

PROPOSAL 144

5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.

Amend the *Post-June Salmon Management for the South Alaska Peninsula* to increase commercial salmon fishing periods for set gillnet gear, as follows:

05 AAC 09.366 (h) (1) (A)

The Department reserves the right to open the fishery by Emergency Order, from August 1 - August 31, and to allow set netters an opening or openings, to test the movement of fish into areas before maximum escapement goals have been met. If and when the Department determines that the escapement goals are on track or will be on track to fulfill escapement goals, they may open to any and all gear types at their discretion.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? To allow the Department to differentiate between seine and set gill net gear types to allow set net openings in August to determine run strength. Typically, during the August fishery, the Department manages based on full escapement or presumed full escapement. Meanwhile, fish are still moving into the area before finding their natal streams. It would be a benefit to set netters as well as to the Department to be able to get some time on the capes to catch bright fish while the flesh quality is still good. It would be used as a determinate of how many fish are moving in while allowing time to set netters, which is crucial to the strength of the fishery. Currently, the Department must open the fishery for all gear types concurrently.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Developed at Sand Point AC meeting with input from community members.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick Brown, Sand Point AC Chair

(EF-F26-171)
