PROPOSAL 19

5 AAC 01.566. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amounts necessary for subsistence uses.

Extend the boundary in Seldovia Bay where salmon are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence, as follows:

5 AAC 01.566 (a)(1)(B) salmon, except enhanced salmon, in the waters along the eastern shoreline of Seldovia Bay from 59 24.90' N lat., 151 41.94' W long. [Seldovia Point at 59_28.22' N. lat., 151_42.37' W. long.], to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at 59 28.78' N lat., 151 39.49' W long.[59_24.90' N]. lat., except for the area excluded in 5 AAS 01.560 (b) (8), and from an ADF&G regulatory marker located at 59 26.47' N. lat, 151 47.47W long along the shoreline to a point at the latitude of an unnamed creek at 59 25.19'N. lat, 151 44.05' W. long. [from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately 1,000 feet southwest of Naskowhak Point at 59_27.10' N. lat., 151_44.70' W. long., to an ADF&G regulatory marker located on an unnamed point at 59_26.87' N. lat., 151_46.42' W. long].

This proposal will add additional beach area just outside of Seldovia Bay and along the western shore of the Bay. Fishing periods that do not conflict with commercial setnet periods are included in a separate proposal. These beaches are clear of fouling hazards and not heavily used for recreation or intertidal subsistence harvesting. Expansion of the boundaries would allow more people to participate in the traditional subsistence fishery, thus preserving Seldovia's cultural traditions and improving local food security.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Much of the coastline allotted for subsistence fishing in Seldovia Bay consists of cliff faces. The only beach in this section large enough to operate a setnet site has large kelp patches offshore, and is often exposed to heavy surf. The rocky, kelp-covered intertidal area is poorly suited for boat landings or set net operations. Set nets also interfere with other important and common uses of the beach, including recreation, camping, tide pooling and gathering subsistence foods. Waters within Seldovia Bay are generally considered unsuitable for setnet fishing due to high levels of algae and debris within the bay. To avoid fouling gear, subsistence efforts are concentrated in the clearer waters between Point Naskowhak and a point approximately 1000 feet SE. This, combined with the regulation requiring 600 feet between nets, mean that at most, three people can fish this section.