

PROPOSAL 147

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Amend Mist Cove salmon closure to allow for taking of salmon with fly fishing gear and prohibit snagging, as follows:

In Mist Cove, south of a line from ADF&G regulatory markers located at 56° 3 1.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long to 56° 31.07 N. lat 134° 40.12 W. long., to the barrier net., sport fishing for salmon is open to fly fishing only. Snagging of salmon is prohibited 300 yards north of a line from ADF&G regulatory markers located at 56° 3 1.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long to 56° 31.07 N. lat 134° 40.12 W. long.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I respectfully request The Board of Fisheries address this issue.

In Mist Cove, south of a line from ADF&G regulatory markers located at 56° 3 1.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long to 56° 31.07 N. lat 134° 40.12 W. long., sport fishing for salmon is closed;

On the last meeting the Board of Fisheries closed this area to prevent damage to net pens and provide safety for the crew working the site.

Our Family operates a small fishing lodge in Port Alexander and I have flown guests to Mist Cove for the last eighteen years. I primarily guided my clients for fly fishing in that closed area and have never damaged any net pens or endangered any crew.

Mist cove is very popular and more people are going there to fish. There are charter boats that go there to snag salmon with weighted treble hooks with up to four fishers on a boat. This practice is dangerous to the crew, other fishers and can damage the net pens.

I feel that the regulation needs to change to allow fly fishing only in the closed area and extend the line 300 yards eastward to close any guided snagging of salmon.

PROPOSED BY: Kevin Mulligan (EF-F17-089)

PROPOSAL 148

5 AAC 33.369. District 1: Herring Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

Expand the Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area to provide additional sport fishing opportunity for hatchery-produced king salmon, as follows:

Open an additional sub-area to the Ketchikan Sport Terminal Hatchery Area (STHA) with a two fish daily bag limit, that coincides with the opening and closing of the Ketchikan STHA. This daily bag limit would not count against any annual limits.

This sub-area would abut the southern edge of the STHA in area 101-27 In Nichols Passage and extend further south to Hid Reef on the eastern corner, to the junction of 101-25 and 101-29 In Clarence Strait, and continue northward within area 101-29 to a line extending due west (True) from South Valenar Point to the western boundary of 101-29. It should be noted that this sub-area is extremely small in comparison to the Spring Troll Access Area for commercial harvesters. (See attached diagram of proposed sub-area)*

This increased access would help alleviate the inequities between Inside and Outside sport fisheries in the early days of each season, and increase marketability of Inside sport fisheries, thereby stretching the season and increasing benefits to the local economy. It would benefit sport fishers in years of low Treaty King Salmon abundance, and would also reduce gear conflicts in the Neats Bay Chum Salmon troll fishery and seine and gillnet King Salmon fisheries Inside the Neats Bay THA by giving sport fishers an alternative access to hatchery King Salmon.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Increase access to hatchery raised King Salmon in the Ketchikan area. Current regulations ensure that sport fishermen continue to lose the opportunity to catch hatchery King Salmon by not allowing increased bag limits in areas of increased hatchery abundance.

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie

(HQ-F17-085)

**Proposal submission instructions indicate any additional information provided with the form, such as tables, Internet web links, or charts, will not be included in the proposal book. The referenced graph will be included in the public comment material for the appropriate meeting.*

PROPOSAL 149

5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.

Extend the closing date for salmon harvest by the hatchery permit holder in Deep Inlet Special Harvest Area, as follows:

(a) The following special harvest areas are established for the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association:

.....

(7) Deep Inlet for king, chum, and coho salmon: the waters of Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point on the westernmost end of Cape Burunoff at 56_59.04' N. lat., 135_23.23' W. long., to a point west of Cape Burunoff at 56_59.11' N. lat., 135_23.59' W. long., to a point one-half mile west of the westernmost tip of Long Island at 57_00.17' N. lat., 135_22.69' W. long., to the westernmost tip of Long Island, to the easternmost tip of Long Island, to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island, to the westernmost tip of Error Island, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island, to the southernmost tip of Berry Island, to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57_00.30' N. lat., 135_17.67' W. long., to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57_00.08' N.

lat., 135° 16.78' W. long., and then to a point on the Baranof Island shore at 56° 59.93' N. lat., 135° 16.53' W. long. will be open for harvest by the hatchery permit holder from 12:01 a.m. June 15 until 11:59 p.m. **October 31** [September 15], except Sandy Cove is closed south of 56° 59.05' N. lat.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association's Bear Cove and Deep Inlet Special Harvest Areas (SHA) closing dates do not align. The Bear Cove closure is October 31 due to late returning coho. However, at Deep Inlet where the majority of the coho smolt are released and return, the regulation closes the SHA in mid-September. NSRAA needs the ability to collect broodstock and/or harvest in Deep Inlet through the end of October. It now requires an EO to do so.

