

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT FINFISH  
FEBRUARY 23–MARCH 3, 2015

**PROPOSAL 114 - 5 AAC 27.190. Herring Management Plan for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Establish a management plan for herring spawning aggregates that have been below threshold, as follows:

5 AAC 27.190 *Herring Management Plan for Southeast Alaska Area.* For the management of herring fisheries in the Southeast Alaska Area, the department

- (1) shall identify stocks of herring on a spawning area basis;
- (2) shall establish minimum spawning biomass thresholds below which fishing will not be allowed;
- (3) shall assess the abundance of mature herring for each stock before allowing fishing to occur;
- (4) except as provided elsewhere, may allow a harvest of herring at an exploitation rate between 10 percent and 20 percent of the estimate spawning biomass when that biomass is above the minimum threshold level;
- (5) may identify and consider sources of mortality in setting harvest guideline;
- (6) by emergency order, may modify fishing periods to minimize incidental mortalities during commercial fisheries;

**(7) shall allow spawning biomass to exceed minimum biomass thresholds for five (5) consecutive years before fishing can occur.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, the *Southeast Alaska Sac Roe Herring Fishery Management Plan* harvests Pacific herring stocks exceeding minimum biomass thresholds determined by Alaska Department of Fish and Game. These thresholds are a measure of biomass available, but care needs to be taken when harvesting stocks that have not recently met the threshold limit in place for that stock. Stocks that have been depressed, but recently show a spike in biomass, could be at risk of overharvest or be unsustainable if conservative measures, such as meeting thresholds for five consecutive years, are not put in place. Current thresholds do not allow for stocks to rebuild to pre-fishery biomasses and are managed under a shifted baseline.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sitka Tribe of Alaska (EF-C14-173)

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**PROPOSAL 115 - 5 AAC 27.190. Herring Management Plan for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Establish a management plan for herring spawning aggregates that have been below threshold, as follows:

5 AAC 27.190 *Herring Management Plan for Southeast Alaska Area.* For the management of herring fisheries in the Southeast Alaska Area, the department:

- (1) shall identify stocks of herring on a spawning area basis;

(2) shall establish minimum spawning biomass thresholds below which fishing will not be allowed;

(3) shall assess the abundance of mature herring for each stock before allowing fishing to occur;

(4) except as provided elsewhere, may allow a harvest of herring as an exploitation rate between 10 percent and 20 percent of the estimate spawning biomass when that biomass is above the minimum threshold level;

(5) may identify and consider sources of mortality in setting harvest guideline;

(6) by emergency order, may modify fishing periods to minimize incidental mortalities during commercial fisheries;

(7) shall allow spawning biomass to exceed minimum biomass thresholds for five (5) consecutive years before a fishery can occur.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, the Southeast Alaska Sac Roe Herring Fishery Management Plan harvests Pacific herring stocks exceeding minimum biomass thresholds determined by Alaska Department of Fish and Game. These thresholds are a measure of biomass available, but care needs to be taken when harvesting stocks that have not recently met the threshold limit in place for the stock. Stocks that have been depressed, but recently spike in biomass, could be at risk of overharvest or be unsustainable if conservation measures, such as meeting thresholds for five consecutive years, are not in place. Current thresholds do not allow for stocks to rebuild to pre-fishery biomasses.

**PROPOSED BY:** Organized Village of Kasaan (HQ-F14-037)  
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**PROPOSAL 116 - 5 AAC 27.190. Herring Management Plan for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Require a commercial herring fishery to occur when herring biomass is above minimum threshold, as follows:

That the wording of the section be changed to read "except as provided elsewhere, shall allow a harvest of herring at an exploitation rate of between 10 percent and 20 percent of the estimated spawning biomass when that biomass is above the minimum threshold level."

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The section reads "except as provided elsewhere, may allow a harvest of herring at an exploitation rate between 10 percent and 20 percent of the estimated spawning biomass when that biomass is above the minimum threshold level." I would like to change the wording "may allow a harvest" to "shall allow a Harvest."

If the minimum threshold is met, there should be a fishery. The science is there to protect the stock and threshold levels are set so harvest will not be detrimental to the stock. The department needs to adhere to their science and not use arbitrary "feelings" if a fishery is opened or not.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-028)  
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**PROPOSAL 117 - 5 AAC 01.716. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.** Lower the amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence for Sitka Sound herring, as follows:

The amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence (ANS) should be based on good data which is available. Lower the ANS to 60,000 to 120,000 pounds or recommend a program for further study to corroborate Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (SHCA) harvest numbers.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The ANS for Section 13-A and 13-B is based on anecdotal information. There is better information on which to base the ANS.

Herring eggs on branch harvest has not been well documented by weights and measures during the period from 1970 to 2008. However, in 2009 and 2010, SHCA conducted a herring eggs on branch harvest program with a strict protocols for weights, measures, and mapping. No data are available for 2011; unfortunately a local group prevented the harvest. In 2012 through 2014, the program was re-instituted continuing precise weights and measures of herring eggs on branches.

During the study period from 2009 to 2014, it is evident that variation in the herring egg branch harvest is not due to the sac roe fishery, but rather timing of spawn, spawn duration, weather, and participation effort. According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division, participation in herring egg branch harvest has steady declined. Our observations confirm low participation. What SHCA has found is that a harvest of 30,000 to 40,000 pounds of eggs saturates the gifting of eggs in Sitka. Additional eggs are certainly harvested by individuals, whom we have also monitored, but there is insufficient effort to harvest more than 100,000 pounds and it is likely much lower than 100,000 pounds.

The current ANS are not real harvest numbers based on good data. If the current ANS 136,000–237,000 were not being used as a tool to shut down the sac roe herring fishery it would be immaterial. The ANS has been artificially inflated for that very reason. The fact is, it is possible to harvest this amount of eggs although 186,000 pounds, the mid-point of the ANS, would require 300 4" diameter hemlock trees and five or six forty foot boats with good hydraulics to harvest it in the 10 day spawn period when the eggs would be of high quality.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (EF-C14-111)  
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**PROPOSAL 118 - 5 AAC 27.195. Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.** Modify distribution of commercial harvest under the Sitka Sound herring management plan to provide additional subsistence harvest opportunity, as follows:

(2) distribute the commercial harvest **over space and time**[by fishing time and area]**by allowing fifty (50) percent of the guideline harvest level (GHL) to harvested then allowing twenty five (25) percent of the anticipated nautical miles of spawn to occur prior to harvest the remaining GHL**[if the department determines that it is necessary] to

ensure that subsistence users have a reasonable opportunity to harvest the amount of herring spawn necessary for subsistence uses specified in 5 AAC 01.716(b).

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Issue: At the 2012 preseason stakeholder meeting, the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery manager was asked, “considering that subsistence needs were only met twice in the last seven years, how do you plan on changing the way you manage the fishery over space and time to ensure a more reasonable opportunity exists for subsistence needs to be met?” He replied that he was not going to change the way he managed the fishery and that he felt there were other variables (outside of the fishery) that affected the subsistence harvest. Although there may be variables outside the manager’s control that affect the subsistence harvest, those variables need to be taken into account when managing the one variable he can control, the commercial sac roe fishery. This proposal will force the distribution of the fishery over time to ensure a more reasonable opportunity exist for subsistence needs to be met.

What would happen if nothing is done? The fisheries manager’s refusal to change the way the fishery is managed over space and time will continue to result in a high frequency of needs not being met.

Other solutions considered: Administrative action is the only remedy at this time.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jeff Feldpausch (EF-C14-186)

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**PROPOSAL 119 - 5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area.** Remove the area locally known as the "core area" from the closed waters of District 13 in Sitka Sound, as follows:

5 AAC 27.150 (a) would end at (6). (7) District 13, in the waters north and west of the Eliason Harbor.....etc. would be deleted from regulation as a closed area.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The closed waters described in 27.150 (a)(7), locally referred to as the Core Area, is not necessary and should be repealed. Established in 2012, the Core Area with major islands Middle, Kasiana, and Crow has had good quality spawn deposition since the 1970’s and is well documented in Alaska Department of Fish and Game data. Herring eggs oHQ-F14-061n branch harvest has not been well documented by weights and measures during the same period. However, in 2009 and 2010, Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (SHCA) conducted a herring eggs on branch harvest program with a strict protocol for weights, measures, and mapping; these were years when the Core Area was open. No data is available for 2011; unfortunately a local group prevented the harvest. In 2012 through 2014, years when the Core Area was closed as per 27.150 (a)(7), the program was re-instituted continuing precise weights and measures of herring eggs on branches.

During this period from 2009 to 2014, it is evident that variation in the herring egg branch harvest is not due to the sac roe fishery, but rather timing of spawn, spawn duration, weather, and

participation effort. The sac roe fishery has been prosecuted in the Core Area during the study period, and frequently adjacent to the Core Area with no ill effect on our herring egg on branch harvest program. All eggs are provided to the community for free.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (EF-C14-108)  
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**PROPOSAL 120 - 5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area.** Remove the area locally known as the "core area" from the closed waters of District 13 in Sitka Sound, as follows:

5 AAC 27.150 (a) would end at (6). (7) District 13, in the waters north and west of the Eliason Harbor.....etc. would be deleted from regulation as a closed area.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The closed waters described in **27.150 (a)(7)** locally referred to as the Core Area is not necessary and should be rescinded. Established in 2012, the Core Area with major islands Middle, Kasiana, and Crow has had good quality spawn deposition since the 1970's and is well documented in ADF&G data. Herring eggs on branch harvest has not been well documented by weights and measures during the same period. However, in 2009 and 2010 SHCA conducted a herring eggs on branch harvest program with a strict protocols for weights, measures, and mapping; these were years when the Core Area was open. No data is available for 2011, unfortunately a local group prevented the harvest. In 2012 through 2014, years when the Core Area was closed as per **27.150 (a)(7)**, the program was re-instituted continuing precise weights and measures of herring eggs on branches.

During this period from 2009 to 2014, it is evident that variation in the herring egg branch harvest is not due to the sac roe fishery, but rather timing of spawn, spawn duration, weather, and participation effort. The sac roe fishery has been prosecuted in the Core Area during the study period, and frequently adjacent to the Core Area with no ill effect on our herring egg on branch harvest program. All eggs are provided to the community for free.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (EF-C14-109)  
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**PROPOSAL 121 - 5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area.** Expand commercial herring fishery closed waters of District 13 in Sitka Sound, as follows:

Exclude commercial sac roe herring fishing within a defined core spawning and subsistence area within Sitka Sound, to allow for a more reasonable opportunity for subsistence needs to be met, as follows:

(7) District 13, in the waters **encompassed by a line extending from the western most tip of Makhnati Island, to the northern most tip Aleutski Island, to the Baranof Island shore at the O'Connell Bridge, north along the Baranof Island shoreline, to Harbor Point, to the northern most point of Big Gavanski Island, from the western most point**

**of Big Gavanski Island, to northwestern tip of Crow Island, to Bieli Rocks, and ending at western most tip of Makhnati Island.** [NORTH AND WEST OF THE ELIASON HARBOR BREAKWATER AND MAKHNATI ISLAND CAUSEWAY FROM THE WESTERNMOST TIP OF MAKHNATI ISLAND TO THE EASTERNMOST POINT ON BIELI ROCK TO THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF GAGARIN ISLAND TO A POINT ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF CROW ISLAND AT 57° 06.43' N. LAT., 135° 28.27' W. LONG. TO A POINT ON THE WESTERN SHORE OF MIDDLE ISLAND AT 57° 06.41' N. LAT., 135° 28.11' W. LONG. TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHEASTERN SHORE OF MIDDLE ISLAND AT 57° 05.56' N .LAT., 135° 26.23' W. LONG. TO THE GREEN NAVIGATION MARKER NORTHEAST OF KASIANA ISLAND, TO THE BARANOF ISLAND SHORE AT 57° 05.26' N. LAT., 135° 22.95' W. LONG.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In the last 13 years, subsistence needs (amount necessary for subsistence) have been met six times, with needs only being met twice in the last seven years (2007–2013). The harvest of herring by the sac roe fishery in or adjacent to the core subsistence herring egg harvest area disrupts pre-spawn and spawning herring and has a negative impact on the quantity and quality of the subsistence harvest. In 2012 the Board of Fisheries modified a similar proposal and approved a closure area approximately half the size of what was requested. The closure of this approved area was adhered to in 2012 and 2013; unfortunately the ANS was not met in either of those years. Closure of the full area requested will increase the opportunity for the ANS to be met.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sitka Tribe of Alaska (EF-C14-179)  
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**PROPOSAL 122 - 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Lower the spawning biomass threshold for Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery from 25,000 to 20,000 tons, as follows:

Unless the department believes there is a sound biological reason to have the threshold at 25,000 tons, the spawning biomass threshold should be rolled back to 20,000 tons.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The spawning biomass threshold for harvest 27.160 (g) in the Sitka Sound Sac Roe Herring Fishery is currently 25,000 tons. The threshold was raised five years ago from 20,000 to the current value, but not based on scientific or stock assessment reasoning. The department did not propose the change at the time and was neutral on the 25,000 ton threshold. It was pushed through on a split vote.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (EF-C14-127)  
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**PROPOSAL 123 - 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Assign equal quota shares in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery, as follows:

For the G01A herring fishery, the quota shall be divided equally amongst participating permit holders, with not more than three permits per vessel.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Make the G01A herring fishery equal split. Due to the lack of ability of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) to manage the G01A herring fishery, i.e.; have not caught even half the quota in the last two years due to the biomass not separating until spawning, making it impossible to catch the quota, the quota shall be divided equally amongst participating permit holders, with not more than three permits per vessel. This will allow for fishers to make sets on the biomass under department supervision without catching too much of the fish at one time or going over the quota.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-024)

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**PROPOSAL 124 - 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Allow purse seine permit holders to vote on equal quota shares in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery, as follows:

Permit holders in the G01A herring fishery shall be able to vote before the start of the fishery or during the fishery, for equal split, and a super majority, 70%, shall qualify the fishery for equal split.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In the G01A herring fishery the only way for an equal split is if all the permit holders agree. This is unacceptable and causes great loss of income. The department cannot manage the fishery effectively when the herring biomass is so large and the last few years the herring have not separated out very much and have almost immediately hit the beach spawning. I am suggesting that it should be a super majority instead of 100% of permit holders voting to agree to an equal split fishery. In 2012, seiners only caught 1/3 of what the legal quota was (the department erroneously and in my opinion illegally reduced the quota in 2013 without any scientific basis) and caught less than half the quota in 2012. This loss of the fishery cost over \$7 million to the fishermen, \$140,000 per permit and \$1.4 million to the tenders and unknown millions to the processors in 2013 (based on 10,000 tons not caught) and over \$8 million to the fishermen, \$160,000 per permit and \$3 million to tenders in 2012 (based on 15,000 tons not caught). This is unacceptable.

To let a few permit holders cause this much economic loss and hardship to hundreds of crew and processing workers, not to forget all the infrastructure jobs that are affected.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-026)

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**PROPOSAL 125 - 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Reduce the harvest rate and establish a maximum guideline harvest level for the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 27.160

(g) The guideline harvest level for the herring sac roe fishery in Sections 13-A and 13-B shall be established by the department **at** [AND WILL BE] a harvest rate **of 10 percent of the spawning biomass.** [PERCENTAGE THAT IS NOT LESS THAN 12 PERCENT, NOT MORE THAN 20 PERCENT, AND WITHIN THAT RANGE SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

$$\text{HARVEST RATE PERCENTAGE} = 2 + 8 \text{ [SPAWNING BIOMASS (IN TONS)] / 20,000}$$

**The guideline harvest level shall not exceed 10,000 tons.** The fishery will not be conducted if the spawning biomass is less than 25,000 tons.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The current guideline harvest level (GHL) for the Sitka Sound sac roe fishery is exceeding market demand and is one of the variables affecting subsistence herring egg harvester's ability to meet their needs or the amount necessary for subsistence. A proposed 10 percent GHL with a 10,000 ton cap would maximize the value of the resource to the sac roe fishery, other commercial, sport, and subsistence fisheries (salmon, ground fish, etc.), and the ecosystem. These proposed amendments would increase subsistence herring egg harvest opportunities under the same premise that the state's hatchery program operates under that, putting/leaving (in the case of herring) more fish in the water increases harvest opportunities.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sitka Tribe of Alaska (EF-C14-176)

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**PROPOSAL 126 - 5 AAC 27.XXX. New Section.** Establish a commercial open pound herring spawn on kelp fishery in Sitka Sound, as follows:

The change in regulation language would allow herring seine permit holders in Sitka to use open platforms to harvest herring roe on kelp. Many ideas were given to the department and board during previous board meetings.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 1998 and 1999 an experimental open pound herring roe on kelp fishery was conducted in Sitka Sound. This project identified open pounds as a viable alternative to the sac roe fishery and produced published studies, data, and video which demonstrate the positive results of this alternative harvest method. The proposal for open pounding in Sitka Sound was first presented to the Board of Fisheries in 1996. Nineteen years is a long time ago and the environment surrounding the sac roe fishery has changed. Perhaps it is time for the board to consider this concept again. Open pound herring roe

on kelp as an alternative harvest method promotes conservation and would increase the value of the herring fishery in Sitka Sound.

**PROPOSED BY:** Darrell Kapp (EF-C14-091)  
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**PROPOSAL 127 - 5 AAC 27.185. Management plan for herring spawn on kelp in pounds fisheries in Sections 3-B, 12-A, and 13-C, and District 7.** Reduce kelp allocations in the commercial herring spawn on kelp fishery to no more than 1,000 blades per permit holder, as follows:

The kelp allocation in any area in southeast Alaska shall not exceed 1,000 blades per permit holder, whether single or multiple permit pens.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In all southeast spawn on kelp fisheries, the kelp allocation for a permit holder shall not exceed 1,000 blades, whether it is a multiple or single pen. The kelp market is a finite market of around 1,000 tons of product per year. In years of large abundance the market crashes, resulting in very low prices, i.e. \$2.00 per lb. This has happened several times, each time taking several years to recover. Also I believe that the large kelp allocations in Hoonah Sound had a direct impact in the collapse of the stock, due to too many fish in the pens, over fishing.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-025)  
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**PROPOSAL 128 - 5 AAC 27.185. Management plan for herring spawn on kelp in pounds fisheries in Sections 3-B, 12-A, and 13-C, and District 7.** Modify herring spawn on kelp pound configurations, as follows:

5 AAC 27.185(cc) Two closed pounds as specified in 5 AAC 27.130(c) may be combined into one single closed pound structure and operated by multiple permit holders. The combined pound may have a maximum surface area of 800 square feet with a maximum depth level of 30 feet. The middle web cannot be removed, it can be weighed down. The kelp allocations per permit holder and other provisions specified in this section also apply to the combined pounds; however permit holders may transfer additional herring into the combined single closed pound structure after the two closed pounds are connected and combined into a single structure. A Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permit holder who intends to operate a combined pound must register with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game before placing the pound in the water. This pound structure may not be connected to any other pound structure.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 5 AAC 27.185(cc) delete the words (only when kelp is at the maximum allocation) and add a sentence saying (the web in the middle cannot be removed, it can be weighed down with a weight.) We have been doing this for the last two years and it works well. The fish just slowly move back and forth over the middle web which is held down about one foot with a weight.

