

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
KODIAK FINFISH
JANUARY 10–JANUARY 13, 2017**

PROPOSAL 47 - 5 AAC 18.350. Closed waters. Correct inconsistent GPS coordinates for waters of Kitoi Bay closed to commercial salmon fishing, as follows:

(B) Kitoi Bay: all waters near the terminus of Big Kitoi Creek (Stream No. 252-324) west of a line from 58° 11.531' N Lat., 152° 21.768' W Long., to 58° 11.253' N Lat., 152° 21.693' W Long., [58° 11.45' N LAT., 152° 21.84' W LONG., TO 58° 11.34' N Lat., 152° 21.66' W LONG.,] and all waters near the terminus of Little Kitoi Creek (Stream No. 252-323) west of a line from 58° 11.694' N Lat., 152° 21.594' W Long., to 58° 11.545' N Lat., 152° 21.594' W Long., [58° 11.59' N LAT., 152° 21.65' W LONG., TO 58° 11.50' N Lat., 152° 21.61' W LONG.,]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current published regulations for closed waters in Kitoi Bay for Big Kitoi Creek and Little Kitoi Creek indicate coordinates inconsistent with existing markers and practice. Additionally, listed coordinates do not reference land-based points. Rather, they indicate points that are located mid water in the bay. We would like to correct the coordinates listed for closed waters in Kitoi Bay to reflect accurate reference points for commercial salmon markers.

PROPOSED BY: Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F16-064)

PROPOSAL 48 - 5 AAC 01.525. Waters closed to subsistence fishing. Correct inconsistent GPS coordinates for waters of Kitoi Bay closed to subsistence salmon fishing, as follows:

(10) from June 1 through October 31, all waters seaward of the terminus of Big Kitoi Creek to a line extending northwesterly from 58° 11.552' N Lat., 152° 22.126' W Long., to 58° 11.336' N Lat., 152° 22.003' W Long.; [58_11.42' N. LAT., 152_21.95' W. LONG., TO 58_11.59' N. Lat., 152_22.03' W LONG.,]

(11) from August 15 through September 30, all waters seaward of the terminus of Big Kitoi Creek (Stream No. 252-324) west of a line from 58° 11.531' N Lat., 152° 21.768' W Long., to 58° 11.253' N Lat., 152° 21.693' W Long., and all waters near the terminus of Little Kitoi Creek (stream No. 252-323) west of a line from 58° 11.694, N Lat., 152° 21.594' W Long., to 58° 11.545' N Lat., 152° 21.594' W Long.; [OF BIG KITOI BAY WEST OF THE LONGITUDE OF 152_21.55' W ONG.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We would like to correct the coordinates listed for waters closed to subsistence fishing in Kitoi Bay to reflect accurate reference points and markers. Current published subsistence regulations for closed waters in Kitoi Bay for Big Kitoi Creek and Little Kitoi Creek indicate coordinates inconsistent with existing markers and practice. Current practice commonly aligns subsistence markers with commercial and/or sport fishing markers. Additionally, listed coordinates do not reference shore-based points. Rather, they indicate points that are located mid-water or inland in the bay and surrounding area.

PROPOSED BY: Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F16-065)

PROPOSAL 49 - 5 AAC 28.466. Kodiak Area Rockfish Management Plan. Repeal the five-day stand down period between commercial black rockfish fishing trips and increase the Southeast District trip limit from 5,000 pounds to 10,000 pounds, as follows:

We the undersigned request the mandatory five day "NO FISHING" stand-down between trips be removed. The first two safeguards in place do what is needed to manage black rockfish harvesting. Moreover, black rockfish season takes place during some of the most inclement weather windows here in Alaska during the months of January through April. With the addition of the mandatory 5-day stand-down, the fleet is forced to fish during bad weather putting our lives and small vessels in danger. Please consider this amending this regulation to shut down fishing for five days between trips- it is unfair and hurting our family's livelihood to thrive.

