

Proposed Amendment to synthesize Proposal 257 (formerly ACR 11) and Proposal 259 (formerly ACR 13) to be incorporated in 5 AAC 47.055 (Southeast Alaska King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan). Submitted By Matthew Donohoe, ATA Chair

The proposed amendment changes (highlighted in yellow) to Proposal 257 is offered to align Proposal 257 with the agreed, signed and BOF passed language of March 20, 2022's RC 178 (Agreement) which maintained the sport fishery harvest limits. This amendment also takes into consideration the ADFG Proposal's intent to align the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* with the new method of calculating the Alaska all-gear catch limit adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC). Proposal 257 organizes the new 17 PSC tiers into 7 groups.

5 AAC 47.055 is amended to read:

- (a) The commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, the king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and all other necessary management measures based on the **allocation to the sport fishery as determined by 5 AAC 29.060** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CATCH PER UNIT EFFORT (CPUE)]. The bag and possession limits and other management measures established by the commissioner will remain in effect until **March 31** [JANUARY 31] of the following year. [IF THE NEW SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS NOT AVAILABLE BY FEBRUARY 1, THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS AND OTHER MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR WILL BE BASED ON THE PRIOR YEAR'S SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE, UNLESS SUPERSEDED BY EMERGENCY ORDER.]
- (b) The objectives of the management plan under this section are to
- (1) manage the sport fishery to attain an average harvest of 20 percent of the annual harvest ceiling specified by the Pacific Salmon Commission, after the subtraction of the commercial net allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 from the harvest ceiling;
 - (2) allow uninterrupted sport fishing in salt waters for king salmon, while not exceeding the **sport fishery** harvest ceiling;
 - (3) minimize regulatory restrictions on resident anglers; and
 - (4) allow for the transfer of any projected unused balance in sport allocation to the troll fishery at a date determined by the department.
- (c) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is above 67,505** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 20.5, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX GREATER THAN 2.2], **the sport fishery harvest limit will be [69,000] 20% of the year's treaty king salmon allocation remaining after subtraction of the net allocations.** [AND] **The** commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

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- (1) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (3) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (4) from July 1 through July 15, a nonresident annual harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the two fish annual harvest limit;
 - (5) from July 16 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through July 15 will apply towards the one fish annual harvest limit;
 - (6) from October 1 through March 31, a sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.
- (d) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is between 55,261 and 67,505** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 20.5 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 8.7, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 2.2 AND GREATER THAN 1.8], the sport fishery harvest limit will be [61,900] **20% of the year's treaty king salmon allocation remaining after subtraction of the net allocations.** [AND] The commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:
- (1) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (3) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (4) from July 1 through July 15, a nonresident annual harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the two fish annual harvest limit;
 - (5) from July 16 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through July 15 will apply towards the one fish annual harvest limit;
 - (6) from October 1 through March 31, a sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.
- (e) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is between 43,644 and 55,260** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 8.7 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 6.0, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.8 AND GREATER THAN 1.5], the sport fishery harvest limit will be [49,300] **20% of the year's**

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treaty king salmon **allocation remaining after subtraction of the net allocations.** [AND] The commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

- (1) a resident bag limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (3) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (4) from July 1 through July 15, a nonresident annual harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the two fish annual harvest limit;
 - (5) from July 16 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through July 15 will apply towards the one fish annual harvest limit;
 - (6) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.
- (f) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is between 32,191 and 43,643** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 6.0 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 3.8, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.5 AND GREATER THAN 1.2], the sport fishery harvest limit will be [37,900] **20% of the year's treaty king salmon allocation remaining after subtraction of the net allocations.** [AND] The commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:
- (1) a resident bag limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (3) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
 - (4) from July 1 through July 15, a nonresident annual harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the two fish annual harvest limit;
 - (5) from July 16 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through July 15 will apply towards the one fish annual harvest limit;
 - (6) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

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(g) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is between 22,388 and 32,190** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 3.8 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2.6, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.2 AND GREATER THAN 1.0], the sport fishery harvest limit will be [25,800] **20% of the year's treaty king salmon allocation remaining after subtraction of the net allocations.** [AND] **T**he commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

- (1) a bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (2) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (3) from July 1 through July 7, a nonresident annual harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by the nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply toward the two fish annual harvest limit;
- (4) from July 8 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through December 31 will apply towards the one fish annual harvest limit;

(5) [IF THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 3.8 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2.0,] a resident bag limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, will be established in areas where conservation management measures have prohibited king salmon retention or closed fishing for king salmon for all anglers once they reopen.

(h) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is between 19,752 and 22,388** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 2.6 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2.0, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.0 AND GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 0.875], the sport fishery harvest limit will be [20,600] **20% of the year's treaty king salmon allocation remaining after subtraction of the net allocations.** [AND] **T**he commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

- (1) a bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (2) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;
- (3) from July 1 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the one fish annual harvest limit;

(4) [IF THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 3.8 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2.0,] a resident bag limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, will be established in areas where conservation management

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measures have prohibited king salmon retention or closed fishing for king salmon for all anglers once they reopen.

- (i) When the **allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery, as determined by 5 AAC 29.060, is less than 19,752** [SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 2.0, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN 0.875], **the all gear catch limit will be determined by the Pacific Salmon Commission and** the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the provisions specified in (g) and (h) of this section.
- (j) The commissioner may adopt regulations that establish reporting requirements necessary to obtain the information required to implement the management plan under this section.
- (k) The commissioner may, by emergency order, establish that the nonresident harvest and annual limits for king salmon under this section do not apply in a hatchery terminal harvest area.
- (l) A harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required for nonresidents.
- (m) The department shall manage the resident sport fishery so that there are no closures for residents, unless the commissioner determines that additional harvest reduction to the resident bag limits is necessary to comply with the Pacific Salmon Treaty.
- (n) The provisions of this section do not apply after March 31, 2025.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

In February 2023 the Pacific Salmon Commission adopted a new method of calculating the Alaska all-gear catch limit. The language within the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055) references the now outdated “winter troll CPUE” and “king salmon abundance index” as the criteria for implementing a management tier. This proposal seeks to replace these outdated references within the management plan with the corresponding allocation range for the sport fishery in numbers of fish. By replacing the references to the metric used to calculate the Alaska all-gear catch limit with the allocation range to sport fishery, the management plan may be more resilient to changes made by the Pacific Salmon Commission in the method used to calculate the Alaska all-gear catch limit. This proposal seeks to update the management plan to align with changes made by the Pacific Salmon Commission without changing the number of management tiers, the management prescriptions, or other allocative components which due to a sunset clause included in the plan, will be before the board during the 2025 Southeast Alaska Finfish Meeting.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
