

PROPOSAL 135

5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.

Create a new regulation to provide the department emergency order authority to require nonretention of king salmon and to amend the retention provision as follows:

Current 5 AAC 09.365 (e) All salmon caught by a CFEC permit holder must be retained, and each CFEC permit holder must report the number of salmon caught, including those taken but not sold, on an ADF&G fish ticket. For the purposes of this subsection, "caught" means brought on board the vessel.

Proposed Reg:

5 AAC 09.xxx. Retention of king salmon taken in a commercial fishery. This regulation is in place to provide guidance to the department when it is determined that conservation is required for king salmon. Notwithstanding 5 AAC 09.365 (e), from June 1 through October 31, if the department determines a need to conserve king salmon, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the commercial salmon fishery and immediately reopen the commercial salmon fishery, during which king salmon 28 inches or greater in length may not be retained, and king salmon 28 inches or greater in length taken incidentally in the commercial salmon fishery must be returned to the water unharmed.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Require release (nonretention) of king salmon 28" and larger in the June seine fishery. In 2024, 1,257 king salmon were harvested in June Shumagin and South Unimak fisheries. Based on ADF&G genetic stock analysis in 2014, 64.2% of the Chinook were of British Columbia and West Coast U.S. origin. A small portion of these migratory king salmon harvested in the June seine fishery may be bound for Bristol Bay, Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers. Nevertheless, in a time of low abundance, non-retention of king salmon will benefit the effected North Pacific stocks.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This proposal was developed by Area M Seiners Association.

PROPOSED BY: Area M Seiners Association

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