PROPOSAL 195 - 5 AAC 77.540 Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Remove the commissioner’s emergency order authority to extend the Kenai River personal use fishery hours, as follows:

5 AAC 77.540 (c)(1)(A) from July 10 through July 31, seven days per week, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Eliminate the Commissioner's authority to extend, by emergency order, the personal use fishery to 24 hours per day on the Kenai River.

The City of Kenai undertakes a substantial effort to respond to the personal use fishery, most of which takes place on or over the uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands owned by the City of Kenai. A component of the City's efforts to respond to the personal use fishery includes utilizing heavy equipment to rake fish-waste from tidelands, and to service beach-located solid waste dumpsters, during the period that the fishery is closed, 11PM - 6AM. There are inherent safety conflicts between personal use fishery participants and the operation of heavy equipment in a confined area during a dark period of the night/morning, during 24 hour openings of the fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Rick Koch - City of Kenai

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