**PROPOSED BY:** Mike Svenson (HQ-F14-004)  
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**PROPOSAL 129 - 5 AAC 27.185. Management plan for herring spawn on kelp in pounds fisheries in Sections 3-B, 12-A, and 13-C, and District 7.** Allow permit holders to retain herring in a closed pound for seven days, as follows:

Herring shall be released from the pounds by noon on the seventh day.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to change the release day of herring in the pound fishery to noon, 12:00 p.m., on the seventh day. The release time of midnight on the sixth day causes undue hardship plus it makes the actual time of fish in the pens to less than six days. It makes it more difficult for harvest and gives the chance of sea lions to enter pens and ruin product. We are small businessmen and a family fishery, and to maximize the product we have to stay at the pens until midnight and then guard them until daylight when it is safer to harvest.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-092)  
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**PROPOSAL 130 - 5 AAC 28.1XX. Spiny dogfish pot fishery in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 28.174. Spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Create a commercial fishery for spiny dogfish in Southeast Alaska using pot gear, as follows:

Create a new spiny dogfish pot fishery in Southeast Alaska with regulations as described to be determined by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?**

1. Spiny dogfish are currently an underutilized fishery.
2. In processing spiny dogfish, nearly all of the carcass is utilized, (including organs) except the head. When markets are developed, this fishery could provide new revenue streams and opportunities for fishers, processors, and communities.
3. Spiny dogfish tend to travel in large dense packs by size and sex. Longline spiny dogfish fisheries in British Columbia's Strait of Georgia have resulted in concerns over the inability to fish selectively, resulting in unwanted harvest of fecund females. A pot fishery could resolve those issues by the fact that the fish are harvested live and could be released unharmed, coupled with regulations on:
  - a. Season duration

- b. Pot limits
- c. Escapement rings
- e. Legal size retention (slot limits)

**PROPOSED BY:** Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F14-015)  
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**PROPOSAL 131 - 5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Allow pots in commercial sablefish fishery, as follows:

Insert language in regulations to allow pots as well as long line fishing in black cod fishery. Fish that are caught in pots would be harvested without loss.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Would like to see regulation changes to allow not only longline but pot gear to be used in the Southeast black cod fishery. Also to allow longliners the ability to transfer non-utilized quota from longline to pots. Separate fishing areas or times to avoid gear conflicts.

Reason 1. Pot gear would cut down on fish loss due to whales, birds, sand fleas, and slime eels. As well would reduce bycatch mortality. Create an opportunity for utilization of total allowable catch. Like to erase the fisheries management gray area on fish mortality and fish landed.

Alternate pot gear would alleviate rush to get quota out of the water before conflict in other fisheries quota holders are involved in.

**PROPOSED BY:** John and Cindy Johanson (HQ-F14-054)  
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**PROPOSAL 132 - 5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Add pot gear as a legal gear type for permits currently limited to longline gear for commercial sablefish harvest in Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict fishery, as follows:

Allowing current C61C permit holders to use pot gear for sablefish harvest.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Allow Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict (SSEI) permit holders C61C permits to elect to harvest their equal quota share (EQS) using longline pot gear as a gear type and modify the sablefish fishing season to account for the alternative harvest methods while retaining separate harvest period for SSEI C91C permit holders.

Allowing current C61C permit holders to use pot gear will to the extent adopted eliminate degradation caused by sperm whale interaction.

In addition, pot gear harvest methods eliminate loss from visibility injured or dead immature sablefish better protecting the resource.

**PROPOSED BY:** John Johansen (HQ-F14-061)  
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**PROPOSAL 133 - 5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Add pot gear as a legal gear type for permits currently limited to longline gear for commercial sablefish harvest in Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict fishery, as follows:

Allowing current C61C permit holders to use pot gear for sablefish harvest.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Allow Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict (SSEI) permit holders C61C permits to elect to harvest their equal quota share (EQS) using longline pot gear as a gear type and modify the sablefish fishing season to account for the alternative harvest methods while retaining separate harvest period for SSEI C91C permit holders.

Allowing current C61C permit holders to use pot gear will to the extent adopted eliminate degradation caused by sperm whale interaction.

In addition, pot gear harvest methods eliminate loss from visibility injured or dead immature sablefish better protecting the resource.

**PROPOSED BY:** John Johansen (HQ-F14-061)  
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**PROPOSAL 134 - 5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Add pot gear as a legal gear type for commercial sablefish permits currently limited to longline gear in the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict fishery, as follows:

For the southern Southeast Alaska sablefish fishery, permit holders have the option of using pot gear or hook and longline gear.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently in the southern Southeast sablefish fishery there are two seasons, June 1 to August 15 longline only (21 permits) and September 1 to November 15 pot only (3 permits).

On June 1 typically more than half the longline permits begin fishing on finite productive fishing grounds causing gear conflict and rockfish bycatch along with a disproportionate amount of sablefish biomass removal in 3 to 5 days.

I believe that if the option to use pots instead of longline were allowed, the gear conflict would be less, rockfish and other bycatch would be greatly reduced, and predation by sand fleas and hagfish on sablefish might be eliminated.

This option has been allowed in the Prince William Sound sablefish fishery.

Allowing pots would also give the option to fish grounds infested with sand fleas and hagfish not being utilized by the longline fleet. Pots allow the fish to swim around escaping the sand flea and hagfish.

Pots allow for live delivery of product increasing revenue per pound.

**PROPOSED BY:** Bill Connor (EF-C14-010)

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**PROPOSAL 135 - 5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Update and clarify the areas where sablefish may be taken with longline gear in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, as follows:

5 AAC 28.130(a) is amended to read:

(a) In the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict, [THE SOUTHEAST OUTSIDE SUBDISTRICT, AND THE EAST YAKUTAT DISTRICT,] sablefish may be taken only with longlines. In the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict, sablefish may be taken only with longlines and pots.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** State waters sablefish fisheries in Southeast Alaska exist only in waters of the Northern Southeast Inside (Chatham Strait) and Southern Southeast Inside (Clarence Strait) subdistricts. The East Yakutat District is no longer defined under Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area regulations; this area is now categorized as the East Yakutat (EYKT) Section. The EYKT section is located within the Southeast Outside (SEO) Subdistrict. 5 AAC 28.170(h) prohibits the retention of sablefish in state waters of the SEO, except as provided for in 5 AAC 28.170(c). Elimination of the reference to EYKT and SEO in this regulation would help avoid potential confusion over the possibility of sablefish fishing opportunities in these areas.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-077)

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**PROPOSAL 136 - 5 AAC 77.674. Personal use bottomfish fishery.** Establish 50 fish harvest limit for personal use sablefish fishery, as follows:

**5 AAC 77.674(6) (A) the annual possession limit of sablefish is 50 per household.**  
**(B) the maximum number of permits that may be fished at any one time per vessel is 4 permits.**

Above would be added to the following existing language: A personal use fishing permit issued by the department under 5 AAC 77.674 is required to take sablefish; the department will issue only one sablefish personal permit per household per year; a permit holder shall record personal use sablefish harvest information on harvest recording form provided by the department.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** There is currently no limit on personal use sablefish harvest and no restrictions on the amount of longline gear that can be used to harvest personal use sablefish. Sablefish stocks are at low levels in both state and federal waters with no indication of strong incoming year classes. Unrestricted personal use harvest invites undue pressure on stocks and distortion/abuses of personal use needs.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Association (HQ-F14-031)  
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**PROPOSAL 137 - 5 AAC 77.674. Personal use bottomfish fishery.** Establish an annual limit and gear restriction in the personal use sablefish fishery, as follows:

Taking of sablefish under the required permit is limited to 50 fish per year. Hook and line gear is legal gear with a hook limit of 350 hooks per permit.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Unlike for salmon, there is currently no fish or gear limit for sablefish taken under a Department personal use/subsistence permit although a permit is required. The amount of reported catch from these permits doubled between 2012 and 2013. The Board of fisheries generally sets personal use and subsistence fishery limits at an amount typical of household use. Setting a gear limit comparable to the catch limit will reduce by catch and discard mortality.

**PROPOSED BY:** Richard Curran (EF-C14-137)  
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**PROPOSAL 138 - 5 AAC 28.175. Logbooks for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Require groundfish fishermen using dinglebar, mechanical jig, or hand troll gear to report the specific location of fishing operation by latitude and longitude in logbooks and clarify the reporting of amount of hooks fished to be consistent with that information requested in the logbook, as follows:

5 AAC 28.175(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) for dinglebar **troll gear**, mechanical **jigging machines** [JIG], or hand troll gear must include the date, the specific location of harvest by **latitude and longitude, in degrees and decimal minutes**, [SIX DIGIT STATISTICAL AREA] and nearest headland, the number of lines and **total number of** hooks [PER LINES] used, the average depth fished, the hours fished [FOR EACH LINE], and the number of bycatch fish taken, by species, **for each unique geographic location fished**; for the target species the following is required:

- (A) the number retained;
- (B) the number discarded; and
- (C) for lingcod only, their estimated sex ratio;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The current logbook reporting requirements, consisting of six-digit statistical area and the nearest headland, do not

always provide staff with enough detailed information to accurately assign groundfish harvest to the proper area. Logbooks are often submitted without statistical area information or adequate headland descriptions for staff to make an accurate area assignment. A requirement to report latitude and longitude of fishing locations will not only provide for more accurate fish ticket data, it will also furnish staff with detailed information on where these fisheries are prosecuted.

Over the years, the department has utilized the latitude and longitude information reported in longline logbooks for a variety of research activities. Current jig fishery logbook location data can only be summarized to the statistical area level. The proposed amendment would allow department staff to have access to more detailed harvest information which would assist in future management of these fisheries.

The current regulatory language requires that number of lines and number of hooks used per line are reported in the logbook. In jig fisheries that allow the use of multiple lines, reporting is inconsistent and it is often difficult for staff to determine whether fishermen are reporting the number of hooks per line or the total number of hooks used. In order to avoid this confusion, the lingcod logbook form has been updated to request the total number of hooks used. The proposed regulation amendment will provide consistency with the current fishery logbook.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-075)  
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**PROPOSAL 139 - 5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Define mechanical jigging gear separate from dinglebar troll gear and establish limits on hooks to be used, as follows:

5 AAC 28.130 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

**(m) In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, a mechanical jigging machine is a device that deploys a single line with lures or baited hooks and retrieves that line with electrical, hydraulic, or mechanically powered assistance. A mechanical jigging machine allows the line to be fished only in the water column, in a manner that the hooks connected to the line are fished above the seafloor and the line is oriented vertically within the water column. A mechanical jigging machine line may not be pulled through the water or deployed while the vessel is making way. A mechanical jigging machine must be attached to a vessel registered to fish with a mechanical jigging machine. The mechanical jigging machine line may not be anchored to the seafloor or operated unattached from the vessel. No more than five mechanical jigging machines may be operated from a vessel, with no more than 30 hooks per line operated from a mechanical jigging machine.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The current statewide definition (5 AAC 39.105(d)(25)) for mechanical jigging machines is not detailed enough to clearly distinguish mechanical jig gear from dinglebar troll gear for fisheries in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska. Dinglebar troll gear is a single line that is retrieved and set with a troll gurdy with a terminally attached weight from which one or more leaders with one or more hooks are pulled through the

water while a vessel is making way. This fishing line is towed through the water parallel to the seafloor and is quite effective at harvesting lingcod. Vessels using dinglebar troll gear are limited to the operation of a single line, a regulatory restriction that industry requested during the development of the directed lingcod fishery in the 1990s.

The statewide definition of mechanical jigging machine is vague enough that a permit holder fishing under that type of permit may utilize gear intended for dinglebar fishing and avoid the single line dinglebar restriction. Trolling a line of horizontally-oriented hooks over the sea floor is not the customary fishing method associated with mechanical jig machines. Without a clear distinction between mechanical jig and dinglebar troll gears, fishermen using dinglebar troll gear to harvest lingcod will be able to fish multiple lines by fishing under the auspices of a mechanical jig permit. Fishermen using multiple dinglebar lines will have higher catch rates of lingcod, which will complicate inseason management of these fisheries; the East Yakutat area allocation is already taken in as few as three or four days under the dinglebar single line restriction.

Current Eastern Gulf of Alaska regulations do not limit the number of mechanical jigging machines or hooks that may be used in groundfish fisheries in this area. The proposed limits on jig machines and hooks would standardize the Southeast groundfish fisheries mechanical jig regulations with the rest of the state; i.e. Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula areas.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-076)

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**PROPOSAL 140 - 5 AAC 28.173. Lingcod possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Increase minimum commercial lingcod size limit to 30 inches from tip of snout, or 22.75 inches from front of dorsal fin, to tip of tail, as follows:

All lingcod retained must measure at least 30 inches from tip of snout to tip of tail or 22.75 inches from front of dorsal fin of tip of tail.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Increase lingcod minimum length for retention in the commercial fishery from 27 inches to 30 inches

Lingcod is a highly valued fish in commercial, sport, subsistence and personal use fisheries and as such, should be protected.

1. This can be done without harm to the commercial fishery due to the fact that the allocation is based on pounds, not number of fish.
2. The harvest will not change but the number of fish left in the water for recruitment in future years will increase.
3. The result will be a higher quality product and reduced processing costs.
4. It will bring size limits in line with the lower slot limit for inside sport fisheries.
5. Lingcod are a hardy fish and can tolerate being released if under the legal size limit.

**PROPOSED BY:** Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F14-012)

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**PROPOSAL 141 - 5 AAC 28.150. Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.** Allow commercial salmon fishermen using troll gear in Sitka Sound to retain up to two lingcod per trip for personal use, as follows:

Allow trollers in the Sitka Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) to catch and retain up to two lingcod per trip for home-pack provided that they are marked in a manner that the department specifies so as to distinguish them from salable fish. (i.e. trim the lobes of the tail or remove the anal fin, etc.) The retention of these fish is to be recorded on a fish ticket upon landing.

5 AAC 28.150 New subsection: Not withstanding

**(a) of this section, up to two lingcod per trip may be retained as bycatch in the salmon troll fishery in the waters described in (a) of this section. The department may mandate that these fish be retained for personal use and may not be sold and may further require that any such lingcod aboard a troller fishing in the waters defined in (a) of this section be marked by removing the fin(s) to ensure that they are not sold.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Unlike halibut longliners, salmon trollers are not currently permitted to retain bycatch lingcod when fishing within the Sitka LAMP. While some restriction on commercial sale of bycatch lingcod in the LAMP may be appropriate, the current regulations do not even allow for retention of lingcod for personal use. The local lingcod population is healthy enough to support a small amount of additional harvest. Trollers that catch a lingcod or two in waters outside of the LAMP have to offload their lingcod before they can fish within the LAMP. The Central Southeast Outside quota for troll bycatch lingcod is rarely, if ever, taken.

**PROPOSED BY:** Tad Fujioka (EF-C14-102)  
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**PROPOSAL 142 - 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Repeal Sitka Sound Special Use area lingcod regulations, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(g)(1)(A) is repealed:

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(1) in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, defined as that area of Sitka Sound enclosed on the north by lines from Kruzof Island at 57° 20.50' N. lat., 135° 45.17' W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57° 22.05' N. lat., 135° 43' W. long., and from Chichagof Island at 57° 22.58' N. lat., 135° 41.30' W. long. to Baranof Island at 57° 22.28' N. lat., 135° 40.95' W. long., and on the south and west by a line running from the southernmost tip of Sitka Point at 56° 59.38' N. lat., 135° 49.57' W. long. to Hanus Point at 56° 51.92' N. lat., 135° 30.50' W. long. to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows to Baranof Island at 56° 49.28' N. lat., 135° 22.60' W. long.,

(A) **repealed** / / [THE NONRESIDENT BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR LINGCOD IS A BAG LIMIT OF ONE FISH, AND POSSESSION LIMIT OF TWO FISH];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Lingcod regulations for the Sitka Sound Special Use Area have been superseded by more conservative regulations established by regional emergency orders. Emergency orders have been issued each year since 2001 to manage for the sport fishery allocation, and are expected to be issued annually for the foreseeable future. Specific lingcod regulations for the Sitka Sound Special Use Area are no longer necessary.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-090)  
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**PROPOSAL 143 - 5 AAC 47.030. Methods, means, and general provisions - Finfish.** Require all anglers releasing nonpelagic rockfish to release them at depth, and require at least one deep water release mechanism on board vessels used by sport anglers, as follows:

The regulation to release non-pelagic rockfish at depth as written for guided anglers should be extended to apply to all sport fishers, including the requirement to have on board at least one operable at-depth release mechanism.

All sport-caught non-pelagic rockfish that are intended to be released must be released at the depth they were caught or at least 100', whichever is shallower.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently only guided fishers are required to release non-pelagic rockfish at depth. Statistically it is estimated that there is as much as an 80% survival rate for non-pelagic rockfish that are released at depth. While it is not practical for the commercial fishery to release at depth, there is no reason why all other sport harvesters should not also be required to release non-pelagics at depth in order to conserve the resource.

**PROPOSED BY:** Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F14-016)  
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**PROPOSAL 144 - 5 AAC 47.065. Demersal shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management.** Repeal mandatory retention requirements for nonpelagic rockfish, as follows:

[ALL NON-PELAGIC ROCKFISH CAUGHT MUST BE RETAINED UNTIL THE BAG LIMIT IS REACHED.]

No other changes to the regulation would be required.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, guided fishers are required to retain all non-pelagic rockfish until the limit is reached, after which, if additional non-pelagic rockfish are caught they must be released at depth.

Often very small non-pelagic rockfish are caught, retained and wasted because they are too small to salvage any practical amount of meat after being fileted. They are considered simply not worth the effort.

In addition to smaller rockfish, it is common for larger non-pelagic rockfish to be caught while targeting other species. The fact the angler is targeting other species often indicates that rockfish are an unintended and unwanted catch. Rockfish are not allowed to be retained by crew. Under current regulations non-pelagic rockfish must be retained until a limit is achieved, whether they are wanted or not, often resulting in undesired retention and unnecessary mortalities.

The harvest and waste of non-pelagic rockfish can be prevented if the regulations allowed discretion in the release at depth of such rockfish prior to achieving a limit. Release at depth is estimated to result in 80% survivability, but a rockfish retained results in 100% mortality. The resulting waste causes frustration to clients and guides alike, and calls into question the practicality of the regulation as written.

