

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
SOUTH UNIMAK AND SHUMAGIN ISLANDS
1977 SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

*See also
#77-28-FB,
#78-41-FB*

Mixed stocks of salmon bound for distant systems have historically been intercepted in significant numbers along the Alaska Peninsula. To insure that none of these runs are overharvested it is necessary to restrain their interception. The local runs to the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands in 1977 are generally expected to be only strong enough to meet escapement goals or to allow a small amount of fishing. The 1977 salmon fisheries will therefore be very restricted.

This outline for the 1977 salmon season in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands areas is intended as a guide. Adjustments will be made by field emergency order as conditions warrant during the season.

JUNE FISHERY

The Alaska Board of Fisheries has established sockeye guideline harvest levels on the South Unimak and the Shumagin Islands June interception fisheries, both of which are based on percentages of the latest projected Bristol Bay inshore sockeye harvest as published by the Department of Fish and Game. Consistent with existing policy and traditional harvest patterns, the maximum percentage allowed for the South Unimak fishery is 6.8% and for the Shumagin Islands fishery, 1.5%. The forecasts for Bristol Bay are sometimes updated as more information becomes available just prior to the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands season, and exact numbers cannot be given at this time. However, based on the Department's preliminary 1977 Bristol Bay harvest forecast issued in November 1976, the catch limits would be approximately 187,000 for South Unimak and approximately 41,000 for the Shumagin Islands.

Guideline harvest levels are established with the understanding that catches will be distributed proportionately over the June runs so as not to excessively impact any segment of the runs. In order to accomplish this the following guidelines will be adhered to as much as practicable:

Guideline harvest levels of sockeye

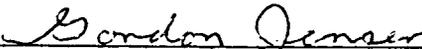
<u>Weekly Period</u>	<u>South Unimak</u>	<u>Shumagin Islands</u>
June 1-5)		
June 6-12)	7%	12%
June 13-19	36%	31%
June 20-26	46%	41%
June 27-30	<u>11%</u>	<u>16%</u>
	100%	100%

Weekly fishing periods will be announced by field emergency order, and they will be adjusted so as to keep the harvest within the guidelines. However, there will be no more than five (5) days of fishing allowed within any one weekly period. Note that no more than three (3) days of fishing will be allowed in the first

South Unimak and Shumagin Islands
1977 Salmon Fishery Management Plan

Page 2

weekly period June 1-5. If catches fall below the guidelines for a given weekly period those unharvested sockeye will not be added into a subsequent weekly period. If guideline harvest levels by time, are inadvertently exceeded during any given fishing period, the excess will be a portion of the total guideline harvest level. Except for possible weather-day allowances being necessitated the last weekly period in June, these two interception fisheries will not be continued after June 30.



Gordon Jensen, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: December 16, 1976
Soldotna, Alaska