolly Varden in Cooper Lake.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: – Neutral, \*Comment: fish density suggest bag limit increase is sustainable

**Support:**

- Population is underutilized
- More fish for the table
- No issue with 20 inch fish because none have been observed from a sample of 5,000
- Family orientated fishery

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC – supports; Anchorage AC – supports

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 249** - Amend this regulation to decrease the daily bag limit for lake trout in Hidden Lake as follows:

(6) in Hidden Lake, the bag and possession limit for lake trout is **one** [TWO] fish, with no size limit.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 198

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 76

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC6, PC 2 and PC 19

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department submitted and supports this proposal. The Department views this as a necessary action to ensure the sustainable harvest of lake trout from Hidden Lake. The estimated lake trout harvest from Hidden Lake exceeded the estimated yield potential for 25 of the last 29 years. The abundance, size or age structure of the lake trout population of Hidden Lake is not presently known nor is the historical size and age structure precisely known. Given these facts, there is concern that the Hidden Lake stock may have been overexploited to a level unable to ensure sustained yield.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment but noted the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge supports - see PC 19

**Support:**

- Lake trout have low productivity
- Total harvest exceeds estimated yield potential
- Access too easy

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Seward AC – support; Kenai/Soldotna AC – support.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 250** - Allow up to five lines to fish for northern pike fishing in Arc Lake and Scout Lake as follows:

5 AAC 57.121(1)(I)

(I) in **Arc Lake**, Mackey Lakes, Derks Lake, Sevena Lake, Cisca Lake, Union Lake, and the unnamed lakes on Tote Road, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice;

5 AAC 57.122(4)

**(F) in Scout Lake, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice;**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 200

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department submitted and supports this proposal. The department views this as a necessary housekeeping proposal to take action to reduce invasive northern pike in these waters. Northern pike are not native to the Kenai Peninsula. Through illegal stocking northern pike have established populations in several Northern Kenai Peninsula Management Area lakes. Recently northern pike were discovered in Arc Lake (2000) and Scout Lake (2005). These lakes were previously stocked by the Department and supported recreational fisheries for rainbow trout and land-locked king salmon. Since the discovery of northern pike stocking has been discontinued.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Housekeeping measure

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions: Consensus to support

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 251** - Allow up to five lines to fish for northern pike fishing in Stormy Lake as follows:

The new regulation would allow for five lines per person to be fished as long as the only species retained while fishing five lines is northern pike. In other words, if you are fishing more than two lines per person, you are not allowed to be in possession of any other species. Any fish other than pike, caught while fishing more than two lines must be returned to the water immediately.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 201

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department supports this proposal with modification to allow up to five lines to increase exploitation of northern pike during the winter fishery through the ice while maintaining current harvest levels of native species. The Department views this as a necessary action to reduce invasive northern pike in these waters. Northern pike are not native to the Kenai Peninsula. Through illegal stocking northern pike have established populations in several Northern Kenai Peninsula Management Area lakes. Recently northern pike were discovered in Arc Lake (2000) and Scout Lake (2005). These lakes were previously stocked by the Department and supported recreational fisheries for rainbow trout and land-locked king salmon. Since the discovery of northern pike stocking has been discontinued.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Housekeeping issue
- Some support this but are concerned that rainbow trout and Arctic Char in the lake could be overexploited - amended language would address this concern
- Need to reduce pike invading Swanson River
- Suggest amending language so it is only for ice-fishing

**Opposition:**

- No comments

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Consensus to support

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with amended language

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 252** - Prohibit releasing any northern pike while fishing in the Kenai Peninsula as follows:

It is illegal to release alive any sport, commercial, personal use, or subsistence caught northern pike to any waters of the Kenai Peninsula.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 33

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 202

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1

AC Reports: RC 5, RC 29 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, RC 6 and PC 2

Record Comments:

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The Department is neutral on this proposal to reduce the numbers of northern pike in Kenai Peninsula fresh waters. The provision of 5 AAC 75.065: Waste of fish or the intentional waste or destruction of any species of sport-caught fish is prohibited could be waived for northern pike to require retention without requiring consumption.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No comment.

**Support:**

- Helps reduce invasive pike issue
- Supports intent

**Opposition:**

- Wanton waste issue
- Enforcement issue – is a fish dead or alive upon release?

**SSFP:** Not discussed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral. enforcement concern over living status of released

AC Positions: Kenai/ Soldotna AC – supports; Seward AC opposed with split vote.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation

Substitute Language: None

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE E

Kenai / Kasilof River Salmon Sport Fisheries  
February 5, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. Howard Delo \* Chair
2. Vince Webster
3. Jeremiah Campbell

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Tom Vania – Regional Management Coordinator
2. Robert Begich – Area Management Biologist
3. Jason Pawluk – Assistant Area Management Biologist
4. Tim McKinley – Area Research Biologist
5. Rob Massengill - Research Biologist
6. Al Cain – Statewide Enforcement Liaison
7. Rob Bentz – Sport Fish Division Deputy Director
8. Jack Erickson – Regional Research Supervisor
9. Adam Reimer and Tony Eskelin – note takers

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Jim Stubbs - Anchorage Advisory Committee
2. Mike Crawford - Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee
3. Gary Deimon - Central Peninsula Advisory Committee
4. Frank Mullin and Marv Peters - Homer Advisory Committee
5. Andy Szczesny - Copper Landing Advisory Committee
6. Diane Debuc – Seward Advisory Committee

Public Panel Members:

1. George Heim –self
2. Steve McClure - self
3. Jerry Streiby - self
4. Joe Hanes - Kenai River Sport Fishing Association
5. Ty Wyatt - Kenai River Sport Fishing Association
6. Dennis Gease - South Central Alaska Dipnetter’s Association
7. Dwight Kramer- Kenai Area Fishermen’s Coalition
8. Mike Fenton - Kenai River Professional Guides Association
9. Mark Glassmaker – Kenai River Professional Guides Association
10. Dan Thompson - Processor/Kenai Wild
11. Joe Conners - Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council
12. Bruce King –Kenai Area Fishermen’s Coalition
13. Anthony Pennino - self

14. Gari Sisk - self
15. Jeff Beaudoin -self
16. Drew Sparlin - United Cook Inlet Drift Association
17. Gary Hollier - Kenai Peninsula Fisherman's Association
18. Steve Tvenstrup – United Cook Inlet Drift Association

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rod Campbell USFWS/OSM

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The Committee met on February 5 at 0830 and adjourned on February 5 at 1500.

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PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (42 Total) 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 92

**PROPOSAL 225** - Increase days allowed to retain naturally-produced king salmon in the Kasilof River as follows:

5 AAC 56.122(8)(A)(ii) a naturally-produced king salmon may be retained on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays only;

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 204

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 6-9)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. The department considers this a housekeeping proposal because an emergency order adding one extra day/week has been issued the last two seasons and will continue to be issued in the future. The addition of a third day provides the department the ability to more appropriately manage the run to achieve the SEG of naturally-produced early-run king salmon. The department's approach to management of naturally-produced king salmon is precautionary in the anticipation of a better understanding of king salmon production at Crooked Creek.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Additional harvest opportunity.
- May lead to additional hatchery harvest through increased angler effort.
- Some discussion about amending proposal to allow naturally-produced harvest on Sunday as opposed to Thursday.
- Considered housekeeping.

**Opposition:**

- None.

**SSFP:**

- None discussed.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Anchorage AC-support Sunday instead of Thursday.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 226** - Increase bag limit for hatchery stock king salmon on Kasilof River as follows:

Two fin clipped kings per day allowed January 1 through June 30.  
On days for wild fish - one clipped fin, one wild, or two clipped fin.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 206

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 6-9)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal as a method of increasing hatchery king salmon exploitation so that future surpluses can be utilized. The current SEG, set in 2001, is a range of 650 to 1,700 naturally produced fish. The numbers of naturally-produced king salmon in the escapement exceeded the goal in 2005 (1,903) and achieved the goal in 2006 (1,516) and 2007 (993), while escapement of surplus hatchery king salmon ranged from 652 to 1,052 king salmon. Total escapement of king salmon during 2002-2007 averaged over 3,300 fish.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Proposal is enforceable, healed adipose is easy to identify.
- Escapement goals have been exceeded in recent years so additional catch and release mortality is acceptable.
- Public desires to harvest all hatchery fish.

**Opposition:**

- Proposal may lead to increased catch and release mortality of naturally-produced king salmon.
- Proposal may lead to increased crowding.
- Proposal may create unrealistic expectations for anglers who associate large bag limits with excellent fishing.
- Impossible to harvest all hatchery fish.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may increase the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC and Kenai/Soldotna AC-opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 227** - Prohibit fishing after retaining a king salmon as follows:

January 1 through July 31, when you keep a king, you put your rod up.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 208

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal because it unduly restricts anglers that may want to fish primarily for sockeye salmon after they have retained a bag limit of king salmon. The department has been successful in achieving the goal range for naturally-produced early-run king salmon and is supportive of regulations to liberalize harvest of hatchery king salmon. Overall the department has no biological concern for either the early or late-runs that would warrant restricting anglers from continuing to fish for other species of fish after retaining a bag limit of king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- This proposal may reduce crowding.
- This proposal may reduce catch and release mortality.
- Some discussion about amending proposal to allow anglers to continue fishing for other species with other methods and means.
- Support using only fly fishing gear after retaining a king salmon.

**Opposition:**

- Reduces angler opportunity with no biological justification.
- Prevents fishing for sockeye and other species.
- Department is looking for ways to harvest more fish.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may decrease the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Anchorage and Kenai/Soldotna AC-oppose, Central Peninsula AC-support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 231** - Prohibit fishing from boat, July 1 through August 15, in portion of Kasilof River as follows:

From July 1 – August 15, fishing from any boat is prohibited from the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to the Slackwater Boat Ramp on the Kasilof River.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 213

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 10-15)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal but is supportive of its king salmon conservation attributes because it is consistent with a principle of the board adopted policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries, that salmon stocks should be protected within spawning habitats. The proposal also helps to prevent illegal fishing activity.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 228.
- Can still fish from bank.
- Most participants preferred this proposal instead of proposal 228.
- Some participants agreed to draft amended language allow fly fishing only gear for other species.
- Federal subsistence fishery may grow and increase harvest of kings.

**Opposition:**

- Some participants opposed suggested amended language (flyfishing only from boats).

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Anchorage, Homer, Central Peninsula and Kenai/Soldotna AC-support

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support closure but did not agree with date and area.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with amended language.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 228** - Designate portion of Kasilof River as a king salmon spawning sanctuary as follows:

Specifically designate the Kasilof River mainstem between the Sterling Highway Bridge and Tustumena Lake as a King salmon spawning sanctuary from July 1 through August 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 209

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 10-15)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal but is supportive of its king salmon conservation attributes because it is consistent with a principle of the board adopted policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries, that salmon stocks should be protected within spawning habitats. The proposal also helps to prevent illegal fishing activity.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31) Oppose. Current sport fishing regulations provide adequate protection during the proposed time period. Federal Subsistence regulations allow harvest until August 15, although no kings were harvested in 2007.

**Support:**

- Protects king salmon staging on their spawning grounds.
- Few coho salmon are present during proposed time and area.
- Some support for allowing fly fishing only gear during the proposed time and area.
- Some participants voiced a preference for proposal 231 in lieu of this proposal.

**Opposition:**

- More support for date restrictions than area restrictions.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may decrease the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC-opposed, Anchorage and Central Peninsula AC-Support

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support an August 15 date instead of August 31.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 231.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 229** - Prohibit power boats on Kasilof River as follows:

- (i) No power boats above Old Kasilof landing.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 211

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Habitat loss through riverbank erosion caused by power boat wakes has not been identified due to the relatively low level of power boat use. The department is neutral to the perceived social conflict between power boats and drift boats on the Kasilof River.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Would limit access to Tustemena Lake.
- Would limit access for home and cabin owners.
- Current regulations allow motor use downstream of Trujillos' s landing after done fishing.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna, Anchorage and Central Peninsula AC-opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 230** - Restrict motorized use on portion on Kasilof River as follows:

Above Trujillos and below slack water all year, no fishing or dipnetting from powerboats on the Kasilof River.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 212

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Habitat loss through riverbank erosion caused by power boat wakes has not been identified due to the relatively low level of power boat use. The department is neutral to the perceived social conflict between power boats and drift boats on the Kasilof River.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 229.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 232** - Allow motorized use during king salmon season on the Kasilof River as follows:

Motors are allowed.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 215

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is opposed to this proposal but is neutral on the social conflict between power boats and drift boats. The Kasilof River king salmon fishery provides a diverse drift boat king salmon fishing experience that is unique to Southcentral Alaska anglers and unique to king salmon fisheries connected to the Alaska road transportation system. Regulations have been developed around the understanding or the harvest potential of the drift boat and shore fishery. Allowing fishing from power boats prior to August 1 would likely result in changes in fishing patterns, higher exploitation rates and substantial regulatory actions in the future to ensure management objectives can be achieved.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Kasilof River is currently a drift boat fishery.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 233** - Allow anchoring of boats in portion of Kasilof River known as the Peoples Hole as follows:

Allow boats to drop anchor in this area for the sole purpose of netting a hooked king. All other lines in the boat should be in.

or

Allow non-guided boat's to anchor in this area while fishing.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 216

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 16)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal due to the social aspects of this proposal. To provide some parity in fishing opportunity given the very limited public access to sport fish from shore on the lower Kasilof River and to support a diversity of fishing experiences for the Kasilof River king salmon fishery the board reached a compromise in 2002 with both user groups to allow fishing from vessels in the river section. However, sport fishing was prohibited from an anchored vessel.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Some participants supported concept but opposed as written.
- Inability to anchor while landing fish may be a safety issue when fishery is crowded.
- Facilitates landing a fish quicker.