**PROPOSED BY:** Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F14-011)

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**PROPOSAL 145 - 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Repeal Sitka Sound Special Use Area and Ketchikan Area nonpelagic rockfish regulations, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(g)(1)(B) is repealed:

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(1) in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, defined as that area of Sitka Sound enclosed on the north by lines from Kruzof Island at 57° 20.50' N. lat., 135° 45.17' W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57° 22.05' N. lat., 135° 43' W. long., and from Chichagof Island at 57° 22.58' N. lat., 135° 41.30' W. long. to Baranof Island at 57° 22.28' N. lat., 135° 40.95' W. long., and on the south and west by a line running from the southernmost tip of Sitka Point at 56° 59.38' N. lat., 135° 49.57' W. long. to Hanus Point at 56° 51.92' N. lat., 135° 30.50' W. long. to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows to Baranof Island at 56° 49.28' N. lat., 135° 22.60' W. long.,

...

(B) **repealed** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ [THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR NONPELAGIC ROCKFISH IS THREE FISH, OF WHICH NO MORE THAN ONE MAY BE A YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH];

5 AAC 47.021(j)(1) is repealed:

(j) In the vicinity of Ketchikan:

(1) **repealed** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ [IN THE WATERS OF BEHM CANAL, CLARENCE STRAIT, TONGASS NARROWS, NICHOLS PASSAGE, GEORGE INLET, CARROLL INLET, THORNE ARM, REVILLAGIGEDO CHANNEL, AND ALL CONTIGUOUS WATERS ENCLOSED BY THE LATITUDE OF BUSHY POINT LIGHT (55° 44.00' N.

LAT.), A LINE FROM POINT ALAVA TO THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF HAM ISLAND, A LINE FROM CEDAR POINT TO DALL HEAD TO A POINT IN MIDSTREAM CLARENCE STRAIT AT THE LATITUDE OF DALL HEAD (55° 07.12' N. LAT.) TO CAAMANO POINT, THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR NONPELAGIC ROCKFISH IS THREE FISH, OF WHICH NO MORE THAN ONE MAY BE A YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Nonpelagic rockfish regulations in the Sitka Sound Special Use and Ketchikan areas have been superseded by more conservative regulations established by regional emergency orders. Emergency orders have been issued annually since 2006 to manage for the sport fishery allocation, and are expected to be issued annually for the foreseeable future. Nonpelagic rockfish regulations specific to the Sitka Sound Special Use and Ketchikan areas are no longer necessary.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-091)  
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**PROPOSAL 113 - 5 AAC 28.150. 5 AAC 32.150. 5 AAC 38.XXX. 5 AAC 47.021. 5 AAC 77.6XX.** Prohibit fishing, around Cache Island, for bottomfish, crab, and shrimp by all users, as follows:

Create a micro marine conservation zone around Cache Island, Naha Bay Southeast Alaska; where all bottom fishing, crabbing and shrimping will be prohibited by all groups. The no fish zone will extend from shore out to 300 feet.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Help depleted bottom fish rebound and relieve stress of over fishing for bottom fish species and shellfish.

Micro marine conservation zones have been successfully created around the globe and have enabled fish populations to rebound successfully from the stresses of over fishing. Rather than regulate the single species of fishes; micro conservation zones help to restore and sustain an entire ecosystem and their inhabitants. In setting aside a small area; the conservation zone will have little effect on user groups. But their impact on the fish populations will be significant over time and will benefit areas beyond the conservation zone. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough set aside all the islands from Clover Pass to Naha Bay as preservation islands where no development is allowed. We are taking it one step further and creating the water around Cache Island as a conservation zone. They work together.

**PROPOSED BY:** Naha Conservation (EF-C14-187)  
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**PROPOSAL 146 - 5 AAC 01.716. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.** Revise the amounts reasonable necessary for subsistence for salmon in Districts 12 and 14.

5 AAC 01.716(c)(4) is amended to read:

(c) The board finds that the following numbers of salmon are reasonably necessary for subsistence uses in the Southeastern Alaska Area:

...

(4) Districts **12 and 14** [11, 12, 14, AND 16]: ~~x,xxx-xx,xxx~~ [4,178 - 10,133];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 5 AAC 01.716 there is no customary and traditional use finding for salmon in districts 11 and 16 although they are included in the ANS (5 AAC 01.716(c)(4)). Districts 12 and 14 encompass distinctive fisheries and this proposal provides the opportunity to create separate ANS options for districts 12 and 14. The ANS finding for the area encompassed by districts 11, 12, 14, and 16 was made by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) in 2006. The range was defined by the lowest and highest annual estimated subsistence harvest of salmon, based on annual permit data from within the permit area from 1996–2003. An ANS finding that reflects traditional uses of particular stocks within District 12 and District 14 may be a more useful tool for the board when evaluating reasonable opportunities for subsistence harvests specific to communities within those two districts. Additionally, as noted above the districts that comprise the geographic scope of this ANS range include two districts (11 and 16) with no customary and traditional use determinations; therefore, they should not be included in an ANS finding.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-093)  
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**PROPOSAL 147 - 5 AAC 01.716. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.** Reconsider amounts necessary for subsistence in the Angoon area, as follows:

The Board of Fisheries adopts amounts necessary for subsistence specific to the Angoon Area based on the best available information provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division household use studies.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Reconsideration of how the amounts necessary for subsistence is determined and applied in the Angoon Area.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F14-021)  
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**PROPOSAL 148 - 5 AAC 01.XXX. New Section.** Allow for designation of community subsistence harvesters for Hoonah residents, as follows:

This proposal would allow for a community harvester(s) to be designated to fish within the Icy Straits area described in 5AAC 01.716(a)(4). The community harvester would be able to harvest the limits of multiple subsistence salmon permits in their possession, within specified limitations similar to those currently provided for in 5AAC 01.760(e) Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. The Hoonah Indian Association believes that provisions of how this community harvester permit system works would best be left to the discretion of the Board of Fisheries.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Hoonah Indian Association proposes a community harvester opportunity for the sockeye subsistence fishery. A community harvester would be able to harvest for people without boat transportation, and low-income families that cannot afford to make the trip to the sockeye streams nearest to Hoonah. The current proxy system is inadequate to accommodate the needs of community households that lack the means to travel to the more distant systems provided for on the current subsistence salmon permit. Hoonah residents traditionally have used the customary and traditional subsistence use area described in 5AAC 01.716(a)(4). Takanis Bay, Surge Bay and Hoktaheen are all waters regularly used by Hoonah residents to obtain their subsistence sockeye, however the ride through Icy Straits in a small skiff is both dangerous and very costly. Allowing a community harvester to fish multiple households when they make the long trip out to the sockeye streams would be much more efficient in terms expense and would provide additional opportunity for Hoonah community members to harvest salmon necessary to meet their subsistence needs.

There is currently nothing in regulation allowing residents to fish the permits of other residents outside of the current proxy provisions. Under current regulations, low-income families who do not own skiffs, cannot afford the price of fuel and/or are unable to safely navigate waters outside of Port Frederick Bay in their skiffs are not able to harvest sockeye salmon to put up for the winter.

**PROPOSED BY:** Hoonah Indian Association (EF-C14-180)  
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**PROPOSAL 149 - 5 AAC 01.710. Fishing seasons.** Modify weekly subsistence salmon fishing schedule for Klawock Inlet, Klawock River, and Klawock Lake, as follows:

Change the days of the week in the Klawock River Subsistence Fishery to start at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday and continue until 5:00 p.m. Saturday weekly. Closed from 5:00 p.m. Saturday to 8:00 a.m. Tuesday.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently the Klawock River Subsistence Fishery is open 8:00 a.m. Monday through 5:00 p.m. Friday. This effectively limits people who work a regular weekday job, from participating easily. The restriction was

established to reduce access by off island users during the weekends. The Craig Advisory committee feels strongly that a two day break in fishing is necessary for escapement to move up the river. Adjusting the fishing to include one day of the weekend, allows for that as well as allowing more working people to fish within their schedules.

**PROPOSED BY:** Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F14-051)  
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**PROPOSAL 150 - 5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications.** Close certain portions of the Klawock River drainage to subsistence salmon fishing with seines and gillnets in July and August, as follows:

**Waters in the Klawock River drainage upstream of a point at 133° 4'57.38" W 55° 33'1.287" N are closed to the use of seines and gillnets during July and August.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This restriction is necessary for conservation of sockeye salmon in the Klawock River. The sockeye salmon population in the Klawock River is at a very low level and the use of seine and gillnet gear in this area during July and August poses an unacceptable management risk of unknowingly overharvesting this resource.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F14-024)  
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**PROPOSAL 151 - 5 AAC 01.725. Waters closed to subsistence fishing.** Close Klawock River to subsistence salmon fishing upstream of the Klawock River Bridge, as follows:

Closing the Klawock River to subsistence fishing east and upstream of the Klawock River Bridge.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Low escapement for the Klawock River Sockeye Subsistence Fishery is a problem. Escapement was less than 1,200 fish each of the last two seasons. The escapement for 2009 was approximately 22,000 fish. Escapement is documented by weir count. A high number of fish are taken in this fishery at the river mouth where they are vulnerable due to shallow water and confined space. Klawock River Sockeye have been an important subsistence resource for generations. The Klawock River supported the first cannery in Alaska in 1878 based on the sockeye run.

**PROPOSED BY:** Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F14-050)  
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**PROPOSAL 152 - 5 AAC 01.750. Vessel specifications and operations.** Repeal the outboard motor horsepower restriction for Klawock River, as follows:

Repeal the horsepower restriction on the Klawock River Subsistence Fishery.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The horsepower restriction on the Klawock River Subsistence Fishery limited the people who could participate. Many people are limited to one boat and they should not be left out of the fishery. Historically the horsepower restriction was limited to keep commercial seine skiffs from harvesting fish and either overharvesting or selling fish.

**PROPOSED BY:** Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F14-052)  
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**PROPOSAL 153 - 5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications.** Allow subsistence harvest of salmon with purse seine and gillnet gear in portions of Districts 12 and 13 near Angoon, as follows:

**A subsistence permit issued under 5 AAC 01.015 for salmon taken in those waters of Chatham Strait in the vicinity of Angoon will specify the (1) area where the salmon may be taken; (2) time period during which the salmon may be taken; and (3) gillnet gear that may be used, not to exceed 50 fathoms in length. Individuals may join gillnets together for increased efficiency.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Allow the use of purse seine and gillnet gear for the harvest of salmon within the area described in 5 AAC 01.716 (6). This will assist the community of Angoon in meeting their subsistence and community needs for salmon.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F14-019)  
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**PROPOSAL 154 - 5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications and 5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.** Move gear specifications for harvesting subsistence salmon in Shipley Bay from the personal use regulations to the subsistence regulations of the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), as follows:

5 AAC 01.720(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

**5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications.** Fish may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010(a) except as may be restricted under the terms of a subsistence fishing permit and except as follows:

**(5) set gillnets may be used in District 5 in Shipley Bay within 100 yards of the terminus of Shipley Creek.**

5 AAC 77.682(g)(2)(C) is repealed:

**5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.**

(g) Salmon may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010(a) except as may be restricted on a personal use fishing permit and except as follows:

(2) set gillnets may not be used to take salmon except

(C) **repealed** / / [IN DISTRICT 5 IN SHIPLEY BAY, WITHIN 100 YARDS OF THE TERMINUS OF SHIPLEY CREEK];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** There is a positive finding for customary and traditional uses of fisheries resources in District 5, including the waters of Shipley Bay. Allowable gear for Shipley Bay is incorrectly included under personal use regulations and it should be added under subsistence regulations. Subsistence fishermen may have difficulty finding regulations describing lawful gear for Shipley Bay because it is in the wrong chapter of the Alaska Administrative Code.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-078)

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**PROPOSAL 155 - 5 AAC 47.030. Methods, means, and general provisions - Finfish.** Allow party fishing in Southeast Alaska saltwater fisheries, as follows:

When two or more persons, who are licensed or otherwise authorized to sport fish in the salt waters of Southeast Alaska, are angling for finfish aboard a vessel in these waters, fishing by all authorized persons aboard may continue until combined limits of finfish are taken and possessed aboard the vessel. (Modified wording of California’s regulation to fit SE waters.)

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Friends and families fishing from a boat generally continue fishing until the combined limits for all persons on board has been reached. Parents often let children catch their fish. Guests are frequently allowed to catch and retain fish on the limits of other persons onboard. This proposal would legalize a very common practice. Additionally, compliance with the existing bag limit regulation contributes to waste through increased release mortality when “excess” fish of one person’s limit must be discarded. These fish could be retained by transferring possession to another, unlimited angler on board. Retention of “extra” fish by others must be ignored by Fish and Wildlife patrol or children, guests, and friends originally catching the “extra” fish should be cited. Washington State and California have regulations allowing ocean boat limits.

**PROPOSED BY:** James B. Faro (HQ-F14-066)

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**PROPOSAL 156 - 5 AAC 47.030. Methods, means, and general provisions - Finfish.** Allow the use of bow and arrow to take salmon in the Southeast Alaska Area by certified bow anglers, as follows:

Allow salmon to be taken by archery bow and arrow during open fishing season in Southeast Alaska by certified bow-fishers.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I propose a new regulation that would allow personal use fishing with archery bow and arrow. Users would be required to be approved by the International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP).

This is a good idea because it would allow archers to catch fish from the beach near creeks where salmon are congregating before going up the stream to spawn. In these areas, it is already legal for fishers to fly fish, spin cast, and snag for personal use. Adding archery would allow additional fishers to share in the resource.

Requiring the IBEP certification ensures safety of the fishery and other fishers. Additionally, this would probably require adding information and procedures required for bow-fishing to the present IBEP approved course.

**PROPOSED BY:** Eddie E. Carte (EF-C14-038)  
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**PROPOSAL 157 - 5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.** Reduce the king salmon size limit from 28 inches or greater in length to 26 inches or greater in length in the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

The minimum size limit for Pacific king salmon will be 26 inches.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I have been sport fishing in Southeast Alaska for over 30 years and have witnessed an increase in the number of king salmon that have to be released due to being just under the minimum retention size of 28 inches. Like with Pacific halibut, Pacific king salmon have also experienced a recent reduced size at age phenomena. It is time to consider reducing the minimum size limit of king salmon to better align with the current stock size at age composition. The current 28-inch size limit, which was originally implemented to increase the yield of the fishery, may just be doing the opposite today with an increase in release mortality.

**PROPOSED BY:** Richard Yamada (EF-C14-105)  
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**PROPOSAL 158 - 5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.** Modify the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan by eliminating inseason reductions to the annual limit, as follows:

With the exception of the terminal harvest areas and other special hatchery harvests, efforts should be made to maintain king salmon bag, possession, and annual limits for nonresidents at a constant value throughout the season so as to ensure inside sport fishers the opportunity to access their historical share of the available treaty harvest.

Equally important, level bag limits provide stable marketable opportunities for all guided sport businesses, inside and outside, throughout the entire length of the season.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Nonresident sport fishers make up by far, the greatest percentage of guided anglers in Southeast Alaska, well over 90% in nearly every guided operation. King salmon harvest limits are the most restrictive regulations that the nonresident angler faces, so it follows that king salmon regulations carry more impact than any other harvest issue for the guided industry in Southeast. Sport-caught treaty king salmon are a precious commodity and as such should be allocated very carefully so that all Southeast sport fishers, as much as practical, have their historical opportunity for harvest, particularly in times of low abundance such as we saw in 2013. It is a well-established fact that the “outside” waters of Southeast Alaska have a much greater abundance of treaty kings in general, and especially earlier in the season, that occur “inside.” As a result of that early opportunity outside anglers are able to harvest treaty kings before the inside sport fishery has even started. The situation this proposal addresses is aggravated when early season bag limits are liberalized (increased) and then progressively ratcheted down as the season goes on, as was the case in 2013. Liberal bag limits early in the season result in a large portion of the sport allocation of previous treaty kings being caught by outside fishers before inside areas even have the chance at harvesting their share of the allocation. Essentially the practice of liberalizing bag limits early in the season then restricting them down in the steps over the course of the season disenfranchises inside nonresident anglers. Harvest data for 2013 are not available as of this writing, but it will be interesting to see if there were skewed area harvest percentages from the historical norms, with the inside harvests being lower than the norm and outside harvests being higher. If that is the case then the concerns that prompted this proposal will be validated.

Of equal concern are the uneven harvest opportunities over the course of a single season presented by progressively changing bag limits. For the guided and lodge industries, customers (almost all of which are nonresidents) pay close attention to regulations that affect their opportunities for success, and they book their trips accordingly. This is no more true than limits for the highly prized king salmon. Changing restrictions changes demand for our products, and uneven marketability within the season causes havoc on our businesses. Guided and lodge operations cannot gear up or gear down as bag limits are altered and demand fluctuates month to

month. If nonresident daily bag limits and annual harvest limits are maintained constant as much as possible throughout the length of the season, then outside and inside operators will all benefit in a more stable demand environment.

**PROPOSED BY:** Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F14-013)  
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**PROPOSAL 159 - 5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Establish nonresident annual limits for coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1–December 31; no annual limit **for residents. The annual limit for nonresidents is three times the daily bag limit for silver salmon, sockeye salmon, pink salmon and chum salmon;** no size limit;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Abuses to sport fishing bag and possession limits by some nonresident anglers are well known. These behavior patterns by a few nonresidents are contributing to conservation issues on some streams that are difficult to quantify and address. One of the first pieces of information required to assess the impacts of nonresident anglers is to document the total harvest of salmon by this group. Personal use and subsistence fisheries for Chinook, silver, and sockeye salmon generally have annual limits that are recorded in the field on a harvest record. The mail-out harvest survey is inadequate for this type of accounting.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F14-022)  
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**PROPOSAL 160 - 5 AAC 47.022. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Establish nonresident annual limits for coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

(b)  
(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1–December 31; no annual limit **for residents. The annual limit for nonresidents is three times the daily bag limit for silver salmon, sockeye salmon, pink salmon and chum salmon;** no size limit;

...

(c)  
...  
(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1–December 31; no annual limit **for residents. The annual limit for nonresidents is three times the daily bag limit for silver salmon, sockeye salmon, pink salmon and chum salmon;** no size limit;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Abuses to sport fishing bag and possession limits by some nonresident anglers are well known. These behavior patterns by a few nonresidents are contributing to conservation issues on some streams that are difficult to quantify and address. One of the first pieces of information required to assess the impacts of nonresident anglers is to document the total harvest of salmon by this group. Personal use and subsistence fisheries for Chinook, silver, and sockeye salmon generally have annual limits that are recorded in the field on a harvest record. The mail-out harvest survey is inadequate for this type of accounting.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F14-023)

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**PROPOSAL 161 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Prohibit multiple hooks in all fresh waters in the Yakutat Management Area, as follows:

Allow for single hook only sport angling in all fresh waters of the Yakutat area, Cape Fairweather to Cape Suckling, from January 1 to December 31.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** A proposal to allow for single-hook only sport angling in all fresh waters of the Yakutat area, Cape Fairweather to Cape Suckling, from January 1 to December 31.