Additionally, we would like you to consider the time it takes to transit from port to fishable areas. From January through April it takes approximately 16 hours to travel one-way to the fishing grounds and often times weather is inclement. In the Southeast district, the time and expense involved with the current 5k pound catch limit makes fishing in that area unfeasible. We are coastal Alaskan fishermen trying to support our families with a majority of us having vessels under 56'. An increase in the black rockfish 5k pound catch limit per trip to a 10k pound catch limit in the Southeast district would help to balance the deficit on paper to reality, keeping us a viable and sustainable fishery.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There are three safeguards in place right now to protect the overharvesting of black rockfish in the Kodiak management area. First, there are seven separate districts and each has its own black rockfish catch limits (examples: Northeast 20k pound, Eastside 30k pound). The second safeguard in place is from each district you may take a maximum of 5,000 pounds per trip; further, you must check in with ADF&G for each 5,000 lb trip and re-register for your next trip so your department knows which vessel is fishing and in which district. The third is a mandatory five day "NO FISHING" stand-down period between trips. We are seeking to modify some of these safeguards to increase efficiency for the black rockfish jig fleet.

PROPOSED BY: H. Bruce Magnusson, Ian Alvin A. Brown, Christopher Johnson, Curtis Bollinger, Bob Bowhay, Bobby Evensiosky, Greg Perkins, Robert Martin, Glenn Crocetti, Joseph Yarbrough, Jeffrey Widman (EF-F16-107)

PROPOSAL 50 - 5 AAC 28.467. Kodiak Area Pacific Cod Management Plan. Change date when the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear fishery may be designated as a non-exclusive registration area from October 30 to June 10, as follows:

Change 5 AAC 28.467.(j).(2) from after October 30, if needed, designation of the Kodiak Area as a nonexclusive registration area for Pacific cod.

For pot gear, after October 30, if needed, designation of the Kodiak Area as a nonexclusive registration area for Pacific cod. For jig gear, after June 10, if needed, designation of the Kodiak Area as a nonexclusive registration area for Pacific cod.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Fish and Game has a tool to designate the Kodiak area as a nonexclusive registration area for cod jigging after October 30. Very few jig boats if any are actually fishing after that date, rendering the tool useless. If this date is moved up to June 10, then Fish and Game would have a good idea whether or not the existing fleet would catch the quota. Fish and Game could then allow jig boats to move to an area that would help the fleet catch the remaining quota. This proposal would allow the jig fleet a little more flexibility to catch an otherwise stranded quota after June 10.

PROPOSED BY: Neil Rickman (EF-F16-159)

PROPOSAL 51 - 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. Increase the minimum expected sockeye salmon harvest thresholds from 300,000 to 600,000 prior to July 8 and 600,000 to 1,000,000 fish after July 8, and from 600,000 to 1,000,000 fish in years when runs are as strong as expected, as follows:

The new regulation would read as follows:

5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. (a) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 1,000,000 (600,000), there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of 600,000 (300,000) sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved. After July 8, after at least 600,000 (300,000) sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 1,000,000 (600,000) and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 1,000,000 (600,000), but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 1,000,000 (600,000) or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 (300,000) sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined

to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, after at least **600,000** (300,000) sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least **1,000,000** (600,000) and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(c) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than **1,000,000** (600,000) and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The argument made by the BOF in 1978 when they enacted the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan was that a 600,000 minimum sockeye harvest for Chignik was an adequate amount to “guarantee” Chignik fishermen, and that harvest amount should be assured prior to any opening of the Cape Igvak Section. In fact, the 15% allocation they settled on was justified by the 1978 BOF *because* the 600,000 Chignik sockeye harvest minimum was included in the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. While the argument can be made that a 600,000 minimum sockeye harvest assurance for Chignik was inadequate even in 1978, it is indisputable that a minimum Chignik sockeye harvest assurance of 600,000 *today* is woefully inadequate due to the dramatic change in economic conditions since the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan was adopted *38 years ago*.

