PROPOSAL 101 – 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Allow commercial fishing with set gillnets within 600 feet of shore in the Kasilof Section, with fishing time occurring 600 feet or less offshore not subject to the hourly restrictions in the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan, as follows:

5 AAC 21.365 (c) (3) ...If the commissioner determines that further restrictions are necessary to aid in achieving the lower end of the Kenai River late run sockeye and king salmon escapement goal(s), the commissioner may, in an emergency order under this paragraph, further restrict fishing to within 600 ft of the mean high tide mark in the Kasilof section[;](). Hours allowed under this provision will not be subject to the restrictions in 5 AAC 21.359 (e) (3) (A) and will be adhere to the requirements in (f) of this section.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Under the restrictions mandated in 5 AAC 21.359 (e) (3) (A) the use of the 600ft area in lieu of the KRSHA terminal area would appear to be outside of the policies and directives in the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. We believe that the 600ft zone should be part of the KRSHA plan and that the hours used should not be counted against the hourly restrictions in place for the entire ESSN fishery. If used on a regular basis, control of the escapement of Kasilof bound sockeye could be of considerable benefit to escapement goals and objectives without violating policies described in (a) of this regulation. ...It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that the Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries. ...Further use of the Kasilof Terminal area has created a "new" fishery where 10% of the participants harvest 90% of the sockeye. These few have established locations on the boundaries that are nets tied together, end to end, all the way out to the 1200 ft limit. Strong armed tactics, intimidation and outright piracy keep these locations in but a few hands. The 600 ft limit offers the traditional fishers to operate from their headquarter sites. Very few Kenai bound kings were caught when this concept was utilized in 2015 yet many Kasilof bound sockeyes were harvested.

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