The reason for this is conservation. The committee met and discussion was heard. Complaints about fish lying dead in holes were heard. Discussion from sport fishing representatives stated that going to single hook would help reduce the amount of incidental mortality, while still allowing the angler the experience and opportunity to obtain their catch. A proposal to do this on the Situk River was recommended by Yakutat Advisory Committee, ratified by the Board of Fisheries, and went into effect in 2009. Since that time it has met with favorable results. While it was unknown if implementation had reduced mortality, there were no complaints from sport fishermen or related industry.

The Yakutat Advisory Committee considered implementing this proposal on other rivers of high sport use, but decided that expanding to all fresh waters was a simpler format and would be best for the welfare of the fish.

Left unchanged, there will continue to be an increased chance of incidental mortality with the currently allowed treble (3-barbed) hook, thereby hindering the number of returning spawners, lowering the number of returning stock, and reducing overall opportunity to anglers. The additional incidental mortality will add to the "dead fish on the bottom's unsightliness" as complained about by lodge owners.

This proposal should help fish recover from a release and improve survival rates. It should also be a benefit to all user groups with no one expected to be negatively impacted.

The Yakutat Advisory Committee considered adding the language: **single barbless**. There wasn't opposition to barbless, but it should be handled in a separate proposal, having had another chance for discussions. Should the board see fit to add this language, the advisory committee heard no opposition to it either.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-076)  
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**PROPOSAL 162 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Prohibit multiple hooks and barbed hooks in all fresh waters of the Yakutat Management Area, as follows:

Proposal to restrict sport fishing in all fresh waters of the Yakutat area; Cape Fairweather to Cape Sukling, to single barbless hook only, with the exception of two single barbless hooks may be used in tandem when bait is allowed.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The reason for this is conservation. The committee met and discussion was heard. Complaints about fish lying dead in holes were heard. Discussion from sport fishing representatives stated that going to single hook would help reduce the amount of incidental mortality, while still allowing the angler the experience, and the opportunity to obtain their catch. A proposal to do this on the Situk River was recommended by Yakutat Advisory Committee, ratified by the Board of Fisheries, and went into effect in 2009. Since that time, it has met with favorable results. While it is unknown if implementation had reduced mortality, there were no complaints from sport fishermen, or related industry.

We considered just implementing it on other rivers of high sport use, but decided that expanding to all fresh waters was a simpler format, and would be best for the welfare of the fish.

Left unchanged, there will continue to be an increased chance of incidental mortality with the currently allowed treble (three barbed) hook, there by hindering the number of returning spawners, lowering the number of returning stock, and reducing overall opportunity to anglers. The additional incidental mortality will add to the "dead fish on the bottom's unsightliness" as complained about by lodge owners.

This proposal should help fish recover from a release, and improve survival rates. It should also be a benefit to all user groups, with no one expected to be negatively impacted.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-086)  
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**PROPOSAL 163 - 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area.** Reduce the Yakutat Village Lagoon coho salmon bag and possession limits to two fish greater than 16 inches in length, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(b) In the Yakutat vicinity:

...

**(3) in the waters of Yakutat Village Lagoon shoreward of Mallot Avenue, the bag and possession limit for coho salmon greater than 16 inches in length is two fish;**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, the coho salmon bag and possession limits for the Yakutat Village Lagoon are the least conservative on the Yakutat road system, causing angler effort to focus on this small, easily accessible drainage. Northern pike eradication efforts were completed in 2009 allowing coho salmon to recolonize this drainage. Given the small size of this drainage, accessibility from the Yakutat road system, and recolonization by coho salmon, more conservative bag and possession limits are needed to protect the sustainability of this small coho salmon population.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-087)  
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**PROPOSAL 164 - 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Designate the Village Lagoon and the Village Lagoon drainage as a youth-only fishery, as follows:

A proposal to restrict angling in Village Lagoon and accompanying lakes to youth under the age of 18 only.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** We feel that given the proximity to the road system and the small size of the run, some means of control is in order. Too many anglers, as to ruin the experience or too much pressure on the stocks are the main concern. In addition the public hazards of an increasing number of cars parked along the highway with accompanying pedestrian issues. Restricting access to youth only will eliminate the traffic concerns, and yet provide a fun place to fish close by for kids. We feel there are plenty of other places to fish for the adults.

We do not feel anyone will be adversely affected.

We considered adding elderly and handicapped, but decided against adding these. It was felt there would still be the possibility of to many sport anglers who were eligible as seniors as to

potentially be a problem, and we felt that there would be better places to consider for creating a handicapped fishing area.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-085)  
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**PROPOSAL 165 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Allow the use of bait when sport fishing for salmon in the Kaliakh River, as follows:

Allow sport fishing using bait for salmon in the Kaliakh River.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to change the sport fishing regulation to allow using bait in the Kaliakh River since it is a silty river and has not been commercial fished in years and it would help take a little pressure off the Tsiu River.

**PROPOSED BY:** Harold Perantie (EF-C14-114)  
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**PROPOSAL 166 - 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Establish an effective date of April 1 for the District 11 sport fishery for king salmon and rescind the closure in upper Taku Inlet, as follows:

1. Establish the waters of upper Taku Inlet as permanently opened
2. Set the effective date for the D-11 fishery at April 1.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Reduce unnecessary regulatory action on the Juneau Area king salmon sport fishery. Juneau anglers fish under three sets of king regulations: 1) Southeast King Management Plan; 2) Taku River king salmon fishery in salt waters of District 11 and 3) a designated terminal harvest area (THA) fishery for hatchery king salmon. The complexity associated with these inseason regulatory changes is confusing to anglers. The intent of this proposal is to reduce unnecessary regulatory action. Amendments to these regulations may have allocative implications.

**PROPOSED BY:** Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee (HQ-F14-032)  
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**PROPOSAL 167 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Open freshwaters along the Juneau road system to sport fishing for hatchery-produced king salmon, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023(e)(1) is amended to read:

- (e) In the Juneau vicinity:
  - (1) in all drainages crossed by the Juneau road system,
    - (A) unless otherwise specified in [(B) – (J) OF] this paragraph,

...

**(vi) the bag and possession limit for king salmon is four fish; no size limit; king salmon harvested by a nonresident angler does not count toward that angler's nonresident annual limit;**

...

**(M) in Fish Creek Pond from June 1 – August 31,**  
**(i) the use of bait, weighted hooks and lures, and multiple hooks with a gap between point and shank larger than one-half inch are permitted; and**  
**(ii) king salmon hooked elsewhere than in the mouth may be retained.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Since 1993, Juneau freshwater drainages crossed by the road system have been opened to sport fishing for king salmon by emergency order to allow for harvest of hatchery-produced king salmon. Establishing this freshwater fishery in regulation would eliminate confusion among sport anglers without causing a conservation concern since there are no indigenous king salmon stocks on the Juneau road system.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-089)  
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**PROPOSAL 168 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.**  
 Open freshwaters along the Juneau road system to sport fishing for hatchery-produced king salmon, as follows:

- (e) In Juneau vicinity:
  - (1) in all drainages crossed by the current Juneau road system
    - (A) unless otherwise specified in (B) – (J) of this paragraph:
      - (vi) the bag and possession limit for king salmon is four fish of any size, king salmon harvested by nonresident anglers do not count toward the annual limit.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Hatchery king salmon are released in and around several freshwater drainages on the current Juneau road system and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game has issued an emergency order to allow harvest opportunity for these fish on an annual basis since 1993. This proposal would open king salmon fishing year round in the fresh water drainages crossed by the current Juneau road system and eliminate confusion over when and where king salmon fishing is allowed. There are no wild indigenous stocks of king salmon on the Juneau road system.

**PROPOSED BY:** Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee (HQ-F14-033)  
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**PROPOSAL 169 - 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Repeal the Eagle River Beach area Dolly Varden sport fishery closure, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(d)(4) is repealed:

(d) In the Juneau vicinity:

...

(4) **repealed** / / [IN THE WATERS OF EAGLE RIVER BEACH, FROM THE BOY SCOUT CAMP NORTH TO AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER LOCATED ON THE MAINLAND SHORE AT THE LATITUDE OF SENTINEL ISLAND LIGHT AT 58° 32.78' N. LAT., 134° 55.27 W. LONG., TO A DISTANCE ONE-QUARTER MILE OFFSHORE, DOLLY VARDEN MAY ONLY BE TAKEN FROM JUNE 1–MARCH 31];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Retention of Dolly Varden in the Eagle River Beach/Boy Scout Beach area north of Juneau is prohibited from April 1 – May 31. This closure went into effect in 1983 due to concerns over declining catch rates and harvest in the Juneau roadside fishery. Current harvest and escapement data indicate the Dolly Varden stocks present along the Juneau road system shoreline are stable and therefore a closure is no longer necessary.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-088)

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**PROPOSAL 170 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Allow the use of bait from September 15 through October 15 when sport fishing in the Klawock River, as follows:

"Allow the use of bait in the Klawock River System (River and Lake) from September 15 through October 15 of each year".

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Committee C Summary at the Board of Fisheries Southeast and Yakutat Finfish Meeting on March 1, 2012 regarding Proposal 263, 5 AAC 47.023, discussed the prohibition of the use of bait in the Klawock River.

Reasons given (at this meeting) were used to restrict the use of bait in the Klawock River from September 15 through October 15 of each year. These reasons are in question.

Discussion follows:

1. There are no "wild run" coho in the Klawock River. There is a wild spawning area up in the Klawock Lake area, but there is no wild coho run associated with the run. There has been a hatchery on the Klawock River since 1892, releasing smolts back into the river for over 120 years. I also understand that the hatchery started raising coho and releasing coho smolts in the

early 1900's; about 1912. Therefore, no true "wild run coho" can possibly exist in the Klawock River.

2. I have personally fished the rivers all over the Prince of Wales Island for the past 37 years (since 1978.) This year will be my 34<sup>th</sup> year fishing the Klawock River. None of my fishing partners over these years have ever caught or have even seen any other fisherman catch or even view either a steelhead or cutthroat trout in the September 15 through October 15 timeframe.

3. There is absolutely no logical reason for a bait fisherman to select a female coho over a male coho. A male coho is normally a bigger fish and will be better eating than a female that was just filled with eggs. There are always plenty of female coho in our catches to provide all the bait needed without selecting.

4. The use of bait has never increased the mortality rate of released coho. We keep what we catch. You will find that most bait fishermen are meat fishermen. We like to get on the rivers early, catch our fish, and get them to the processor as soon as possible. Using non-bait fishing equipment can easily double or triple fishing time on the river, and can actually keep other fishermen from accessing the river. This could also help other fishermen to find another place to fish (and spend their money). In my opinion and experience, I get more "foul hooked" fish when using either a fly or a spinner, because a coho will take a bait directly into their mouth, whereas with a fly or a spinner you are actually dragging your equipment over their backs and into their heads, eyes, dorsal fins, and tails. I expect the mortality rate for non-bait fishing equipment could actually be higher than with bait.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jerald E. Ogburn (EF-C14-044)  
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**PROPOSAL 171 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.**  
Allow the use of bait after September 15 when sport fishing for coho salmon in the Klawock River, as follows:

Allow the use of bait in the Klawock River after September 15 for coho salmon.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I have fished on Prince of Wales Island for some time now. In my opinion, I see no reason to close the Klawock River to bait fishing. In the past few years, having to fish the Klawock with spinners or flies has resulted in foul-hooking coho, requiring the release of damaged coho. Fishing with bait in the Harris resulted in very few foul-hooked fish.

**PROPOSED BY:** Tom Fortner (EF-C14-069)  
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**PROPOSAL 172 - 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.** Repeal Ketchikan Creek harvest regulations applying to adipose fin-clipped steelhead, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023(i)(6)(D) is repealed:

(i) In the Ketchikan vicinity:

...

(6) in Ketchikan Creek, excluding City Park Ponds,

...

(D) **repealed** / / [THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR STEELHEAD IS TWO FISH IF ONE OF THE FISH HAS A CLIPPED ADIPOSE FIN, AS EVIDENCED BY A HEALED SCAR];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Hatchery-produced steelhead are no longer released in Ketchikan Creek, making the regulation allowing retention of hatchery-produced steelhead, identified by a clipped adipose fin, misleading and unnecessary.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-092)

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**PROPOSAL 173 - 5 AAC 01.716. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.** Require the board to address habitat, conservation, and subsistence priority when considering regulations and policies, as follows:

5 AAC 01.176

...

(d) In Southeastern Alaska, the board must always assess the impact that past and current management actions for wild and hatchery salmon have had on each community's ability to meet cultural and traditional subsistence uses. The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) must specifically address habitat, conservation, and subsistence priority obligations in their regulations and policies for commercial, sport, personal use, and hatchery programs. When the board considers regulations and policies that might compromise customary and traditional subsistence uses the affected communities shall be consulted. The board shall use the traditional use areas outlined in Goldschmidt and Haas (1946) to determine the communities they are obligated to consult with.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The board is obligated to sustain wild salmon habitats and stocks and provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses of those wild stocks (i.e., AS 16.05.258 (a) and 5 AAC 39.220). The board has not effectively addressed these wild salmon habitat, conservation, and subsistence priority obligations when promulgating regulations that allow other users to harvest and release wild and

hatchery salmon. As a result, many communities are not meeting their cultural and traditional subsistence needs for fish because too many are being caught by other users and wild fish are being supplanted by hatchery release.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kootznoowoo Corp. Inc.

(HQ-F14-060)

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**PROPOSAL 174 - 5 AAC XX.XXX. New Section.** Establish a Taku River king salmon management plan, as follows:

Create a management plan in regulation that provides that if the pre-season Taku River king salmon terminal run forecast (available each year in December) is less than the mid-point of the inriver escapement goal range (27,500 fish), the troll fishery in District 14 is closed to taking king salmon for the spring fishery (April 15–June 30), and the sport king salmon bag limit in commercial fishing District 11, District 14, and District 12 north of the latitude of Point Couverden, is reduced to one fish from April 15–June 15.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Taku River is home to Southeast Alaska’s largest and most important king salmon stock, and it is rapidly declining. There is no management plan governing the catch of Taku River kings, even though most of the sport catch and all of the commercial troll catch of Taku-bound kings occurs before the in-river escapement can be estimated. The escapement goal range is 19,000–36,000 fish. The sport fishery occurs within a few miles of the river and the commercial troll catch occurs many miles away in Icy Strait and other northern inside waters. To provide some degree of protection to this important run, a management trigger needs to be established for determining the viability of having a fishery on this stock during years of expected low abundance, especially for the troll fishery which is the first harvester and by far the major harvester of the Taku stock. The troll catch of Taku king salmon is usually two to six times the sport catch of Taku king salmon, and easily exceeds the sport and gill net catch combined in poor years.

This proposal cannot be expected to be the cure-all for the Taku king salmon stock status, but it is a step in the right direction during poor runs. The 2013 Taku king run did not meet the lower end of the escapement range, and the 2014 pre-season forecast is for another weak run. Sport catches of wild king salmon in the Juneau area have declined in the last several years. If poor runs continue and nothing is done to reduce the harvest in poor years, the stock will continue to decline. This stock has supported generations of sport and commercial fisheries, and it a travesty to watch it decline without attempting to right the ship.

The District 14 spring troll fishery has been justified in the past as a king salmon hatchery access fishery even though there is no king salmon hatchery within dozens of miles of the fishery, and even though far more wild kings are caught than hatchery fish. The spring fishery morphed into a regular spring troll fishery with few regulations or controls, and is now a potential problem for intercepting wild Southeast king salmon returns during years of low abundance.

The language of the proposal would still allow trolling for chum salmon in Icy Strait in the spring. Only the Chinook fishery is proposed to be closed during poor runs.

The mid-point of the escapement range is a suggested starting point for discussion about when this plan commences. A point higher in the range than the midpoint can be justified as well.

**PROPOSED BY:** Territorial Sportsmen Inc. (HQ-F14-036)

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**PROPOSAL 175 - 5 AAC 33.364. Southeastern Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan.** Evaluate potential changes to enhanced salmon allocations, as follows:

It is recommended that a task force be set up by the Board of Fish to revisit the current allocation plans effectiveness since inception and recommend any changes to the Board of Fish. This would allow for all gear groups and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to voice concerns over the current plan and allow for all changes that have occurred over time to be accounted for in any recommendations that are made to the board.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Over the past 20 years changes in the Southeast Alaska fishing industry; including fleet composition (numbers of permits for different net gear types), differences in market conditions, new production areas, new fisheries, and changes in treaty agreements to name a few show that the Board of Fish should revisit the *Southeast Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan*. This is a plan that over time should be reviewed and adjusted on a set schedule to reflect the ever evolving salmon fisheries in Southeast Alaska.

**PROPOSED BY:** Donald Churchill (EF-C14-182)

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**PROPOSAL 176 - 5 AAC 33.364. Southeastern Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan.** Establish new enhanced salmon allocations by gear type, as follows:

We propose that the board direct the Northern Regional Planning Teams (RTP), the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Inc. (NSRAA) and Douglas Island Pink and Chum, Inc. (DIPAC) boards to develop a detailed harvest management plan. We anticipate that the plan would:

- 1) Be modified annually based on the:
  - a. results of the previous year;
  - b. forecast returns of each species of enhanced salmon at each release site
  - c. expected prices.
- 2) Include target harvest levels for each gear group for each species of significance by release site.

3) Show a means by which half of the troll imbalance-which is currently at 10% (based on 17% share during the 2009–2013 period) will be eliminated to make the troll share during the 2015–2019 period at least 22%, with the anticipation that the remaining imbalance be eliminated in the following five year period.

4) Be initially submitted to the board no later than the last board meeting of the 2016–17 cycle with updates to follow annually

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Trollers have remained well below their allocation under the Southeast Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan (5 AAC 33.364) for many years. These allocation ranges were established to ensure a "fair and reasonable distribution of the harvest of salmon from enhancement projects among the seine, troll and gillnet commercial fisheries." At least with regard to the troll fleet, the actual harvest has persistently fallen well short of the fair share of 27–32% provided.

It is necessary that the NSRAA board, DIPAC board and Northern RTP take a deliberate approach to craft a future harvest plan that closes the allocation imbalance over a reasonable period of time using the tools set forth in Board of Fish (board) Findings 94-148FB Guiding Principle #13.

Furthermore, in Findings 94-11, the Board of Fisheries agreed with the consensus recommendation of the State Allocation Task Force that when the value of a gear group’s harvest over a trailing five year period has been outside of this distribution for three consecutive years, the first course of action is to make an adjustment to access terminal harvest area fisheries in order to achieve the board-prescribed balance. The second course of action to remedy an allocation imbalance under Board of Fisheries Findings 94-11 is the additional production of enhanced salmon to benefit the gear group(s) below allocation.

