PROPOSAL 112 – 5 AAC 01.220. Lawful gear and gear specifications. Allow all gear used in Yukon Area commercial fisheries to be allowed in Yukon Area subsistence fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 01.220 is amended to read:

Fishing gear allowed in one section of the Yukon River for a commercial and/or subsistence fishery should be allowed for subsistence in the whole river unless a run sustainability issue is apparent. In the case of run sustainability being an issue, commercial restrictions shall be addressed first.

Tanana Rampart Manley Fish and Game Advisory Committee supported this unanimously.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? At issue here is that over the years, commercial fishing interests often get heard best because of more money and manpower to promote itself. This was seen long ago during the creation of unfair limited entry quotas and allowing commercial fishers in areas with the best fishing and biggest quotas to harvest fish with the highly efficient method of drift netting while some areas of very poor fishing are only allowed to setnet for their subsistence needs.

This issue continues today with commercial interests recently obtaining the right to beach seine and drift dipnet for commercial chum salmon in some areas not traditional, yet in our area which had pre-limited entry historical dip net fisheries, dipnet fishing for even subsistence is currently illegal.

Fairness aside, subsistence is supposed to have priority over commercial and we feel this has not been happening.

PROPOSED BY: Tanana Rampart Manley Fish and Game Advisory Committee

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