

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
Upper Cook Inlet Finfish
February 20 - March 5, 2011
Anchorage, Alaska

Preliminary Summary

This preliminary summary is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret the reasons for the board's actions.

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| C/A | 21 | Decrease bag limit to 2 coho salmon in West Cook Inlet. (<i>Specified that if retention is permitted, a coho salmon removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit, and that a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish.</i>) |
| C | 22 | Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in West Cook Inlet Area. |
| NA | 23 | Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in the Kenai Peninsula Area. |
| F | 102 | Modify gear for subsistence fishing in Tyonek Subdistrict. (<i>Note, the board updated its customary and traditional finding for the Tyonek Subdistrict. See Proposal F.</i>) |
| C/A | 103 | Modify the amount necessary for subsistence (ANS) for the Skwentna River. (<i>Specified that 400 - 700 salmon, except king salmon, are reasonably necessary for subsistence uses in the Yentna River drainage.</i>) |
| NA | 104 | Mirror east side salmon escapement corridor in the Central District open. |
| F | 105 | Allow for earlier harvest of Kasilof sockeye. |
| NA | 106 | Allow for earlier harvest of Kasilof sockeye. |
| NA | 107 | Allow for earlier harvest of Kasilof sockeye. |
| NA | 108 | Extend the commercial fishing season. |
| NA | 109 | Revise opening and closing dates for the Upper Subdistrict of the Kenai River. |
| NA | 110 | Amend set net fishing to close by emergency order. |
| F | 111 | Extend closure time by three hours in the Central District. |
| NA | 112 | Modify the weekly fishing periods in Upper Cook Inlet. |
| NA | 113 | Require removal of gear during closures. |
| NA | 114 | Close fishing on Saturdays and Sundays in Upper Cook Inlet. |
| F | 115 | Ban use of monofilament salmon web in Cook Inlet. |
| F | 116 | Reduce mesh depth in the Central District. |
| C/A | 117 | Modify amount of gear used by CFEC permit holder. (<i>Specified that a CFEC permit holder who holds two Cook Inlet set gillnet permits may operate an aggregate length of set gillnets not to exceed 210 fathoms.</i>) |
| NA | 118 | Revise gear limitations when fishing two permits in Cook Inlet. |
| F | 119 | Allow the use of dual drift gillnet permits. |

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- C 120 Allow four shackles of gear to be fished.
- NA 121 Prohibit commercial vessels from fishing within five miles of mouth of streams.
- NA 122 Modify Upper Cook Inlet Central District Drift Gillnet Management Plan.
- NA 123 Revise the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan.
- NA 124 Amend the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management plan.
- NA 125 Delete references to Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- C/A 126 Revise Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan. (*Specified a single floating period during run strengths less than 2.3 million sockeye and reduced, applied the expanded Kenai and Kasilof corridor, and added purpose statement relative to minimizing coho harvests.*)
- F 127 Restrict commercial drift gillnet in the Western Subdistrict of Cook Inlet.
- NA 128 Create a single optimal escapement goal to eliminate confusion of regulations.
- NA 129 Establish a management plan for pink salmon bound for the Kenai River.
- C/A 130 Amend the Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management plan. (*Incorporated drift gillnet fishery into Pink Salmon Management Plan – see Proposal 321.*)
- NA 131 Modify the Northern District Salmon management plan.
- NA 132 Add pink salmon to the Northern District Salmon Management plan.
- NA 133 Make consumptive use a priority for fishing kings and cohos.
- C/A 134 Address changes in counting methods for sockeye salmon migrating into the Susitna River Drainage. (*Deleted reference to Yentna River sonar counts in paragraph (b) of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan.*)
- NA 135 Update the management plan to reflect Yentna sonar count modifications.
- F 136 Modify the OEG on the Susitna River sockeye.
- NA 137 Amend management plan based on Bendix-like numbers from Yentna River.
- C/A 138 Remove gear restrictions in the Northern District after July 30. (*Allowed use of two nets in west side only, statistical areas 247-30, 247-20, 247-10.*)
- NA 139 Establish a terminal fishery for Fish Creek Area.
- NA 140 Modify coho management plan.
- NA 141 Modify Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
- NA 142 Revise the Northern District King Salmon Management.
- C/A 143 Modify the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan to articulate recreational use priority. (*Added purpose statement regarding managing king salmon primarily for sport and guided sport uses.*)
- NA 144 Establish a Susitna River small stream and river management plan.