Over the past two decades that the trollers have been below their allocation share, the existing Northern RPT & hatchery board system has failed to develop a successful solution to solve the imbalance. We know that it is possible for hatchery boards to develop well-balanced harvest plans since SSRAA manages to do so.

**PROPOSED BY:** Chum Trollers Assoc. (EF-C14-171)

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**PROPOSAL 177 - 5 AAC 33.385. Mist Cove Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.** Close common property commercial salmon fishery in a portion of Mist Cove Special Harvest Area to allow hatchery operations, as follows:

Mist Cove Special Harvest Area (SHA) shall remain open to sport salmon fishing, and to commercial trolling during the summer troll fishery, except for an area of Mist Cove SHA as follows: south of a line at 56° 31.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long., to a point at 56° 31.07' N. lat., 134° 40.12' W. long. shall be closed to common property fishing.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), in consultation with Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), closes a very small portion of its SHA to common property fishing each year via emergency order in order to provide safety to staff, and protect floats, barrier nets, net pens, and other infrastructure. In addition, the closure provides an area for protection of coho for economic harvest. NSRAA, in consultation with ADF&G, would like to codify this in regulation.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F14-009)  
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**PROPOSAL 178 - 5 AAC 33.385. Mist Cove Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.** Close common property commercial salmon fishery in a portion of Mist Cove Special Harvest Area to allow hatchery operations, as follows:

Mist Cove Special Harvest Area (SHA) shall remain open to sport salmon fishing, and to commercial trolling during the summer troll fishery, except for an area of Mist Cove SHA as follows: south if a line at 56° 31.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long., to a point at 56° 31.07' N. lat., 134° 40.12' W. long., shall be closed to common property fishing.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), closes a very small portion of its SHA to common property fishing each year, via emergency order in order to provide safety to staff, and protect floats, barrier nets, net pens, and other infrastructure. In addition, the closure provides an area for protection of coho for economic harvest. NSRAA in consultation with ADF&G would like to codify this in regulation.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F14-025)  
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**PROPOSAL 179 - 5 AAC 33.374. District 12: Hidden Falls Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.** Close common property commercial salmon fishery in a portion of Kasnyku Bay Special Harvest Area to allow hatchery operations, as follows:

Kasnyku Bay Special Harvest Area (SHA) shall remain open to sport salmon fishing, and to commercial trolling during the summer troll fishery, except for a small portion of the SHA north and west of a line between a point of 57° 13.165' N. lat., 134° 51.859' W. long., and a point of 57° 13.079' N. lat., 134° 52.018' W. long., and the waters north of a line from 57° 13.051' N. lat., 134° 52.238' W. long., and a point of 57° 13.063' N. lat., 134° 52.202' W. long.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), closes a very small portion of its Kasnyku SHA to common property fishing each year. The commercial closure is via emergency order, while the sport closure has been done with posted ADF&G sport fish closure signs. NSRAA closes this area in order to provide safety to staff, and protect floats, barrier nets, net pens, and other infrastructure. In addition, the closure provides an area for protection of coho, Chinook, and chum salmon for broodstock purposes and for economic harvest. NSRAA, in consultation with ADF&G, would like to codify this in regulation.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F14-010)  
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**PROPOSAL 180 - 5 AAC 33.374. District 12: Hidden Falls Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.** Close common property commercial salmon fishery in a portion of Kasnyku Bay Special Harvest Area to allow hatchery operations, as follows:

Kasnyku Bay Special Harvest Area (SHA) shall remain open to sport salmon fishing, and to commercial trolling during the summer troll fishery, except a small portion of the SHA north and west of a line between a point at 57° 13.165' N. lat., 134° 51.859' W. long., and a point at 57° 13.051' N. lat., 134° 52.238' W. long., and a point 57° 13.063' N. lat., 134° 52.202' W. long., shall be closed to common property fishing.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), in consultation with ADF&G, closes a very small portion of its Kasnyku SHA to common property fishing each year. The commercial closure is via emergency order, while the sport closure has been done with posted ADF&G sport fish closure signs. NSRAA closes this area in order to provide an area for protection of coho, Chinook, and chum salmon for broodstock purposes and for economic harvest. NRSAA, in consultation with ADF&G, would like to codify this in regulation

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F14-026)  
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**PROPOSAL 181 - 5 AAC 40.XXX. District 6: Neck Lake Special Harvest Area.** Establish a Neck Lake Special Harvest Area, as follows:

5 AAC 40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**5 AAC 40.XXX. District 6: Neck Lake Special Harvest Area. (a) There is established a Neck Lake Special Harvest Area for the Southern Southeast Aquaculture Association harvest of hatchery salmon returns to the Neck Lake remote release site, consisting of the**

waters of Whale Pass north and west of a line from 56° 05.55' N. latitude, 133°07.30' W. longitude, to 56°05.82' N. latitude, 133°06.58' W. longitude.

(b) A hatchery permit holder harvesting salmon within the special harvest area is exempt from the provisions of 5 AAC 33.310. The open fishing season and area for the hatchery permit holder is from June 15 through August 31 in those waters of the Neck Creek upstream of the beginning of the fish pass. Additional fishing periods and area may be established by emergency order.

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 33.330, legal gear for the hatchery permit holder in the special harvest area is a weir, dip nets, or beach seines. Additional gear may be established by emergency order.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Cost recovery on Neck Lake remote-released hatchery salmon by the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association has been conducted annually by emergency order since 1998. The project is successful and is expected to occur annually in the future. Establishing a Neck Lake Special Harvest Area with harvest parameters will eliminate the need to issue an emergency order every year.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-086)  
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**PROPOSAL 182 - 5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.** Modify fishing ratios and sunset date in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan, as follows:

*5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* (a) The intent of this management plan is to distribute the harvest of hatchery-produced salmon in the area described in (b) of this section between the purse seine, drift gillnet, and troll fleets.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), shall open and close, by emergency order, fishing seasons and periods to manage the waters of Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 56\_ 59.35' N. lat., 135\_ 22.63' W. long., to the westernmost tip of Long Island, to the easternmost tip of Long Island, to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island, to the westernmost tip of Error Island, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island, to the southernmost tip of Berry Island, to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57\_ 00.30' N. lat., 135\_ 17.67' W. long., to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57\_ 00.08' N. lat., 135\_ 16.78' W. long., and then to a point on the Baranof Island shore at 56\_ 59.93' N. lat., 135\_ 16.53' W. long., as follows:

(1) salmon may be taken by seines and drift gillnets only during periods established by emergency order as follows:

(A) openings for seines and gillnets must be rotated between net gear groups; the department, in consultation with NSRAA, shall close fishing between openings;

(B) the time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is two to one, except that beginning with the first emergency order of the XXX season through the last emergency order of the XXX season[2012 SEASON THROUGH THE LAST

EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE 2014 SEASON], the time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is **XXX TO XXX** [ONE TO ONE] after the third Sunday in June;

(2) salmon may be taken by troll gear when the waters described in this subsection are closed to commercial net gear;

(3) the commissioner shall close the seasons in the waters described in this subsection to trolling during hatchery cost recovery periods;

(4) before July 1, in order to protect local sockeye salmon stocks, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the fishing season and immediately reopen the fishing season during which the minimum mesh size of a gillnet in the drift gillnet fishery is six inches.

(c) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in length.

(d) The waters described in (b) of this section, west of 135\_20.75' W. long., will be closed to purse seine and drift gillnet gear beginning with the first emergency order of the season through the third Saturday in June.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Joint Southeast Regional Planning team (JSERPT) has submitted this placeholder proposal as a way for the board to address imbalances in the enhanced salmon allocation management plan in Southeast Alaska (5 AAC 33.364). The current regulation was a proposal submitted by the JSERPT last board cycle and will sunset in 2014. The JSERPT will be considering recommendations to the board regarding this new proposal and other enhanced salmon allocation proposals at its fall 2014 meeting.

**PROPOSED BY:** Joint Southeast Regional Planning Team (EF-C14-172)

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**PROPOSAL 183 - 5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.** Modify commercial salmon fishery purse seine and drift gillnet fishing time ratios in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

Proposed language:

**(B) the time ratio for gillnet to seine time is two to one, except that beginning with the first emergency order of the 2015 season through the last emergency order of the last year in the S.E. Alaska finfish Board of Fisheries cycle, the time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is one to one after the third Sunday in June through statistical week 30. Commencing statistical week 31, gillnet to seine time will be two to one, respectively. If preliminary 2015 season S.E. Enhanced Allocation numbers indicate the seine fleet will be within their range (44% - 49%) for enhanced salmon based on the 5 year rolling average, the following season (2016) the gillnet to seine ratio will be 2-1, respectively from the first emergency order to the last of that season. If the following year (2016) brings the five year rolling average of the seine fleet below their range, the gillnet to seine ratio shall be 1-1 from the third Sunday in June through statistical 30, and 2-1 starting statistical week 31 through the end of the season. The latest preliminary allocation numbers as determined by NSRAA data analysis and verified by ADF&G from the previous season will be used to**

**determine the following year rotation schedule. This section will sunset at the end of the 2015 board cycle.** [2012 SEASON THROUGH THE LAST EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE 2014 SEASON, THE TIME RATIO FOR GILLNET OPENINGS TO SEINE OPENINGS IS ONE TO ONE AFTER THE THIRD SUNDAY IN JUNE;]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The seine and driftnet fleets, as part of an overarching agreement, have determined that a change in rotation access is appropriate for the coming board cycle.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska Seiners  
(EF-C14-162)

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**PROPOSAL 184 - 5 AAC 33.377. District 2: Kendrick Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.** Open Kendrick Bay Terminal Harvest Area to commercial salmon fishing with troll gear, as follows:

5 AAC 33.337. DISTRICT 2: KENDRICK BAY TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) The management plan in this section allows for the harvest of hatchery produced chum salmon in Kendrick Bay by purse seine and troll fleets.

(b).....and set the fishing times for the seine and troll fleets concurrently as follows: salmon may be taken by seine and troll only during periods established by emergency order.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** All of Southern SE Regional Aquaculture's (SSRAA's) special harvest areas (SHA) including Neets Bay, Anita Bay, and Nakat Inlet, are generally open to troll gear whenever they are open for common property harvest by any gear type except for the Kendrick Bay SHA. This is stated specifically in the regulations for Anita Bay (5 AAC 33.383) and Nakat Inlet (5 AAC 33.372) and has been done as a common practice in Neets Bay (5 AAC 33.370) except in those instances where there is a specific rotation that includes troll as part of that rotation or opens a specific areas of Neets Bay concurrently to troll with a net gear rotation elsewhere in the SHA. The SSRAA Board proposes opening the Kendrick Bay SHA to troll gear whenever the SHA is otherwise open to seine.

While troll gear does not compete effectively with seine gear there may be instances where trollers find some meaningful use of the Kendrick SHA. These would include trolling in the outer portion of McLean Arm which is adjacent to a spring access chinook fishery — particularly during periods of bad weather. It is also possible, though not likely, that trollers could access chum salmon in the SHA in the event openings for seine were not well attended. Trollers also find safe anchorage in the SHA during periods of bad weather and would simply

like to troll to and from that anchorage. And, the SSRAA Board, recognizing a long-term imbalance in the allocation of enhanced fish, would like to make the inclusion of troll gear consistent for all of its SHA's.

**PROPOSED BY:** John Burke for SSRAA Board of Directors (EF-C14-036)

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**PROPOSAL 185 - 5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.** Change fishing ratios and sunset date in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan, as follows:

**5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan** (a)  
The Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area consists of the waters of Anita Bay south and west of a line from the tip of Anita Point to 56\_ 14.26' N. lat., 132\_ 23.92' W. long.

(b) The commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, fishing seasons and periods to manage the common property fisheries to harvest excess salmon returning to the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area. The Terminal Harvest Area will be opened and closed under this subsection to the harvest of salmon as follows:

(1) The waters within one-quarter mile of the northern shoreline of Anita Bay west of a line from 56\_ 12.31' N. lat., 132\_ 26.22' W. long. to 56\_ 12.06' N. lat., 132\_ 26.22' W. long., and east of a line from 56\_ 11.96' N. lat., 132\_ 29.58' W. long. to 56\_ 11.73' N. lat., 132\_ 29.36' W. long., will be open from June 15 through July 10;

(2) The waters south and west of the waters specified in (1) of the subsection, will be closed as follows:

(A) from June 15 through June 25, the waters of the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area that are west of 132\_ 26.22' W. long. will be closed to the harvest of salmon;

(B) from June 26 through July 1, the waters of the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area that are west of 132\_ 26.98' W. long. will be closed to the harvest of salmon;

(C) from July 2 through July 10, the waters of the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area that are west of 132\_ 28.00' W. long. will be closed to the harvest of salmon

(3) the waters within the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest not described in (1) and (2) of this subsection will be open for the entire fishing season.

(c) This management plan distributes the harvest of hatchery-produced king, coho, and chum salmon among the purse seine, troll, and gillnet fisheries when there are excess fish not being harvested by the hatchery operator. (

d) The department shall manage the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area from May 1 through November 10 to distribute the harvest of excess hatchery-produced king, coho, and chum salmon as follows:

(1) salmon may taken by troll gear at any time;

(2) salmon may be taken by seines and drift gillnets only during periods established by emergency order;

(3) in establishing emergency order season openings for the seine and drift gillnet fisheries, the department shall rotate openings between these gear groups and shall provide for a time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings of two to one; however, if

approximately equal numbers of salmon are not being harvested by the two gear groups, the ratio and timing of openings may be altered, and beginning with the first emergency order of the XXX season through the last emergency order of the XXX season[2012 SEASON THROUGH THE LAST EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE 2014 SEASON], the time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is XXX to XXX [ONE TO ONE].

(e) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in length.

(f) Salmon may be taken in the terminal harvest area under sport and personal use fishing regulations at any time. A personal use permit issued under 5 AAC 77.682 for the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area shall include the following conditions:

- (1) salmon may be taken for personal use only by drift gillnet;
- (2) a drift gillnet operated for personal use may not exceed 50 fathoms in length;
- (3) the annual bag and possession limit for personal use is 25 salmon.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Joint Southeast Regional Planning team (JSERPT) has submitted this placeholder proposal as a way for the board to address imbalances in the enhanced salmon allocation management plan in Southeast Alaska (5 AAC 33.364). The current regulation was a proposal submitted by the JSERPT last board cycle and will sunset in 2014. The JSERPT will be considering recommendations to the board regarding this new proposal and other enhanced salmon allocation proposals at its fall 2014 meeting.

**PROPOSED BY:** Joint Southeast Regional Planning Team (EF-C14-170)

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**PROPOSAL 186 - 5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.** Modify commercial salmon fishery purse seine and drift gillnet fishing time ratios in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

Proposed language:

(d) The department shall manage the Anita Bay terminal harvest area (THA) from May 1 through November 10 to distribute the harvest of excess hatchery-produced king, coho, and chum salmon as follows:

(3) in establishing emergency order season openings for the seine and drift gillnet fisheries, the department shall rotate openings between these gear groups and shall provide for a time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings of two to one, respectively; however, the ratio and timing of openings may be altered, beginning with the first emergency order of the 2015 season through statistical week 30, the time ratio for gillnet opening to seine openings is 1-1. Commencing statistical week 31, the time ratio gillnet openings to seine openings is 2-1. If preliminary numbers indicate the seine fleet will in all likelihood be within their enhanced allocation range for one year on a 5 year rolling average, the following year the drift gillnet to seine ratio will be 2-1 from the first emergency order opening through the final of the season. If the following year brings the seine fleet below their allocation range for 1 year on a 5 year rolling average, the gillnet to seine ratio will be 1-1 from the first emergency order of the season through statistical week 30, and starting with statistical week 31 gillnet to seine ratio of 2-1 until

**the end of August, when the season will return to the normal 24 hour seven day a week all gear groups schedule. The latest NSRAA preliminary numbers, verified by ADF&G from the previous season will be used to determine the following season's rotation schedule. This section will sunset at the end of the 2015 board cycle.** [IF APPROXIMATELY EQUAL NUMBERS OF SALMON ARE NOT BEING HARVESTED BY THE TWO GEAR GROUPS, THE RATIO AND TIMING OF OPENINGS MAY BE ALTERED, AND BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE 2012 SEASON THROUGH THE LAST EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE 2014 SEASON, THE TIME RATIO FOR GILLNET OPENINGS TO SEINE OPENINGS IS ONE TO ONE.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Anita Bay THA net rotations. The seiners and gillnetters want to change the fishing time for the next cycle to accommodate each other in a cooperative, overall agreement on allocative issues. This is a joint proposal by United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska Seinners.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska Seinners  
(EF-C14-161)

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**PROPOSAL 187 - 5 AAC 33.387. District 9: Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan.** Allow commercial salmon drift gillnet gear in Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

Proposed language:

(d) the management plan in this section distributes the harvest of hatchery-produced chum salmon among the purse seine, troll, **and drift gillnet fisheries** when there are excess fish not being harvested by the hatchery operator.

(e) The department shall manage the Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area to distribute the harvest of excess hatchery-produced chum salmon as follows:

(1) the gear group that is **farthest below** [FURTHEST FROM] that gear group's allocation of enhanced salmon will begin with the first rotation.

(2) purse seine openings will be limited to a maximum of two fishing days per week in the terminal harvest area in order to harvest surplus of chum salmon;

(3) troll openings will be limited to a maximum of five fishing days per week in the terminal harvest area in order to harvest surplus chum salmon;

**(4) drift gillnet openings will be limited to a maximum of two fishing days per week in the terminal harvest area in order to harvest a surplus of chum salmon.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Include drift gillnet in Southeast Cove terminal harvest area management plan as a tool to facilitate corrections to enhanced allocation imbalances that may occur in the future. The following management plan includes days and time but the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association board will determine which groups should fish if a fishery is developed. It may be a case where one or possibly even two gear groups do not fish in the area for an entire year if there is only trolling and cost recovery. We recognize this. We are simply recognizing the drift gillnet fleets potential

and variable opportunity as we would any groups opportunity as defined by the enhanced salmon allocation plan.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska Seiners  
(EF-C14-164)

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**PROPOSAL 188 - 5 AAC 33.387. District 9: Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan.** Modify commercial seine and troll fishing schedules in Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

(e) The department shall manage the Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area to distribute the harvest of excess hatchery produced chum salmon as follows:

[(1) THE GEAR GROUP THAT IS FURTHEST FROM THAT GEAR GROUP'S ALLOCATION OF ENHANCED SALMON WILL BEGIN WITH THE FIRST ROTATION;

(2) PURSE SEINE OPENINGS WILL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF TWO FISHING DAYS PER WEEK IN THE TERMINAL HARVEST AREA IN ORDER TO HARVEST SURPLUS CHUM SALMON;

(3) TROLL OPENINGS WILL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF FIVE FISHING DAYS PER WEEK IN THE TERMINAL HARVEST AREA IN ORDER TO HARVEST SURPLUS CHUM SALMON.]

