

RC 142

Submitted:

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By: SOKI

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Spokesperson

RC 151

Note: Included for reference; SAAC 21,365  
Kasilof River  
Salmon Management  
Plan

(8TW-6

table 182-3

On table please note that the 8 year  
(182-3)

avg. of large Kings (Kenai) caught in the  
Kasilof area are 28% of the harvest.

Please note that 52% of the time  
series on average includes the July 1 to  
July 9<sup>th</sup> time frame. Early or June harvest  
on Kings in the Kasilof section are comprised  
predominately of age (1.1) "jack Kings

or age (1.2) which mostly are less than  
34<sup>+</sup> inches. The 67% calculation is based  
on in-river age classes which ~~are~~ have a  
higher proportion of large King vs. small.

The Kasilof section does not harvest a pre dominance of Kenai bound King salmon,

5AAC 21.365 KRSMP

(f) Intent language specifies the need for conservation of Kenai River bound sockeye to meet minimal goals. It has built in restrictions of one net per permit holder. It is most important to maintain within the BEG the Kasilof sockeye run. The escapement goal that the department has lowered the goal to remain within the bounds Inclusion in the Late Run Kenai King

Salmon restrictions will defeat the purpose in season (late) to manage within the goals when other fisheries restrictions are in place. All UCI & ND CFEL limited entry permit holders (salmon) can participate in the terminal area,



(c) In this section, "upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks" means those salmon that move through the Northern and Central Districts as defined in 5 AAC 1.200(a) and (b) and spawn in waters draining into those districts.

(d) Repealed 6/11/2005.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is the intent of the board that, while in most circumstances the department will adhere to the management plans in this chapter, no provision within a specific management plan is intended to limit the commissioner's use of emergency order authority under AS 16.05.060 to achieve established escapement goals for the management plans as the primary management objective. For the purpose of this subsection, "escapement goals" includes inriver goal, biological escapement goal, sustainable escapement goal, and optimal escapement goal as defined in 5 AAC 39.222. (Eff. 5/17/81, Register 78; am 3/29/87, Register 101; am 4/7/93, Register 126; am 5/31/96, Register 138; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.251

**5 AAC 21.364. Fish Creek Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.** Repealed. (Eff. 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/30/91 — 5/30/91, Register 118 [not printed]; am 7/21/91, Register 119; am 6/13/99, Register 150; repealed 6/22/2002, Register 162)

**5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.** (a) This management plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries. Openings in the areas historically fished must be consistent with escapement objectives for upper Cook Inlet salmon and with the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.363).

(b) Achieving the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal range of 160,000 — 390,000 sockeye salmon.

(c) The commercial set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section shall be managed as follows:

(1) fishing will be opened as described in 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2) for regular weekly fishing periods, as specified in 5 AAC 21.320;

(2) from the beginning of the fishing season through July 7,

(A) the commissioner may, by emergency order, open additional fishing periods or extend regular weekly fishing periods to a maximum of 48 hours of additional fishing time per week;

(B) the fishery shall remain closed for at least one continuous 36-hour period per week to begin between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday;

(3) beginning July 8, the set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section will be managed as specified in 5 AAC 21.360(c); in addition to the provisions of 5 AAC 21.360(c), the commissioner may, by emergency order, limit fishing during the regular weekly periods and any extra fishing periods to those waters within one-half mile of shore, if the set gillnet fishery in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections are not open for the fishing period; if the commissioner determines that further restrictions are necessary to aid in achieving the lower end of the Kenai River escapement goal, the commissioner may, in an emergency order under this paragraph, further restrict fishing to within 600 feet of the high tide mark in the Kasilof Section;

(4) after July 8, if the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery is restricted to fishing within the first one-half mile of shore, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open the KRSHA described in (f) of this section to both set and drift gillnet fishing using only one gillnet, for fishing periods not to exceed 48 hours in duration without one period of 24 consecutive hours of closure; the provisions in (f)(1) — (8) of this section apply during these openings;

(5) after July 15, if the department determines that the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon run strength is projected to be less than 2,300,000 fish and the 390,000 optimal escapement goal for the Kasilof River sockeye salmon may be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing for an additional 24 hours per week in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore and as specified in 5 AAC 21.360(c).

