

Submitted by Joseph Person

Proposal 101 and the 600ft fishery in general.

The primary point here is that it is pointless to look at the merits of the 600ft fishery *in the Kasilof section* in a vacuum, and any considerations should compare it to the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) as it is almost exclusively under consideration as an alternative to that. Concerns about unrestricted usage of this fishery are certainly legitimate, but the truth is that if the department is not given another viable alternative to the KRSHA that functions outside the current management plan they will continue to utilize it extensively in time of conservation concern for Kenai stocks. Due to the department using this 600ft fishery in exactly the fashion requested in 101 we had an excellent chance to observe the potential of this fishery and it seems now appropriate for the board to clarify its intent in the use of it.

- The genetics are clear that the relative percentage breakdowns of chinook origin are very similar between the two fisheries. That is approximately 40% Kenai, 60% Kasilof chinook.
- That said, the 600ft Fishery caught almost 3x as many reds per king harvested. This means that the 600ft fishery in reality has 1/3 the impact on chinook harvest and would require much less time in the water, thus reducing the impact on in-river and personal use fisheries.
- Issues with prosecution of the KRSHA, fish quality/value, and equitability of opportunity have been discussed heavily prior.
- The adopted chinook plan of this meeting still has a high probability of occurrence and the lack of regular openings is highly allocative away from the southern beaches and this would help to address that.

Alternative to Proposal 101

I feel concerns about potential impact of "unlimited" fishing in this 600ft fishery are warranted, if the board does not want to leave it solely up to the discretion of managers like the KRSHA is; then putting a limit on how many hours a week it could be used (that don't count towards EO limitations) of 36-48 hours may be appropriate. I feel this should be sufficient to harvest Kasilof bound sockeye at a similar level as the current extensive use of the KRSHA with much less negative impacts.