

**PROPOSAL 128 – 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.** Amend plan to prioritize the need to harvest all surplus salmon stocks and to maximize economic yield and the overall benefits from salmon stocks managed under the plan, as follows:

**5 AAC 21.363 Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.**

add a new line to; 5 AAC 21.363 (a)(3) **(D) the need to harvest all surplus salmon stocks and to maintain sustainable salmon runs.**

5AAC 21.363 (a)(4) in these management plans, the board **must** [MAY, AS APPROPRIATE] address the following considerations:

add a new line to ; 5AAC (a)(4)**(C) the need to harvest all surplus salmon stocks to maximize the economic yield and the overall benefits from these salmon resources;**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan needs updated to direct the board and the department to develop management plans that are in compliance to Alaska’s Constitution, Alaska’s laws, statutory conservation mandates, the Magnuson Stevens Act (MSA) and the Sustainable Salmon fisheries policy 5AAC 39.222. The current plans are not in compliance. Through the years the political pressure from special interest groups have gone too far in developing and lobbying for the passage of management plans that are reallocation and lack any reference to science, maximum sustained yield or of harvesting the surplus. They are unsustainable and are harmful to the resource, habitat and the people, communities, businesses and the state that depends upon optimum returns and the surplus to be harvested. The biologist are not allowed to use science and their manage tools to harvest the surplus and achieve escapement goals without going over the top end by sometimes gross amounts. Over escapement is chronic. The current management plans create annual unharvested surplus salmon stocks in UCI in the millions of salmon and the loss of millions of dollars in State taxes and tens of millions of dollars lost to the users and local economies. There is also the factor of lost jobs and the lost high protein sustainable seafood. Data from reports show that in 2014 over 80% or 23,000,000 of UCI surplus salmon were not harvested. That unharvest surplus is larger than the combined commercial harvest of California, Oregon and Washington. This is not good Stewardship.

This proposal attempts to add language to the UCI Salmon Management Plan that will give direction to the board and department to correct these issues.

**PROPOSED BY:** Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F16-151)

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