**Opposition:**

- Changes to current language may prove difficult to enforce or easy to exploit.
- Increased conflicts between boat anglers and shore anglers.
- North Shore is conducive to pulling to shore and landing a fish.
- Concern with boats anchoring and holding a spot.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula and Kenai/Soldotna AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 234** - Modify Kasilof River sockeye bag limit as follows:

In the Kasilof River, the daily bag limit and possession limit for sockeye salmon is 6 [3] fish. Liberalization that may occur is a daily bag limit to 12 [6] fish and a possession limit of 24 [12] fish.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 217

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 17)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The sockeye salmon bag and possession limit of 3 fish is a general provision for the entire Kenai Peninsula Area. If the department projects that the escapement goal of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River will be exceeded the department may increase sport fish bag and possession limits by emergency order as long as the total harvest under the increased bag and possession limit will not reduce the escapement below the escapement goal. In nine of the last ten years the escapement of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River has exceeded the escapement goal. Consequently, the department, over several years has taken the inseason management action to raise the limit in the sport fishery from 3 per day and in possession to 6 per day and 12 in possession.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Increased harvest opportunity.

**Opposition:**

- Department can use emergency order authority to liberalize if necessary.
- Current bag/possession limits are sufficient.
- Reallocation from commercial fishery to sport fishery.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may increase the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Anchorage AC-support, Kenai/Soldotna and Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 235** - Open Chickaloon River to king salmon fishing as follows:

Chickaloon River - open to king salmon fishing from May 1 thru July. No more than one king 20 inches or longer may be retained per year.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 218

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 19, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 18)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. There is a lack of information on the Chickaloon River king salmon stock. Several small populations of king salmon are present in Cook Inlet, and abundance combined with limited information on population status preclude establishment of a viable king salmon sport fishery. The Chickaloon River is a similar situation.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 19) Opposed. Opposition based on lack of information about stock status and limited public access. Additionally, The Interagency Brown Bear Study Team has recommended no increase to public use of the area as a brown bear conservation measure.

**Support:**

- Access to area is difficult so fishing effort should be low.
- Single survey indicated approximately 2,600 king salmon.
- Marine fishery is already harvesting some of these fish.

**Opposition:**

- Limited stock status information.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Anchorage Ac-Support, Kenai/Soldotna and Central Peninsula AC-opposed

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 253** - Close fishing from 100 yards above ferry cable to 25 yards below cable on Kenai as follows:

Stop fishing from 100 yards above ferry cable downstream to 25 yards below cable (from boats).

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 220

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 19)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Adoption of this proposal will not lessen the number of boats passing through the ferry crossing area that may potentially collide with the ferry while it is transiting across the Kenai River. Many of the boats drifting downstream do not stop in this area.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- There have been some collisions, but it was not due to fishing.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Cooper Landing, Kenai/Soldotna and Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 254** - Increase size of designated youth fishing area on the Kenai River as follows:

This area should be at least twice to three times the size. The sign should read - “this area reserved for children 12 and under when present” i.e. if no kids are present - anyone can fish in this area.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 221

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 19, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 29, RC 36 (pg. 19)

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal because the designated area below the Russian River ferry crossing is not legally authorized under the provisions of ANICLA or under preceding federal regulations. The department is however supportive of establishing youth-only fisheries around the state.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 19) Oppose. Opposition is based on three concerns; (1) area is already overcrowded, (2) angler safety is questionable, (3) a youth fishing area would be difficult to manage if within existing handicap fishing area.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Support youth fisheries, but not in this location.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Cooper landing AC-Oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 255** - Increase size and bag limits for jack kings in Kenai River as follows:

Amend the regulation such that the allowable limits for king salmon in the Kenai River are 10 fish less than 20 inches in length, 1 fish per day between 20 and 28 inches in length, one per day greater than 28 inches in length. If a fish greater than 28 inches in length are included in the annual limit.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 222

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 21-37), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Harvest opportunity for one ocean “jack” king salmon was increased by the board eight years ago, when the board raised the minimum length for the recording requirement, from 16” to 20”. This proposal may change the prosecution of Kenai River king salmon fisheries by requiring a reduction of harvest opportunity for king salmon over 28 inches to ensure adequate spawning escapement when the numbers of king salmon in the returns may be below average. The department views this regulation as a liberalization that would promote the selective harvest of 2-ocean king salmon. This concern is greater for the late-run because 2-ocean fish typically comprise on average less than 20% of total run and are exploited in the marine commercial and inriver recreational (sport and personal use) fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Harvest of smaller king salmon may reduce harvest pressure on large king salmon.
- Proposal would increase overall harvest of early-run king salmon.
- Some participants felt proposal would be appropriate in the early run.
- 2-ocean king salmon are not being harvested in proportion to run.

**Opposition:**

- Proposal would disproportionately harvest 2-ocean king salmon which are an important spawning component in some Kenai River tributaries.
- Liberalization and reallocation of a fully allocated stock.
- Complicates regulations.
- Most participants felt proposal would be inappropriate in the late run.
- Jack kings are cyclic.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal could alter the size range, sex ratio and/or age distribution of the king salmon escapement.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 256** - Delete bag limit for king salmon under 28 inches on Kenai River as follows:

Anglers can retain any king salmon under 28 inches on the Kenai River without having to consider these salmon as part of their daily bag limit.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 224

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 21-37), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Harvest opportunity for one ocean “jack” king salmon was increased by the board eight years ago, when the board raised the minimum length for the recording requirement, from 16” to 20”. This proposal may change the prosecution of Kenai River king salmon fisheries by requiring a reduction of harvest opportunity for king salmon over 28 inches to ensure adequate spawning escapement when the numbers of king salmon in the returns may be below average. The department views this regulation as a liberalization that would promote the selective harvest of 2-ocean king salmon. This concern is greater for the late-run because 2-ocean fish typically comprise on average less than 20% of total run and are exploited in the marine commercial and inriver recreational (sport and personal use) fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 257** - Increase size and bag limits for jack kings in Kenai River as follows:

King salmon January 1 - July 31 under 30"/1 per day/1 in possession

King salmon January 1 - June 30 over 30"/under 44"/over 55" 1 per day/1 in possession

King salmon July 1 - July 31 over 30" 1 per day/1 in possession

Seasonal limit 2 under 30"/2 over 30".

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 225

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 21-37), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Harvest opportunity for one ocean "jack" king salmon was increased by the board eight years ago, when the board raised the minimum length for the recording requirement, from 16" to 20". This proposal may change the prosecution of Kenai River king salmon fisheries by requiring a reduction of harvest opportunity for king salmon over 30" to ensure adequate spawning escapement when the numbers of king salmon in the returns may be below average. The department views this regulation as a liberalization that would promote the selective harvest of 2-ocean king salmon. This concern is greater for the late-run because 2-ocean fish typically comprise on average less than 20% of total run and are exploited in the marine commercial and inriver recreational (sport and personal use) fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 258** - Increase the jack king salmon size limit from 20" to 25" in Cook Inlet freshwaters as follows:

A total annual limit of 5 king salmon 25" or longer may be taken from fresh waters of Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 227

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 21-37), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Harvest opportunity for one ocean "jack" king salmon was increased by the board eight years ago, when the board raised the minimum length for the recording requirement, from 16" to 20". This proposal may change the prosecution of Kenai River king salmon fisheries by requiring a reduction of harvest opportunity for king salmon over 25" inches to ensure adequate spawning escapement when the numbers of king salmon in the returns may be below average. The department views this regulation as a liberalization that would promote the selective harvest of 2-ocean king salmon. This concern is greater for the late-run because 2-ocean fish typically comprise on average less than 20% of total return and are exploited in the marine commercial and inriver recreational (sport and personal use) fisheries.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 255.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 261** - Eliminate Kenai River early-run king salmon slot limit.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 230

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 20-26, 30, 38-40), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The slot limit regulation effects on inriver harvests have succeeded in almost completely eliminating the harvest of large-sized 5-ocean king salmon. In addition, the slot limit, in part along with several factors including: prohibition of bait during most of the return, a two king salmon annual limit, low angler participation, and average to above average early-run stock abundance, has resulted in a reduction in the total harvest rate of early-run king salmon. During 2005-2007 there have been surpluses in excess to escapement needs, but it is still prudent to prevent the overharvest of 5-ocean fish in the run. It is possible with a modification of the lower end of the slot limit to achieve a small increase in harvest opportunity, while at the same time protecting most 5-ocean fish in the return.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31) Oppose. Opposition based on desire to maintain agreement between Federal subsistence regulations and State regulations. Also, expressed desire to retain slot limit as a way to ensure high quality Kenai River king salmon escapements.

**Support:**

- Measuring live king salmon is difficult for some users.
- Early run kings are protected through other regulations; i.e. sanctuary closures, no bait.
- Slot limit disproportionately harvests 3-ocean king salmon.
- Removing slot limit would increase participation and exploitation of early-run king salmon.
- Slot limit is not working.

**Opposition:**

- Slot limit has been very effective at protecting 5-ocean king salmon from harvest.
- Slot limit has not been in place long enough to assess production of a slot protected return.
- Some participants felt that other means of increasing exploitation of early-run king salmon would be more appropriate (e.g. bait earlier, increase annual limit).
- Large Kenai River king salmon are becoming infrequent. Must sacrifice now for long term benefit.
- Age at return is partially heritable in king salmon.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal could alter the size range, sex ratio and/or age distribution of the salmon escapement.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-support, Kenai/Soldotna AC and Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 262** - Eliminate Kenai River early-run king salmon slot limit as follows:

The daily bag limit on the Kenai River is one king salmon per day, with no size restriction, and a two fish seasonal bag limit.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 232

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 14, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 20-26, 30, 38-40), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The effects of the slot limit regulation on inriver harvests have succeeded in almost completely eliminating the harvest of large-sized 5-ocean king salmon. In addition, the slot limit, in part along with several factors including: prohibition of bait during most of the return, a two king salmon annual limit, low angler participation, and average to above average early-run stock abundance, has resulted in a reduction in the total harvest rate of early-run king salmon. During 2005-2007 there have been surpluses in excess to escapement needs, but it is still prudent to prevent the overharvest of 5-ocean fish in the run. It is possible with a modification of the lower end of the slot limit to achieve a small increase in harvest opportunity, while at the same time protecting most 5-ocean fish in the run.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31) Oppose. Opposition based on desire to maintain agreement between Federal subsistence regulations and State regulations. Also, expressed desire to retain slot limit as a way to ensure high quality Kenai River king salmon escapements.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 261.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 261.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 261.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-support, Kenai/Soldotna AC and Central Peninsula AC-oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 263** - Amend the slot limit season for early-run king salmon on the Kenai River as follows:

Soldotna bridge upstream to Skilak Lake.....January 1 - **July 31** [July 14] 1 per day / 1 in possession...must be less than 44" or 55" or longer.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 233

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 20-26, 30, 38-40), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The early-run is currently managed to achieve an OEG of 5,300 to 9,000 king salmon. The department liberalized the fishery in 2005-2007 to allow bait in an attempt to contain escapement within the escapement goal, however the estimated escapement goal of early-run king salmon was exceeded each year. Therefore additional restrictions for the early-run king salmon sport fishery are viewed as unnecessary at this time.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31) Oppose. Opposition based on desire to maintain agreement between Federal subsistence regulations and State regulations. Also, opposed to unnecessary fishery restrictions.

**Support:**

- Would continue protection for mainstem-spawning early-run king salmon.

**Opposition:**

- Slot limit concentrates fisherman below the Soldotna Bridge.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 264** - Extend early-run king salmon slot limit below the Soldotna Bridge through July 14 as follows:

King salmon measuring 44 inches or greater and less than 55 inches in length may not be retained in the Kenai River in all areas open to king salmon fishing downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake through July 14. King salmon within this non-retention slot may not be removed from the water and must be released unharmed.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 235

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 16, PC 18, PC 25, PC 30, PC 36, PC 37, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 20-26, 30, 38-40), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Data from a previous study indicated that 81% of radio-tagged king salmon that entered the Kenai River before July 1 were tributary spawners and 94% entered tributary streams by July 15. However, 19% of radio-tagged king salmon that entered the Kenai River before July 1 were mainstem spawners with roughly 73% of mainstem spawning occurring upstream of the Soldotna Bridge.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Unnecessary restriction on late run fish.

