

PROPOSAL 116

5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

Amend the *Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* to decrease commercial salmon fishing time and area to drift gillnet gear as follows:

(n) From June 20 through July **20** [31], the department shall manage the Bear River, Three Hills, [AND] Ilnik Sections **and Outer Port Heiden sections** to conserve [BEAR RIVER AND] Nelson River sockeye salmon stocks by allowing the passage of sockeye salmon from the northeast to the southwest of the Northern District [AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION]. Notwithstanding the provisions of 5 AAC 09.320, from June 20 through July **20** [31], the commissioner shall, by emergency order, establish fishing periods for the Bear River, [AND] Three Hills, [SECTIONS AND THAT PORTION OF THE] Ilnik **and Outer Port Heiden Sections** [SECTION BETWEEN THE LONGITUDE OF UNANGASHAK BLUFFS AND THE LONGITUDE OF THREE HILLS AT 159° 49.45' W. LONG.], during which **these sections shall be** [THE WATERS THAT ARE BETWEEN THE THREE-MILE SEAWARD BOUNDARY LINE, DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 09.301, AND A LINE THAT IS ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES SHOREWARD OF THE THREE-MILE SEAWARD BOUNDARY ARE] closed **concurrently** for one **96-hour** [24-HOUR] period during a seven-day period, **however, if interim escapement objectives are being exceeded at either the Ilnik, Sandy, or Bear Rivers, the commissioner may, by emergency order, allow fishing periods in the waters from the shore out to one and one-half mile line in those sections during the closure period established under this subsection** [. THE WATERS LOCATED TO THE SOUTHWEST OF THE OPEN WATERS WHERE A 24- HOUR CLOSURE HAS OCCURRED WILL HAVE SEQUENTIAL CLOSURES THAT ALLOW FISHING ONLY IN THE WATERS OUT TO THE ONE AND ONE- HALF MILE LINE DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE FIRST 24 HOURS OF AN OPEN FISHING PERIOD. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION DO NOT APPLY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2018].

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

No windows during 24/7 harvest periods. 24/7 harvest time between June 20th and July 20th does not allow for adequate fish to pass thru the harvest area during this critical time. River systems south of Cape Seniavin are not, or struggle, to achieve periodic escapement goals during this period each year.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

Nelson Lagoon AC.

This Proposal was originally submitted to the BOF for consideration in the 2022/23 BOF cycle as Prop 120, substitute language submitted by Board Member Mitchel as RC131 Alaska Peninsula Aleutian Islands Finfish meeting. the Nelson Lagoon AC would like this Proposal including the amended language to be reconsidered.

PROPOSED BY: Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee

(EF-F26-127)
