

02.17.2020

To: Alaska Board of Fisheries

RC 185

Re: Proposal 164

**IN SUPPORT**

Please refer to the regulation below. There has not been a habitat report from the department for at least three UCI cycled regulatory meetings. The habitats are an integral part of achieving sustainability and proper assessments should be given as stated.

Note the paragraph says the Department will conduct habitat assessments.

**5 AAC 21.365 Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan (d)** The sonar count levels established in this section may be lowered by the board if noncommercial fishing, after consideration of mitigation efforts, results in a net loss of riparian habitat on the Kenai River. The department will, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the Board of Fisheries (board) triennial meeting cycle. If the assessments demonstrate a net loss of riparian habitat caused by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to the board and submit proposals to the board for appropriate modifications of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal.

Submitted By: Paul A. Shadura II

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