**SSFP:**

- Not mentioned.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 266** - Restrict use of bait for early-run kings on portion of Kenai River as follows:

Only unbaited, artificial lures allowed from Jan. 1 - June 30 from the confluence of the Moose River to the outlet of Skilak Lake on the mainstream of the Kenai River.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 237

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 20-26), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. By regulation bait is not allowed in this fishery downstream of Skilak Lake unless superseded by emergency order to harvest king salmon surplus to escapement needs. Furthermore, reducing the flexibility in the plan would preclude fishery managers from liberalizing the fishery in the entire area open to king salmon when warranted.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Ensure bait would not be used in this area to protect spawning trout.

**Opposition:**

- Reduces management flexibility for ADF&G.

**SSFP:**

- Not mentioned.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 267** - Allow use of bait in the early run Kenai River king salmon fishery, starting May 1 or June 1 as follows:

Allow use of bait in the early run Kenai River king salmon fishery, starting May 1 or June 1.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 238

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 20-26), RC 37, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The liberalization of bait in the early-run king salmon fishery should be used as an inseason management tool based upon stock abundance rather than implemented at the beginning of a run prior to run assessment.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31) Oppose. Opposition based on conservation concerns for rainbow trout.

**Support:**

- Early-run king salmon have consistently exceeded their escapement goals under recent management plans.
- Harvestable surplus is large enough to allow liberalization for bait and still meet escapement goals.
- Provides predictability to the fishery.
- Department has the ability to restrict bait inseason if necessary.
- Proposal may increase participation in the fishery.
- Allowing bait early in the season is the best means of increase harvest for all components of the return.
- Starting the season with bait reduces the crowding associated with a midseason bait opener.

**Opposition:**

- An alternative would be for ADF&G to use emergency order authority to introduce bait earlier in the season. This may require the board to set an optimal escapement goal with top end below 9,000.
- Limits E.O. flexibility.

**SSFP:**

- Not mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus overall, amongst supporters consensus for the May 1 date.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 268** - Extend Funny River, Slikok Creek, and Lower Killey River sanctuary closures through July 31 as follows:

Keep the Funny River, Slikok Creek, and Lower Killey River described areas closed to all fishing from a boat until the end of the king salmon season or July 31, whichever is later.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 239

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 16, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 6, RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 20-26, 41-44), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes the biological aspects of this proposal as a conservation measure and is neutral on the social aspects. This proposal would further reduce angling opportunity in specific tributary locations of the Kenai River that are at present very conservatively managed. Current regulations provide adequate seasonal protection of those stocks that are holding in the tributary confluence areas prior to the fish leaving the mainstem and entering the tributaries to spawn. Further restricting the already limited fishing opportunities for these stocks is not biologically justified. In the Kenai River, the primary protection for mainstem spawning king salmon is the season closure date of August 1.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Would continue protection for mainstem-spawning early-run king salmon.
- Some discussion regarding altering the proposal's time and areas.

**Opposition:**

- Most early-run kings salmon have ascended into tributaries during this period.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-support, Kenai/Soldotna AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 269** - Extend Funny River, Slikok Creek, and Lower Killey River sanctuary closures through July 31 and expand Killey area as follows:

Extend seasonal closures to king salmon fishing on the lower Kenai mainstem January 1 through July 31 (Slikok, Funny and Lower Killey areas). Extend the Killey sanctuary to upstream areas adjacent to all three Killey river mouths.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 241

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 20-26, 41-44), RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes the biological aspects of this proposal as a conservation measure and is neutral on the social aspects. This proposal would further reduce angling opportunity in specific tributary locations of the Kenai River that are at present very conservatively managed. Current regulations provide adequate seasonal protection of those stocks that are holding in the tributary confluence areas prior to the fish leaving the mainstem and entering the tributaries to spawn. Further restricting the already limited fishing opportunities for these stocks is not biologically justified. In the Kenai River, the primary protection for mainstem spawning king salmon is the season closure date of August 1.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 268.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 268.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 268.

**POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-support, Kenai/Soldotna AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 255.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 259** - Modify bag limit to allow retention of hatchery stock king salmon in the Kenai River drainage as follows:

In addition to the daily and possession limit on the Kenai River of one king salmon daily, an angler may retain any king salmon 20" or longer that has a missing adipose fin with a healed scar. The adipose-clipped king must be recorded as such on the angler's license and will count only against the annual limit of five adult king salmon annually from the Southcentral Region.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 228

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The occurrence of hatchery fish strayed from the Crooked Creek stocking program in the Kenai River is currently thought to be extremely low because no recoveries have been made recently via department king salmon assessment programs. Creel and test netting studies on the Kenai have determined that the occurrence of hatchery king salmon in the harvest and the inriver netting program is somewhere in the range of 0.002% prior to 2000. Since that time the number of hatchery king salmon occurring in the Kenai River is considered to be a rare event.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Occurrence of hatchery kings in the Kenai is rare.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 260** - Modify bag limit to allow retention of hatchery stock king salmon in the Kenai River drainage as follows:

The new regulation would say, “If an angler catches a king salmon on the Kenai River and it has a clipped adipose fin with a healed over scar, he would be allowed to kill the fish without it counting towards one of his two Kenai River king salmon per person. The fish would still have to be tagged as one of the five king salmon allowed from the Cook Inlet waters, since it is a natural Cook Inlet fish. There would have to be new designation for marking the fishing license to distinguish the fish as on caught on the Kenai but as an invasive fish.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 229

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 96, RC 97, RC 100

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The occurrence of hatchery fish strayed from the Crooked Creek stocking program in the Kenai River is currently thought to be extremely low because no recoveries have been made recently via department king salmon assessment programs. Creel and test netting studies on the Kenai have determined that the occurrence of hatchery king salmon in the harvest and the inriver netting program is somewhere in the range of 0.002% prior to 2000. Since that time the number of hatchery king salmon occurring in the Kenai River is considered to be a rare event.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Same as 259.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 265 - 5 AAC 57.120(2)(A).** General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Amend this regulation to add the following:

5 AAC 57.120

**(2)(A)(iv) from January 1 – July 14, a person may not possess a king salmon that has been filleted, headed, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in a manner that prevents determination of the length of fish taken until the fish is permanently offloaded from a vessel if the fish was taken from a vessel or permanently transported away from the fishing site if the fish was taken from the riverbank; for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, “fishing site” means the riverbank where the fish was hooked and removed from the water becoming part of the angler’s bag limit;**

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 237

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 28, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 29, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department submitted and supports this proposal that is housekeeping in nature. For the past 5 years the department has issued emergency orders at the beginning of the early-run king salmon fishery restricting the disfigurement of king salmon to facilitate enforcement of the slot limit and gather biological information on king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31) Support. Support based on desire to enable enforcement officers to accurately determine slot limit compliance.

**Support:**

- Housekeeping.

**Opposition:**

- None.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 270** - Extend Kenai River king salmon season through August 7 as follows:

The Kenai River king salmon season will open January 1 and close on August 7 each year.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 243

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 24-26, 45), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The increase in effort and harvest as a result of fishing later into August could lead to restricting the fishery prior to the end of July that would not have happened under the current approach. The department prefers to have the authority to extend the season by emergency order as a management tool to utilize in times of high abundance.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Leave emergency order authority with ADF&G.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may increase the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 271** - Extend late-run king salmon sport fishing season through August 10 as follows:

Sport fishing for kings in the Kenai River will close at the same time as commercial fishing closes - not July 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 244

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 24-26, 45), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The increase in effort and harvest as a result of fishing later into August could lead to restricting the fishery prior to the end of July that would not have happened under the current approach. The department prefers to have the authority to extend the season by emergency order as a management tool to utilize in times of high abundance.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 270.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 270.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 270.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 272** - Increase escapement goal for Kenai River late-run king salmon as follows:

Cook Inlet (Kenai River) fisheries shall be managed for a minimum escapement (in July) of 35,000 king salmon into the Kenai River.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 244

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 24-26), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. The department, not the board, has the responsibility of establishing biological and sustainable escapement goals. The board, may establish an optimal escapement goal, if deemed appropriate, which considers biological and allocative factors and may differ from the BEG or SEG. The estimated spawning escapement of late-run king salmon has exceeded 35,000 fish in just 4 of the past 22 years. Rigorous analysis of data has led to the development of a biological escapement goal (17,800 – 35,700) for Kenai River late- run king salmon.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Modification of management plan is unnecessary.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 273** - Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan by (1) deleting the priority of the late run king salmon for sport and guided sport uses; (2) change the management action point for closing sport and commercial fisheries from an in-river return of 17,800 to an escapement of 17,800 king salmon; (3) exclude the Kasilof Special Harvest Area from closure to conserve Kenai River king salmon; (4) delete all provisions to restrict or close sport and commercial fisheries when the projected inriver return is less than 40,000 fish; and (5) delete the provision that exempts the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan from actions taken in this plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 245

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 24-26), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The Kenai River Late-run King Salmon Management Plan provides the department with several directives aimed to ensure sustained production of the stock including all users to share in the burden of conservation when warranted.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Oversimplification of management plan.
- No problem with late-run Kenai King Salmon Management plan.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may not promote maximum or optimal sustained yield of the fishery resources.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 274** - Delete section (e) of the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan as follows:

Delete 5 AAC 21.359(e). [CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND 5 AAC 21.360 IF THE PROJECTED INRIVER RETURN OF KING SALMON IS LESS THAN 40,000 FISH, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REDUCE THE CLOSED WATERS AT THE MOUTH OF THE KENAI RIVER DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 21.350(B)].

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 246

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 24-26), RC 89, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The Kenai River Late-run King Salmon Management Plan provides the department with several directives aimed to ensure sustained production of the stock including all users to share in the burden of conservation when warranted. The closed waters at the mouth of the Kenai River have not been used since 1988.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Gives ADF&G management flexibility.

**Opposition:**

- No problem with late-run Kenai King Salmon Management plan.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-support, Kenai/Soldotna AC-opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 275** - Limit non-resident permits for king salmon on Kenai River as follows:

The Board of Fish should restrict the number of non-resident permits for king salmon to no more than one-half of the projected allowable harvest.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 247

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 29, RC 37, RC 62, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Although the board has no authority over the sale of licenses or stamps and limitations for sale of king salmon stamps to non-residents, the board may take other actions to effect change to the number of fish harvested by nonresident anglers.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to implement.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 276** - Establish annual limits for salmon fishing by non-resident anglers as follows:

Set a season bag limit for non-resident anglers of 1 king salmon, 12 sockeye salmon, 4 silver salmon and unlimited numbers of pink salmon.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 248

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 29, RC 37, RC 62, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Data collected by the statewide harvest survey indicates that on average more nonresident than resident anglers fish the Kenai River each year; however, resident anglers account for the majority of total fishing effort. For example, from 2001 – 2006 the average number of anglers fishing the Kenai River each year was 146,021 of which 70,909 were resident and 75,112 were nonresident anglers. Total angler days fishing effort was 413,020 of which resident anglers accounted for 223,235 angler days in comparison to 189,785 angler days for nonresidents. Over the same years (2001-2006) the Kenai River king salmon sport harvest averaged 17,248 fish. Harvest by nonresident anglers averaged 11,234 king salmon per year, while resident king salmon harvest averaged 6,014 fish per year. For the sport harvest of other salmon species from the Kenai River drainage, on average resident anglers account for 48% of the coho salmon sport harvest and 47% of the sockeye salmon sport harvest.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Non-residents anglers harvest more Kenai River salmon than residents anglers.
- The board has already differentiated resident and non-resident harvest limits in Southeast Alaska.

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to implement and enforce.
- Non-resident anglers are important to the Kenai River fishery.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC and Cooper Landing AC-oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 277** - Prohibit non-residents from exporting more than 125 pounds of fish as follows:

Export limit of 125 lbs.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 249

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 29, RC 37, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department and the Alaska Wildlife Troopers are oppose to the biological aspects of this proposal and are neutral on its allocative nature. Based on the average harvests of various species of fish for non-resident anglers it is likely that this regulation is not likely to result in allocation of more of the fishery resources to resident anglers.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 276.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 276.
- Poorly written, does not specify which fish species.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 278** - Allow retention of sockeye salmon unintentionally hooked in the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers as follows:

Change the last sentence of methods and means under “freshwater sport fishing” to read, [Except for Sockeye salmon in the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers], a fish unintentionally hooked elsewhere than its mouth must be released immediately.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 250

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. It is unclear whether or not this proposal is advocating intentional snagging, or just the allowance of keeping unintentionally snagged sockeye. “Intent” is difficult to enforce, therefore incidents of intentional snagging would likely increase. The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal. Increasing the sport harvest of sockeye salmon is an allocation issue since the fishery is considered as fully allocated among various user groups.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- May cause anglers to cycle through fishery more quickly.
- All sockeye are snagged, legally or illegally.
- Increased harvest efficiency.
- Consideration as a possible liberalization method.