(d) The personal use fishery will be managed as specified in 5 AAC 77.540(b) and (c).

(e) Repealed 6/4/2008.

(f) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) to the taking of salmon by gillnets when it is projected that the Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement will exceed 365,000 fish. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries (board) that the KRSHA should rarely, if ever, be opened under this subsection and only for conservation reasons. Before the commissioner opens the KRSHA, it is the board's intent that additional fishing time be allowed in the remainder of the Kasilof Section first, and secondly that the mandatory closures specified in regulation be reduced in duration, if necessary to meet the escapement goals contained within this and other management plans. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within one and one-half miles of the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the

river and waters  
5 AAC 21.330(b)(1) apply within the open.

(1) set gillnet 1,200 feet of the

(2) a set gillnet length;

(3) drift gillnet within 1,200 feet

(4) no more than be used to take

(5) a permit to gillnet to take s

(6) a person in the special harvest in the special harvest

(7) there is no except that a g within 600 feet

(8) a vessel rooms of drift gillnet board.

(g) The commissions of the management provided in 5 AAC

(h) For the purpose a calendar week, beginning at 12:0

midnight the following 98; am 6/22

Register 163; am 7/20/2004 — 11/10

Register 173; a 10/1/2006, Register

am 5/21/2011, Register 210)

Authority: AS

5 AAC 21.366

**Salmon Management**

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king salmon as

(1) except a season will open

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r and waters open to set gillnetting under 5 AAC 21.330(b)(3)(C)(ii) and (iii). The following apply within the special harvest area when it is open:

(1) set gillnets may be operated only within 1,200 feet of the mean high tide mark;

(2) a set gillnet may not exceed 35 fathoms in length;

(3) drift gillnets may not be operated in waters within 1,200 feet of the mean high tide mark;

(4) no more than 50 fathoms of drift gillnet may be used to take salmon;

(5) a permit holder may not use more than one gillnet to take salmon at any time;

(6) a person may not operate a gillnet outside the special harvest area when operating a gillnet in the special harvest area;

(7) there is no minimum distance between gear, except that a gillnet may not be set or operated within 600 feet of a set gillnet located outside of the special harvest area; and

(8) a vessel may not have more than 150 fathoms of drift gillnet or 105 fathoms of set gillnet on board.

(g) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e).

(h) For the purposes of this section, "week" means a calendar week, a period of seven consecutive days beginning at 12:01 a.m. Sunday and ending at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday. (Eff. 4/18/86, Register 98; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 7/3/2002, Register 163; am 9/28/2002, Register 163; em am 7/20/2004 — 11/16/2004, Register 171; am 2/13/2005, Register 173; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 10/1/2006, Register 179; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; am 5/21/2011, Register 198; am 5/18/2014, Register 210)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.251

**5 AAC 21.366. Northern District King Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure an adequate escapement of king salmon into the Northern District drainages and to provide management guidelines to the department. The department shall manage the Northern District king salmon stocks primarily for sport and guided sport uses in order to provide sport and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon over the entire run as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions. The department shall manage the Northern District for the commercial harvest of king salmon as follows:

(1) except as specified in (8) of this section, the season will open for commercial fishing periods with the first fishing period beginning on the first Monday on or after May 25, except when May 25 falls within a closed period, in which case the season opens the next following open period and

continues through June 24, unless closed earlier by emergency order;

(2) fishing periods are from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Mondays;

(3) the harvest may not exceed 12,500 king salmon;

(4) set gillnets may not exceed 35 fathoms in length and six inches in mesh size;

(5) no CFEC permit holder may operate more than one set gillnet at a time;

(6) no set gillnet may be set or operated within 1,200 feet of another set gillnet;