NSRAA proposes a simple date change to **[October 31]** in the (7) Deep Inlet section. No other changes needed.

PROPOSED BY: Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association' (EF-F17-045)

PROPOSAL 150

5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.

Establish a special harvest area in Crawfish Inlet, as follows:

(a) The following special harvest areas are established for the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association:

...

[(10) Crawfish Inlet for Chinook and chum salmon the hatchery special harvest area (SHA) is designated as all waters within Crawfish Inlet east of 135°11.05' W. longitude for all gear as in (c)(10); troll only Crawfish SHA to include south of 56° 47.14' and east of a boundary defined by points: 56° 44.16 lat, 135° 15.80' long to 56° 43.30' lat, 135° 17.81' long, to 56° 41.93' lat, 135° 17.54' long, to 56° 47.14' lat, 135° 13.80' long Aspid Cape.]

....

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 33.330, legal gear for the hatchery permit holder in a special harvest area are as follows:

...

[(10) Crawfish Inlet: purse seine, drift gillnet, hand purse seine, beach seine, dip net, and troll gear];

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) initiated a chum and chinook salmon enhancement program at Crawfish Inlet in 2015 when the current Special Harvest Area east of 135°11.05' W. longitude was established. Chum salmon begin returning to Crawfish Inlet in 2017 and chinook in 2018; in order to provide additional benefit to the troll fleet, NSRAA in cooperation with ADF&G Troll

Management would like to extend the SHA boundary for commercial troll fishing primarily during June and July for Chinook and late July to early September for chum salmon.

PROPOSED BY: Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association' (EF-F17-048)

PROPOSAL 151

5 AAC 33.XXX. New Section.

Establish a terminal harvest area and management plan for Carroll Inlet, as follows:

5 AAC 33.371. District 1: CARROLL INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN.

- a) This management plan distributes the harvest of hatchery produced king salmon in the Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area between the purse seine, troll and drift gillnet fleets.
- b) The department, in consultation with the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), shall manage the Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area from June 11 through July 10 for troll gear and June 15 to July 10 for purse seine and drift gillnet gear to provide for the harvest of hatchery - produced king salmon, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area consists of the waters of Carroll Inlet north of Nigelius Point at 55°33.50' N. Latitude.
- c) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in length.
- d) May 1 to July 10, the Carroll Inlet THA will be expanded to include all waters of Carroll Inlet north of the latitude of California Head. The expanded area will open only for the harvest of king salmon by troll gear.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? From 1986 through 1995, SSRAA released chinook salmon at Carroll Inlet. At that time, the Alaska Administrative Code section describing the *Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* was found at 5 AAC 33.371 as noted above. Regulation 5 AAC 33.371 was repealed on 5/31/2009.

SSRAA's programs are continually changing and evolving. In the spring of 2016, 400,000 chinook salmon were released by SSRAA at Carroll Inlet, following four weeks of saltwater net pen rearing on-site. This site was permitted by the Department through the RPT process. Releases are authorized by FTP(s). Subsequent yearly releases of chinook at this site are planned.

The issue that SSRAA would like the Board to address is the reestablishment of administrative regulations and a Terminal Harvest Area (THA) for Carroll Inlet. The submission of this proposal, along with the solution contained within it, has been thoroughly discussed and approved by the 21-member SSRAA Board of Directors. Alternatives to this plan were considered in this process, and changes were made to reflect consensus. The SSRAA Board has representation from all three salmon gear groups, sport fisheries, subsistence users, native corporations, chambers of commerce, municipalities, processors and the public at-large.

If nothing is changed, i.e. there is no *Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* going forward: 1.) The Department would have to manage this area on a EO basis that would cause unnecessary work and frustration for them and others; 2.) Commercial fishers would not know what to expect in terms of fishing time and area each season, leading to lower catches and higher expenses; 3.) The regulations would suffer from internal inconsistencies.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F17-073)

PROPOSAL 152

5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

Update area description and coordinates of the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area boundaries, as follows:

5 AAC 33.383(a) is amended to read:

(a) The Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area consists of the waters of Anita Bay south and west of a line from the tip of Anita Point at 56° 13.69' N. lat., 132° 22.50' W. long. to a point on the northern shore at 56° 14.26' N. lat., 132° 23.93' W. long. [132° 23.92' W. long.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The area description in regulation is inconsistent with current commercial salmon markers. The proposed changes will provide a better and more precise description of the Anita Bay THA boundaries.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-102)