

Madam chair, members of the board,

My name is John Foster, I live and fish in Sand Point. I have been setnetting in the SEDM and other sections of Area M since 1972.

I am here to speak on proposal 132, possible changes to the SEDM management plan due to Chigniks 2 run sockeye system becoming a 1 run system. The one change I am focusing on is the 300,000 -> 600,000 guaranteed Chignik sockeye catch before the SEDM opens, which is in place during years of predicted weaker runs in Chignik. 300,000 for the first run and 300,000 on the second run.

When this guaranteed catch was first put in place, 90 Chignik permits were in use. In 2022 a high of 30 Chignik permits were used. Chignik fished for 34 days straight in 2022, quitting only because the one processor quit buying. Even with 34 continuous days of fishing the Chignik fleet only managed to catch 300,000 reds. With a reduced fleet in Chignik, catching power is greatly reduced or slowed. The SEDM is based on 7.6% of the Chignik catch. With a smaller fleet working in Chignik, catches are slowed down, which can greatly delay any SEDM openings.

In 2022 the South Peninsula fleet during June & July fished a combined total of 665 hrs. In July 2022 Chignik fished a total of 792 hours, they had ample time in 2022 to catch fish. But with a reduced fleet catches were not what they could have been.

I propose we either repeal the 300-600,000 guarantee, or just have it at 300,000.

Thank you

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2022 CHIGNIK FISHING DAYS

33 DAYS X 24 HRS = 792 HRS

CHIGNIK FISHED A TOTAL OF - 792 HRS

July 2022 All Gear Types Schedule						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Note: All fishing periods start at 6:00 AM. All fishing periods are for all gear types.						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			6:00 AM 33 Hours 3:00 PM			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
6:00 AM 36 Hours 6:00 PM				6:00 AM 36 hours 6:00 PM		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	6:00 AM 36 hours 6:00 PM				6:00 AM 36 hours 6:00 PM	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		6:00 AM 36 hours 6:00 PM				6:00 AM 36 Hours
31						
6:00 PM						

= 240 hours total

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Figure 10.—All gear types fishing periods in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands post-June fisheries, 2022.

June + July total: 465 hours

2022 S.PEN. OPENINGS - JUNE

June 2022 All Gear Types Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2	3	4	
<p>Notes: All fishing periods start at 6:00 AM and end at 10:00 PM. Closures between periods are 32 hours. The first fishing period is 64 hours for set gillnet gear only. The remaining fishing periods are 88 hours for all gear types.</p>							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	6:00 AM	Open 64 hours (Set Gillnet Gear Only)		10:00 PM	6:00 AM	Open 88 hours	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
		10:00 PM		6:00 AM	Open 88 hours		10:00 PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	6:00 AM	Open 88 hours			10:00 PM		6:00 AM
26	27	28	29	30			
Open 88 hours		10:00 PM					

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Figure 7.-All gear types fishing periods in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries, 2022.

= 416 hours total