

**Points for Reconsideration of Proposal 133**

Per: Alaska Board of Fisheries Operating Procedures Motion to Reconsider based on new information.

**New Information**

- The board did not discuss the impact of the **loss of fisheries data** due to lack of catch reports from the central district, *making it more difficult to set tiers in-season.*
- The board did not discuss the **compounding effect on management efficacy** of substantially reducing the tools for opportunity in the drift fishery while also reducing tools for opportunity in the set net fishery.
- The board did not discuss how the restrictions of component 2, which removes the authority of the Department to utilize Area 1 as a management tool during additional fishing time, **inhibits the Department's ability to both assess and target** the harvestable surplus of Kenai and Kasilof sockeye *with both drift and set nets, particularly in times of abundance, and particularly in the case of later run timing.*
- The Board did not discuss **how frequently staff utilized this tool and to what benefit to management**, or how the loss of this tool might impact the Department's ability to effectively manage for Kenai and Kasilof sockeye.

**Discussion**

Kenai and Kasilof bound sockeye aggregate in the central district before moving toward the east side and dispersing. Therefore, the drift fleet is able to be more effective in harvesting Kenai and Kasilof bound sockeye in areas 1 & 2 because of how fish aggregate.

Drift catches in Area 1 provide meaningful information to managers on fish moving through the district — informing both drift and set net openers and anticipating influx into the river.

*Particularly in times of abundance and later run timing*, the inability to provide additional fishing time in Area 1 directly inhibits the Department from assessing inbound bodies of fish and determining both set and drift openers. The loss of this tool especially inhibits the Department from managing for the harvestable surplus of sockeye bound for the Kenai and Kasilof rivers.

If upper cook inlet fishermen are to concentrate on the harvest of Kenai and Kasilof bound stocks, the *potential* for additional fishing time in Area 1 is a crucial tool for achieving harvest, for avoiding over escapement, and for assessing opportunity for all users.

**Solution**

Reconsider Proposal 133 — Add Drift Area 1 back to component 2 as a possible fishing area for the drift fleet during additional fishing time from August 1 to August 15.