**Opposition:**

- Proposal would cause inconsistency between Kenai River regulations and statewide regulation prohibiting snagging in fresh water.
- Some discussion about safety concerns.
- Proposal would increase participation and crowding.

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may alter the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-support with amendment (must retain snagged sockeye), Cooper Landing and Kenai/Soldotna AC oppose.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 281** - Increase bag limit for coho salmon in the Kenai River as follows:

Raise the per day catch of coho salmon in the Kenai River to 3 fish per day.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 256

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 46-53), RC 37, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal because an increase in the bag limit will likely raise exploitation rates to unsustainable levels during years of below average returns. The department is confident that a two coho salmon daily bag limit will provide a sustainable fishery despite changes in adult returns and juvenile survival. The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Kenai River coho salmon exploitation rates are lower than commonly accepted sustainable levels in other fisheries in Alaska.
- Some discussion about amending the proposal to allow a 3 fish per day starting on September 1.
- No conservation concern on coho salmon.

**Opposition:**

- ADF&G does not have the ability to manage the fishery inseason. Therefore, management cannot be as precise as the public would like.
- Would be prudent to be conservative.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

**POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 279** - Increase bag limit for coho salmon in Kenai Peninsula freshwater streams as follows:

General season and limits: Kenai Peninsula freshwater other salmon 16” and longer: 3 per day and in possession all three may be coho salmon.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 251

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 46-53), RC 37, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal because an increase in the bag limit will likely raise exploitation rates to unsustainable levels during years of below average returns. The department is confident that a two coho salmon daily bag limit will provide a sustainable fishery despite changes in adult returns and juvenile survival. The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 281.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 281.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 281.

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC-support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 281.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 280** - Increase coho bag limit in Cook Inlet Area rivers as follows:

Coho 16-inch or longer, limit is 3 fish.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 253

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 14, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45, PC 52

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 46-53), RC 37, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal because an increase in the bag limit will likely raise exploitation rates to unsustainable levels during years of below average returns. The department is confident that a two coho salmon daily bag limit will provide a sustainable fishery despite changes in adult returns and juvenile survival. The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 281.

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 281.

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 281.

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 281.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 282** - Extend the coho salmon fishing season through November on Lower Kenai River and Skilak Lake as follows:

Coho Salmon 16” or longer open season July 1 - Nov. 30, Lower Kenai River mainstream and Skilak Lake.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 258

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 13, PC 30, PC 31, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 25, RC 36 (pg. 46-53), RC 37, RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. It would provide additional fishing opportunity for coho salmon with nearly immeasurable impacts to the coho salmon stock.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: (RC 25, PC 31). Neutral. Federal Subsistence regulations mirror sport fishing regulations with regard to seasons for coho salmon harvest in the Kenai River. The Federal Subsistence Management Program Staff defer to ADF&G to determine if the coho salmon resource can withstand an addition month of sport and Federal subsistence harvest.

**Support:**

- Additional harvest would be negligible in November due to low participation.
- Provides additional fishing opportunity for resident anglers.
- Some interest in extending the area to include the Kenai River between Kenai and Skilak lakes although road accessibility could encourage larger harvests in this section.

**Opposition:**

- Proposal would allow fishing on spawning grounds while coho salmon are spawning.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Homer AC and Kenai/Soldotna AC-support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 92** - Repeal Kenai River coho plan as follows:

Repeal coho restrictions. There is no biological problem.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 259

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: PC 9, PC 30, PC 41, PC 45

Record Comments: RC 11, RC 17, RC 36 (pg. 46-53), RC 96, RC 97

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. This proposal was originally seeking additional fishing time for the commercial harvest of Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon. Eliminating the Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan will not accomplish that goal. The author may be unaware of the changes made to this management plan during the 2005 BOF meeting which removed the commercial fishing provisions.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None.

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Kenai River coho plan is working.

**SSFP:**

- None mentioned.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None.

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE F

Kenai River Sport Fishing Vessel Restrictions/Kenai-Kasilof River Guides  
February 7, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. John Jensen \* Chair
2. Bonnie Williams
3. Vince Webster

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Tom Vania – Sport Fish Division: Regional Management Coordinator, Anchorage
2. Robert Begich – Sport Fish Division: Area Management Biologist, Soldotna
3. Jason Pawluk – Sport Fish Division: Assistant Area Management Biologist, Soldotna
4. Tony Eskelin (note taker) – Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
5. Jenny Cope (note taker) – Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
6. Rob Massengill - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
7. Al Cain – Sport Fish Division: Statewide Enforcement Liaison
8. Patti Berkahn - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
9. Tim McKinley - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Soldotna
10. Matt Miller - Sport Fish Division: Fisheries Biologist, Anchorage
11. Rob Bentz – Sport Fish Division: Deputy Director
12. Jack Erickson - Sport Fish Division: Regional Research Coordinator

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Andy Sczcesny – Cooper Landing Advisory Committee
2. Gary Deimon – Central Peninsula Advisory Committee
3. Mike Crawford – Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee
4. Jim Stubbs – Anchorage Advisory Committee
5. Andy Couch – Matanuska/Susitna Advisory Committee

Public Panel Members:

1. George Heim – Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council
2. Jim Richardson - Self
3. Steve McClure - Self
4. Gary Turner – Kenai River Sport Fishing Association
5. Ty Wyatt – Kenai River Sport Fishing Association
6. Dwight Kramer – Kenai Area Fisherman’s Coalition
7. Brad Carver – Self
8. Vince Pennino – Self
9. Robert Ruffner – Kenai Watershed Forum
10. Mike Fenton – Kenai River Professional Guides Association
11. Mark Glassmaker - Kenai River Professional Guides Association

12. Steve Tvenstrup – United Cook Inlet Drift Association
13. Drew Sparlin – United Cook Inlet Drift Association
14. Bruce King – Self
15. Cliff Heckathorn – Self
16. Tom Lohuis - Self

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rod Campbell USFWS/OSM

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The Committee met on February 7 at 8:45 a.m. and adjourned on February 7 at 2:00 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (47 Total) 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 327, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 328, 329

**PROPOSAL 283** - Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

Add one drift boat day (possibly Thursday) on the Kenai River for guided and non-guided anglers.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 261

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The board has viewed drift boat only days as an allocative issue. Prior to the 2002 season, fishing on Mondays in May and June was prohibited from any vessel. In February 2002, the board allowed fishing on Mondays from unguided non-motorized vessels.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Resource friendly
- Lessen hydrocarbon pollution
- Reduce habitat and riparian damage caused by erosion due to boat wakes
- Reduces turbidity levels near juvenile salmonid rearing habitat caused by boat wakes throughout river
- Recent turbidity levels have exceeded state standards on powerboat days
- May help better distribute fish
- May develop a new niche for guides and guided anglers, guide hours would increase
- Drift boat only days will be less crowded
- Allow drift boat anglers another day to fish while not competing with motorized boats
- Plenty of launch facilities
- River needs rest in July
- Help reduce disparity between guided and unguided harvest levels
- No king fishing allowed in current 29 miles designated for drift only (Upper Kenai)

**Opposition:**

- May increase crowding on remaining motorized boat days
- May increase hydrocarbon pollution on remaining power boat days
- Lack of public facilities and public boat launches may cause anglers to trespass on private property and force drift boats to go to shore causing habitat damage
- Difficult to fight, land and measure fish while fishing from a drift boat
- No biological concern for salmon stocks
- May displace some elderly and disabled anglers
- Increased fishing pressure on power boat days will increase current habitat and riparian damage
- More vehicles used to transport drift boats will contribute to greenhouse gas emissions
- Guide numbers would increase to accommodate more anglers who don't have a drift boat
- 29 miles of river already exists exclusively for drift boat use (Upper Kenai)

**SSFP:**

- This proposal may decrease the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing
- This proposal may increase catch and release mortality as well as harm fish
- Possible dragging of anchors and anchoring could harm salmon spawning grounds

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 284** - Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

That another day be designated as a drift day and that the day would be Thursday.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 262

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 285** - Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

Under the heading “guide boats” add: **In May, June and July fishing is allowed for 24 hours on Thursday drift days.**

Under “all boats” add **No one may fish from any motorized vessel on Mondays and Thursdays in May June and July (except Memorial Day).**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 264

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 286** - The board will implement one additional non-guided drift only day (preferably Fridays during king salmon season), similar to the Monday regulations that currently exist as follows:

5 AAC 21.359(b)(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 **and Fridays** In July; for purposes of this section a non-motorized vessel is one that does not have a motor on board.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 265

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 287** - Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

Close the Kenai River to fishing from motor-powered boats downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake to the Soldotna Bridge on Tuesdays.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 266

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 288** - Make Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday drift-only days on Kenai River as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

Downstream of the outlet of Skilak Lake to the Soldotna Bridge on the Kenai River, the following regulation applied to guided fishing from all boats: **“No one may fish from any motorized vessel on Sunday and Wednesday and Fridays in May, June, and July except Memorial Day). For purpose of this regulation, a motorized boat is one with a motor onboard.”**

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 268

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 289** - Phase-in additional drift boats only days on Kenai River as follows:

In addition to banning all 2-stroke out board motors in July 2008, and July 2009, with a total ban in 2010, begin phasing in drift-boats-only over a six (6) year period, one day per week per year, starting in July, 2008, for fishing and recreation. In 2013, only drift boats would be allowed on the entire Kenai River during Julys, except for state agency powerboats and for river island residents for transportation only. There would be no other exceptions to this regulation. For example, power boat ferrying of sockeye anglers and/or dip netters up and down the river would not be allowed.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 269

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283
- Guides, guided anglers and private anglers ability to utilize fishing resources would be impacted

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 290** - Prohibit fishing from motorized watercraft in Kenai River as follows:

A drift only river until pollution remits and wake study is complete - this is a park - 3 years.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 271

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 1, RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35, RC 93, RC97 and RC 123

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. A DNR regulation allowing the use of motors up to and including 50 horsepower in the Kenai River Special Management Area (KRSMA) where outboard motors are allowed is anticipated to become effective beginning in 2008. In addition, in 2008 and 2009 all power boats operating in the KRSMA during July would be required to use either four-stroke or direct fuel injection two-stroke motors. These new outboard motor type restrictions aim to reduce hydrocarbon concentrations in the Kenai River that have been in excess of the Department of Environmental Conservation standard of 10 parts per billion during peak use in July.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 283

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 283 and 289

**SSFP:**

- Same as Proposal 283

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Support 285; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support 285; Central Peninsula AC – Support 285.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 291** - Require 4-stroke or direct fuel injection motors on the Kenai River as follows:

On the Kenai River, during the months of July, 2008 and 2009, and annually beginning in 2010, gasoline powered, motorized boats may use only a 4-stroke or 2-stroke direct fuel injection (DFI) outboard motor.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 272

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 44, RC 88 and RC 111

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. A DNR regulation allowing the use motors of up to and including 50 horsepower in the Kenai River Special Management Area (KRSMA) where outboard motors are allowed is anticipated to become effective beginning in 2008. In addition, in 2008 and 2009 all power boats operating in the KRSMA during July would be required to use either four-stroke or direct fuel injection two-stroke motors. These new outboard motor type restrictions aim to reduce hydrocarbon concentrations in the Kenai River that have been in excess of the Department of Environmental Conservation standard of 10 parts per billion during peak use in July.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 292** - Require 4-stroke or direct fuel injection motors on the Kenai River as follows:

Adopt requirement that all boats operated in personal use or sport fisheries on the lower Kenai River be operated with motors that are either **four-stroke or direct fuel injection, two stroke motors, or any future engines that meet EPA manufacturing standards for US sale, and that are built after adoption of this regulation.** Phase in the effective date or period in order to provide the opportunity for people with the older motors to schedule a replacement.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 273

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 44, RC 88 and RC 111

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. It is anticipated that the two stroke outboard motor use on the Kenai River will be restricted beginning in 2008. In addition, Proposals 221 – 223 seek changes specific to the personal use fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 293** - Require 4-stroke or direct fuel injection motors on the Kenai River as follows:

Allow fishing only from boats with 4-stroke or 2-stroke motors with direct fuel injection.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 274

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 44, RC 88 and RC 111

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. It is anticipated that the two stroke outboard motor use on the Kenai River will be restricted beginning in 2008 and that will bring the waterbody back into compliance with state water quality standards hydrocarbon levels.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 294** - Regulate motorized use for fishing on the Kenai River to reduce hydrocarbon pollution as follows:

We prefer a solution regulating motorized use for both the in-river Chinook sport fishery and the personal use fishery during the month of July in the Kenai River. As local governments we will work toward finding the best solution; however, for many of the potential options, it is not clear that local governments have jurisdiction to implement. We prefer solutions that substantially reduce hydrocarbons in manner that is fair. While a perfectly fair solution may be a challenge, we believe fair means reductions should come from all user groups in proportion to the amount of pollution each user contributes to the river.

