

Gene J Sandone

## PROPOSAL 1

### 5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan, as follows (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):

5 AAC 58.055 is amended to read: ...

**(g) if the Anchor River preseason forecast or inseason projection is less than the lower end of the sustainable escapement goal of 3,200 – 6,400 king salmon, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.) within a mile of shore shall be closed to the retention of king salmon from May 1 [15] to July 15; if the Kenai River is closed as specified in 5 AAC 57.160, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59 40) shall be closed to the taking of king salmon from May 1 [15] to July 15; if the Deshka River preseason or inseason management option closes the king salmon season or restricts harvest, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.) within a mile of shore shall be closed to the retention of king salmon from May 1 to July 15**

**(h) if the Kenai River is closed to the taking of king salmon as specified in 5 AAC 21.359, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point shall be closed to the taking of king salmon from June 20 through August 15.**

Change date in (g) to May 1 to protect Northern Cook Inlet King salmon stocks.

Add a section to (g) for management of the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point.

Approximately half of the Cook Inlet-origin King salmon harvested in the Upper Cook Inlet summer and Lower Cook Inlet summer fishery are destined to spawn in Northern Cook Inlet streams. The King salmon sport fishery in Northern Cook Inlet streams have been restricted or closed in recent years. Although approximately half of the Cook Inlet-origin King salmon that are harvested in the Upper and Lower Cook Inlet summer king salmon fisheries originate in Northern Cook Inlet streams, they are not protected by Proposal 1. Changing the proposal to include management actions based on the Deshka River preseason or inseason management actions affords some protection to King Salmon stocks that originate from Northern Cook Inlet streams.