PROPOSED BY: Axel S. Kopun (EF-F16-052)

PROPOSAL 52 - 5 AAC 18.355. Reporting requirements. Require commercial salmon fishermen to register prior to fishing in the Cape Igvak Section and check out upon leaving the section, and require tender operators to report fish ticket harvest data within 12 hours of taking a delivery, as follows:

1. Require Igvak fishermen to register by phone or radio with the local ADF&G management staff prior to harvesting salmon in, and upon leaving, the Cape Igvak Section from June 1 – July 25; and / or
2. Require salmon tenders in the Cape Igvak Section to report commercial fish ticket harvest data to the local ADF&G staff within 12 hours after delivery from individual fishermen.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? An incentive to underreport sockeye salmon harvested in the Cape Igvak Section exists. With RSW now standard equipment in the seine fleet, the overall increase in vessel size of the seine fleet, the knowledge that the Cape Igvak fishery is regulated on the number of fish harvested, and concurrent fisheries taking place not limited by an allocation, there is ample opportunity and a strong economic enticement to misreport. The importance of accurate accounting of sockeye salmon harvested under the Cape Igvak Management Plan is clear. The Cape Igvak fishery is linked to the Chignik and the SEDM

fisheries. All three work under a joint allocation scheme, and therefore it is important that no one area or fishery take the liberty of not completely reporting harvest numbers. There is also importance in determining early run timing and magnitude for Chignik, as the department has stated on record in the past that, “early season management actions (in Chignik) rely heavily on commercial harvest information from the Eastern District and other outlying locations as this is often the best indication of sockeye run timing and magnitude.” Ensuring accurate catch numbers in the Cape Igvak Section would allow the department to better document effort and obtain accurate and timely fishery performance data, which is necessary for effective management of the Black Lake sockeye run during June. Further, tightening catch reporting standards in the Cape Igvak Section is consistent with the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy for the State of Alaska: 5 AAC 39.222, Section 3 salmon management (i) “management should incorporate procedures to assure effective monitoring, compliance, control, and enforcement.”

PROPOSED BY: Axel S. Kopun (EF-F16-054)

PROPOSAL 53 - 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. Amend the *Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan* so that the harvest allocation applies only prior to July 9, as follows:

5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. (a) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of 300,000 sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(c) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(d) The total **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught **prior to July 9** within the Chignik Area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 90 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section **prior to July 9**. The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the cumulative **pre-July 9** Chignik sockeye salmon catch **in order to approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total pre-July 9 Chignik sockeye salmon catch.**

(e) This allocation method will be in effect through July 25. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Cape Igvak Section will not occur before the first **24 hour** fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan is based on the interception of 15 percent of the *total* Chignik sockeye salmon catch when the Cape Igvak fishery is focused almost exclusively on the interception of the pre-July 9 return of sockeye to Chignik. While the plan is based on the total sockeye catch in Chignik over the course of the *entire* season, Igvak fishermen are really only intercepting first (Black Lake) run Chignik sockeye and therefore disproportionately impacting the first (Black Lake) run. Igvak fishermen generally do not have the ability to intercept a significant number of second (Chignik Lake) run Chignik sockeye. Therefore, the Cape Igvak Management Plan should not have an allocation encompassing the entire Chignik sockeye salmon harvest.

PROPOSED BY: Jamie Ross

(EF-F16-074)

PROPOSAL 54 - 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. Redefine the area used to determine allocation percentages within the *Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan*, as follows:

5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. (d) The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught **only** within the Chignik Area [PLUS 80 PERCENT OF THE SOCKEYE SALMON CAUGHT IN THE EAST STEPOVAK, SOUTHWEST STEPOVAK, STEPOVAK FLATS, BALBOA BAY, AND BEAVER BAY SECTIONS, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 09.200(F), PLUS 90 PERCENT OF THE SOCKEYE SALMON CAUGHT IN THE CAPE IGVAK SECTION]. The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the Chignik Area sockeye salmon catch.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan provides for a 15 percent allocation of the total Chignik sockeye catch, defined as “those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik Area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 90 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section.” Management errors in the Igvak and SEDM fisheries in the past have resulted in higher allocations of Chignik bound sockeye salmon than provided for in regulation. The problem is that when an allocation overage occurs in one or both of the two intercept areas, the