Solutions may include but are not limited to:

1. Changes in means and methods that limits motorized run time.
2. Limit the total number of motorized boats operating at any one time on the river with a complete phase out of non-direct fuel injected (DFI) 2-strokes.
3. Increase use of electric motors or drift boats.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 275

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 44, RC 88 and RC 111

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. It is anticipated that the two stroke outboard motor use on the Kenai River will be restricted beginning in 2008 and that will bring the waterbody back into compliance with state water quality standards hydrocarbon levels.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 295** - Reduce fishing hours or restrict motorized use to reduce hydrocarbon discharge into Kenai River as follows:

Do something to lower the gas discharge into the Kenai River.

1. less hours fishing for guides each day.
2. more drift days,
3. no fishing from a boat while the engine is running.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 277

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 44, RC 88 and RC 111

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. It is anticipated that the two stroke outboard motor use on the Kenai River will be restricted beginning in 2008 and that will bring the waterbody back into compliance with state water quality standards hydrocarbon levels.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 296** - Restrict outboard motors to 35 hp on the Kenai River as follows:

Keep maximum outboard use at 35 horsepower, reduce days on the river open to fishing guides, and replace motorized days with drift boat only days.

Staff Reports: RC 3, RC 4 Tab 6, RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 278

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1 and RC 93

Record Comments: RC 44, RC 88 and RC 111

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on modifying the horsepower portion of this proposal and is neutral on the allocative aspects of limiting guides and powerboats. Changes to the horsepower regulation would need to go before the Department of Natural Resources.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 297** - Prohibit king salmon fishing from boats during a 48 hour period on lower Kenai River as follows:

Close the Kenai king fishery from a boat below the Soldotna bridge for a 48 hour window each week from 6:00 a.m. on Wednesdays to 6:00 a.m. on Fridays from June 25 to July 31. Everything else can stay in effect.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 280

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal is a social and allocative issue between different users of the river. The numbers of king salmon available to inriver anglers and the harvest rates have remained relatively stable through time. Currently, in areas of the Kenai River drainage open to king salmon fishing there are no hourly restrictions for non-guided anglers hence non-guided anglers may fish throughout the area open to king salmon fishing.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Oppose; Central Peninsula AC – Oppose; Anchorage AC – Oppose, Matanuska Valley AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 298** - Prohibit non-residents from fishing from a vessel unless accompanied by a relative between 6pm and 6am on the Kenai River as follows:

From June 1 through July 31, non-residents may not fish from a boat between the hours of 6 pm to 6 am, unless accompanied by a relative within the second degree of kindred who is a resident Alaskan and who possesses a valid Alaska resident sport fishing license.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 281

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The sheer numbers involved for enforcement may make this proposal very difficult for enforcement officers and thus have little effect on compliance. On the Kenai River there would potentially be quite a few nonresidents on the river in the evenings and mornings claiming that their partner is related and the workload for rangers and troopers would increase dramatically if they wanted to verify very many of the claims. Also, if passed as written, it appears that guides could take nonresident family members fishing while friends of nonresidents could not.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to enforce
- Unguided anglers already harvest fewer king salmon than guided anglers

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Oppose; Central Peninsula AC – Oppose; Anchorage AC – Oppose, Matanuska Valley AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 299** - Open Kenai River below Soldotna Bridge to fishing from boats during king salmon season as follows:

All the Kenai River waters below the Soldotna Bridge shall be open to boat fishing for king salmon during the king salmon season.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 282

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The Slikok Creek stock of king salmon would have no sanctuary area for staging before their migration upstream and would be in jeopardy of overexploitation. The Board of Fisheries adopted the seasonal closed-water regulations which restrict fishing in the confluence areas of Slikok Creek, Funny River and the Killey River at the request of the department during the November 1996 meeting. Information gathered during several tagging and radio-telemetry studies conducted by the department and other resource agencies indicate that some early-run king salmon may hold in confluence areas or the mainstem until mid-July before ascending tributaries to spawn.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC-Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Oppose; Central Peninsula AC – Oppose; Anchorage AC – Oppose, Matanuska Valley AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 300** - Require course for powerboat operation on Kenai River as follows:

All powerboat operators upon the Kenai River must pass a Alaska powerboat operators course to legally operate a powerboat on the Kenai River.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 283

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. Board action to require a boater safety course to operate a boat on the Kenai River for all boaters is not within the authority of the board.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: No Action

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 301** - Restrict use of motorized vessel for fishing on the Upper Kenai River near Kenai Lake as follows:

No one may fish from a motorized vessel on the Upper Kenai River in Cooper Landing between the ADF&G marker 1/4 mile above the Sterling Highway Bridge and the ADF&G “drift only” marker just upstream of Princess Rapids. For purposes of this regulation a motorized vessel is any vessel with a motor on board.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 284

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. The department does not have information on the number of boats drifting downstream and motoring upstream to repeatedly fish the 1.3 miles of river identified by the proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Prevents anglers from making multiple drifts in this area

**Opposition:**

- Limits fishing activity
- Limits vessel traffic

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC - Support, Kenai/Soldotna AC - Support, Central Peninsula AC - Support, Anchorage AC – Support; Matanuska Valley AC - Support

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support w/ substitute language

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 57.123. Special Provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.

**(X) From January 1 – December 31, in the flowing waters of the Kenai River between ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 1/4 mile above the Sterling Highway**

**bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake, downstream to ADF&G regulatory markers located at approximately river mile 87;**

**(x) a person may not deploy sport fishing gear from a vessel in this section of water during motor use or after a motor has been used to propel that vessel on the same day.**

**PROPOSAL 302** - Institute a limited entry program for guides on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:

Institute a limited entry program for guides on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers.

*Note the Board of Fisheries does not have authority to establish a limited entry program, but the following proposal was included because the board does have authority to implement other guide registration requirements.*

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 285

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department recommends no action on this proposal. A limited entry program likely requires legislative action to implement and the board does not have the statutory authority to institute a limited entry program on the Kenai River.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- Statewide Guide Task Force is working on potential limited entry
- DNR is also working on limiting guides

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: No Action

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC – Support concept, but need to identify numbers or cap level

Public Panel Recommendation: No Action

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 303** - Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6am - 6pm, to 7am - 7pm as follows:

Adopt new guided fishing hours – 7 AM to 7 PM for all guide services.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 286

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal addresses a social issue between guided and unguided anglers for fishing opportunity.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Decreases conflict among user groups during morning periods
- Allows unguided anglers to fish without guided vessels around them for another hour during morning periods
- May lead to an increase in unguided angler harvest

**Opposition:**

- Increases conflict among user groups during evening periods
- Decreases the time unguided anglers can fish without guided vessels during evening periods
- Shifting guide hours by one hour will not significantly change fishing patterns
- Some participants wanted amended language to include only waters downstream of Skilak Lake
- Fair balance between private anglers who like to fish before work and those who like to fish after work

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC – Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Oppose; Anchorage AC – Support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language:

**PROPOSAL 304** - Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6am - 6pm, to 7am - 7pm as follows:

Under the heading “guide boats” change: **In May, June and July fishing is allowed only from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** [6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M].

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 287

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal addresses a social issue between guided and unguided anglers.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 303

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 303

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC – Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Oppose; Anchorage AC – Support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language:

**PROPOSAL 305** - Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6am - 6pm, to 8am - 8pm. as follows:

Kenai River guide hours should be set from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in June and July.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 288

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: None

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal addresses a social issue between guided and unguided anglers.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 303

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 303

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Central Peninsula AC – Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC – Oppose; Anchorage AC – Support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language:

**PROPOSAL 306** - Prohibit guide boats with clients in fishing holes 10 minutes prior to opening times as follows:

Guide services are not allowed on the Kenai River with clients in fishing holes at least ten minutes before opening times.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 289

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal addresses a social issue between guided and unguided anglers for fishing opportunity.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Regulation of guides not interfering with private fishing is not being enforced
- DNR regulation states anglers won't impede others - This is not happening

**Opposition:**

- Difficult defining a "fishing hole"
- Guide Academy educating guides on this issue
- Difficult to enforce
- Working together with guides should take care of this problem

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 307** - Prohibit guides with clients from being on the river prior to 1/2 hour before start time as follows:

Fishing guide services with clients on board are not allowed on the Kenai River until 1/2 hour before the start time for that day.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 290

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. This proposal addresses a social issue between guided and unguided anglers.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 306

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 306

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 308** - Separate the guided and unguided sport fishers in the lower Kenai River by day and time as follows:

During the month of July:

Mondays...Unguided anglers only, no power boats (Drift Day). 24 hrs.

Thursday...Guided anglers only, no power boats (Drift Day). 24 hrs.

All other days, for fishing from a boat;

On odd numbered days, guided anglers fish from 1:00 am - 11:00 am. Unguided anglers fish from 1:00pm - 11:00 pm.

On even numbered days, unguided anglers fish from 1:00 am - 11:00 am. Guide anglers fish from 1:00 pm - 11:00 pm.

Sport fishing guides, registered with ADF&G, may only fish or participate in fishing from a boat during guided angler hours. To participate in fishing means running the boat, baiting hooks, handling rods, netting fish, etc....

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 291

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. This proposal addresses the allocative issues of angler crowding, fishing aesthetics, and competition between guided and unguided anglers for fishing opportunity.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Provides equal fishing times for both user groups
- Reduces crowding, pollution and user conflicts

**Opposition:**

- Restricts unguided users
- Difficult to implement and enforce
- Very complicated - Would require a lot of angler education and enforcement

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Central Peninsula AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 309** - Prohibit Kenai River guiding on Thursdays in June and July as follows:

No Kenai River guides on Thursday in June and July.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 292

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 310** - Prohibit guides from fishing on Kenai River on Sundays as follows:

In July, no Kenai River guide can be in a vessel that is drifting, moving, under power with fishing lines in the water.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 294

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Although the intent of this proposal is to stop or discourage guided fishing, which is already prohibited on Sunday, no violations have been issued for guiding on a Sunday by the Alaska Wildlife Troopers or Department of Natural Resources.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 311** - Prohibit guides from fishing on Kenai River on Sundays as follows:

If you are a licensed guide on the Kenai River, you are not allowed to fish on Sundays on the Kenai River.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 295

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Although the intent of this proposal is to stop or discourage guided fishing, which is already prohibited on Sunday, no violations have been issued for guiding on a Sunday by The Alaska Wildlife Troopers or Department of Natural Resources.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 312** - Restrict licensed guides while fishing during non-guide hours on Kenai River as follows:

“Nobody registered with the State of Alaska as a Sport Fishing Guide may participate in fishing from a boat on the Kenai River downstream of Skilak Lake during June and July when non-guided hours are in effect except with relatives within the second degree of kindred. Participating in fishing would include the act of fishing, assisting in fishing, or operating a boat where fishermen are actively fishing. Second degree of kindred is defines as your father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, spouse, grandparent, grandchild, brother/sister-in-law, son/daughter-in-law, father/mother-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepsister, stepbrother, stepson or stepdaughter.”

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 296

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The large numbers of anglers involved for enforcement may make this proposal very difficult for enforcement officers and thus have little effect on compliance.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Most prominent complaint of private anglers is illegal guiding
- Private anglers want a day entirely to themselves
- Concern with guiding on Sundays for non-monetary compensation
- Difficult to enforce illegal guiding
- Large disparity exists between guided and unguided anglers already
- Current regulation only pertains to guided vessels
- Collaboration with DNR led to this proposal, says it could be enforced

**Opposition:**

- Limits non-resident anglers
- Unduly restricts law abiding citizens
- Difficult to enforce
- Legality issue
- Currently, \$5,000 reward for reporting illegal guiding

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Central Peninsula AC - Support

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 313** - Limit guides on the Kenai River to only one client or group of clients per day during July as follows:

In the month of July, during any one day, a fishing guide may guide only that client or group of clients initially guided by the fishing guide that day; different or additional clients may not be guided.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 297

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Sport fish guide logbook regulations require guides to complete a separate logbook data sheet for each unique trip. The number of Kenai River sport fishing guides who recorded 2 unique trips per day during the month of July was about 15% or 164 guides in both 2006 and 2007.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Large disparity between guided and unguided harvest
- Addresses habitat concerns
- Lessens crowding on the river
- May increase catch and release fishing among guided anglers

**Opposition:**

- Should not include Upper Kenai River, because it is non-motorized
- Guides would be forced to do all day trips, may keep many guides out on the river longer
- May increase the number of guides
- May increase the cost of guided fishing trips
- Data shows majority of guides are already doing one trip per day
- No definition of a “crowded river”
- Anglers have to stop fishing after they harvest a king, so ½ day trips make more sense
- Guided anglers prefer option of full or ½ day

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Cooper Landing AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 314** - Open Kenai River guiding to one trip per day as follows:

A Kenai River guide may only take one trip for hire per day - similar to the Kasilof River, in June and July.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 298

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Sport fish guide logbook regulations require guides to complete a separate logbook data sheet for each unique trip. The number of Kenai River sport fishing guides who recorded 2 unique trips per day during the month of July was about 15% or 164 guides in both 2006 and 2007.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 313

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 313

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Cooper Landing AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 315** - Restrict Kenai River and Kasilof River guides to one trip per day on either river as follows:

Guides may not run trips on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers on the same calendar day, whether the clients are the same or not.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 299

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The number of guides that reported fishing on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers in the same year was 133 in 2006 and 128 in 2007. The number of guides that reported fishing on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers on the same day was 61 in 2006 and 47 in 2007.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 316** - Limit guides to only one client or group of clients per day for Upper Cook Inlet Rivers as follows:

During any one day, a fishing guide may guide only that client or group of clients initially guided by the fishing guide that day; different or additional clients may not be guided.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 300

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Same as Proposal 313
- Reduce harvest in Mat-Su. Area struggling with low fish returns

**Opposition:**

- Same as Proposal 313
- Many valley streams may not even have guides working for them

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Matanuska Valley AC - Oppose; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 317** - Restrict guides from registering for both Kenai and Kasilof rivers as follows:

When registering with Alaska Department of Fish and Game each year, guides must specify either Kenai or Kasilof as the river upon which they will guide during the months of May, June, July. A registered guide may operate elsewhere within the state, but may only guide on one of these rivers during these months.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 302

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The number of guides that reported fishing on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers in the same year was 133 in 2006 and 128 in 2007.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- This proposal would restrict Upper Kenai River guides from fishing early-run king salmon on the Kasilof River
- This proposal may increase the number of guides overall
- No biological justification

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Central Peninsula AC - Support.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 318** - Restrict same day guiding on both Kenai and Kasilof rivers as follows:

Guides must either fish on the Kenai or Kasilof River on a given day.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 302

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The number of guides that reported fishing on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers on the same day was 61 in 2006 and 47 in 2007.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Addresses guides fishing on both rivers on the same day

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to enforce
- Very few guides take advantage of this

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Support

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 319** - Prohibit Kasilof River guided fishing when the Kenai River is closed to guided fishing as follows:

Guides registered with Alaska Department of Natural Resources as a “Kenai River Guide” may not guide on the Kasilof River on days that that any portion of the Kenai River is closed to angling from a guided vessel.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 303

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. The number of guides that reported fishing on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers in the same year was 133 in 2006 and 128 in 2007. The number of guides that reported fishing on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers on the same day was 61 in 2006 and 47 in 2007.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Would help with the disparity between shore and boat angler harvests by reducing number of boats for two days
- Would help with the disparity between guided and unguided boat angler harvests by reducing number of guide boats for two days

**Opposition:**

- Could increase the number of guides
- Guides are prohibited from fishing the Kenai River two days of the week. This would deny guided anglers from fishing those two days on the Kasilof River
- Increased effort on Kasilof is on days of wild king retention

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Support; Central Peninsula AC - Support

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 320** - Restrict Kasilof River guided fishing on Mondays as follows:

No fishing from a registered sport fishing guide vessel on the Kasilof River on Mondays January 1 through July 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 304

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Provides unguided anglers one day to fish exclusively
- Gives Kasilof a break for one day from guides
- Decreases crowding by guide boats for one day
- Makes Kasilof/Kenai guide regulations the same from May-July

**Opposition:**

- There is a hatchery surplus of king salmon in May and June

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Anchorage AC - Support; Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Central Peninsula AC - Support; Cooper Landing AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 327** - Eliminate Sunday closure for guides on the Kasilof River.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 305

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. Beginning in 2000 sport fishing from a registered guide vessel on Sundays was prohibited during July downstream of the Sterling Highway Bridge. Further restrictions were implemented in 2002 when guides operating on the Kasilof River were restricted to one group of clients per day.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 321** - Allow Kenai River guides to operate on Sundays in May and June, and no hour restrictions in May as follows:

Go back to pre 1998 guide hours. No Mondays in May, June, July. 6 am to 6 pm, June and July. No Sundays, Mondays 6 am to 6 pm in July only.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 305

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** No comment.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Consensus

Substitute Language:

**PROPOSAL 322** - Repeal the guide boat prohibition for coho salmon fishing on Mondays in the Kenai River as follows:

Simply remove the regulation from the book.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 307

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Allows guided anglers to fish on Mondays
- Limited harvest may not present a conservation concern

**Opposition:**

- Concern with crowding on Mondays
- Denies unguided anglers one day of coho fishing without guides

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC - Support

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 323** - Allow guides to fish from drift boats on the Kenai River on Monday in July.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 309

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- Drift boat Mondays are currently working well

**SSFP:** None

---

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Kenai/Soldotna AC - Oppose; Central Peninsula AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 324** - Allow a guide boat on the Kenai River to carry six persons instead of five during the month of July:

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 310

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24, RC 47 and RC 133

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal. If this proposal were to result in substantial increases in the exploitation of Kenai River king salmon it may result in more frequent inseason management actions restricting the recreational fishery.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Should only include the section of the Kenai River upstream of Skilak Lake (currently drift only)

**Opposition:**

- Current boat and motor configurations create large wakes
- New regulation to 50 horsepower would be offset by this proposal
- Habitat concerns from boat wakes

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: Cooper Landing AC - Oppose; Central Peninsula AC - Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: RC 133

**PROPOSAL 325** - Designate one day per week on the Kenai late run to guided anglers only as follows:

Designate one day a week on the Kenai River late run to guided anglers only.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 311

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this allocative proposal.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 326** - Allow guided fishing 7 days a week, but each individual guide would only be allowed to fish 5 days a week. Enforcement and reporting could be done with daily activity reports instead of end of season reports.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 313

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. This regulation would be unenforceable because it would require an extensive record and tracking system to implement, and every guide would have to be checked each day.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- No Comment

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to enforce

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Oppose

Board Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 328** - Modify regulation prohibiting fishing by sport fishing guides when clients are present on the Kenai River as follows:

From January 1 – December 31, a person who is a sport fishing guide, as defined in 5 AAC 75.995, may not sport fish while a client is present or is within the guide’s control or responsibility, except when guiding a client with a disability; for the purposes of this subparagraph, ‘disability’ has the meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (C), as amended as of February 8, 1994.

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 314

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department submitted and supports this proposal, however, the department recommends that this proposal be modified to apply only to sport fishing from a registered guide vessel. The department believes that moving this regulation within Fish and Game codified simplifies the law for enforcement agents, extends the regulation into waters outside of the DNR designated Kenai River Special Management Area, and makes regulations consistent between departments and throughout the entire river.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Housekeeping; needed to align w/ DNR regulation

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support w/ substitute language

Substitute Language: 5 AAC 57.140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area.

(h) From January 1 – December 31, a person who is a sport fishing guide may not sport fish from a boat while a client is present or is within the guide’s control or responsibility, except when guiding a client with a disability; for the purposes of this subparagraph, ‘disability’ has the meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (C), as amended as of February 8, 1994.

**PROPOSAL 329** - Align vessel registration regulations with DNR requirements that allow for un-registering guide vessels as follows:

(a) In addition to the requirements of 5 AAC 75.075 – 5 AAC 75.077, and before providing sport fishing guide services on the Kenai River, a sport fishing guide and vessel must be registered at the Soldotna office of the Department of Natural Resources, division of parks and outdoor recreation. Once registered, a vessel registration remains valid for the remainder of the calendar year **unless the vessel is deregistered with the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.**

Staff Reports: RC 3 and RC 35

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 315

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1 Advisory Committee Comment Tab, RC 5 and RC 67

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 18, RC 24 and RC 47

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department submitted and supports this proposal. This proposal is housekeeping in nature because it allows a buyer or the guide to deregister a guide vessel the same year it was registered so that it may be used for non-guided fishing activities.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: No Comment

**Support:**

- Housekeeping; needed to align w/ DNR regulation

**Opposition:**

- No Comment

**SSFP:** None

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral

AC Positions: No Comment

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to Support

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to Support

Substitute Language: None

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE G**

Northern Cook Inlet Sport Salmon Fisheries  
February 6, 2008

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Board Committee Members:

1. Vince Webster \* Chair
2. John Jensen
3. Bonnie Williams

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

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2. Dave Rutz
3. Sam Ivey
4. Chris Brockman – Note Taker
5. Samantha Oslund – Note Taker

Advisory Committee Members:

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2. Steve Runyan – Susitna Valley AC
3. Larry Hielman – Tyonek AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Terry Jorsensen – Northern District Setnetters
2. Duane Gluth – Author of Prop 358
3. Dave Goggia- KPPGA
4. Dick Erkeneff - KRSA
5. Cliff Heckamorn – Self Sport Guide
6. Brent Western – UCIDA
7. Steve Tvenstrup - UCIDA

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The Committee met on February 6 at 8:30 a.m. and adjourned on February 6 at 11:30 a.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (30 Total) 139,331, 330, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358

**PROPOSAL 331** - Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close Alexander Creek to king salmon fishing, no catch and release.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 317

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. The 2007 escapement count for king salmon on Alexander Creek was only half that of the previous years count (885 fish) which at the time was the lowest count on record for this system and well below the lower end of the escapement goal range of 2,100 to 6,000 fish. The department recommends Alexander Creek be closed to king salmon fishing for at least one Cook Inlet Board cycle when more escapement information will become available.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 330.

**SSFP:** Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC opposes. Restrict but don't close.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to restrict but don't close, issue addressed proposals 330-334, and 139

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language.

Substitute Language: **5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.**

(5) in the Alexander Creek drainage,

**(A) sport fishing for king salmon is closed from January 1 – December 31;**

**PROPOSAL 330** - Reduce open periods for king salmon sport fishing in Alexander Creek drainage as follows:

In the Alexander Creek drainage, king salmon may be taken only **on the weekends and the Monday following each weekend** from January 1 – June 30;

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 316

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 1-3.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department submitted and now opposes this proposal and would support more restrictive proposals 331-334. The 2007 escapement count for king salmon on Alexander Creek was only half that of the previous years count (885) which at the time was the lowest count on record for this system and well below the lower end of the escapement goal range of 2,100 to 6,000 fish. Given the poor escapements to this system in recent years it is warranted to implement more restrictive regulations than what the department has proposed.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Department withdrew support for this proposal. Feel more restrictive regulations need to be in place for Alexander Creek.
- Failed to meet escapement in past 4 of 6 years.
- Has been in lower portion of the escapement goal range in 9 of the past 10 years.
- Used to be one of the most productive king fisheries in the Sustina drainage.
- Northern pike have greatly reduced king salmon production in this system to a point where king salmon surplus could be minimal.
- Perfect pike habitat. Many lakes and sloughs in the slow moving system result in the complete inundation of pike.
- Only a handful of kings currently spawn above Sucker Creek where many used to spawn.
- Only king production is lower Sucker Creek and Wolverine Creek, the bulk of production for this system.
- It is likely that in the future king salmon and northern pike populations will reach an equilibrium and there may be a harvestable surplus of kings, but at a lower level than present.
- Comments made to reduce kings annual limit for Alexander Creek.
- Restrict king fishing to within ¼ mile of the mouth.
- Reduce to weekend only.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose. Department supports closure.

AC Positions:

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 331.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 332** - Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close Alexander Creek for 3-4 years and let it come back. Get the escapement we should have not 800-2000 (like Deshka).

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 318

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. The 2007 escapement count for king salmon on Alexander Creek was only half that of the previous years count (885 fish) which at the time was the lowest count on record for this system and well below the lower end of the escapement goal range of 2,100 to 6,000 fish. The department recommends Alexander Creek be closed to king salmon fishing for at least one Cook Inlet Board cycle when more escapement information will become available.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 330.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions:

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 331.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 333** - Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

No fishing in Alexander Creek for a few years.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 319

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1. Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. The 2007 escapement count for king salmon on Alexander Creek was only half that of the previous years count (885 fish) which at the time was the lowest count on record for this system and well below the lower end of the escapement goal range of 2,100 to 6,000 fish. The department recommends Alexander Creek be closed to king salmon fishing for at least one Cook Inlet Board cycle when more escapement information will become available.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 330.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support

AC Positions:

Public Panel Recommendation: No action

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 331.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 334** - Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close the Alexander Creek drainage and the confluence with the Big Su to king fishing until the fish are able to withstand the harvest.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 320

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. The 2007 escapement count for king salmon on Alexander Creek was only half that of the previous years count (885 fish) which at the time was the lowest count on record for this system and well below the lower end of the escapement goal range of 2,100 to 6,000 fish. The department recommends Alexander Creek be closed to king salmon fishing for at least one Cook Inlet Board cycle when more escapement information will become available.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 330.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

**POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions:

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 331.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 139** - Restrict king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close commercial fishing on Alexander Creek, establish an annual sport limit of one fish per year, and set sport fishing season to only 4 hours per day in June.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 320

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Since there is no commercial fishing in Alexander Creek, action to the sport fishery would be better served under proposals 330-334 which also seek to reduce the sport harvest of king salmon in Alexander Creek

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Same as proposal 330.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose

AC Positions:

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 331.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 335** - Allow 24 hour fishing for king salmon in Unit 1 of the Susitna River drainage as follows:

Delete: [IN WATERS OPEN TO KING SALMON FISHING, INCLUDING THE DESHKA RIVER, FISHING IS NOT ALLOWED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 11 P.M. AND 6 A.M. MAY 15 - JULY 13].