(7) no CFEC permit holder may set a gillnet seaward of a set gillnet operated by another CFEC permit holder;

(8) from May 25 through June 24, the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River is open to fishing the second regular Monday period only;

(9) if the Theodore, Lewis, or Ivan River is closed to sport fishing, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River to commercial king salmon fishing for the remainder of the fishing periods provided for under this section;

(10) if the Deshka River is closed to sport fishing, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the commercial king salmon fishery throughout the Northern District for the remainder of the fishing periods provided for under this section; and

(11) if the Chuitna River is closed to sport fishing, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the area from a point at the wood chip dock located approximately at 61° 02.77' N. lat., 151° 10.04' W. long., to the Susitna River to commercial king salmon fishing for the remainder of the directed king salmon fishery.

(b) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e). (Eff. 4/18/86, Register 98; am 5/14/97, Register 142; am 6/13/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2002, Register 162; am 6/11/2005, Register 174; am 6/4/2008, Register 186; em am 5/1/2009 — 8/28/2009, Register 190; am 5/21/2011, Register 198; am 5/18/2014, Register 210)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.251

**5 AAC 21.367. Upper Subdistrict King Salmon Management Plan.** Repealed 6/10/89

**5 AAC 21.368. Big River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.** (a) The purpose of this management plan is to authorize a harvest of Big River sockeye salmon by set gillnets in a portion of the Kustatan and Kalgin Island Subdistricts.

Table 182-3.—Large ( $\geq 75$  cm METF) fish stock compositions and stock-specific harvest estimates by year for king salmon harvested in the Kasilof Section of Eastside set gillnet fishery by spatiotemporal stratum, Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska, 2010, 2011, and 2013–2018. (Table 10 from Eskelin and Barclay, 2019).

Stratum	Dates	Year	Kenai River		Kenai River		Kasilof River		Cook Inlet	
			tributaries		mainstem		mainstem		other	
			Stock	Stock-specific	Stock	Stock-specific	Stock	Stock-specific	Stock	Stock-specific
			Comp <sup>a</sup>	Harvest	Comp <sup>a</sup>	Harvest	Comp <sup>a</sup>	Harvest	Comp <sup>a</sup>	Harvest
Kasilof Section	27 Jun–7 Jul	2010	0.00	2	0.11	98	0.04	40	0.01	9
“Early” b	25 Jun–9 Jul	2011	0.00	0	0.30	463	0.11	176	0.00	0
	27 Jun–6 Jul	2013	0.00	0	0.16	65	0.03	10	0.02	8
	23 Jun–7 Jul	2014	0.00	0	0.08	38	0.03	13	0.00	1
	22 Jun–6 Jul	2015	0.00	1	0.11	90	0.06	49	0.05	44
	23 Jun–9 Jul	2016	0.00	4	0.23	267	0.11	130	0.02	28
	24 Jun–8 Jul	2017	0.01	10	0.47	338	0.13	95	0.04	30
	25 Jun–7 Jul	2018	0.02	16	0.16	107	0.01	7	0.01	10
	Average		0.01	4	0.20	183	0.07	65	0.02	16
Kasilof Section	8–31 Jul	2010	0.01	14	0.22	574	0.39	1,048	0.02	46
“Late” c	11–31 Jul	2011	0.00	1	0.27	835	0.30	917	0.00	2
	8–23 Jul	2013	0.00	0	0.20	170	0.07	63	0.00	0
	9–23 Jul	2014	0.00	0	0.21	117	0.18	99	0.00	0
	9–30 Jul	2015	0.00	1	0.25	401	0.20	316	0.00	2
	11–28 Jul	2016	0.00	3	0.28	467	0.34	574	0.00	2
	10–31 Jul	2017	0.01	15	0.49	672	0.27	373	0.01	13
	9–28 Jul	2018	0.00	0	0.26	220	0.16	133	0.00	0
	Average		0.00	4	0.27	432	0.24	440	0.00	8

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