- NA 145 Conduct stock assessment of kings caught during marine fishery off Deep Creek.
- F 146 Modify the Kenai River late run king salmon management plan.
- C/A 147 Establish an effective allocation of sockeye to personal use and sport fisheries in Upper Cook Inlet. (*Increased Kenai inriver sport allocation by 33 percent, specified expansion of a window to 36 hours, and specified that during runs of 2.3 and 4.6 million sockeye the 24 hour floating period will be a fixed date on Tuesdays.*)
- NA 148 Increase optimal escapement goal of late-run sockeye in the Kenai River, Russian River and Hidden Lake.
- NA 149 Revise the Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.
- NA 150 Change escapement goals.
- NA 151 Remove the three tier system from the Kenai River Sockeye Management Plan.
- NA 152 Amend the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon management plan.
- F 153 Modify wording in several management plans to allow harvest over the course of king runs.
- F 154 Modify wording in several management plans to allow harvest over the course of coho runs.
- NA 155 Add language that all fisheries will be closed if the OEG will not be achieved.
- F 156 Develop a management plan for the early Russian River sockeye run.
- NA 157 Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
- F 158 Restrict all harvest until minimum escapement goals are reached.
- F 159 Amend regulation to minimize incidental harvest of non-targeted species in Upper Cook Inlet.
- F 160 Revise the Upper Cook Inlet Fisheries Management Plan.
- NA 161 Revise Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
- NA 162 Amend the Kasilof River Salmon Management plan.
- NA 163 Revise the sockeye optimal escapement goal in the Kasilof.
- F 164 Amend Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan to the Kenai in-river goals.
- NA 165 Keep Saturday free of emergency commercial openings.
- NA 166 Revise the Kasilof River sockeye harvest management plan.
- NA 167 Expand the fishing area in the North Kalifornsky Beach Subsection.
- NA 168 Revise the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
- NA 169 Open KRSHA to gillnet salmon fishing when escapement exceeds 275,000.
- NA 170 Modify the area that may be fished if the commissioner opens the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.

- NA 171 Revise the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
- NA 172 Require users to complete a class and obtain a dipnet education card prior to receiving a dipnet permit. *(Note, the board addressed the definition of personal use fishing currently found in statute and in regulations. See delegation of authority on Page 10.)*
- NA 173 Repeal sport fish license requirement to participate in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries.
- NA 174 Allow nonresidents to participate in the upper Cook Inlet personal use fishery.
- F 175 Establish a July 17 opening date for the Kenai River personal use fishery on runs under 2 million.
- NA 176 Open Kenai River personal use fishery after 350,000 sockeye pass the sonar.
- NA 177 Close fishing on the south bank of the Kenai River until minimum in-river goals are met.
- NA 178 Open dipnet fisheries in Cook Inlet only after over escapement goals are met.
- F 179 Open Kenai and Kasilof dipnet fisheries only after lower escapement goals will be achieved.
- NA 180 Close Kenai River personal use fishery on Tuesdays and Fridays until 450,000 sockeye pass the sonar.
- NA 181 Establish a harvest cap of 150,000 for the Kenai River Personal Use Fishery.
- NA 182 Set allocation of 100,000 - 150,000 sockeye in Kenai River personal use fishery.
- NA 183 Establish a guideline harvest for Cook Inlet personal use fisheries based upon run size.
- NA 184 Establish GHL for sport and personal use harvest in the Kenai and Kasilof rivers.
- NA 185 Set allocation based on harvest and use in Kasilof River personal use fishery.
- F 186 Establish a bag limit of 15 per family in the Kenai River personal use fishery and no fishing until escapement goal will be achieved.
- NA 187 Reduce household limit to 10 fish in Cook Inlet personal use salmon fishery.
- NA 188 Reduce bag limit or delay opening of the Kenai River dipnet fishery.
- F 189 Prohibit retention of king salmon in Cook Inlet dipnet fisheries.
- F 190 Allow one king per household for the all Cook Inlet personal use dipnet fisheries.
- F 191 Reduce allowable mesh size in Cook Inlet dipnet fisheries or prohibit release of fish.
- F 192 Prohibit possession of sport and personal use caught salmon on the same day.
- F 193 Prohibit dipnetting from boats in Kenai River personal use fishery.
- NA 194 Prohibit dipnetting from boats in Kenai River personal use fishery.
- C/A 195 Open the Fish Creek dipnet fishery by regulation instead of emergency order. *(Specified that the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the personal use dip net fishery in Fish Creek from July 10 through July 31, if the department projects that the escapement of sockeye salmon into Fish Creek will be above 50,000 fish.)*
- C/A 196 Increase season dates and expand area for Beluga River personal use fishery. *(Allowed for the retention of one king salmon per household.)*

