

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at the request of Board Member Webster
February 26, 2013

Recent Board of Fisheries Changes – Area M/Area T Overlap Area

1988

- Reduced the weekly fishing period in the Ilnik Section 24 hours to 6:00 pm Wednesday

1990

- Closed the Outer Port Heiden Section to Area M and T fishermen
- Closed the outer portion of the Ilnik Section to Area T fishermen
- Delayed the opening in the Ilnik Section NE of Unangashak from July 5 to July 15

1992

- 5¼" minimum gillnet mesh size restriction eliminated in Bear River Section after July 20

1996

- 5¼" minimum gillnet mesh size restriction eliminated in Bear River, Port Moller Bight, and Nelson Lagoon sections for entire season

1998

- 5¼" minimum gillnet mesh size restriction eliminated in the Three Hills and Ilnik sections after July 24
- Adoption of the Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan (5AAC 09.369): provided early fishing opportunity in the Ilnik Section SW of Unangashak Bluffs from June 25 to July 4 if certain escapement thresholds at Ilnik were met. Allowed a maximum of 24 hours of continuous fishing, and 24 hour minimum closure time between periods, instituted 100,000 sockeye cap, and if fishing was permitted prior to July 5, extended closure of the area NE of Unangashak Bluffs from July 15 to July 25

2001

- 5¼" minimum gillnet mesh size restriction eliminated for the entire North Peninsula

2004

- Allowed the entire Ilnik Section to open to commercial salmon fishing on June 25 depending on escapement at Ilnik and Meshik rivers. Eliminated the sockeye salmon cap, maximum and minimum continuous fishing times and the potential closure of the area NE of Unangashak Bluffs to July 25 (regulations adopted in 1998)

2007

- Allowed the Ilnik Section to open to commercial salmon fishing on June 20, and opened a portion of the Outer Port Heiden Section

2010

- Shifted the northern boundary line in the Outer Port Heiden Section so line was perpendicular to the beach-no net gain in fishing area
- Shifted the 2½ day weekly fishing period in the Cinder River Section to 6:00 AM Thursday to 6:00 PM Saturday