

PROPOSAL 120

5 AAC 09.330. Gear

5 AAC 09.360 Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan

Amend the *Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan* to reduce fishing time and area for seine gear as follows:

5 AAC 09.330. Gear.

(f)...

(3) salmon may be taken only with set gillnets from June 1 through July **25** [10] in the Beaver Bay, Balboa Bay, Southwest Stepovak, Northwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, and East Stepovak Sections; however, **from July 1 to July 10**, if the department determines that the Orzinski Lake sockeye salmon escapement objectives have been exceeded, [AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 09.360(k),] beginning July 1, [IN ADDITION TO SET GILLNET GEAR,] the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the waters of Orzinski Bay west of 160° 04.25' W. long. to fishing with [PURSE SEINE AND HAND PURSE SEINE GEAR] **set gillnet gear only**;

5 AAC 09.360. Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan.

(a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide guidelines to the department for the management of the interception of Chignik River sockeye salmon caught in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery conducted in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Northwest Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections. [EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 09.330(f)(3),] **Before July 26** [11], only set gillnet gear may be used in these sections. For the purpose of the management plan in this section, local runs include only those salmon in the waters...

(e) ...

(2)...

[(B) PURSE SEINE AND HAND PURSE SEINE GEAR WILL BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE AS SPECIFIED IN (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION;]

(3)...

(A) set gillnet gear through July **25**. [10; and]

[(B) SET GILLNET GEAR, HAND PURSE SEINE, AND PURSE SEINE GEAR FROM JULY 11 THROUGH JULY 25.]

[(k) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, FROM JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 10, IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE ORZINSKI LAKE SOCKEYE SALMON ESCAPEMENT OBJECTIVES HAVE BEEN EXCEEDED, IN ADDITION TO SET GILLNET GEAR, THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE WATERS OF ORZINSKI BAY WEST OF 160° 04.25' W. LONG. TO FISHING WITH PURSE SEINE AND HAND PURSE SEINE GEAR.]

(k) From July 26 through October 31,

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Under the SEDM Management plan, seiners are allowed to operate in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery after July 10. Seiners shouldn't be allowed to fish in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery before July 26. With the decline of the Chignik sockeye runs in recent years, the set gillnet fleet has experienced

financial hardship as well. It seems appropriate to allow them more time to fish without being overrun by the seiners, who currently, and historically, catch the vast majority of the salmon in the Area M fishery.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. No

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