

PROPOSAL 57 - 5 AAC 18.330. Gear. Allow set gillnet gear in the entire Alitak District after September 4, as follows:

5 AAC 18.330. Gear (d) (2)

(d) In the Alitak District, salmon may be taken

(1) in the Humpy-Deadman and Cape Alitak Sections by purse seines and beach seines only;

(2) *in the Alitak Bay, Moser Bay, Olga Bay, Dog Salmon Flats, Outer and Inner Upper Station, and Outer and Inner Akalura Sections by set gillnets only, except that after September 4, salmon may be taken also by purse seines and beach seines.* **Also after September 4 set gill net gear maybe used in the entire Alitak District.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Problem: Lack of fishing time for the Alitak District set net fishery.

The Alitak District set net fishery is a bankrupt fishery. It operates from retirement accounts, selling assets and cannery credit. The fishery is predominantly managed on sockeye returns to the Olga Bay systems on which fishing time has been severely restricted in recent years.

Many of the set netters have been totally disenfranchised from other healthy local stocks that transit the area during sockeye restrictions. Opening the entire Alitak District to set net gear after Sept. 4 would allow those with the fortitude and means an opportunity to regain some of the loss created by restrictions imposed for sockeye management.

PROPOSED BY: Rick Metzger, Pete Hannah (EF-F16-022)

PROPOSAL 58 – 5 AAC 18.361. Alitak District Salmon Management Plan. Limit escapement of jack sockeye salmon into Frazer Lake to no more than 15 percent of total Frazer Lake sockeye salmon escapement, as follows:

A plan should be in place which would effectively guarantee that the jacks comprise nothing greater than 15% of the total escapement into Frazer Lake. This percentage would more closely resemble several systems in the surrounding areas, where jack components of 2% to 5% are the norm. A system could be devised to trap and cull any excess jacks to be used as added nutrients into the lake should an overage occur. Results will be documented in the Kodiak Management Area Commercial Salmon Annual Report. The program will continue for 4 years until 2019 when a full evaluation will take place.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? During the last 14 years, the Alitak Bay District has seen almost doubling of jacks escaping into Frazer Lake. This has contributed to weak returns of mature male and female sockeye salmon. The harvestable surplus for setnetters during this same time period has gone down 70% when compared to the previous 14 years. Since jacks have a tendency to make more jacks and have a much greater ability to fertilize eggs than previously thought, this development is likely playing a significant part in the overall weakness of a harvestable surplus, making it difficult to reach maximum sustainable yield. If this is not addressed we will likely continue to see big swings in the jack population and difficulties reaching lower end escapement goals. Other considered options would be to do nothing. This is not desirable as there is potential for long term harm to the run.

PROPOSED BY: Brad Underwood (EF-F16-068)

PROPOSAL 59 - 5 AAC 18.361. Alitak District Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 18.362. Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan. Implement a mandatory minimum commercial salmon fishery closure of 63 consecutive hours during every 7-day period in both the Westside and Alitak districts, as follows:

I recommend that there shall be mandatory "Pulse Fishing" in known migratory pathways. The management tool of "extended until further notice" shall no longer be used in Mixed Stock Fisheries. Pulse fishing is a "Precautionary Approach" that ensures the health and future Sockeye returns.

There shall be a minimum closure of 63 consecutive hours in every 7-day period for both the Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan and the Alitak District Salmon Management Plan.

Terminal harvest areas shall be allowed to fish "extended until further notice" as needed, if the harvest has a limited amount of non-target stock interception.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The burden of conservation of Alitak bound Sockeye is placed solely on the end user group (Alitak District). The known Sockeye migratory pathway along the North West and South West coast of Kodiak Island has no conservation measures within its Management Plan for Alitak Sockeye. The Westside District Management Plan has included Olga Bay systems in their harvest strategy but has not included a conservation strategy. 5 ACC 18.362(b)

All users groups of Alitak bound Sockeye should have to reduce fishing time for the health and conservation of the fish that they are harvesting.

-Use all information and supporting data about the Alitak Sockeye Migratory pathway, including recent DNA sample results, past tagging studies from the 1950's and 1981.

PROPOSED BY: Eric Dieters (EF-F16-010)

PROPOSAL 60 - 5 AAC 18.XXX. Karluk River Special Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 18.362. Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan. Create a special harvest area (SHA) allowing the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association to harvest Karluk River sockeye salmon deemed excess to escapement needs, as follows:

If, based on historical escapement entry curve trends for either the early or late Karluk sockeye runs the Department determines that it is likely (confidence of reaching the goal 90% of the time) that the escapement will be within 10% of their upper end annual Karluk escapement goal for either run, an "excess escapement" recovery fishery managed by the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association shall be established. Gear would be limited to no more than one vessel and a beach seine or purse seine of no more than 100 fathoms in length. To the extent practicable, revenue from the fishery would be used for research, enhancement and/or monitoring of the Karluk River.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Biological escapement goals are scientifically established to ensure long term sustained yield for a discrete salmon stock. From time to time current management measures fail to limit escapement of sockeye into the Karluk River. Consequently, both early and/or late upper end escapement goals are exceeded -- sometimes in excess of 100,000 fish annually. Over-escapement substantially inhibits Karluk sockeye productivity. In addition, agency funding pushes the Department toward early removal of the Karluk weir. Early weir removal further inhibits accurate accounting of total seasonal sockeye escapement in the Karluk system. In fact, over-escape in Karluk and unreliable estimates of post wier escapements may be responsible for the current lower sockeye production from the Karluk river. Limiting Karluk River sockeye escapement within established escapement goals will likely result in higher sustained yields from the Karluk system over time. Optimum sustained yield is the constitutional mandate for Alaska's salmon fishery management.

PROPOSED BY: Duncan Fields (EF-F16-053)

PROPOSAL 61 - 5 AAC 18.366. Spiridon Bay Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Amend the *Spiridon Bay Sockeye Salmon Management Plan* to reflect cost recovery activities conducted by Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association, as follows:

(b) The purpose of the Spiridon Bay harvest strategy is to allow the orderly harvest of sockeye salmon returning to Telrod Cove from the Spiridon Laske enhancement project while providing adequate protection for local natural salmon stocks returning to other streams in the bay. The intent of the enhancement project is for the harvest of returning enhanced salmon to occur in traditional commercial fishing areas of the Northwest Kodiak District during openings directed a harvesting Karluk sockeye and westside pink and chum salmon stocks. **Throughout the season, fishing time in Telrod Cove may be restricted in order to meet cost recovery goals for enhanced sockeye salmon.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current language in published regulations for harvest of enhanced salmon in Spiridon Bay and Spiridon Bay Special Harvest Area (SBSHA) is not consistent with language for the management of enhanced stocks in the Kitoi

Bay Special Harvest Area. This proposal seeks to amend regulatory language to reflect cost recovery activities conducted by the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association within the SBSHA.

PROPOSED BY: Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F16-066)