**(1) Seining may be allowed by emergency order from the third Sunday in June through July 8 and from July 31 through the first Saturday in August.**

**(2) Trolling may be allowed by emergency order from July 9 through July 30.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In order to achieve harvest levels sufficient to make substantial progress towards reducing the allocation imbalance, trollers need a sufficient density of fish over a large enough area to allow the fleet to work without interfering with one another. A regular seine rotation would prevent the buildup to fish required for this to happen. Rather than two days per week for seiners and five day for trollers, we propose that beginning with 2017, the troll days be grouped in a single block to allow this build up to occur.

Trollers have remained well below their allocation under *The Southeast Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan* (5 AAC 33.364) for many years. These allocation ranges were established to ensure a "fair and reasonable distribution of the harvest of salmon from enhancement projects among the seine, troll and gillnet commercial fisheries." At least with regard to the troll fleet, the actual harvest has fallen well short of the fair share of 27-32% provided.

Furthermore, in Findings 94-11, the Board of Fisheries agreed with the consensus recommendation of the State Allocation Task Force that when the value of a gear group's harvest over a trailing five year period has been outside of this distribution for three consecutive years, the first course of action is to make an adjustment to access of terminal harvest area fisheries in

order to achieve the board prescribed balance. This trigger has been met for nearly two decades so additional troll access in this terminal harvest area and others is clearly due.

The second course of action to remedy an allocation imbalance under Board of Fisheries Findings 94-11 is the additional production of enhanced salmon to benefit the gear group(s) below allocation. The Southeast Cove release has been recently increased to approximately double previous numbers, so many of the returning adults will be new production.

**PROPOSED BY:** Chum Trollers Association (HQ-F14-059)

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**PROPOSAL 189 - 5 AAC 33.374. District 12: Hidden Falls Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.** Remove reference to 5 AAC 33.366 *Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans* and clarify language regarding fishing openings, as follows:

5 AAC 33.374(c)(2) is amended to read:

(c) From April 15 through June 30, chum and king salmon may be taken by troll and purse seine gear as follows:

...

(2) if **Sunday** [WEEKLY] seine openings or midweek openings [SCHEDULED UNDER 5 AAC 33.366] do not occur, in order to achieve broodstock and cost recovery goals, the troll fishery for the harvest of chum salmon will be closed; if more than seven days remain before the July 1 general summer troll **fishery** [SEASON] opening, troll fisheries for king salmon may continue; however, chum salmon caught must be released immediately and may not be retained or sold;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The regulation incorrectly cites weekly openings and mid-week openings found under 5AAC 33.366 *Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans*. The *Hidden Falls Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* at 5 AAC 33.374 is independent of the *Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans*, and 5AAC 33.366 should not be referenced. Seine openings under 5 AAC 33.374. *Hidden Falls Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* occurs on Sunday or during mid-week, and are not referred to as weekly openings.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-085)

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**PROPOSAL 190 - 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan.** Modify accounting of commercial sockeye salmon purse seine harvest limit in Amalga Harbor Special Harvest Area, as follows:

Proposed language:

(a) During July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

(2) The department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden **in District 12** during any July fishing period when other areas are **concurrently open, [CONCURRENTLY]** **and for the 2015 board cycle, the first 2,000 wild sockeye salmon taken during the normal full sustainable harvest area (SHA) common property seine fishery openings at Amalga SHA, in District 11,** will be counted against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit under this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling and interviews to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden.

In the event of reduced area in Amalga as happened July 18, 2013, this will already have achieved the allocative and conservation effect, so only normal SHA Amalga openings will count towards the sockeye cap.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 2012 a purse seine fishery was started at DIPAC's Amalga Harbor SHA to harvest returning chums in excess of cost recovery and broodstock needs. In prosecution of this fishery, in both 2012 and 2013, incidental sockeyes were also harvested. A relatively high percentage of these sockeye were enhanced. In order to blend the allocative as well as the potential conservation requirements of this fishery, the first 2000 wild sockeye incidentals harvested at Amalga SHA in the common property seine harvest will be counted against the 15,000 wild sockeye cap outlined in this regulation when the normal area is open. When there is an area restriction, such as happened July 18, 2013, there will be no count of the sockeye against the 15,000 Hawk Inlet cap. This is to replace any area restrictions for allocation and conservation. We support the current time and area being fished in the Amalga SHA.

This is a joint proposal by Southeast Alaska Seiners and United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska Seiners  
(EF-C14-160)

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**PROPOSAL 191 - 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan.**  
Modify accounting of commercial sockeye salmon purse seine harvest limit in Amalga Harbor Special Harvest Area, as follows:

(a) During July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

(2) the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken; hatchery produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden in District 12 during any July fishing period when other areas are concurrently open, **and all**

**wild sockeye salmon taken during the common property seine fishery at Amalga Harbor SHA, in District 11,** will be counted against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit under this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling and interviews to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** A purse seine fishery has been conducted in the Amalga Harbor special harvest area (SHA) for the years of 2012 and 2013 to harvest hatchery chum that exceed Douglas Island Pink and Chum's (DIPAC's) needs for cost recovery and broodstock. Although this fishery is conducted in a SHA there is still an incidental catch of wildstock fish including sockeye caught during the seine openings. Sampling from DIPAC has shown that the sockeye caught are composed of both wild stock and enhanced origins. To account for continued harvest of these mixed stock sockeye salmon by the seine fishery in the Amalga Harbor SHA all wild stock sockeye components of the catch in the Amalga SHA will count against the 15,000 wild sockeye cap outlined in the current regulations.

**PROPOSED BY:** Ryan Cook (EF-C14-183)

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**PROPOSAL 192 - 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan.** In Districts 12 and 14 require reporting of commercially caught sockeye salmon that are not sold, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366 Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans needs to be modified to include:

**(c) In District 12 and District 14, commercial purse seine fishermen shall report on an Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish ticket, at the time of delivery of the commercial catch, the number of sockeye salmon retained from commercial catch but not sold. For the purposes of this subsection, "delivery: means the offloading of the finfish for sale or for transport to a buyer for sale later.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In recent years there have been concerns in meeting conservation and subsistence priority obligations for sockeye salmon returning to lakes and streams in the Chatham Strait Area. To effectively manage for escapement and subsistence needs, there needs to be an accurate reporting on fish tickets of the number of sockeye salmon caught in the commercial purse seine fisheries in Icy Strait and Chatham Strait. Subsistence and personal use fishers are required to report on subsistence/personal use permits, their take of salmon and trout by location, date, and species. Commercial purse seine fishers in the area should also be required to report by location and date the number of sockeye salmon retained but not sold, as well as the number sold. In some years, the number of sockeye salmon taken for home use or otherwise not sold or reported on fish tickets might be significant relative to the number taken in subsistence fisheries. The suggested wording for the regulation comes from the General Provision 5 AAC 39.010 (b) which only

requires commercial fishermen to report the number of steelhead that are retained from the commercial catch but not sold.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kootznoowoo, Inc. (HQ-F14-056)  
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**PROPOSAL 193 - 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan.**  
Restrict and prohibit commercial salmon seining in portions of Districts 12 and 14, as follows:

**(c) The department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12, Subdistricts 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17, and District 14, Subdistrict 27, no more than one 15-hour opening every seven days. The department must open these subdistricts concurrently whenever they are opened and concurrently with openings in other districts in the region.**

**(d) The department may not allow the operation of purse seines in District 12, Subdistrict 15, or in District 14, Subdistricts 21 and 23.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Additional constraints are needed in the Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans (5 AAC 33.366) to protect and maintain subsistence salmon stocks and fisheries in the Chatham Strait Area. In several recent years, high commercial purse seine effort in passing stock fishing areas in Icy Strait and Upper Chatham Strait has interfered with the ability of Angoon residents to meet their subsistence needs for salmon. To reduce harvest pressure on salmon returning to the lakes and streams in the Angoon area, the commercial purse seine effort needs to be moderated in the passing stock fishing areas and shifted closer to the inlets and bays where the targeted pink salmon are going. This will help managers to selectively harvest or protect individual stocks and help meet subsistence priority obligations for the residents of Angoon. This proposal limits the maximum weekly fishing times in the principal passing fishing areas to one 15-hour opening every seven days. This regulation change should be adopted to help avoid fishery restrictions or closures by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture as authorized under Title VII §804 of ANILCA.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kootznoowoo, Inc. (HQ-F14-055)  
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**PROPOSAL 194 - 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan.**  
Close a portion of Lisianski Inlet to commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear, as follows:

Lisianski Inlet south of a line from 57° 56.79' N latitude, 136° 14.14' W longitude to 57° 56.86' N latitude, 136°12.35' W longitude is closed to commercial purse seining.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Commercial seine fishing effort in Lisianski Inlet has increased significantly. The seiners used to fish Lisianski Inlet every odd year (every other year), the openings were two days per week, and seining was closed by mid-August. The seiners use spotter boats with high-technology fish finding equipment to locate

salmon, and the seine effort restricts commercial salmon trollers from fishing areas they have traditionally fished at - the salmon trollers are local Pelican residents displaced by the seine effort.

**PROPOSED BY:** Patricia Phillips (EF-C14-051)  
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**PROPOSAL 195 - 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan.**  
Close a portion of Lisianski Inlet to commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear, as follows:

Lisianski Inlet west of a line from (Miner Island) 58° 00'26.32" N, 136° 20'15.84 W to (Scotty Cove) 57° 58'59.94 N, 136° 18'01.20" W is closed to commercial purse seining. (Latitude and longitudes are approximate.)

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Reduce interception of coho salmon migrating to home streams in Lisianski Inlet. The Lisianski Inlet entrance to Lisianski Strait is a pinch point corridor for migrating salmon. High-tech spotter boats and seine vessels are highly effective at locating and intercepting stream bound salmon.

**PROPOSED BY:** Patricia Phillips (EF-C14-052)  
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**PROPOSAL 196 - 5 AAC 33.XXX New Section.** Establish new salmon statistical areas in District 13, as follows:

Lisianski Inlet north of 57° 52.68' N latitude to a line from 57° 58'59.94" N., 136°18'01.20" W. to 57°59'42.77 N., 136°17" 07.19" W.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Establish additional statistical lines in Section 13 - Lisianski Inlet in order to identify seine harvest of salmon bound for Lisianski Inlet salmon spawning streams. The proposal defines the significance of pink salmon harvest inside Lisianski Inlet with the timing of the harvest. Creating new statistical lines help identify the amount of Lisianski stream bound coho interception. Harvest records record a significant interception of coho by commercial salmon purse seine in Section 13 Lisianski Inlet. Statistical area 95 covers a vast area - the early interception, and most of the effort in weeks 29 and 30 occurs near the line at Soapstone and Column Point. Is this early effort Lisianski bound cohos? Weeks 33, 34, and 35 (August), in 2011, records substantial coho interception; more than likely these are cohos bound for Lisianski salmon stream. Cohos from Lisianski stream systems are important subsistence fish resource for residents of Pelican. Does ADF&G have escapement levels for Lisianski coho stream systems? The community would like to know if the commercial salmon purse seine fishery in Lisianski Inlet is intercepting "Inlet" salmon. Equally important, the community's permit for chum incubation boxes, to support the development of a salmon hatchery at Pelican, requires Pelican to demonstrate the early chum run does not interfere with local wild coho stocks. The community will benefit from more concise harvest numbers

that are more reflective of salmon bound for Lisianski Inlet salmon spawning streams. (The proposed line in Lisianski Inlet will run from Scotty Cove to a point parallel on the other side of Lisianski Inlet.)

**PROPOSED BY:** Patricia Phillips (EF-C14-53)  
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**PROPOSAL 197 - 5 AAC 33.XXX New Section.** Establish new salmon statistical areas in Lisianski Inlet, as follows:

Lisianski Inlet north of 57° 52.68' N. latitude to a line from 58° 04'.208' N., 136°25.971' W. to 58° 04.382' N., 136°24.779 W. (From Mite Cove marker on Yakobi Island east to Chichagof Island across Lisianski Inlet. Latitude and longitudes are approximates.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The purpose is to separate Soapstone and Column Point commercial salmon purse seine fishery from the commercial salmon purse seine fishery that occurs inside Lisianski Inlet from a line south of Mite Cove marker. The current harvest records are cumulative and there are no indicators or stock analysis of the multi-stock fishery. Are these fish harvested primarily bound for Lisianski Inlet streams? Are most salmon harvested at Soapstone-Column Point a mixed fishery with salmon migrating inbound towards Inian Passage/Icy Straits or migrating to Lisianski Inlet spawning streams?

Additionally, the City of Pelican obtained a Streamside Salmon Incubation Permit with the primary objective of determining run timing for early run chum salmon released at Pelican Creek. Having a Lisianski Inlet focused statistical line assists with this determination.

**PROPOSED BY:** Patricia Phillips (EF-C14-54)  
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**PROPOSAL 198 - 5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.** Establish closed waters around sockeye salmon streams in the Angoon area, as follows:

5 AAC 33.350(m) is amended to read:

(m) District 12:

(1) **within two nautical miles of the Chichagof Island shoreline south of 57° 41.65' N. lat. and north of 57° 37.91' N. lat., including the waters of Basket Bay** [BASKET BAY: WATERS INSIDE A LINE FROM 57° 39.80' N. LAT., 134° 53.77' W. LONG. TO 57° 39.28' N. LAT., 134° 53.88' W. LONG.];

...

(10) **within two nautical miles of the Admiralty Island shoreline south of the latitude of Parker Point at 57° 36.73' N. lat. and north of the latitude of Point Samuel at 58° 28.25' N. lat., including the waters of Kootznahoo Inlet** [KOOTZNAHOO INLET: WATERS EAST OF A LINE FROM THE TIP OF TURN POINT TO VILLAGE ROCK LIGHT];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Include in regulatory closed waters those areas that are currently closed by emergency order for the conservation of sockeye salmon stocks important to subsistence needs. These two proposed closed areas have been closed by emergency order for at least the last 10 years.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-083)  
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**PROPOSAL 199 - 5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.** Prohibit commercial fishing for salmon with purse seine gear within the possessory boundary of Angoon for five years, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366 Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans needs to be modified to include:

**(c) The department may not allow the operation of commercial purse seines for the next five years within the possessory boundary of the Angoon people (as identified in the Goldschmidt and Haas, 1946).**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Additional constraints are needed in the Northern Southeast Seine Management Fishery Plans (5 AAC 33.366) to protect and maintain subsistence salmon stocks and fisheries in the Angoon Area. In several recent years, high commercial purse seine efforts in the Angoon Area has interfered with the ability of Angoon residents to meet their subsistence needs for salmon. The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture have advised the State of Alaska that they need to take actions to manage fisheries for subsistence priority obligations for the residents of Angoon by the 2015 season or face fishery restrictions or closures authorized under Title VIII §804 of ANILCA. This proposal prohibits the operation of commercial purse seines within the traditional waters of the people of Angoon (see chart 10 in the Goldschmidt, W.R. and T.H. Haas, 1998. Haa Aani, Our Land: Tlingit and Haida land rights and use. Editor, T.F. Thornton. University of Washington Press, Seattle, and Sealaska Heritage Foundation, Juneau) for five years. This closure should give the State of Alaska enough time to develop a seine salmon fishery management plan that effectively addresses the escapement and subsistence priority obligations for salmon in the Angoon area.

**PROPOSED BY:** Angoon Community Association (HQ-F14-053)  
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**PROPOSAL 200 - 5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.** Close waters within the Admiralty Monument proclamation boundary to commercial fishing for salmon with purse seine gear, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366 *Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans* needs to be modified to include:

...

(c) The department may not allow the operation of purse seines within the Admiralty Monument proclamation boundary.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Additional constraints are needed in the *Northern Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plans* (5 AAC 33.366) to protect and maintain subsistence salmon stocks and fisheries in the Chatham Strait area. In several recent years, high commercial purse seine effort (deeper nets, powerful and oversized fish holds) along the Admiralty Island shore has interfered with the ability of Angoon residents to meet their subsistence needs for salmon. To reduce harvest pressure on salmon returning to the lakes and streams in the Angoon area the commercial purse seine effort needs to be moderated along the Admiralty shore. This proposal prohibits commercial purse seine fishing within the Admiralty Monument proclamation boundary—a boundary set by a presidential proclamation which is approximately 3,000 feet off the shore of Admiralty Island. Admiralty Island and proclamation waters are a sacred site to the people of Angoon. This regulation change should be adopted to help avoid fishery restrictions or closures by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture as authorized under Title VIII §804 of ANILCA.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kootznoowoo Inc. (HQ-F14-057)  
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**PROPOSAL 201 - 5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.** Close certain waters of Chichagof Island and Admiralty Island to commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear, as follows:

The area within two nautical miles of Chichagof Island between points two nautical miles north and two nautical miles south of Basket Bay and the area within two nautical miles of Admiralty Island south of Parker Point and north of Point Samuel are closed to purse seining.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** To reduce interception of sockeye salmon stocks, which are important for subsistence uses by residents of Angoon, by commercial salmon purse seine fishing.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F14-020)  
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**PROPOSAL 202 - 5 AAC 33.XXX. Seine vessel length restriction for Southeastern Alaska Area.** Clarify measurement standards for the commercial salmon purse seine vessel length limit in the Southeastern Alaska Area, as follows:

Amend the regulation so that there is clarity for fishermen and the enforcing agency. There needs to be a measurement standard that is fair to the all participants with history in the fishery and that is enforceable by regulators.

There are two options:

1) Amend the current regulation so that where an anchor roller ends and the hull begins is defensibly defined. Then measure every seine boat that registers in area A and set up a registry with CFEC to record each boat for future reference.

2) Scrap the current regulation and write a new one that sets up a registry at CFEC which requires that the federal document showing the length overall of each vessel must be submitted each year before a boat can renew its license.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The 58 foot length limit for salmon seine boats needs clarification.

There are many seine boats seining for salmon in Southeast Alaska that are longer than 58 feet. There have been numerous complaints to CFEC and Troopers about these boats, but no one wants to be on the spot to measure them.

It appears that the current regulation is not defensible or these boats would not be fishing among us.

