

PROPOSAL 108

5 AAC 15.357 - Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to implement commercial salmon fishing periods in June, as follows:

(c) In the Eastern District,

(1) from June 1 through approximately June 25th, as a mixed-stock fishery directed on early-run sockeye salmon returning to Black Lake; **if 20,000 sockeye salmon have escaped into the Chignik river, or if the department determines that a strong buildup of sockeye salmon exists in Chignik Lagoon and 20,000 sockeye salmon will escape into the Chignik River,** the commissioner shall **may** open, by emergency order, at least two commercial test fishing periods of 33 hours in length.

~~(1)](2) during June, the commercial salmon fishery shall open concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District, and the openings shall be based on achieving the Black Lake sockeye salmon escapement goals;~~

(2) from approximately June 26 through July 8,

(A) the department shall evaluate the strength of the sockeye salmon late run; and

(B) in order to continue managing the Black Lake sockeye salmon harvest and escapement, while assessing the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run strength, commercial salmon fishing in the Eastern District will, in the department's discretion, be disallowed or severely restricted;

(3) from the end of the transition period, described in (b)[2] of this section, until July 31, the department shall manage the commercial salmon fishery based on its evaluation of local pink and chum salmon runs, and the strength of the Chignik Lakes' system sockeye salmon; and the commissioner may open, by emergency order, one commercial test fishing period per week, not to exceed 48 hours

(4) after July 31, the department shall manage the commercial salmon fishery based on its evaluation of local pink, chum, and coho salmon runs or the strength of the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run. The commissioner may open, by emergency order, one commercial test fishing period per week, of 57 hours in length.