

PROPOSAL 160

5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.

Allow commercial fishing for salmon in waters near selected streams in Boat Harbor, Anita Bay, Deep Inlet, and Nakat Inlet Terminal Harvest Areas up to a straight line between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks, as follows:

add new section (q) the AWC streams within the following terminal harvest areas (THA) listed below will remain open to commercial salmon fishing up to a straight line between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks, or as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers; the provisions of 5 AAC 39.290 do not apply.

Boat Harbor - AWC stream #115-10-10500

Deep Inlet – AWC streams #113-41-10390; #113-41-10380; #113-41-10370; #113-41-10360

Anita Bay – AWC Streams #107-30-10800 (Brad Creek); #107-30-10810; #107-30-10836; #107-30-10840; #107-30-10900; #107-30-10780; #107-30-10760

Nakat – AWC Streams #101-11-10220 (Eagle Creek); #101-11-10230 (Folly Creek); #101-11-10250; #101-11-10270 (Muskeg Creek) #101-11-10290; #101-11-10330; #101-11-10370 (Nakat Creek); #101-11-10390 (Sockeye Creek); #101-11-10410

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In Southeast Alaska, in the terminal harvest areas (THA) for the drift gillnet fleet there are streams listed in the Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) for the presence of salmon (not spawning or rearing) that we would like clarified that these streams are exempt from 5 AAC 39.290, 500 yard requirement. Instead as in Kodiak as per 5 AAC 18.350 (8) Closed Waters, these streams listed below would remain open to commercial salmon fishing by drift gillnet gear up to a straight line between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks of the streams and creeks. This will help clarify that within the terminal harvest areas some of which are extremely small that Enforcement can not give a ticket for being close to a stream mouth, as these streams are not important for the spawning or rearing of any salmon species and the conduct of gillnet fisheries in these areas has not harmed any wild stocks within the THA.

When 5 AAC 39.290 was changed several cycles ago, it has become very difficult to determine the closed areas that the 500 yards pertains to, particularly section (3) which states “over the beds or channels of fresh water of streams or rivers of this state”.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Fishermen’s Alliance & United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (HQ-F17-069)
