

PROPOSAL 117

5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

Increase open waters from within 600 feet of mean high tide to within 1,200 feet of mean high tide as a restrictive option in the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery after July 8, as follows:

(C) (3) amend as follows “within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark” change to “within 1200 feet of the mean high tide mark” within this paragraph provision in the Kasilof River Management Plan.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The 600 feet limitation in provision found in (C) (3) does not provide a fair and equitable or reasonable means of harvest on Kasilof bound stocks; this represents an extreme reduction of fishing area by 94.5% (from 1.5 nautical miles to 600 feet). This “further” restrictive measure was only intended to be used after half-mile openings when the Kenai and East Forelands are closed in order for the department to achieve the Kenai late-run sockeye goal. Note: the Kasilof Section genetic data on salmon harvest composition shows a de minimis incidental harvest on Kenai large kings (similarly situated to the drift fishery) and the composition of Kenai bound sockeye are also low, especially along the lower beach stat areas (244-21, 244-22).

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