

**PROPOSAL 135**

**5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan.**

Allow one additional regular fishing period in the Central District drift gillnet fishery July 24–31, as follows:

5 AAC 21.353 (d)(2)(A)(iv) Drift Gillnet Area 1; notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (d)(2)(A) of this section, **two** [ONE] regular 12-hour fishing periods from July **24** [16] through July 31 may occur in the Central District instead of Drift Gillnet Area 1.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In recent years, the drift gillnet fleet has been restricted to two regular opening in Drift Gillnet Area 1 during the July 16-31 time frame. This proposal would provide for one additional, inlet-wide opening per week.

By late July, the northern-bound sockeye and coho are north of the Central District. There are harvestable sockeye, chum and pink salmon stocks available.

In even years, by July 20-22 the pink salmon stocks are entering the Kenai River. There are harvestable surpluses of chum and pink salmon available in the Central District.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Cook Inlet Drift Association (HQ-F19-077)

\*\*\*\*\*