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- F **197** Establish a personal use fishery on Eklutna River.
- F **198** Establish a personal use fishery on Deshka River.
- F **199** Establish a personal use fishery on Talkeetna River.
- C/A **200** Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho in Susitna River Drainage. *(Increased limit only in Units 3, 5, and 6, and specified that the commissioner may by emergency order decrease or increase the bag and possession limit of coho salmon, based on abundance indices the department deems appropriate.)*
- NA **201** Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho on the Talkeetna River.
- NA **202** Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in the Knik Arm Drainage Area.
- NA **203** Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area.
- F **204** Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in the Kenai River Drainage Area.
- NA **205** Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon on the Kenai and Kasilof rivers.
- C **206** Align coho salmon bag limit with adjacent waters in the Russian River sanctuary area and Russian River.
- NA **207** Repeal the provision that allows a charitable or educational event to fish from guide vessels on the first Sunday in June on Lower Kenai River.
- F **208** Prohibit guided sport fishing just above the king salmon sonar station downstream to Cunningham Park.
- F **209** Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6 a.m.-6 p.m., to 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
- NA **210** Allow fishing from a registered guide vessel on the Kenai River 24 hours per day during May.
- F **211** Allow fishing from a registered guide vessel on the Kenai River on Sundays during May.
- NA **212** Allow fishing from a registered guide vessel on the Kenai River on Sundays during June.
- F **213** Allow fishing from a registered guide vessel for coho salmon on Mondays during August – November.
- NA **214** Allow fishing from a registered guide vessel for coho salmon on Mondays during August and September.
- F **215** Prohibit barbed hooks when using beads in the Kenai River.
- F **216** Increase the allowable size limit of rainbow trout in the lower Kenai River.
- C **217** Establish a bag limit for burbot in the Kenai Peninsula Area.
- C **218** Establish a steelhead/rainbow trout spawning closure for all tributaries of Tustumena Lake.
- C **219** Correct list of Kenai River Drainage Area rainbow trout stocked lakes.
- C **220** Add Rainbow Lake to the list of Upper Kenai River drainage stocked lakes.
- C **221** Correct list of Kenai River Drainage Area and Kenai Peninsula Area king salmon stocked lakes.
- C **222** Repeal the special sport fishing gear regulations that apply to Arc Lake, Cisca Lake and Scout Lake.