**PROPOSED BY:** Thomas McAllister (EF-C14-33)

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**PROPOSAL 203 - 5 AAC 33.332. Seine specifications and operation.** Establish and define a maximum speed at which a commercial salmon fishery purse seine may be towed, as follows:

The state should add to definition a speed at which a seine net may be towed through the water to eliminate any chance that with advancing technologies a seine net may be turned into an inland waters trawl net.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** With advances in both the use of new gear types (spectra gear) and in efficiencies on both seine boats and seine skiffs it has allowed new seine gear to be used more like trawl gear being towed through the water instead of just being used to encircle fish. Without definition of a speed at which a net may be towed though the water seine nets have the potential to become an inland waters trawl net.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jason Shull (EF-C14-184)

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**PROPOSAL 204 - 5 AAC 33.XXX. Use of aircraft unlawful.** Prohibit the use of spotter planes during open commercial salmon fishing periods where purse seine gear is allowed, as follows:

Spotter planes may not be in the air during open hours of any salmon seine opening, including hatcheries and special openings.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Prohibit the use of spotter planes during open hours in the southeast salmon seine fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-023)

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**PROPOSAL 205 - 5 AAC 33.XXX. Use of aircraft unlawful.** Prohibit the use of unmanned aircraft during open commercial salmon fishing periods where purse seine is allowed, as follows:

Prohibit drones flying during any salmon seine opener.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Prohibit the use of drones during any salmon seine opening. Spotter planes are just watching other boats and crowding out the guys catching fish, because they can't find their own, drones will do the same thing.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-030)

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**PROPOSAL 206 - 5 AAC 33.200. Fishing Districts and Sections.** Clarify the boundary between sections 15-A and 15-C at Sherman Rock, as follows:

5 AAC 33.200(o)(3) is amended to read:

(o) District 15: waters of Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Little Island Light;

...

(3) Section 15-C: all waters of the district south of the latitude of Sherman Rock [LIGHT], except for the waters of Section 15-B.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Sections 15-A and 15-C share a boundary at the latitude of Sherman Rock. Regulations describe the southern boundary of Section 15-A as the latitude of Sherman Rock and the northern boundary of Section 15-C as the latitude of the Sherman Rock Light. There is no fixed light at Sherman Rock. The nearest light is located approximately one half nautical mile north of Sherman Rock at Point Sherman. Current regulations could be misinterpreted to create an overlap of sections 15-A and 15-C in the area between Sherman Rock and Point Sherman Light. Defining the northern boundary of Section 15-C as the latitude of Sherman Rock will clarify the shared boundary.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-084)

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**PROPOSAL 207 - 5 AAC 33.310. Fishing seasons and periods for net gear.** Increase commercial drift gillnet salmon fishing opportunity in Section 6-D, as follows:

Proposed language:

(c) Salmon may be taken by gillnets in the following locations only during fishing periods established by emergency order that start on a Sunday and close by emergency order:

...

(2) District 6

(B) Section 6-D west of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington to a point on Etolin island at 56° 09.60' N. lat., 132° 42.70' W. long., to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope is open from the second Sunday in June through the first Saturday in August and from the first Sunday in September until the season is

closed. **For the 2015 board cycle: the area is open from the second Sunday in June until the season is closed, however from the first Sunday in August until the first Sunday in September this area may be open if pink salmon abundance also warrants seine openings in this area. When a seine opening is announced the area will be closed to gillnet at 11:59 p.m. on the day preceding a seine opening and will remain closed for the duration of that seine opening. At the end of the 2015 BOF cycle, this section reverts to the regulation in effect as of 12/31/14.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Section 6-D west of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington to a point on Etolin Island a 56° 09.60' N. lat., 132° 42.70' W. long., to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope is closed to gillnet for virtually the entire month of August.

This area abuts a gillnet area, 6-C. Having 6-D closed for a month precludes the gillnet fleet from fishing what can be a very productive stretch of beach in what can be a very productive time frame. It condenses the gillnet fleet to smaller area than is necessary. In years of high pink abundance, a seine fishery is conducted in 6-D by emergency order. By regulation the gillnet fleet is precluded from sharing in this abundance.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska Seiners  
(EF-C14-163)

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**PROPOSAL 208 - 5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Establish a drift gillnet mesh size restriction in District 8 when the directed king salmon fishery is closed, as follows:

"In District 8 during years of no directed king salmon fishing, the maximum mesh size allowed is six (6) inches."

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I believe this is consistent with the District 11 management plan. Currently there is no maximum mesh size in District 8 (Stikine River Area) during the directed sockeye fishery during years when there is no directed fishery allowed for king salmon. Without a maximum mesh size, gillnetters are allowed to fish large mesh nets and target king salmon every year even though there is no directed fishery for kings in some years.

A similar management plan for District 11 (Taku River Area) contains a mesh restriction during the sockeye fishery when there is no directed king salmon fishing allowed.

Not only is this a conservation issue, but also a fairness issue between user groups. Both recreational fishers and commercial trollers are restricted when there is no directed fishery allowed for king salmon in this area. Having a maximum mesh size similar to the District 11 management plan provides consistency for these transboundary rivers and does not interfere with gillnetters ability to target sockeyes.

Without this mesh restriction some gillnetters will continue to target king salmon during the sockeye fishery even though there is no directed king fishery allowed.

**PROPOSED BY:** Stan Malcom (EF-C14-043)  
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**PROPOSAL 209 - 5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Allow drift gillnets with mesh size of four and seven-eighths inches or less to have a depth of up to 120 meshes, as follows:

By adopting regulations allowing nets of 4 7/8" or less mesh size to increase allowable mesh depth up to a maximum of 120 meshes. A current 4 7/8" 60 mesh net is approximately 24 feet in total depth, without tide. The 60 mesh net likely fishes at a depth of less than 20 feet (calculating for wind, tide and drift), allowing the majority of pink salmon to swim under the net.

By doubling the allowable depth to 120 meshes or approximately 48 feet, perhaps 36–40 fishable feet (again calculating for wind, tide and drift, this will increase opportunity for the drift gillnet fleet to harvest pink salmon and thus diversify the drift gillnet fishery for participants. It also gives the drift gillnet fleet the opportunity to gain on historical pink salmon harvests in traditional and historical drift gillnet areas. Net lengths will be in accord with existing regulations.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** To provide additional opportunity for the gillnet fleet to become more efficient and productive in the pink salmon fishery in traditional and historical drift gillnet areas. Our nets are designed to harvest larger species. As thus, our 60 mesh net may hang 30 plus feet if fishing for chums or sockeyes, or perhaps even 40 feet if for kings. But allowing for the much smaller pink salmon mesh size, our net shrinks to a mere 24 flat stretched feet, or about 20 feet or less while fishing. We need a deeper pink salmon net in order to harvest pink salmon.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (EF-C14-165)  
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**PROPOSAL 210 - 5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Allow the use of single filament mesh in a commercial salmon drift gillnet in the Southeastern Alaska Area, as follows:

A new section in 5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations would be added as follows:

**(k) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.250(c), in the Southeast Alaska area, a person may use single filament mesh web in a drift gillnet.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Allow the use of monofilament web in the drift gillnet fishery. The cost of web has gone up approximately 30%

over the last 10 years and is expected to increase over the next couple of years. The cost of high end commercial fishing gillnet web is now \$24.50/pound while monofilament cost about 1/2 the price at \$12.46/pound.

Monofilament was approved for use in the Cook Inlet Fishery and that fishery has shown that over time some fishermen will choose to use monofilament web while others continue to use the more conventional web. We are just asking for the opportunity for those who wish to use monofilament to have that choice as a cost savings.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kathy's Net Loft & Gear Supplies (Kathy & Ed Hansen) (EF-C14-110)  
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**PROPOSAL 211 - 5 AAC 30.345. Requirements and specifications for operation of two units of set gillnet gear in Yakutat Area.** Remove the sunset clause from Yakutat Area commercial salmon set gillnet permit stacking regulation, as follows:

5 AAC 30.345. Requirements and specifications for operation of two units of set gillnet gear in the Yakutat area.

The Yakutat Advisory Committee proposes that the board remove paragraph (e) [THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2014.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Yakutat Advisory Committee asked for this to be adopted at Southeast and Yakutat Finfish 2012. It was with a sunset provision. The section was implemented, there was minimal effort, but it was utilized. There was not adverse reactions or complaints heard. It did provide a small opportunity for improvement in a fishery that has had a 10-year average gross income of around \$13,000. The advisory committee feels that keeping the section in the order that it is written is appropriate.

The advisory committee does not feel that anyone will be adversely affected. We considered no other options.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-078)  
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**PROPOSAL 212 - 5 AAC 30.345. Requirements and specifications for operation of two units of set gillnet gear in Yakutat Area.** Allow the owner of two commercial salmon set gillnet permits to fish both permits throughout the Yakutat Area, as follows:

Proposal 5 AAC 30.345. Requirements and specifications for operation of two units of set gillnet gear in the Yakutat area.

Remove the restrictions of where and when two permits can be fished by one fishermen, and allow for two permits anywhere in the district, when a setnet fishery is conducted.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** There are 157 limited entry set gillnet permits in the Yakutat area. That number won't change, only the hands they're in. This shouldn't change the scope of the fishery; only allow for more aggressive fishermen the opportunity to fish harder. In a fishery with an average gross income of \$13,000, something needs to be done to revitalize the fishery, as it is currently failing and many simply choose not to fish from the lack of profits.

No one will be adversely affected, and it will help the fishermen.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee. (EF-C14-079)

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**PROPOSAL 213 - 5 AAC 30.XXX. New Section.** Allow multiple commercial salmon set gillnet permit holders to jointly harvest and deliver fish, as follows:

Two to three Yakutat setnet permit holders may register with ADFG to jointly harvest salmon and deliver fish to the processors. Registration will include the vessel number of any vessel that may be used by this co-op partnership. The vessels registered must display its ADF&G permanent license plate number followed by the letter "D" to identify the vessel as holding multiple permit holders on board. A permit holder who is registered may also fish by themselves if their permit card lists that vessel on it, and the letter "D" is covered up during that trip. When the "D" is displayed the permit holders registered together must be on board the vessel. A permit holder may only be registered in one co-op partnership at a time, but may be involved in more than one partnership within one year. If fish are harvested in more than one sub-district the fish tickets of each partner in the co-op partnership will show the same estimation of amount of fish caught in each sub-district.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Although the Yakutat setnet fishery has historically operated in partnerships, enforcement is now writing violations for pooling the fish from several sites or units of gear. Yakutat setnet gear is fished out of small open 20 foot skiffs, very often under hazardous and rough conditions. For reasons of safety, conservation of fuel, and general overall ease of operations for the fishermen, temporary partnerships will often arise. There may be three or more permits all being fished out of one small skiff. Keeping track of which fish came from which net is impossible most of the time under these conditions, and to avoid anyone feeling shorted, these fish were considered common property and distributed on a percentage basis among the fishermen at the processors. Typically the split is 50/50, but there are instances where this is not the case, such as when a permit holder with a vessel fishes with a permit holder without a vessel. This has been a common practice prior to limited entry, and we would like to develop a regulation where this practice can continue in the future without fear of prosecution. This is not a permit stacking request.

If this is not implemented, increased violations will be issued and historical practices of the fishery will have to change which will increase the danger of the fishery and lower the economic viability of the fishery.

We considered making it mandatory for there to always be an exactly even split. This would alleviate any potential conflicts with Child Support Enforcement Division, or other court ordered garnishees against one or more of the potential partners, but decided against it, as this is not the intent of fish tickets.

We would prefer to leave it up to the individual fishermen to split the fish based on a percentage that determine, but if exactly even splits were mandatory it is preferable to no splits at all. We are resubmitting this proposal hoping to resolve whatever it was that failed it in 2012. Any options would be considered.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-080)  
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**PROPOSAL 214 - 5 AAC 30.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Remove depth restrictions from commercial salmon set gillnet gear, as follows:

Proposal to allow unlimited mesh depth in Yakutat set gillnet fishery anywhere in the district, anytime a fishery is conducted.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal would remove mesh depth restriction currently set at 45 mesh deep. It would primarily be a benefit in the Yakutat Bay pink salmon fishery, and would not affect any of the other fisheries. No one will be adversely affected, and it would be a benefit to setnet fishermen in the pink salmon fishery. In addition, it would make gear purchases less wasteful.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-081)  
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**PROPOSAL 215 - 5 AAC 30.331. Gillnet specifications and operations** Allow commercial salmon set gillnets up to 60 meshes deep after July 1, as follows:

Change the mesh length restriction. Proposal to allow for 60 mesh deep nets in Yakutat Bay only, after July 1 instead of 45 mesh deep.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal would primarily aid in the harvest of pink salmon in Yakutat Bay, which tend to run deeper than other species. No one would be adversely affected, and no resources would be harmed.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-082)  
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**PROPOSAL 216 - 5 AAC 30.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Clarify gillnet specifications in the East River in September, as follows:

5 AAC 30.331(a)(1)(F) is amended to read:

- (a) Set gillnets with mesh size smaller than eight inches.....:
  - (1) in the Yakutat District

...

(F) East River, one net not to exceed 20 fathoms, except that starting the first **Sunday** [MONDAY] in September, two nets not to exceed 20 fathoms each and an aggregate length not to exceed 40 fathoms;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** At the 2003 Southeast Region Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting, the opening day for all fishing periods in the Yakutat Area was changed from Monday to Sunday in 5 AAC 30.320. *Fishing periods*. At that time, 5 AAC 30.331. *Gillnet specifications and operations* (a)(1)(F) was not changed to reflect the new opening day. As a result, the department must issue an emergency order each year effecting an allowable gear change for the East River from Monday to Sunday for the first fishing period in September. This oversight should be corrected to align these regulations.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-081)  
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**PROPOSAL 217 - 5 AAC 30.310. Fishing seasons.** Establish an opening date for the Tsiu River commercial salmon fishery, as follows:

- (1)
  - (A) In the Yakataga District opening and closing dates will be made by emergency order
  - (B) In the Tsiu River the opening will be on the third Sunday in August.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Opening date for the Tsiu River Fishery; processors and fishermen need a date certain for the start of the commercial fishery. Uncertainty in the opening dates creates problems for processors and fishers needing to stage equipment and support for the commercial fishery (i.e. airplanes, camps, boats, etc.).

**PROPOSED BY:** John Vale (HQ-F14-042)  
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**PROPOSAL 218 - 5 AAC 30.350. Closed waters.** Redefine closed waters in the Lost River, as follows:

5 AAC 30.350(a)(7) is amended to read:

- (a) Salmon may not be taken in the following waters:
  - (7) Lost River:
    - (A) before the opening of the fishing period for the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet during the second week of July, upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers located in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet 100 yards downstream from the terminus of the river;**
    - (B) following the closure of the fishing period for the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet during the second week of July, and for the remainder of the season, upstream from**

**ADF&G regulatory markers located in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet 500 yards downstream from the terminus of the river** [UPSTREAM FROM ADF&G REGULATORY MARKERS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 500 YARDS UPSTREAM FROM THE MOST DOWNSTREAM TREE LINE ON THE WEST BANK AT THE TERMINUS OF THE RIVER];

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The tree line referenced in the regulation was undercut by the river and no longer exists. Closed waters for Lost River are defined each year since 1999 in the annual Yakutat set gillnet fishery management plan. Prior to and including the fishing period during the second week of July, closed waters markers are set 100 yards from the terminus of Lost River to allow additional area in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet fishery so as to harvest stocks bound for the Situk and Ahrnklin rivers. Following closure of the second week of July fishing period, when Lost River salmon stocks enter Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet, Lost River closed waters markers are relocated 500 yards from the terminus of the Lost River. This affords an area of protection for Lost River salmon stocks as they traverse the open waters of the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-082)  
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**PROPOSAL 219 - 5 AAC 30.XXX New Section.** Establish new salmon statistical areas in Yakutat Bay, as follows:

Proposal to draw a line from the North tip of Khantaak Island, to Point Latouche, creating a separate statistical area for salmon setnet fisheries.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This area is primarily a pink salmon harvest area, but it is managed in accordance with what the sockeye run strength is and sockeye harvest conducted at the mouth of Yakutat Bay. Pink salmon fishermen are missing out on opportunity. In addition, there have been conflicts and warnings issued, and much confusion regarding 500 yard buffer zones around small no name creeks that are listed in the anadromous water catalog. This proposed area should be excluded from the 500 yard ruling on any creeks unless posted as not fishable with ADF&G regulatory markers. Currently, Humpy Creek is the only stream that is ever marked accordingly. Pinks spawn all over in this area, and the 500 yard rule simply should not apply in this area. No one will be adversely affected, and it will be a benefit to pink salmon harvesters.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-83)  
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**PROPOSAL 220 - 5 AAC 29.020. Description of fishing districts and winter boundary line.** Modify the winter boundary line for the commercial salmon troll fishery, as follows:

(b) For the purposes of this chapter, the winter troll boundary line" for the winter season and periods established in 5 AAC 29.070 is a line across Yakutat Bay as follows; A line extending

from the intersection of Loran-C line 7960-Y-30630 with the shoreline at Point Manby to the intersection of Loran-C lines 7960-Y-30630 and 7960-X-148 ~~delete [40]~~ **add [30]** to the intersection of Loran-C lines 7960-X-148 ~~delete[40]~~ **add [30]** and 7960-Y-30440 to the intersection of Loran-C line 7960-Y-30440 with the shoreline at Ocean Cape light.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The winter troll boundary line was modified by an adoption of a proposal by the Yakutat Advisory Committee in 2003. At the time, the numbers established in regulation did not reflect the original intent of the Yakutat Advisory Committee proposal. This proposal will correct that oversight.

Prior to 2003, historical catch records indicate there was very little winter king harvest in the Yakutat area. The previous regulation had the winter line as the furthest south point of Ocean Cape, across Yakutat Bay, to the furthest point south of Point Mamby. Point Mamby is really a gradual corner several miles long.

Basing what is technically inside waters or out on this, is not so easy. If you went out to where the beach turns and goes up the coast to draw a transect, it changed the allowable fishing area. These were simple headlands to use when laws were written, and nobody was there to address it otherwise.

As Yakutat fishermen acquired more troll permits and increased winter trolling, it became apparent the bulk of the king salmon were around reefs that arcs out and across Yakutat Bay. Fishermen were forced to go across Yakutat Bay in the dead of winter to access them which was a serious safety concern. The original proposal recommended moving the point of Ocean Cape out to sea approximately 1½ to 2 miles, and the Mamby Point marker out to sea approximately three to four miles. This would move the point to point winter line out to sea beyond the arc of the reef, and include good nearby fishing habitat for the troll fleet for marginal days.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-077)  
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**PROPOSAL 221 - 5 AAC 29.020. Description of fishing districts and winter boundary line.**

Expand the winter commercial salmon troll fishery in the Yakutat Area to the territorial sea line, as follows:

A proposal to add to 5 AAC 29.020. Description of fishing districts and winter boundary line. Paragraph (b) Add (Alaska salmon troll Statistical area 181-40 out to the Territorial sea line across the mouth of Icy Bay.)

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This inside waters area was not added to the list when the winter boundary line was established. It is remote and the odds of it being fished in the winter fishery are small. However, it does offer a safe place to fish for someone who might want to get away from it all and explore. Fish some terrain that hasn't been mapped and remapped. We feel that it wasn't right that it was left out. We feel this will not

negatively impact anyone or any resource. It is 60 miles down the open beach from the farthest North trolling community of Yakutat. It is a winter time fishery. If it gets fished at all, it will likely be very infrequent.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Advisory Committee (EF-C14-084)  
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**PROPOSAL 222 - 5 AAC 29.090. Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries.** Correct regulatory language to clarify a contribution rate of Alaska hatchery-produced salmon for the spring salmon troll fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 29.090(d)(1)(C) is amended to read:

- (d) In its management of the spring fisheries under this section, the department shall
  - (1) first consider changes in the previous year’s spring fisheries; the department shall open the fisheries if they meet the following requirements:

...

