

**PROPOSAL 104 – 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.** Reduce the closed fishing period or “window” and increase additional fishing time with set gillnet gear in the Kasilof Section prior to July 9, as follows:

1/ Reduce the closed fishery period from 36 hours (Friday window) to a minimum 24 hours prior to July 9<sup>th</sup> and increase the allowable EO fishing time from 48 to 63 hours. ‘This would provide the department the ability to manage for the Kasilof River sockeye salmon BEG prior to Kenai River sockeye salmon stocks entering the fishery.’

2/ ‘Beginning July 9, the set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section is managed in concert with the Kenai ad East Forelands sections. The date of July 9 may be too early to manage the Kasilof River sockeye salmon stock based on Kenai River sockeye salmon run strength. Begin managing the Kasilof River in concert with the Kenai and East Forelands sections July 15<sup>th</sup> instead of July 9. This would provide additional time to harvest Kasilof River sockeye salmon prior to the arrival of the majority of the Kenai River sockeye salmon entering the fishery.’

3/ ‘Provide an additional 24 hours of fishing time within one-half mile in the Kasilof Section after July 8. Currently, after July 15<sup>th</sup>, if the department determines that the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon run strength is less than 2,300,000 and the 390,000 optimal escapement goal for the Kasilof River sockeye salmon may be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing for an additional 24 hours per week in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore and as specified in 5 AAC 21.360 (c). Note: “this date and the additional time may not be sufficient to harvest Kasilof sockeye.”

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The KRSHA and Kasilof escapement. It is in conflict with the BOF intent to harvest salmon in fisheries that have historically harvested them) including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries.

Created fisheries conflicts, quality of the resource lowered, and lowers the economic benefit (ex-vessel price) within the fisheries.

“Fishing time allocated in the current management plan prior to July 9 is not sufficient to harvest excess fish (two regular periods plus up to 48 hours of additional EO time. The window closure has been problematic during that period of time large passage rates have occurred. These two factors have kept the department from being able to manage for the escapement goal.”

**PROPOSED BY:** Mark Ducker

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