Record Copy: Proposal 28

The Lower Copper River has two codified Amount Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) findings. When a harvestable surplus allows for a commercial fishery the ANS is 3000-5000 salmon, while in years of a restricted commercial fishery the ANS tiers up to 19,000-32,000 salmon (5 AAC.01.616). In recent years most notably in 2018 and 2020 the commercial drift fleet has seen reduced opportunity leading to less salmon being brought to Cordova and being distributed as per the ANS findings. ADFG management currently has the authority to enact the second tier ANS but may lack guidance on when it should go into effect.

We support the Native Village of Eyak’s modification to their proposal which would provide households with an additional household limit of pink and chum salmon equal to their household limit for salmon, and wish to further modify Proposal 28 to provide guidance on initiating the second tier of this fishery’s ANS such that when the commercial fleet is under the 10-year average for sockeye harvest after the first three weeks of the commercial drift gillnet season that the second tier ANS goes into effect. This would increase the limits for subsistence users to 30 salmon per household of one, 60 salmon per household of two, and ten additional salmon for each additional member of the household.