PROPOSAL 119 – 5 AAC 01.220. Lawful gear and gear specifications. Require live release of king salmon from subsistence beach seines during times of king salmon conservation in the Yukon Area, as follows:

5 AAC 01.220(n) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(4) a beach seine may be used, however, all king salmon caught with a beach seine must be released to the water alive.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Beach seines are permitted under current regulations as subsistence gear. In 2014, subsistence fishing in Yukon River Districts 1–2 was restricted to dip nets and beach seines to target summer chum salmon while minimizing the impact to a low king salmon run. During times of king salmon conservation, current regulations require live release of king salmon caught in dip nets but do not specify that king salmon caught in beach seine gear must be released alive to the water. Fishermen could retain any king salmon caught using beach seine gear for subsistence fishing. Requiring live release of king salmon from beach seine gear aligns with regulations for other selective gear types, such as dip nets, and also aligns with commercial beach seine regulations during times of king salmon conservation.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F15-024)