

Submitted by Board Member Heimbuch, prepared by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game¹.

February 23, 2023

Substitute language for proposal 105 :

5 AAC 15.357 is amended to read:

5 AAC 15.357. Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan.

(a) The department shall manage the commercial salmon fishery in the Chignik Area in accordance with the guidelines set out in the management plan under this section, The goal of this management plan is to allow traditional fisheries in the area to be conducted on Chignik Area salmon stocks, and to achieve the department's biological escapement **goal** [GOALS] for the **Chignik River system** [BOTH BLACK LAKE (EARLY-RUN) AND CHIGNIK LAKE (LATE-RUN)] sockeye salmon and local stocks of pink, chum, coho, and king salmon.

(b) In the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District, the commercial salmon fishery shall open concurrently based on escapement objectives for the Chignik **River** [LAKES'] system sockeye salmon runs, except that

(1) the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the commercial salmon fishery when 20,000 sockeye salmon have escaped into the Chignik River; however, if the department determines that a strong buildup of sockeye salmon exists in Chignik Lagoon and that 20,000 sockeye salmon will escape into the Chignik River, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the commercial salmon fishery before 20,000 sockeye salmon have escaped into the Chignik River;

(2) **from June 1 until September 14**, [DURING THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION FROM THE PREDOMINANCE OF THE EARLY-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON TO THAT OF THE LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON, USUALLY LATE JUNE THROUGH MID-JULY, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL OPEN AND CLOSE, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, FISHING PERIODS TO HARVEST SURPLUS EARLY-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING THE LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON ESCAPEMENT OBJECTIVES;

(3) FROM THE END OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD, DESCRIBED IN (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14,]

(A) the commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, fishing periods in the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District, based on the Chignik [LAKES'] **River** system sockeye salmon escapement **goal** [GOALS];

(B) the department shall manage the commercial fishery to allow for the passage of at least 20,000 sockeye salmon above the Chignik River weir, in addition to **Chignik River system** [LATE RUN] sockeye salmon escapement

needs, to provide an inriver harvestable surplus above the Chignik River weir in August and September of at least 10,000 fish in August and 10,000 fish from September 1 through September 30;

(C) the commissioner may take additional emergency order actions to protect or harvest local pink, chum, king, and coho salmon runs; and

(3) [4] beginning September 15, fishing periods in the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District, may be no more than 48 hours per week, and shall be based on the department's evaluation of the sockeye salmon run strength and the subsistence needs for Chignik **River System** [LAKE LATE-SEASON] sockeye salmon.

(c) In the Eastern District,

(1) 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 **Chignik River system** [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;]

(2) [3 FROM THE END OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD, DESCRIBED IN (b)(2) OF THIS SECTION,] **from July 1**, 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'] **River** system sockeye salmon;

(3) [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 **River system** [LAKE] sockeye salmon run.

(d) From June 1 through July 5, in the Western District, excluding the Inner Castle Cape Subsection, and in the Perryville District, the department may open the commercial salmon fishery concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District; during this time period the Perryville District may open for no more than three 48-hour fishing periods with a minimum closure of 48 hours between each period; beginning July 6, the department may open the commercial salmon fishery in the Western District, excluding the Inner Castle Cape Subsection, and in the Perryville District, except that,

[(1) FROM APPROXIMATELY LATE JUNE TO MID-JULY (TRANSITION PERIOD),

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EVALUATE THE STRENGTH OF THE SOCKEYE SALMON LATE RUN; AND

(B) IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT TO ASSESS THE CHIGNIK LAKE RUN STRENGTH, THE DEPARTMENT MAY KEEP CLOSED OR SEVERLY RESTRICT COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT, EXCEPT THE INNER CASTLE CAPE SUBSECTION, AND IN THE PERRYVILLE DISTRICT;]

(1) [2] from **July 6** [THE END OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD, DESCRIBED IN (b)(2) OF THIS SECTION] until July 31, fishing periods shall be based on the department's evaluation of local pink and chum salmon runs, and its evaluation of the Chignik **River system** [Lake] sockeye salmon run; from July 22 through July 31,

(A) repealed 3/29/2008;

(B) the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing in the following terminal harvest areas:

(i) those portions of the Western and Perryville Districts north of a line from Cape Ikti at 56° 00.32' N. lat., 158° 32.02' W. long., to Coal Cape at 55° 53.42' N. lat., 159° 00.45' W. long., to Cape Alexander at 55° 47.22' N. lat., 159° 24.57' W. long.;

(ii) waters in the Ivanof Bay Section of the Perryville District that are north of the latitude from Alexander Point at 55° 47.37' W. long., to Kupreanof Peninsula; and

(iii) those portions of the Chignik Bay and Central Districts known locally as Jack's Box, which consists of those waters east of 158° 15.36' W. long., south of 56° 20' N. lat., and west of 158° 10' W. long.;

(2) [3] after July 31, the fishing periods shall be managed based on the department's evaluation of local pink, chum, and coho salmon runs or the strength of the Chignik **River system** [LAKE] sockeye salmon run.

(e) Repealed 5/31/2019

(f) Implementation of a single escapement model in the Black and Chignik lakes shall attempt to achieve a balance between the early and late run segments that does not change their historical proportional contribution to the total escapement goal of both lake systems.

Please note that the language modifying **5 AAC 15.357. Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan** as found in RC 2, ADF&G staff comments has been copied into this RC with the addition of subsection (f).

ⁱ Preparation of draft substitute language at the request of a Board member does not imply ADF&G support. The Department will state its position on the language during deliberation.