

PROPOSAL 147 – 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.
Repeal sequential closures in the Bear River, Three Hills, and Ilnik sections, as follows:

5 AAC 09.369 is amended to delete subsection (n).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan was amended in 2013 to include a series of rolling closures of certain sections of the North Peninsula area above Port Moller. This new regulation has created problems for the drift gillnet fleet in maintaining an orderly and effective fishery. The fishery in this area is important for processors and the local economy. The premise of the rolling closure regime was ensuring adequate returns to Nelson Lagoon, but this rationale was flawed: escapements and harvests in Nelson Lagoon are healthy and the drift gillnet fishery in the Bear River, Three Hills, and Ilnik Sections have low harvest rates on Nelson River stocks according to the recent WASSIP study.

PROPOSED BY: Concerned Area M Fishermen

(EF-C15-041)