- C **223** Add a new section to increase emergency order authority flexibility to address invasive northern pike.
- F **224** Reduce effective dates for fly-fishing-only waters in Killey River sanctuary area from July 31 to July 15.
- NA **225** Reduce Killey River king salmon sanctuary closure date from July 31 to July 15.
- NA **226** Reduce Killey River king salmon sanctuary closure date to June 25 - July 14.
- NA **227** Reduce Killey River king salmon sanctuary area to allow fishing at 3rd Hole.
- F **228** Repeal the seasonal boating restriction at the confluence of the Moose River.
- F **229** Increase Slikok Creek king salmon sanctuary area.
- NA **230** Revise the Kenai River Early-run King Salmon Management Plan.
- F **231** Return early run Kenai River king salmon escapement goal to pre-2005 level.
- F **232** Allow use of bait on May 1 or June 1 in the Kenai River early-run king salmon fishery.
- F **233** Repeal slot limit for Kenai River early-run king salmon.
- NA **234** Repeal slot limit for Kenai River early-run king salmon.
- F **235** Extend king salmon slot limit through the end of July.
- F **236** Modify size and annual limits for Kenai River king salmon.
- F **237** Increase size and bag limits for jack kings in the late-run on the Kenai River.
- F **238** Allow the use of two hooks or treble hooks for Kenai River king salmon fishing.
- F **239** Allow anglers to continue fishing after daily bag limits are met on the Kenai River.
- F **240** Prohibit anglers that are going to release fish from taking them out of the water.
- F **241** Close Kenai River to sport fishing on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- NA **242** Close large sections of the Kenai River to king salmon fishing on a annual rotational cycle.
- F **243** Harvested fish must be closely attended in the Russian River area.
- NA **244** Establish a tax for pike to sport fishing licenses and a bounty for pike turned in.
- F **245** Add an additional drift boat only day (Wednesdays) on the Kenai River.
- NA **246** Add an additional drift boat only day (Thursdays) on the Kenai River.
- C/A **247** Allow the use of a motor downstream of Cunningham Park to exit the fishery on drift-only Mondays. (*Clarified area, times, and conditions for use of a motor in this fishery.*)
- F **248** Prohibit drift boats from using motors to travel upstream in the lower Kenai River.
- NA **249** Prohibit drift boats from using motors to travel upstream in the lower Kenai River.

- C/A **250** Establish 3 areas in the lower Kenai River for drift fishing during July. *(Specified that from July 1-July 31, in that portion of the Kenai River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at approximately river mile 11 upstream to an ADF&G marker located at approximately river mile 12, a person may not sport fish for any species of fish from a vessel that is making upstream progress, relative to the water, with the aid of a motor.)*
- F **251** Prohibit boats on the Kenai and Russian River confluence back channel.
- F **252** Allow fishing for resident species from a motorized vessel on Mondays downstream of Skilak Lake.
- F **253** Allow fishing for sockeye salmon from a boat in the Funny River king salmon sanctuary area.
- F **254** Allow fishing from power boats during the king salmon season on the Kasilof River.
- F **255** Prohibit fishing from a boat in the "People's Hole" area adjacent to Crooked Creek .
- F **256** Allow boat anglers to land a fish while anchored across from the "People's Hole" area adjacent to Crooked Creek.
- F **257** Change boundary marker location for seasonal motor use on lower Kasilof River.
- C **258** Rename boundary marker for seasonal motor use on lower Kasilof River.
- F **259** Reduce bag limit for king salmon on the Kasilof River.
- F **260** Repeal August 1 - 15 fishing closure on Kasilof River above Sterling Highway bridge.
- C **261** Allow the use of bait in the Kasilof River for an additional two weeks in September.
- C **262** Allow guides to take more than one group of clients per day on the Kasilof River.
- F **263** Limit guided sport fishing hours and days on the Kasilof River.
- NA **264** Increase area open to king salmon fishing on the Kashwitna River.
- NA **265** Standardize Willow Creek salmon fishing regulations upstream to Deception Creek.
- C/A **266** Prohibit fishing from boats at the mouth of Willow Creek and the Susitna Rivers. *(The board closed fishing from a boat for any species between May 1 through July 13 in that portion of the Susitna River from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the mouth of Willow Creek on the upstream bank of the furthest downstream confluence of Willow Creek and the Susitna River, to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 300 yards downstream from the mouth of Willow Creek.)*
- F **267** Restrict passenger limits, anchoring, horsepower, boat length and air boat use on Lake Creek.
- C/A **268** Prohibit fishing for king salmon after retaining a king salmon on the Talachulitna River. *(Specified that within a one mile radius of the confluence of the Talachulitna River with the Skwentna River, a person who has retained a king salmon greater than 20 inches in length may not fish or king salmon for the remainder of that day.)*
- F **269** Extend use of bait for an additional week in Unit 5 of the Susitna River.
- C/A **270** Restrict sport, commercial, and subsistence fishing for Alexander Creek king salmon. *(Specified that in the Alexander Creek drainage, and all waters within a one-half mile radius of the confluence of Alexander Creek with the Susitna River, sport fishing for all finfish is closed within a one half mile radius of the confluence of Alexander Creek and the Susitna River from May 1 through July 13.)*
- NA **271** In Lewis and Theodore rivers, prohibit catch and release of kings or require barbless hooks, and determine impact of invasive species.

