

PROPOSAL 3 – 5 AAC 21.350. Closed waters. Amend waters closed to commercial salmon fishing in the Kamishak District and Outer District of Lower Cook Inlet, as follows:

5 AAC 21.350(e) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(e) Kamishak Bay District

(6) waters of Akumwarvik Bay inshore of a line from a point at 59° 03.31' N. lat., 154° 11.24' W. long., to a point at 59° 02.82' N. lat, 154° 10.18' W. long., to a point on the west shore at 59° 02.32' N. lat., 154° 07.08' W. long.;

(7) waters of the Douglas River area inshore of a line from 59° 03.78' N. lat., 153° 46.09' W. long., to a point at 59° 03.95' N. lat., 153° 45.09' W. long.

5 AAC 21.350(f)(12) is amended and a new paragraph is added to read:

(f) Outer District

(12) waters of the East Nuka Subdistrict east of a line from a point north of the entrance to McCarty Lagoon at 59° 32.76' N. lat., 150° 20.20' W. long. to a point offshore of the entrance of McCarty Lagoon at 59° 32.45' N. lat., **150° 21.50' W. long.** [150° 21.00' W. LONG.] to a point south of the entrance of McCarty Lagoon at 59° 31.90' N. lat., 150° 21.00' W. long.;

...

(14) waters of the Nuka Island Subdistrict off of the Petrof River west of a line between a point at 59° 20.84' N. lat., 150° 50.30' W. long. and a point at 59° 21.37' N. lat., 150° 50.30' W. long.

What is the issue that you would like the board to address and why? In Lower Cook Inlet waters closed to commercial salmon harvest are defined using a variety of methods. In addition to being specified in regulation, closed waters have historically been identified using physical signs or markers, as well as on maps distributed by the Homer area Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) office. Given the widespread availability of Global Positioning System technology, the department has ended its regulatory marker program in this area.

The proposal identifies waters in the Kamishak and Outer districts that have historically been closed to commercial salmon fishing. These closed waters were previously only identified with markers. The public, enforcement, and department all benefit from clearly defined closed waters with Global Positioning System coordinates.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F16-124)