amount of overage is used in calculating the in-season allocation for Igvak, which effectively increases the allocation to Igvak fishermen. *Any allocation overages in SEDM or Igvak itself trigger even more overages for Igvak simply because of the way the allocation is defined.* For every Chignik bound sockeye Igvak harvests, they get to harvest 15 percent more; for every sockeye SEDM harvests, Igvak fishermen get to harvest 15 percent more. Plain and simple, if any allocation overage happens, the result is increased harvests for Igvak. Related to but beyond this problem, is the simple fact that *the Cape Igvak Management Plan as written allows for a greater allocation to Igvak for sockeye salmon harvested before they ever even get into the Chignik Area* – the more Chignik bound sockeye that get intercepted (in SEDM & Igvak), the more Igvak fishermen get to intercept! The Board fixed this issue with the SEDM Salmon Management Plan in 2007. It is perfectly reasonable that the Board correct this issue with the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan as well.

PROPOSED BY: Axel S. Kopun (EF-F16-078)

PROPOSAL 55 - 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. Repeal the *Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan* and close commercial salmon fishing in the Cape Igvak Section through July 25, as follows:

The Board is requested to repeal the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan in its entirety, and close the Cape Igvak Section to commercial salmon fishing through July 25.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan was established in 1978 as an interception fishery targeting Chignik-bound sockeye salmon. At the time Kodiak sockeye stocks were depressed, with Kodiak fishermen harvesting on average fewer than 500 thousand sockeye salmon annually in the 10 years prior to the implementation of the plan. In contrast, the two Chignik sockeye runs were healthy, and the Board decided Chignik fishermen should “share the wealth” with Kodiak. Not surprisingly, things have changed dramatically in Chignik and Kodiak since 1978.

Chignik has gone from supporting several shore-based processors to none, and we are almost solely dependent on our sockeye salmon fishery. There just aren’t any jobs available outside of fishing, our villages are losing residents and we are on the verge of losing our schools as well. Every sockeye lost to interception at Cape Igvak heavily impacts the well-being of the five Chignik villages.

Kodiak on the other hand, has several shore based processors, multiple fisheries in which fishermen can engage in, and a myriad of jobs available outside of fishing. Kodiak’s sockeye harvests have rebounded dramatically as well, with an average harvest of 2.2 million sockeye per year in the past 10 years, despite an average harvest of “only” 158, 607 sockeye at Igvak in the same time period. In fact, in 2015, according to the preliminary figures provided by ADF&G in a

report titled “2015 Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvests and Ex-vessel Values,” the Kodiak sockeye harvest was worth more than double that of Chignik (\$13.4 million vs. \$6.6 million), despite the fact the Igvak fishery only accounted for a sockeye harvest of under 7,000 sockeye total. According to the same report, the Kodiak pink salmon harvest provided an additional \$20+ million to Kodiak fishermen in 2015. It is clear that the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan is not necessary to the success of the Kodiak salmon fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Macaluso, spokesperson for Chignik Seiners Association
(EF-F16-079)

PROPOSAL 56 - 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. Reduce the Cape Igvak Section allocation from 15 percent to 7.5 percent of the total Chignik Area sockeye salmon catch, as follows:

5 AAC 18.360 (b) (c) Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan is amended to read:

The Department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon in the Cape Igvak Section by Area K fishermen shall approach as near as possible 7.5% [15%] the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch through July 25.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Cape Igvak Section fishery was established in 1978 as an allocation fishery on Chignik-bound sockeye salmon. At the time Kodiak sockeye stocks were depressed from over-fishing. The two Chignik runs were healthy, and it was deemed reasonable to ‘share the wealth’ with Kodiak, a measure of income redistribution which some now believe is quite fashionable or progressive. Things have changed dramatically at Chignik and Kodiak from the 1970’s. While Chignik’s two sockeye runs are still healthy, the Area L salmon fishery is not. Chignik has gone from supporting several shore-based processors to none now owing to economic conditions within the Chignik fishery. Unlike Kodiak, Chignik’s single industry, for all practical purposes, is salmon fishing. There are simply no jobs available, and our villages are losing residents.