- (C) in order to continue the fishery each year without modification of areas previously established, the contribution rate of **Alaska hatchery-produced** [HATCHERY] stocks to the directed fishery harvest must exceed 20 percent.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The omission of the word “Alaska” when referring to “hatchery stocks” could be interpreted to allow the contribution of all coastwide hatchery stocks to be considered in management decisions. In other words, contributions from hatchery stocks originating outside Alaska would be considered combined with those originating in Alaska.

Spring troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon and are managed according to guidelines based on the percentage of Alaska hatchery stocks in an individual spring fishery. Adding the word “Alaska” would correct this regulation.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-079)  
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**PROPOSAL 223 - 5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer salmon troll fishery.** Change the king salmon harvest percentage for the initial opening in the summer salmon troll fishery from 70 percent to 60 percent, as follows:

5 AAC 29.100(c) is amended to read:

- (c) The department shall manage the summer king salmon troll fishery as follows:
  - (1) the department shall manage the summer king salmon troll fishery
    - (A) to take **60** [70] percent of the remaining king salmon harvest **if the preseason abundance index is above 1.60, or take 70 percent of the remaining king salmon harvest if below 1.60** calculated as the annual troll harvest ceiling minus the winter and spring troll harvests of treaty king salmon in an initial opening beginning July 1; and

(2) in order to provide for the harvest of the remaining portion of the king salmon harvest following a coho salmon closure, the department shall manage the king salmon harvest as follows:

(A) if approximately **60 or** 70 percent or more (**depending on the preseason abundance index**) of the remaining troll king salmon harvest was taken during the initial opening under (1)(A) of this subsection the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the waters of frequent high king salmon abundance described in 5 AAC 29.025 for the remainder of the summer salmon troll season in order to slow down the harvest rate; however, if after 10 days, the department determines that the annual troll king salmon harvest ceiling might not be reached by September 20 with those waters closed, the commissioner shall reopen, by emergency order, the waters of frequent high king salmon abundance;

(B) the department shall reopen the summer king salmon troll fishery in the waters of frequent high king salmon abundance described in 5 AAC 29.025 if the department determines that less than **40 or** 30 percent of the king salmon harvest goal for the initial opening under (1)(A) of this subsection was taken in that opening **depending on the preseason abundance index**;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to amend 5AAC 29.100(c)(1)(A) and (2)(A) and (2)(B) to take 60 percent of the remaining king salmon harvest if the preseason abundance index is above 1.60 (70 percent is in existing regulations and would remain in effect if the preseason abundance index is below 1.60). The five reasons to decrease the percentage to 60 percent harvest of king salmon on high abundance seasons are:

1. Higher value for king salmon in late season;
2. Higher quality product;
3. Minimizes the incidental hook & release of king salmon;
4. Spreading the income derived from king salmon more evenly among the fleet; and
5. Greater opportunity for in-season management during the August opening

**PROPOSED BY:** John Murray (EF-C14-104)

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**PROPOSAL 224 - 5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer salmon troll fishery.** Allow the commissioner to open a season during which a trip limit is in effect for king salmon in the commercial summer salmon troll fishery, as follows:

If at any point in the summer troll fishery the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) determines that there is insufficient Chinook quota remaining for a competitive opening, and the commissioner determines that a trip limit would provide an effective means of harvesting the fish, s/he will reopen the fishery using a trip limit.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** When too few king salmon remain on the summer troll quota to effectively manage the fishery, ADF&G forgoes harvest rather than risk going over the troll Chinook allocation or the Pacific Salmon Treaty quota. This

proposal would provide an alternative for ADF&G to conduct a fishery on smaller increments of treaty fish. A similar option is already provided for the lingcod fishery at 5 AAC 28.173 (a)(f).

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Trollers Association (EF-C14-169)  
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**PROPOSAL 225 - 5 AAC 29.114. District 12 and District 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan.** Change the sunset date in the District 12 and 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fishery Management Plan, as follows:

**5 AAC 29.114. District 12 and District 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan** (a) The purpose of the management plan in this section is to give the department direction for the orderly development of enhanced chum salmon troll fisheries during the directed troll fisheries in Cross Sound, Icy Strait, and Northern Chatham Strait, while providing for the conservation of wild stocks.

(b) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the Northern Chatham Strait Fishery Area in District 12 for up to four weekdays per week beginning on the second Monday in June through the last week in June to the retention of pink and chum salmon only. The Northern Chatham Strait Fishery Area consists of those waters enclosed by a line from 58°\_ 11.29' N. lat., 134°\_ 53.27' W. long. to 58°\_ 10.40' N. lat., 135°\_ 02.63' W. long. to 58°\_ 07.78' N. lat., 135°\_ 00.78' W. long. to 58°\_ 05.81' N. lat., 134°\_ 47.09' W. long.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of 5 AAC 29.090, the spring troll fisheries in District 14 will be managed to minimize the harvest of wild chum salmon and may be closed by emergency order based on wild chum salmon abundance.

(d) Participants in District 12 and District 14 enhanced chum salmon troll fisheries shall comply with the following retention and recordkeeping requirements:

(1) the operator of a salmon troll vessel shall keep the fish caught in each enhanced chum salmon fishery area separate from any other fish on board the vessel;

(2) a fish buyer shall separate fish caught in each enhanced chum salmon fishery area until delivered to the port of landing and shall issue a separate fish ticket for fish caught in each enhanced chum salmon fishery area.

(e) The provisions of this section do not apply after **December 31, XXX** [DECEMBER 31, 2014].

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Joint Southeast Regional Planning team (JSERPT) has submitted this placeholder proposal as a way for the board to address imbalances in the enhanced salmon allocation management plan in Southeast Alaska (5 AAC 33.364). The current regulation was supported by the JSERPT in the "Industry Consensus" letter submitted last board cycle. The current regulation will sunset in 2014. The JSERPT will be considering recommendations to the board regarding this new proposal and other enhanced salmon allocation proposals at its fall 2014 meeting.

**PROPOSED BY:** Joint Southeast Regional Planning Team (EF-C14-174)  
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**PROPOSAL 226 - 5 AAC 29.114. District 12 and District 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan.** Remove sunset clause from District 12 and 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fishery Management Plan, as follows:

(a) The purpose of the management plan in this section is to give the department direction for the **MANAGEMENT** [ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT] of enhanced chum salmon troll fisheries during the directed troll fisheries in Cross Sound, Icy Strait, and Northern Chatham Strait, while providing for the conservation of wild stocks.

(b) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the Northern Chatham Strait Fishery Area in District 12 for up to four week days per week beginning on the second Monday in June through the last week in June to the retention of pink and chum salmon only. The Northern Chatham Strait Fishery Area consists of those waters enclosed by a line from 58°, 11.29' N. lat., 134°, 53.27' W. long. to 58°, 10.40' N. lat., 135°, 02.63' W. long. to 58°, 07.78' N. lat., 135°, 00.78' W. long. to 58°, 05.81' N. lat., 134°, 47.09' W. long.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of 5 AAC 29.090, the spring troll fisheries in District 14 will be managed to minimize the harvest of wild chum salmon and may be closed **to the retention of chum salmon** by emergency order based on wild chum salmon abundance.

(d) Participants in District 12 and District 14 enhanced chum salmon troll fisheries shall comply with the following retention and record keeping requirements:

(1) the operator of a salmon troll vessel shall keep the fish caught in each enhanced chum salmon fishery area separate from any other fish on board the vessel;

(2) a fish buyer shall separate fish caught in each enhanced chum salmon fishery area until delivered to the port of landing and shall issue a separate fish ticket for fish caught in each enhanced chum salmon fishery area.

[ (E) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2014. ]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 2012 the Board of Fisheries adopted the Districts 12 and 14 *Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan* on an experimental basis. Section (e) of this plan includes a sunset date of December 31, 2014. The plan provides trollers important opportunity to harvest enhanced chum salmon. Fishermen in this area have landed a high percentage of the target hatchery fish with minimal bycatch of wild stocks or other species. We propose that the management plan remove the sunset and be made permanent and that the plan be renewed with the purpose of changing from orderly development to management. We further ask that the Chinook fishery be permitted to remain open in the event that the chum fishery is closed, as this was the intent of the proposal as originally submitted in 2012.

**PROPOSED BY:** Chum Trollers Association

(EF-C14-177)

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**PROPOSAL 227 - 5 AAC 29.114. District 12 and District 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan.** Remove sunset clause from District 12 and 14 enhanced commercial chum salmon troll fishery and allow fishing 7 days per week, as follows:

Provide the potential for this fishery to expand to seven days per week and delete the sunset clause:

**5 AAC 29.114 DISTRICT 12 AND DISTRICT 14 ENHANCED CHUM SALMON TROLL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

(b) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the Northern Chatham Strait Fishery Area in District 12 for up to **seven days** [FOUR WEEKDAYS] per week beginning on the second Monday in June through the last week in June to the retention of pink and chum salmon only. The Northern Chatham Strait Fishery Area consists of those waters enclosed by...

...  
[(e) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2014.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Northern Chatham Strait Enhanced Chum Spring Troll Fishery (District 112-16) will terminate at the end of 2014 unless reauthorized by the Board of Fisheries. This district was opened in 2013 as an experimental area as the result of Board of Fisheries' authorization in 2012. A successful chum troll fishery was developed which has had minimal conflict with other gear groups and very little bycatch.

As initially implemented, the fishery was restricted to four days per week due to concerns of potential conflicts with Juneau sport fishermen. The experience of these first seasons has shown that there is very little use of this district by sport fishermen in late June. The four days/week restriction has been a significant barrier to the full development of this troll fishery. Removing the four day/week maximum and allowing ADF&G staff to manage the fishery as needed to keep conflicts with other gear groups and wild chum harvest at low levels would potentially alleviate this problem.

Trollers remain well behind their allocated share of enhanced salmon under 5 AAC 33.364. If expanded to seven days per week, the North Chatham fishery has the potential to significantly help to correct this imbalance. If the North Chatham fishery were to be permitted to sunset, the discrepancy will be further exacerbated.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kole Koski (EF-C14-034)  
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**PROPOSAL 228 - 5 AAC 29.110. Management of coho salmon troll fishery.** Close the commercial troll fishery for coho salmon from August 1–10, as follows:

A mandatory 10-day closure from August 1 to August 10 to regulate the commercial harvest of coho salmon in Southeast Alaska.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Commercial outside waters troll fishery, the coho salmon are not allowed to migrate into the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, more salmon need to escape for local residents living in the Inside Passage of Southeast Alaska. We also need better escapement of salmon for our river systems. In the past, we had 10-day closures and the City of Angoon would propose the State of Alaska institute a policy to allow more fish for an inside fishery. The City of Angoon would like to propose a 10-day closure from August 1 to August 10 to allow our subsistence, commercial and sport fisheries to share the coho fishery. Angoon’s subsistence needs, commercial harvest and sport harvest are in dire need of healthy returns and foremost our subsistence needs suffer the most by lack of fish.

**PROPOSED BY:** City of Angoon (HQ-F14-035)

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**PROPOSAL 229 - 5 AAC 29.114. District 12 and District 14 Enhanced Chum Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan.** Allow commercial salmon fishing with troll gear in an area between North Chatham Strait and Homeshore, as follows:

Draw a line from the Western boundary line of the northern Chatham Strait area starting at: 58° 10.00 N. Lat, 135° 2.35' W. Long, to a point at 58° 10.00' N. Lat, 135° 6.24' W. Long, to a point on the Eastern boundary of the Homeshore area at 58° 11.59' N. Lat, 135° 9.19 W. Long.

Fishing would be permitted in the area south of this line when the northern Chatham and or Homeshore area is open.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Allow trollers participating in the chum fishery in the northern Chatham Straits enhanced chum area to troll between that area and the Homeshore area.

Currently trollers wishing to move between one area and another must pull their gear or troll miles to the south into the Point Sophia area. Most troll vessels are slow displacement hulls and cannot move faster than seven knots at slack tide with their gear up. Being able to troll between the two areas makes more sense. The area involved is relatively small and is a natural corridor between the two areas. This proposal makes the northern Chatham chum area more accessible and practical for trollers.

**PROPOSED BY:** Matthew Donohoe (EF-C14-168)

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**PROPOSAL 230 - 5 AAC 29.150. Closed waters.** Restrict commercial salmon fishing with troll gear in Section 15-C beginning July 1, as follows:

Proposed language:

(a) Unless otherwise specified in the chapter, the waters listed in this section are closed to the taking of salmon with troll gear, except as follows:

**(4) beginning July 1, the waters of District 15-C are open to trolling concurrently during periods that non-terminal harvest area waters are open to commercial drift gillnet fishing.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, portions of District 15 are open for the general troll season on July 1 each year. This area has historically received very little effort as there are very few king salmon in the area to harvest. Recently, troll effort targeting chum salmon has increased. Experimental fisheries targeting enhanced chum in districts 14 and 12 are currently being prosecuted to understand the effect this new and emerging fishery may or may not have on wild stocks. The wild chum stock component of those fisheries is currently 20%. Chances are a fishery in district 15 will mirror those results. Our concern is that if there is a full blown high effort chum targeting troll fishery conducted in district 15, gillnet time and area may be reduced, as we are managed strictly on wild stock (chum and coho) abundance.

There is also anecdotal evidence that because of the small lures and slow speeds associated with chum trolling, that there are a significant amount of very small sub-legal king salmon incidentally being caught in this new fishery. These small Chinooks must be released by the troll fleet, but with a 25% mortality rate, there may be significant risk to out migrating Taku and Chilkat river fish; both runs that can ill afford incidental at sea mortality.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (EF-C14-166)  
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**PROPOSAL 231 - 5 AAC 29.150. Closed waters.** Reduce the area open to commercial salmon fishing with troll gear in Naha Bay during the summer, as follows:

Move the permanent commercial fish boundary marker farther out to Cache Island, thus keeping Naha Bay a sanctuary or safe haven for the returning wild salmon to spawn.

This solution should be immediate; since we are going on the fifth summer now since the boundary marker was moved back from Donnelly Point.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Preserving returning the wild salmon stocks of Naha Bay and River. Naha Conservation is a group of property owners from Loring, Alaska, Naha Bay. Some of us are seasonal, part-time and full-time residents. We see firsthand the comings and goings of Naha Bay, including the fish, their cycles and all that follows. We speak from knowledge that covers several generations. We believe in conservation

and taking the conservative approach to sustaining our limited resources and something is better than nothing. We are hopeful though and thank you for considering what we have to say and propose today.

Wild pink, chum and some sockeye that are returning to the Naha River and area creeks to spawn are being incidentally caught by commercial troll fishing boats who are targeting Neets Bay Hatchery chum for their eggs.

Sometime in the summer of 2010 the commercial fish boundary marker was moved further back into Naha Bay, almost to Dog Fish Island. Summer of 2010 was when the first trollers came into the bay following a large school of hatchery chum and since this time and every summer since the small wild stock of pinks, chum and sockeye returns have disappeared. At first it was exciting to see all the activity on the bay, the boats the action. Loring came back to life for a bit, but year after year we have noticed something was different.

Last summer 2013 was the worst. There was no fish at all in the bay all of July and August. The pinks normally are coming in schools. We did not see this. A small run of chums did arrive in mid-September to spawn in a small creek in Naha Bay, but the numbers were few. The bears were hungry last summer. We saw them pacing up and down the Naha River and Roosevelt Lagoon looking for anything to eat.

Though the amount of trollers fishing in the bay were few last year compared to years past, they are still having an effect on the wild salmon stock.

We believe wild salmon stocks should be given every opportunity and chance to spawn if they make it back as far as the bay into which the creek or river flows into. The bay should be a safe haven for the fish. Given the dwindling wild stock of sockeye left on the Naha River action must be taken immediately.

We support our commercial fisheries and all the people who make their living off the sea, but we have seen firsthand our wild fish returns have dropped in these few short summers.

Never before have trollers come into Naha Bay and trolled nonstop for two weeks, 10 to 15 trollers at a time during the peak run. This is having an impact. We have talked to a couple of different trollers who have confirmed they are catching up to 10 to 15 wild pinks per day and maybe one or two sockeye and some wild chum. Multiply this by the number of boats and you will see the numbers add up quick. .

**PROPOSED BY:** Lisa Grogan, Naha Conservation (EF-C14-096)  
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**PROPOSAL 232 - 5AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations.** Clarify power troll gear specifications regarding hand troll gurdies and fishing rods, as follows:

5 AAC 29.120(b)(1) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(b) The maximum number of trolling lines that may be operated from a salmon troll vessel is as follows:

(1) from a power troll vessel:

...

**(C) from each power troll gurdy: only one line to which multiple leaders and hooks may be attached; a person may not use hand troll gurdies or fishing rods to take salmon commercially on board a registered power troll vessel;**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Power troll gear is not clearly described nor is it clearly stated that fishing rods may not be used to fish commercially onboard a vessel registered for power troll gear. While 5 AAC 29.120(f) states that “a person may not use a salmon power troll vessel to take salmon with hand troll gear once that vessel has been registered and marked as specified...,” it does not specifically mention fishing rods. Adding that level of detail to the regulation would further clarify power troll gear specifications.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F14-080)  
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**PROPOSAL 233 - 5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations.** Allow downriggers as legal commercial salmon hand troll gear for the entire year, as follows:

The new regulation would repeal a portion of section (b)(2)(B) and implement the winter hand troll provisions listed in section (j) on a year round basis.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Two fishing rods attached to two downriggers are legal hand troll gear only during the winter troll season. This proposal requests that winter hand troll regulations are adopted for the entire year. This proposal would allow hand trollers to operate legal rod and reel gear at a known depth, the same luxury afforded to salmon trollers using hand troll and power troll gurdies. The difference is that those that choose to attach their fishing rods to a hand operated troll gurdy or downrigger will be restricting themselves to the operation of one lure or baited rig per rod.

This proposal has been before the board in other cycles and there have been comments made that this change could have a meaningful impact on Chinook harvest. There have also been concerns raised that this proposal would cause enforcement issues. There is no evidence to support either of these concerns. Past supporters of this proposal have cited shoulder injuries, the safer operation of rod and reel gear vs. hand gurdies for solo fisherman in small boats in rough weather, or the fact that they would just prefer to participate in their fishery using fishing rods

attached to downriggers, even if it limits them to only two lures. Passage of this regulation would restrict only those hand trollers that chose to use rod and reel gear in combination with downriggers.

**PROPOSED BY:** Troy Bayne

(EF-C14-142)

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