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- C **272** Repeal the Little Susitna River Coho Salmon Management Plan.
- C **273** Prohibit fishing for coho salmon after retaining bag limit in the Little Susitna River.
- F **274** Allow harvest of king salmon in the Little Susitna River above Parks Highway bridge in Houston.
- NA **275** Limit boat motors to no more than 25 HP on the Little Susitna River.
- C/A **276** Create a youth-only fishery on Fish Creek. *(Limited the youth-only fishery to persons under 16 years of age.)*
- F **277** Allow sport fishing for sockeye salmon in Fish Creek during July if escapement will be met.
- NA **278** Allow sport fishing for sockeye salmon in Fish Creek if escapement will be met.
- F **279** Increase area open to king salmon fishing in the Knik River for the Eklutna Tailrace stocked fishery.
- NA **280** Extend area open to king salmon fishing in the Knik River.
- F **281** Allow king salmon fishing in the Matanuska River.
- C **282** Repeal duplicate motor restriction regulation in Wasilla Creek drainage, including Rabbit Slough.
- F **283** Establish catch and release for trout on Little Willow Creek of Susitna River drainage.
- NA **284** Repeal size and bag limits, and liberalize methods and means for northern pike in Alexander Lake.
- NA **285** Liberalize bag limits and gear allowed for northern pike fishing in Alexander Lake and eliminate salvage requirements.
- C/A **286** Allow 5 lines and bait to fish for northern pike in Big Lake. *(Specified that in Fish Creek drainage and Nancy Lake Recreation Area lakes, gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 60.120(7)(B); hooks must be single hooks with a gap between the point and the shank at least three-fourths of an inch or larger; each hook must be set above the bottom of the lake; only a whole and intact bait fish for which no seasonal or harvest limit exists as described in 5 AAC 75.026(b) may be used as bait; fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately unharmed. These provisions apply for fishing from November 1 through March 15 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)*
- NA **287** Allow 5 lines to fish for Northern pike in Nancy Lake.
- NA **288** Liberalize methods and means for pike fishing in Big Lake and Nancy Lake.
- F **289** Liberalize methods and means of harvesting northern pike in Threemile/Tukhalla, and Chiutbuna lakes.
- F **290** Allow for two fishing rods per single person craft on all stillwaters.
- NA **291** Stock more rainbows than silvers in lakes.
- C/A **292** Remove Symphony Lake from list of stocked lakes and reduce bag limit for Arctic grayling. *(Removed Symphony Lake from list and set bag limit to 5 per day with only one 12" or greater in length)*
- F **293** Prohibit retention of rainbow trout and require only one un-baited, single hook lure year round on Upper and Lower Six Mile Lakes.
- C **294** Establish a seasonal spawning closure for rainbow trout in Campbell and Chester creeks.