When the Board assigned an allocation of Chignik sockeye salmon to the Igvak fishery in 1978 Kodiak had been harvesting less than 500 thousand sockeye salmon annually (avg. 1958-67: 437,000; avg. 1968-77: 494,000(ADF&G, Jackson et al. 2015)). Now according to ADF&G, Kodiak is averaging about 4.5 times that amount for the last 10-years (avg. 2006-15: 2.2 million sockeye harvest (J. Jackson, 11/16/15)).

The Board is requested to roll-back the Cape Igvak allocation by 50%, from an allocation of 15% to 7.5%, a measure that would improve the Chignik salmon fishery and overall Chignik conditions. Chignik salmon fisherman have no hatcheries to draw upon, and our local pink and chum runs are not managed to provide economic sustainability as was well addressed at last year’s Board of Fisheries. Chignik salmon fishermen contribute 2% of their catch in a tax to support local management and safeguard fisheries habitat. This includes funding for an annual smolt study (to ADF&G), Black Lake and Chignik habitat monitoring (to FRI), and in-season stock separation genetics (to ADF&G). Chignik is battling for economic survival, and it has no options available

for supplemental salmon production similar to those as achieved in Kodiak. We believe that relief from the Cape Igvak Section fishery on Chignik bound sockeye salmon is quite reasonable to the degree proposed.

PROPOSED BY: George Anderson (HQ-F16-042)

PROPOSAL 57 - 5 AAC 18.330. Gear. Allow set gillnet gear in the entire Alitak District after September 4, as follows:

5 AAC 18.330. Gear (d) (2)

- (d) In the Alitak District, salmon may be taken
 - (1) in the Humpy-Deadman and Cape Alitak Sections by purse seines and beach seines only;
 - (2) *in the Alitak Bay, Moser Bay, Olga Bay, Dog Salmon Flats, Outer and Inner Upper Station, and Outer and Inner Akalura Sections by set gillnets only, except that after September 4, salmon may be taken also by purse seines and beach seines. **Also after September 4 set gill net gear maybe used in the entire Alitak District.***

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Problem: Lack of fishing time for the Alitak District set net fishery.

The Alitak District set net fishery is a bankrupt fishery. It operates from retirement accounts, selling assets and cannery credit. The fishery is predominantly managed on sockeye returns to the Olga Bay systems on which fishing time has been severely restricted in recent years.

Many of the set netters have been totally disenfranchised from other healthy local stocks that transit the area during sockeye restrictions. Opening the entire Alitak District to set net gear after Sept. 4 would allow those with the fortitude and means an opportunity to regain some of the loss created by restrictions imposed for sockeye management.

PROPOSED BY: Rick Metzger, Pete Hannah (EF-F16-022)

PROPOSAL 58 – 5 AAC 18.361. Alitak District Salmon Management Plan. Limit escapement of jack sockeye salmon into Frazer Lake to no more than 15 percent of total Frazer Lake sockeye salmon escapement, as follows:

A plan should be in place which would effectively guarantee that the jacks comprise nothing greater than 15% of the total escapement into Frazer Lake. This percentage would more closely resemble several systems in the surrounding areas, where jack components of 2% to 5% are the norm. A system could be devised to trap and cull any excess jacks to be used as added nutrients into the lake should an overage occur. Results will be documented in the Kodiak Management Area Commercial Salmon Annual Report. The program will continue for 4 years until 2019 when a full evaluation will take place.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? During the last 14 years, the Alitak Bay District has seen almost doubling of jacks escaping into Frazer Lake. This has contributed to weak returns of mature male and female sockeye salmon. The harvestable surplus for setnetters during this same time period has gone down 70% when compared to the previous 14 years. Since jacks have a tendency to make more jacks and have a much greater ability to fertilize eggs than previously thought, this development is likely playing a significant part in the overall weakness of a harvestable surplus, making it difficult to reach maximum sustainable yield. If this is not addressed we will likely continue to see big swings in the jack population and difficulties reaching lower end escapement goals. Other considered options would be to do nothing. This is not desirable as there is potential for long term harm to the run.

