

PROPOSAL 72

5 AAC 06.XXX. New Section.

Reestablish a General District Salmon Management Plan, as follows:

When Sockeye escapement goals have been met in the Nushagak, Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik and Ugashik districts and the 48-hour transfer period has been waived: The East side district boundaries will extend into the LSHA (Late Season Harvest Area):

Option A:

Existing western boundary lines adjoin to create a General District. All waters east of a line from 58° 46.76' N 157° 03.57' W to 58° 38.50' N, 157° 22.23' W to 58° 19.10' N, 157° 36.65' W to 58° 11.00' N, 157° 38.10' W to 57° 43.54' N, 157° 43.80' W to 57° 28.34' N, 157° 55.84' W.

Option B:

Existing western boundary lines adjoin to create a General District. All waters east of a line from: 58° 43.73' N, 157° 42.71' W to 58° 38.50' N, 157° 22.23' W to 58° 19.10' N, 157° 36.65' W to 58° 11.00' N, 157° 38.10' W to 57° 43.54' N, 157° 43.80' W to 57° 28.34' N, 157° 55.84' W.

Option C:

All waters east of a line from: 58° 43.73' N, 157° 42.71' W to 58° 38.50' N, 157° 22.23' W to 58° 33.197' N, 157° 34.024' W to 58° 19.10' N, 157° 36.65' W to 58° 11.00' N, 157° 38.10' W to 57° 43.54' N, 157° 43.80' W to 57° 28.34' N, 157° 55.84' W.

Option D:

All waters east of a line from 58° 43.73' N, 157° 42.71' W to 57° 28.34' N, 157° 55.84' W.

****Existing in-river closure areas remain in effect. Proposer is not an expert in writing regulatory language and understands and accepts that syntax and regulatory language may be added and/or altered in order to gain BOF approval and ADFG acceptance facilitating the passage of this proposal.****

FEASIBILITY:

Coho, Chum and Chinook catch numbers if elevated will be apparent to the department via data collected from fish tickets and processors as well as ADFG's already scheduled in-season samplings which occur on the assembly lines of processors in Bristol Bay wherein totes of fish from tender loads are set aside for the department to gather data from.

If Coho, Chum and Chinook catch numbers become a concern to the ADFG, the boundary extension may be rescinded at the discretion of the department.

Scale sampling and catch data taken from processing lines after July 17th will be used to create a new dataset to determine the future of this Proposal.

If it is determined by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game that the Extended Boundary has resulted in elevated Coho, Chum or Chinook catch numbers, the boundaries can be reverted back at the discretion of the Department.

Tender Vessels will take deliveries within a reasonable distance of standard in-season district boundaries (~1-2.0: ____ nautical miles, a decision made by the BOF and/or in association with the guidance of ADFG managers) to ensure that catches are delivered to the proper fishing district and reported in their typical statistical areas so that fish tax is collected by the proper entities:

https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/fishing/PDFs/commercial/bristolbay/bristol_bay_statareas_quickref.pdf

SUNSET CLAUSE:

If Coho, Chum and Chinook bycatch rates after July 17th are not consistent with historical averages or within a range ADFG managers deem reasonable, this proposal is subject to repeal at the discretion of the ADFG East Side fisheries managers.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Alaska State Troopers and their effective district boundary enforcement presence withdraws from the Bristol Bay watershed on or around July 15th-17th annually. This leaves the fishery with un-monitored boundaries aside from an increasingly rare aerial fly-by. The daily catch and escapement numbers dwindle but fleet effort remains high.

Without enforcement, the vast majority of late season fishing vessels compete for narrow bands of sockeye on north or south boundary lines in the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik and Ugashik districts. More often than not, the competition becomes illegal and vessels that are willing to fish over the boundary line displace the fishing vessels that are unwilling to do so.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. I personally authored the language for this proposal by gathering information from an ADFG biologist, ADFG statistician and major processing managers.

PROPOSED BY: David Vardy (EF-F26-111)
