

**PROPOSAL 53 - 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.** Amend the *Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan* so that the harvest allocation applies only prior to July 9, as follows:

5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. (a) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of 300,000 sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(c) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(d) The total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught **prior to July 9** within the Chignik Area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 90 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section **prior to July 9**. The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the cumulative **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch **in order to approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total pre-July 9 Chignik sockeye salmon catch.**

(e) This allocation method will be in effect through July 25. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Cape Igvak Section will not occur before the first **24 hour** fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan is based on the interception of 15 percent of the *total* Chignik sockeye salmon catch when the Cape Igvak fishery is focused almost exclusively on the interception of the pre-July 9 return of sockeye to Chignik. While the plan is based on the total sockeye catch in Chignik

over the course of the *entire* season, Igvak fishermen are really only intercepting first (Black Lake) run Chignik sockeye and therefore disproportionately impacting the first (Black Lake) run. Igvak fishermen generally do not have the ability to intercept a significant number of second (Chignik Lake) run Chignik sockeye. Therefore, the Cape Igvak Management Plan should not have an allocation encompassing the entire Chignik sockeye salmon harvest.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jamie Ross

(EF-F16-074)

\*\*\*\*\*