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- C **295** Establish a seasonal spawning closure for rainbow trout in Ship Creek.
- C **296** Standardize opening date for coho salmon fishing in Campbell Creek.
- C **297** Close Bird Creek to all sport fishing between January 1 and July 14.
- NA **298** Prohibit walking up and down the middle of Ship Creek prior to high and low tides.
- C/A **321** Extend the season in the Kenai, Kasilof and East Forelands sections. *(The board developed a Pink Salmon Management Plan for the purpose harvesting surplus pink salmon. Openings may take place when sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers are being achieved, and coho salmon run strength is sufficient to withstand additional harvest. Notwithstanding 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(C)(iii) (1 percent rule). On the even years the department shall manage the fishery as follows:*
(1) for one to two fishing periods between August 11 - 15; opened by emergency order;
(2) set gillnets may not be operated less than 600 feet from the shore,
(3) a set gillnet may not have a mesh size greater than 4 3/4 inch,
Triggers to open a regular 12 hour fishing period from August 11 - 15:
(A) during regular fishing periods from August 6 - 10, the daily harvest of pink salmon exceeds 50,000 fish;
(B) or cumulative harvest of 100,000 pink salmon from August 6 - 10.
Trigger to open a second 12 hour fishing period from August 11 - 15:
(A) if less than 50,000 pink salmon are harvested during first fishing period, no additional fishing period;
(B) if more than 2,500 coho salmon are harvested during first period, no additional fishing period;
The board also incorporated drift gillnet fishery into this plan – see Proposal 130.)
- F **322** Reinstate the July 1 season opening in the Kenai and East Forelands section.
- NA **323** Revise closing date in the Kenai, Kasilof and East Forelands sections.
- NA **324** Allow for use of dual permits in Cook Inlet set gillnet fishery.
- NA **325** Revise management plan.
- NA **326** Revise escapement goal for the Kenai River Late-Run Salmon Management Plan.
- NA **327** Remove windows from the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.
- NA **328** Revise closure time for the Kenai River personal use fishery.
- F **329** Provide clarification of the BEG in the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
- NA **330** Open the Kasilof Section within one-half mile when the KRSHA is open by EO.
- C/A **331** Expand the set gillnet area in the terminal harvest area of the Kasilof Special Harvest Area. *(Specified that after July 8, if the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery is restricted to fishing within the first one half mile of shore, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to set and drift gillnetting for fishing periods not to exceed 48 hours in duration without one period of 24 consecutive hours of closure. The board also specified the order in which management options should be applied.)*
- C **Proposal A:** Regulatory action regarding Susitna Sockeye Salmon Action Plan. The board specified that from July 9 - 15, fishing during the first regular period is restricted to

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expanded Kenai and expanded Kasilof Sections. The board adopted this measure to allow more sockeye salmon to reach the northern portions of Cook Inlet.

- C **Proposal B:** Regulatory action regarding Chuitna, Theodore, and Lewis Rivers King Salmon Action Plan. The board closed specific commercial harvest areas if sport fishing in the Chuitna is closed, and further prescribed sport fishing closures in the Chuitna, Lewis, Beluga, and Theodore River drainages, including closures to catch and release.
- C **Proposal C:** Regulatory action regarding Willow and Goose Creek King Salmon Action Plan. The board removed the final weekend from streams in Unit 2 of the Susitna River drainage area and closed fishing from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Additionally, in the Goose Creek drainage, sport fishing was closed for king salmon.
- C **Proposal D:** Regulatory action regarding Alexander Creek King Salmon Action Plan. The board prohibited the live release of Northern pike in the Susitna River drainage and West Cook Inlet Area, removed size and bag limits on Alexander Lake, and allowed the use of spear and bow and arrow on Alexander Lake.
- C **Proposal E:** Inriver goal and optimum escapement goal (OEG) for Kenai and Kasilof sockeye salmon. The board converted escapement goals for enumeration with DIDSON sonar.
- C **Proposal F:** Tyonek Subdistrict Subsistence Finding. The board specified the amounts necessary for subsistence of king salmon and other salmon in the Tyonek Subdistrict as 700-2,700 king salmon and 150 - 500 other salmon.
- C **Proposal G:** The board defined "fishing period" in the Cook Inlet Central District as a period open to commercial fishing not to exceed a 24-hour calendar day. This was done to clarify application of the "one percent rule".

OTHER

Board of Fisheries delegated authority to the commissioner for correcting the regulatory definition of personal use fishing for consistency with AS 16.05.940(25).

The board chose to draft written findings regarding the specific regulatory actions taken to address stocks of concern for review and adoption during its March 22-26, 2011 meeting.

The board asked Chairman Webster to draft a letter to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council regarding the recent increase in bycatch of Chinook salmon in the Gulf of Alaska.

The board reviewed a petition from the Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance regarding problems with acquiring nets with the proper size mesh for use in the West Behm Canal herring fishery. The board delegated authority to the commissioner for developing an emergency regulation allowing use of 2 1/8-inch mesh nets.

The board discussed board member scheduling conflicts with the currently scheduled October 2011 and December 2011 meeting dates. The new preferred meeting dates are October 7-13, 2011 and December 4 -9, 2011. Staff was asked if meeting locations could be found in the downtown Anchorage area.

The board asked for a presentation during its March 22-26, 2011 meeting on the Susitna Hydropower Project as it relates to fish habitat.

(updated 3/9/2011)