PROPOSAL 114 – 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Require all nets, buoys, ropes and anchoring devices to be removed from the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area when this area is closed to commercial fishing, as follows:

5AAC21 330 (f)(9) would be amended to read:

At the end of each closure of the KRSHA, permit holders shall remove all nets, buoys, ropes and anchoring devices from the waters within the boundaries of the KRSHA.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Kasilof Special Harvest Area is intended to be an open access fishery for Cook Inlet permit holders. In the Set Gillnet section of the fishery a situation has developed that precludes this. Some Set gillnet permit holders are establishing net locations on the south and north regulatory boundaries by anchoring or staking buoys and lines far in advance of the KRSHA opening. This practice gives them great advantage over other permit holders the day of an opening guaranteeing them the most profitable locations for their nets. Most Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders fish miles away from the KRSHA and do not have easy access and opportunity to pre-stake locations prior to the openings.

A simple solution that would level the playing field for all set gillnet permit holders would be to require all fishing gear and related equipment i.e. buoys, anchor lines, anchors and stakes to be removed from the KRSHA when the area is closed to commercial fishing.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Person (EF-F16-097)
******************************************************************************