PROPOSED BY: Brad Underwood (EF-F16-068)

PROPOSAL 59 - 5 AAC 18.361. Alitak District Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 18.362. Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan. Implement a mandatory minimum commercial salmon fishery closure of 63 consecutive hours during every 7-day period in both the Westside and Alitak districts, as follows:

I recommend that there shall be mandatory "Pulse Fishing" in known migratory pathways. The management tool of "extended until further notice" shall no longer be used in Mixed Stock Fisheries. Pulse fishing is a "Precautionary Approach" that ensures the health and future Sockeye returns.

There shall be a minimum closure of 63 consecutive hours in every 7-day period for both the Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan and the Alitak District Salmon Management Plan.

Terminal harvest areas shall be allowed to fish "extended until further notice" as needed, if the harvest has a limited amount of non-target stock interception.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The burden of conservation of Alitak bound Sockeye is placed solely on the end user group (Alitak District). The known Sockeye migratory pathway along the North West and South West coast of Kodiak Island has no conservation measures within its Management Plan for Alitak Sockeye. The Westside District Management Plan has included Olga Bay systems in their harvest strategy but has not included a conservation strategy. 5 ACC 18.362(b)

All users groups of Alitak bound Sockeye should have to reduce fishing time for the health and conservation of the fish that they are harvesting.

-Use all information and supporting data about the Alitak Sockeye Migratory pathway, including recent DNA sample results, past tagging studies from the 1950's and 1981.

PROPOSED BY: Eric Dieters (EF-F16-010)

PROPOSAL 60 - 5 AAC 18.XXX. Karluk River Special Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 18.362. Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan. Create a special harvest area (SHA) allowing the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association to harvest Karluk River sockeye salmon deemed excess to escapement needs, as follows:

If, based on historical escapement entry curve trends for either the early or late Karluk sockeye runs the Department determines that it is likely (confidence of reaching the goal 90% of the time) that the escapement will be within 10% of their upper end annual Karluk escapement goal for either run, an "excess escapement" recovery fishery managed by the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association shall be established. Gear would be limited to no more than one vessel and a beach seine or purse seine of no more than 100 fathoms in length. To the extent practicable, revenue from the fishery would be used for research, enhancement and/or monitoring of the Karluk River.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Biological escapement goals are scientifically established to ensure long term sustained yield for a discrete salmon stock. From time to time current management measures fail to limit escapement of sockeye into the Karluk River. Consequently, both early and/or late upper end escapement goals are exceeded -- sometimes in excess of 100,000 fish annually. Over-escapement substantially inhibits Karluk sockeye productivity. In addition, agency funding pushes the Department toward early removal of the Karluk weir. Early weir removal further inhibits accurate accounting of total seasonal sockeye escapement in the Karluk system. In fact, over-escape in Karluk and unreliable estimates of post wier escapements may be responsible for the current lower sockeye production from the Karluk river. Limiting Karluk River sockeye escapement within established escapement goals will likely result in higher sustained yields from the Karluk system over time. Optimum sustained yield is the constitutional mandate for Alaska's salmon fishery management.

PROPOSED BY: Duncan Fields (EF-F16-053)

PROPOSAL 61 - 5 AAC 18.366. Spiridon Bay Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Amend the *Spiridon Bay Sockeye Salmon Management Plan* to reflect cost recovery activities conducted by Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association, as follows:

(b) The purpose of the Spiridon Bay harvest strategy is to allow the orderly harvest of sockeye salmon returning to Telrod Cove from the Spiridon Laske enhancement project while providing adequate protection for local natural salmon stocks returning to other streams in the bay. The intent of the enhancement project is for the harvest of returning enhanced salmon to occur in traditional commercial fishing areas of the Northwest Kodiak District during openings directed a harvesting Karluk sockeye and westside pink and chum salmon stocks. **Throughout the season, fishing time in Telrod Cove may be restricted in order to meet cost recovery goals for enhanced sockeye salmon.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current language in published regulations for harvest of enhanced salmon in Spiridon Bay and Spiridon Bay Special Harvest Area (SBSHA) is not consistent with language for the management of enhanced stocks in the Kitoi