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 321

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 4-6.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Current management practices within Unit 1 have demonstrated achievement of sustainable yields through years of stock recovery, from the poor returns experienced in the early 1990s to present. The department already has emergency order authority to liberalize or restrict sport fishing regulations if salmon returns are expected to fall short of or exceed escapement goal ranges. This liberalization would increase harvest on eastside Susitna River streams. Eastside Susitna River streams are currently at or above maximum harvest levels and any additional harvest would not be sustainable.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- AC withdrew support for this proposal

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley withdrew support (RC 121).

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 336** - Allow use of bait for king salmon fishing in Unit 1 of the Susitna River drainage as follows:

Amend the Unit 1 king salmon regulation to read: from September 1 - **May 15** [JULY 13], only unbaited artificial lures are allowed in the flowing waters of the Susitna River drainage upstream from its mouth to its confluence with the Deshka River. This liberalization would also increase harvest on eastside Susitna River streams. Eastside Susitna River streams are currently at or above maximum harvest levels and any additional harvest would not be sustainable.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 323

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 4-6.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Current management practices within Unit 1 have demonstrated achievement of sustainable yields through years of stock recovery, from the poor returns experienced in the early 1990s to present. The department already has emergency order authority to liberalize or restrict sport fishing regulations if salmon returns are expected to fall short of or exceed escapement goal ranges.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- AC withdrew support for this proposal.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC withdrew support for this proposal (RC 121)

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 337** - Raise daily bag limit for king salmon in Deshka River as follows:

Raise the Deshka River daily king salmon bag limit to **2 king salmon**.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 324

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 7, 8.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Current management practices have demonstrated achievement of sustainable yields and the flexibility to increase harvest opportunity inseason when warranted. The department already has emergency order authority to liberalize or restrict sport fishing regulations if salmon returns are expected to fall short of or exceed escapement goal ranges.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Low returns are projected for Deshka River next season.
- Possible negative effects of 2006 flood on future returns of king salmon.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Oppose

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 338** - Allow 24-hour fishing in Deshka River as follows:

Amend as follows: In waters open to king salmon fishing, **excluding the Deshka River and all flowing waters within one half mile from its confluence with the Susitna River.** fishing is not allowed between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. May 15 - July 13.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 3252

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 7, and 8

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Current management practices within Unit 1 have demonstrated achievement of sustainable yields through years of stock recovery, from the poor returns experienced in the early 1990s to present. The department already has emergency order authority to liberalize or restrict sport fishing regulations if salmon returns are expected to fall short of or exceed escapement goal ranges.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Warm water, fish don't bite well in warm water, water cools at night.
- People get off after work and want to fish.
- Restrictions from 6-11pm, concentrate big populations of boats and people in small areas.
- The bite lasts a short time and it's a crowded area with people in the way, when bite is off you can't move.
- Deshka landing is the only access for the Deshka and huge back-log of traffic to get on the river.
- Success rate for current fishing is only a few hours. 24 hours will help, flexible fishing time and letting people just get out there.
- Time frames create animosity between anglers and causes crowding.
- Probably won't increase overall harvest.

**Opposition:**

- Projected low returns in 2008.
- Possible effects of 2006 flood on future returns.
- Easier to keep 24-hour restriction in place than restrict it in-season because early inseason EO's are necessary to affect a change in harvest on this particular river.
- Would increase harvest of Deshka River kings which may not be sustainable.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.
-

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC Supports.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 339** - Extend king salmon season in the Deshka River based upon escapement counts as follows:

**When king salmon escapement past Deshka River Weir exceeds the escapement range midpoint on or before July 10, then downstream of the weir, the Deshka River king salmon season shall be extended through July 31.**

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 327

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 7 and 8.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. A trigger point based plan stipulating inseason management actions would add unnecessary complexity to regulations that already provide the department with the tools necessary to manage the fishery. The department already has emergency order authority to liberalize or restrict sport fishing regulations if salmon returns are expected to fall short of or exceed escapement goal ranges. The season ending date of July 13 serves as the primary function to protect spawning king salmon in the lower Deshka River.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Escapement is above the weir and no fishing would happen above the weir. No biological concern.
- Early coho fishing results in occasional incidental kings, when a king is caught they would like the opportunity to keep a nice fish.

**Opposition:**

- Passage of this proposal might require a management plan that is tied to continued operation of the Deshka weir.
- There is uncertainty about the future operation of the Deshka weir.
- Department has EO authority to extend the season. Management would tie this to a weir count and would take away flexibility from department to manage river.
- Can't see liberalization of this fishery currently due to department comments and observations from the flood.
- There has been only this one request to extend the season after July 13 to target spawners.
- King salmon enter into a late state of maturation and are actively spawning after July 13.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC supports; Susitna Valley AC opposes.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 340** - Amend season dates for king salmon fishing in Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage as follows:

Amend Susitna River drainage, Unit 2 king salmon seasons as follows: January 1 through third Monday in June, **then each following Saturday, Sunday, and Monday through July 13.** [SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY FOR THE NEXT THREE WEEKS].

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 328

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 9-11.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Most of the tributaries flowing into the eastside of the Susitna River are already at maximum harvest levels and additional liberalization of regulations could jeopardize the sustainability of future king salmon returns.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None.

**Opposition:**

- Due to fisheries not being able to sustain additional harvest.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley withdraws support for this proposal (RC 121).

Public Panel Recommendation: No action.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 341** - Allow multiple hooks two weeks earlier for king salmon fishing in Unit 2 of the Susitna River drainage as follows:

In flowing waters of Unit 2 Susitna River Drainage, open to king salmon fishing, amend the season unbaited artificial lures are allowed to **May 15 - July 13** [JUNE 1 - JULY 13] and the season only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed to **Sept. 1 - May 14** [SEPT. 1 - MAY 31].

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 329

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 9-11.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The department supports the use of single hooks to facilitate the release of fish in fisheries that are primarily catch and release. Large numbers of rainbow trout migrating from overwintering areas on the Susitna River to ascend spawning tributaries in Unit 2 share the same waters with a very few early arriving king salmon during the majority of May. Allowing anglers to use treble hooks 15 days earlier on the Parks Highway streams would do little to increase the harvest of king salmon as very few king salmon are available in Unit 2 at that particular time of the year.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Would impact rainbow trout stocks negatively.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley withdrew support for this proposal (RC 121).

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 342** - Increase bag limit of coho salmon for Alaskan residents in Parks Highway streams and Talkeetna River as follows:

Increase the silver salmon limit for Alaskan residents to three fish, in the east side Susitna River drainages along the Parks Highway and the Talkeetna River. This will save time and money for Alaskan residence.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 330

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 9-13.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is opposed to the biological aspects of this proposal and is neutral on the allocative aspects which would set different bag limits based upon residency. Increasing the coho bag limit in streams that are road-accessible, within close proximity to major population centers, and which receive relatively high angler use, may increase the harvest above a sustainable level on years with low returns.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Would like to see the coho fishery monitored and managed with the commercial fishery.
- Share surplus coho among user groups.
- If the run strength is strong user groups appreciate the increase in bag limits.
- If there is an abundance, consensus is to see bag limits increased.
- Frustration expressed with valley residents not having as much opportunity for harvest. The idea for non-resident was to help with harvest numbers for residents.
- Residents support the higher bag limit to fill the freezer.

**Opposition:**

- Difficult to assess eastside Susitna run strength inseason.
- A bag limit of 3 may not be sustainable on low run years.
- Deshka river weir may go away, thus a potential assessment tool lost.
- Little Susitna weir has little to no management influence on these fisheries due to its location.
- Easy access, high use fisheries; over 150,000 angler-days per year.
- Tools currently not in place for assessment.
- Flood repercussions may affect the return of fish this year.
- Not fair to non-residents to have other bag limits. Enforcement nightmare.
- Local economy to suffer if non-residents have a different bag limits.
- Consistency enhances public compliance. Higher bag limits may cause non-residents to buy resident license.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Tyonek AC opposes; Mat-Valley supports; Susitna Valley supports.

Public Panel Recommendation: No Consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 343** - Delay bait restrictions on Talkeetna River as follows:

Bait restrictions go into effect on the Talkeetna River (below the railroad bridge) on September 15.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 331

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 14-16.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. In early September rainbow trout begin to migrate from the clearwater drainages and concentrate in the mainstem Talkeetna River, a bait fishery during that time of the year could have serious consequences to pre-wintering aggregates of rainbow trout in this area.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Allowing an extension of the bait fishery in this area would be contrary to current regulation intentions to reduce hook and line induced mortality on rainbow trout.
- Serious consequences to rainbow trout sustainability in the Talkeetna River.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

**POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 344** - Close Chuitna River to sport fishing above old cable crossing as follows:

Chuitna River and all tributaries are closed to all sport fishing above the old cable crossing.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 332

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 17-20.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Currently there are no biological concerns or problems with other salmon and resident fish populations for this system, therefore it is unnecessary to take restrictive action at this time.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Proactive proposal in light of proposed coal mine in immediate area; foreseeable habitat loss. Potential to impact to fishing and hunting.
- If the area isn't closed to fishing, and new roads, dumps, developments in place, we may never know affects of the mining. Asking for a sanctuary area. Proposal put in to help state and federal biologists to get a handle on these fisheries. Belief is that the mine will sterilize the Chuitna River. Believe construction of the mine will open this area to increased fishing.
- Two of the streams are potentials for waste water, and could be easily molested, while fish are spawning.
- This area doesn't get the over-sight it should. Thoughts are that we may be too late by the time restrictions happen, so do it now.
- Spawning streams are so small that these fish can easily be wiped out.
- An increase in fishing pressure due to the mine on these streams where they can be easily targeted, may be detrimental.

**Opposition:**

- Too strict of a proposal to close fishing entirely.
- Department has tools to easily restrict fisheries.
- Access is difficult, currently helicopter only for the most part
- Very little fishing pressure in the proposed closed area
- Resident and anadromous stocks are healthy

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Susitna Valley AC opposed; Tyonek AC supports; Mat-Valley AC opposed.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 345** - Require unbaited, artificial lures year-round on the Little Susitna River as follows:

Only unbaited artificial lures are allowed year round in the Little Susitna River. Maybe other rivers if this same death rate is applicable.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 333

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 21-23.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. There is currently no biological reason to reduce the sport harvest of coho salmon on the Little Susitna River. Escapements of coho salmon counted past the weir have been well within or above the department's escapement goal range of 10,100 to 17,700 for nine of the past 10 years. Under the current regulation, downstream of river mile 32.5, you must quit fishing once you have harvested your limit of salmon. This regulation was adopted by the board in 2000 to reduce the catch and release related mortality of coho salmon in the lower river.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Social issue, not a biological concern.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 346** - Allow use of bait in the Little Susitna River king salmon fishery from July 1 – July 13 as follows:

Amend the Little Susitna River seasons as follows: Only unbaited artificial lures are allowed Oct.1 - June 30 and July 14 - Aug. 5. Bait is allowed July 1 - 13 and Aug. 6 - Sept. 30.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 334

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 21-23.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. The Little Susitna River is already at maximum harvest levels and any addition harvest may jeopardize the sustainability of future king salmon returns to this system.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Cannot sustain increased king salmon harvests.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC withdrew support for this proposal (RC 121).

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 347** - Apply vessel restriction for fishing on Little Susitna River as follows:

Canoe only from Houston to Burma access. Outboard restrictions to 25 horsepower or less, five mile per hour limit or no wake for entire system from Houston to Cook Inlet.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 335

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 21-23.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is neutral on this proposal. Eliminating the use of outboard motors on the Little Susitna River is a social issue that does not affect the sustainability of salmon stocks. Although this proposal is seeking to ban outboard motors for all user groups, it may be difficult for the board to demonstrate the reasonable necessity of the measure for conservation or development purposes.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Social issue concerning safety.
- No biological concern.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 348** - Extend waters open to king salmon fishing near Eklutna Tailrace as follows:

Knik River drainage from its confluence with Knik Arm to a point 1/2 mile up-stream of Eklutna Power Plant Tailrace, including all waters of the Tailrace and all flowing waters within 1/2 mile radius of Knik River.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 336

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 24-26

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports increasing the area open to fishing at the Eklutna Tailrace by an addition of 1.5 miles, but opposes extending the fishery downstream to the confluence with Knik Arm. The small fragile stocks of king salmon ascending the Matanuska River could be subject to over harvest.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Consider opening to the Glenn Highway boat launch for access purposes. If anyone is going to access from the bank, this is a realistic approach for bank anglers.
- Due to improved access at Eklutna Tailrace, it would be easy to put a raft in at the tailrace.
- Early in the season kings may hold below the open area of this terminal fishery.

**Opposition:**

- The goal of the stocking program is to protect or reduce effort on wild stocks.
- The lower Knik and Matanuska River channels are interconnected, so wild stocks migrating through the proposed open area could be harvested.
- Fragile Matanuska River and other small wild stocks cannot sustain any harvest. These stocks would be inadvertently harvested if this proposal were adopted without amended language.
- Department is opposed to any interception of wild fish enroute to the Matanuska River.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support substitute language.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC supports.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support expanding the area open to fishing. No consensus on where to draw the line for the new area.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language:

**5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, and possession and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area.**

(8)(A) in the Eklutna Tailrace, from its confluence with the Knik River upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 100 feet downstream of the Old Glenn Highway, and in the waters within a one-half mile radius of **and downstream a distance of two miles from** its confluence with the Knik River, from January 1...

**PROPOSAL 349** - Allow use of bait on Big Lake as follows:

It is time to allow bait to be used on Big Lake since the dolly population has recovered and can support the addition pressure. The bait restrictions can be reapplied during the period when burbot are staging for the annual spawning migration.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 337

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48, pg 26-28.

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. Given that the Mat-Su Valley is the fastest growing area in the state, it is likely that angler effort on area lakes will increase and that any liberalization of regulations, especially on systems that have a history of overexploitation, could drive resident fish populations below sustainable levels.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Resident populations cannot support increased harvest in Big Lake.
- Burbot are currently harvested at above sustainable exploitation rates.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 350** - Establish a spawning closure and decrease bag limit for burbot in Big Lake as follows:

Under the exceptions for Big Lake, just above “Big Lake Arctic char/Dolly Varden daily limits”, it would read: **Big Lake burbot daily limits: 2 per day/2 in possession. Open to fishing for burbot from May1 - March 15. All burbot caught March 15 - May 1 must be immediately released.**

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 338

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 26-28

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. It is highly likely that Big Lake burbot populations are being overexploited at the current rate of harvest.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Burbot spawn in the same place year after year on rock reefs and there are not many spawning beds in Big Lake making these fish easy to target.
- Starting around first part of March, they are no longer night fishing only.
- Anglers target them easily. Problems are burbot are spawning and are easy to target.
- Burbot must be 7-8 years old before they will spawn.
- Seem to be over exploited already by user groups subsisting off fish caught in Big Lake.

**Opposition:**

- None

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC supports.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language.

Substitute Language: **5 AAC 60.122. Special Provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area.**

(5) in the Fish Creek drainage,

(F) in Big Lake,

(i) from November 1 – April 30,

(a) only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

(b) except when fishing through the ice, two lines may be used, if only one single hook is used on each line;

**(ii) for burbot,**

**(a) bag and possession limit for burbot is two fish;**

**(b) no retention of burbot from March 15 – April 30;**

**PROPOSAL 351** - Decrease bag limit for burbot in Big Lake as follows:

Under the exceptions for Big Lake, just above “Big Lake Arctic char/Dolly Varden daily limits” it would read: **Big Lake burbot daily limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession.**

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 339

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 26-28

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. It is likely that Big Lake burbot populations are being overexploited at the current rate of harvest.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 350.

**Opposition:**

- None

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 350.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 352** - Add four unstocked lakes (Shell, Onestone, Nancy, and Chuitbuna Lakes) and five stocked lakes (Anderson, Memory, Prator, Crystal, and Long Lakes) to the list of lakes currently managed for liberal northern pike harvest.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 340

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 29

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department submitted and supports this proposal. The department would like to omit Nancy Lake from this proposal, as burbot stocks in this lake have declined to unsustainable levels and sport harvest is not allowed. Liberalizing pike regulation on Nancy Lake would increase catch and release related mortality on Nancy Lake burbot stocks.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Public has a very significant interest in controlling the pike population.
- Hatchery stocking has been altered in stocked lakes due to pike populations.

**Opposition:**

- None

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley AC supports.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language in proposal 354.

Substitute Language: None.

**PROPOSAL 353** - Increase number of lines allowed for pike fishing in Shell Lake as follows:

Add Shell Lake to the list of Lakes within Unit 4 that allow five lines for ice fishing Northern Pike.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 342

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 29

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department supports this proposal. The department proposal 352 also includes adding Shell Lake to the list of lakes where 5 lines are allowed.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 352.

**Opposition:**

- None

**SSFP:**

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on 352.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 354** - Allow up to 12 lines for pike while ice fishing in Northern Cook Inlet as follows:

Change the regulations to allow ice fishing for northern pike using 7 to 12 lines per person in all Northern Cook Inlet area waters except for the ones with existing limitations (Alexander [slot and possession limit], Big [no bait] and Nancy lake [no pike fishing]) Changing the number of lines from 2 to 7 to 12 would allow folks to set up to five tip-ups out for Northerns and still fish with two jigging rods for other species. 12 is the maximum number that I feel a person could closely attend effectively.

Amend regulation would read as follows:

**Methods, means, and general provisions - Finfish**

(g) In **all confirmed northern pike waters** [SUCKER, FLATHORN, WHISKEY, HEWITT, DONKEY, THREE MILE, TRAIL, NEIL, KROTO, TRAPPER, FIGURE EIGHT, NO NAME (CABIN), LOWER VERN, UPPER VERN, AND LOCKWOOD LAKES , AND NANCY LAKE RECREATION AREA LAKES], **except**, [EXCLUDING] **Alexander, Big and Nancy Lake**, **seven to twelve** [FIVE] lines **per person** may be used to fish through the ice for northern pike only if.....

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 343

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 30-31

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal as written. The department recommends 5 lines instead of 7 to 12 lines for consistency with current burbot regulations. The department is in support of northern pike management strategies that will reduce northern pike abundance in waters where northern pike continue to prey upon native and stocked fish populations. However, the department is cautious about impact on nontarget wild fish species. For this reason, the department would support liberalizing the number of lines fished in select flowing waters where nearly only pike exist, such as Fish Creek (lower Susitna River), Fish Creek (Kroto Slough), Whitsoe Creek, and Indian Creek (Yentna River), but not in other flowing waters such as Deshka River sloughs where over-wintering rainbow trout may be present.

Federal Subsistence Management Program:

**Support:**

- The department supports limited trial fishery on select flowing waters with 5 lines per angler not 7-12 lines, for consistency with burbot and other pike regulations.
- Interest for pike fishing has increased dramatically. Opportunity to harvest would be appreciated.
- Traveling long distances to fish and using 5 lines seems fair. Over 5 lines would leave little area left for anglers to fish due to high use of these pike lakes.
- Concern raised of pike distribution spreading and consensus would be to see more lakes and areas added to this list.

**Opposition:**

- None

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Support with substitute language.

AC Positions: None

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support substitute language. See 352 for further discussion, issue also addresses proposal 355.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language.

Substitute Language: **5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area.**

(7) northern pike may be taken from January 1- December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits; northern pike may be taken in all lakes.

(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this paragraph, “bow” means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) through the ice

(i) with two hooks per line if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait,

**(ii) in Anderson, Memory, and Prator Lakes, with five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7); the fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033, and all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;**

5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area.

(8) northern pike may be taken from January 1- December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits; northern pike may be taken in

(A) all lakes, except Alexander Lake, by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this paragraph, “bow” means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) through the ice

(i) in all lakes, with two hooks per line if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait,

**(ii) in Crystal, Shell, Onestone and Long Lakes, and in flowing waters of Fish (lower Susitna drainage), Fish (Kroto Slough), Indian and Witsoe creeks, with five lines;**

**allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.110(8); the fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033, and all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;**

5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area.

(7) northern pike may be taken from January 1- December 31; no bag, possession, or size limits; northern pike may be taken in all lakes.

(A) by spear and bow and arrow; the arrow must have a barbed tip and be attached by a line to the bow; for the purposes of this paragraph, “bow” means a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow;

(B) through the ice

(i) with two hooks per line if both hooks are attached to the same single piece of bait,

**(ii) in Chuitbuna Lake, with five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 62.120(7); the fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033, and all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;**

**PROPOSAL 355** - Liberalize methods and means for Northern pike in fishing Deshka, Yenta and Susitna drainages as follows:

Allow baited hooks for northern pike after freeze up in all sloughs, ponds, and tributaries of the Deshka, Yentna, and Susitna Rivers with exception of the main channels allow 5 lines through the ice. No limit on northern pike November 1 - April 15.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 345

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 31-32

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal as written. The department is in support of northern pike management strategies that will reduce northern pike abundance in waters where northern pike continue to prey upon native fish populations. However, the department is cautious about impact on nontarget wild fish species. For this reason, the department would support liberalizing the number of lines fished in select flowing waters where nearly only pike exist, such as Fish Creek (lower Susitna River), Fish Creek (Kroto Slough), Whitsoe Creek, and Indian Creek (Yentna River), but not in other waters of the Susitna Drainage such as Deshka River sloughs where overwintering rainbow trout may be present.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Same as proposal 354.

**Opposition:**

- None

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language in 354.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 356** - Establish personal use fisheries in selected Upper Cook Inlet drainages as follows:

Establish dip net fisheries in Ship Creek, Bird Creek, Campbell Creek, Little Susitna, Jim Creek, and lower the turn on point in Fish Creek to 50,000. All species of salmon may be retained.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 346

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 32-34

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department is opposed to the biological aspects of this proposal because it would likely result in unsustainable harvests and is neutral on the allocative aspects.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Small stocks present a biological issue.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Mat-Valley opposes.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 357** - Establish a limit for hooligan harvest in Cook Inlet as follows:

Allow not more than 1 1/2 five-gallon bucket (7 1/2 gallons) in possession.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 347

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 33

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes this proposal. There is no indication of over-harvest of upper Cook Inlet hooligan stocks. The harvests recorded in the past ten years from these systems are not significant in comparison to potential population size.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- None

**Opposition:**

- Stock not overharvested.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: No recommendation.

Substitute Language: None

**PROPOSAL 358** - Open a personal use salmon fishery in the Beluga area as follows:

Add Beluga to 5 AAC 77.540, “Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan”.

The permit requirements and reporting would be the same as 5 AAC 77.540 “Fishing seasons and daily fishing periods”, paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2) and (a)(3).

The regulation for fishing periods would be the same as for the Tyonek Sub-district under 5 AAC 01.560 “Fishing seasons and daily periods,” paragraphs (b)(1) (A thru D)

The gear specifications and annual limit would be the same as 5 AAC 77.540, paragraphs (b)(5) (A thru D) and (b)(6). Additionally, the net should not be attached by a method that would prevent harvesting the fish at any time and having to wait until the tide goes out. The net should be attached to a running line via pulleys or by attaching a weight (anchor), at the sea end, which will allow the net to be retrieved.

The Beluga area would include those waters of the Northern District within the mean low tide from a point one mile north of the northern edge of the Chuitna River north to a point one mile south of the Susitna River. Personal Use fishery would be prevented within one mile of any river and/or creek between these points.

Staff Reports: RC 3

Staff Comments: RC 2, pg 348

Dept. of Law Comments: RC 1 Tab Dept. of Law

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab

Timely Public Comment: RC 1

Record Comments: RC 48 pg 32-33, 35

**Narrative of Support and Opposition:**

Department: The department opposes the biological aspects of this proposal because many small streams in the Beluga area have relatively small salmon populations and likely could not support a personal use fishery; and are neutral on the allocative aspects. The Beluga Area of West Cook Inlet includes several small stream with small salmon populations, all systems within this area are viewed as being fully allocated between subsistence, sport fish, educational and commercial users.

Federal Subsistence Management Program: None

**Support:**

- Harvests would be insignificant if language change reduced area to immediate Beluga area.
- Fishery is very small and with distance between nets, legally, only a few nets can be fished at any given time.
- Support given with a permitted system recommended for the department.
- Gives locals a opportunity to fish. Wouldn't need to target king or sockeye salmon. Subsistence users are mostly elderly in an aging community.
- Comments that Chuit River fish don't pass the area where the fishery would be located.
- Chugach Electric is closing the power plant.

**Opposition:**

- Limited information on the stock and current status on Chuit, Beluga, Theodore and Lewis Rivers.
- Concern about how many people would participate in this fishery. Increased use in the area, potential use with new mine, and Beluga power plant.
- Stocks may be fully allocated.
- Lack of stock monitoring in Beluga area.
- Possible effects on non-target fish such as kings and sockeye.

**SSFP:**

- Not addressed.

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***POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

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ADF&G Position: Oppose.

AC Positions: Tyonek AC supports.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language. Allow PU fishery in the immediate Beluga River area.

Board Committee Recommendation: Support with substitute language.

Substitute Language: **5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan.**

(g) salmon may be taken by dip net in Beluga River as follows:

(1) salmon, other than king salmon, may be taken only by a person 60 years of age or older, except that a person authorized to take salmon under this subsection may not authorize a proxy to take or attempt to take salmon on behalf of the person under AS 16.05.405;

(2) from July 20 – August 31, 24-hours per day, from the bridge downstream to a ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 1 mile below the bridge;

(3) the annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that king salmon may not be retained and any king salmon caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed; the fishery will close by emergency order when 500 salmon, other than king salmon, have been harvested;

(4) the permittee shall report weekly to the department as specified in the permit.