PROPOSAL 64 - 5 AAC 18.350. Closed waters. Close commercial salmon fishing from July 10 to August 10 in all waters north of a line from Ouzinkie Point on Ouzinkie Island to Parokoda Island and then from Paroka Island to the old Alaska Department of Fish and Game marker on Spruce Island near Black Point, as follows:

Create a subsistence only harvest area in Ouzinkie Harbor from July 10th to August 10 north of a line that would run from Ouzinkie point on Ouzinkie Island to Parokoda Is. and then from Paroka Is. to the old ADF&G marker on Spruce Island in proximity to Black Point.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Ouzinkie is a small village on the southwest corner of Spruce Island just north of Kodiak Island. The Ouzinkie harbor is a small cove that encompasses an area about the size of Kodiak's small boat harbor. Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association has been imprinting and releasing sockeye salmon in Ouzinkie Harbor adjacent to the Ouzinkie Small Boat Harbor for several years. The first return from the stocking program was 2015. Ouzinkie residents enjoyed expanded subsistence harvest opportunities in proximity to their community. As imprinted sockeye continue to return to Ouzinkie Harbor, perhaps in greater numbers in the future, Ouzinkie residents are concerned that a single seine vessel could come in and "scoop up" all of the sockeye the community would anticipate using for subsistence purposes. Ouzinkie understands that these fish are a "common property" resource. Nevertheless, the Kodiak commercial salmon fishery has ample opportunity to intercept and harvest fish returning to Ouzinkie Harbor throughout both Marmot and Kizhuyak Bay. Consequently, it is likely that a high percentage of these fish are already utilized commercially. Surviving fish congregating in Ouzinkie's Harbor are significant for subsistence use, however they remain susceptible to commercial capture as they move in and out with the tide, often beyond current fishing markers. Ouzinkie believes it is better to anticipate the conflict that will occur if Ouzinkie's subsistence fish are taken by a few errant commercial fishermen and to provide a subsistence only use area for a limited time.

PROPOSED BY: Ouzinkie Native Corporation (EF-F16-092)

PROPOSAL 65 - 5 AAC 18.332. Seine specifications and operations. Establish a four and one half inch minimum mesh size for salmon seines from June 1 to July 15, as follows:

We recommend adding a new line under the Seine Specification and Operations. Specifically we recommend the following language be adopted:

- (X) Seine mesh size shall be no less than 4-1/2 inches from June 1 to July 15 in all districts within the Kodiak Area.

Justification:

First: Adopting this proposal will allow the juvenile Chinook salmon and chums to pass through the increased mesh size of the seine nets, while allowing the commercial fishermen to more efficiently harvest their intended species and save them from discarding unwanted bycatch.

Second: We are requesting the Department conduct a thorough analysis of the bycatch data to further determine impacts and to recommend additional mitigating measures. The sustainability of the Chinook and chum salmon species into the future justifies positive action on this proposal by the Board of Fish.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The issue this proposal addresses is the bycatch of juvenile Chinook and chum salmon during some commercial purse seine activities in the Kodiak district. Since the early to mid-1990's, fishermen have begun fishing off the outer capes while targeting Cook Inlet sockeye. However, by fishing there, they also intercept juvenile Chinook and chum salmon. The current mesh size of the purse seine nets, of around 2-1/2 inches to 2-3/4 inches entrap, as bycatch, the juvenile Chinooks that result in substantial amount of mortality to the juvenile Chinooks and Chum salmon. Significant numbers of juvenile fish are intercepted with each seine.

As a consequence of these bycatch activities, over the last 15 to 20 years, Chinook and chum salmon populations in areas within Alaska, such as the many watersheds within Cook Inlet, plus most recently the Karluk River and Ayakulik River, have failed to meet escapement goals and there is growing concern about the long-term population viability of these salmon populations.

We believe that we have reached a point of diminishing returns on these species that if mitigating measures are not taken and this practice is allowed to continue, it will have further detrimental effects on these struggling populations and could lead to their total collapse

PROPOSED BY: Jeff Peterson (EF-F16-058)

PROPOSAL 66 – 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. Repeal closed water provisions for sport fishing for salmon and reduce bag and possession limits within the Kodiak Road Zone, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022(b)(1) is amended to read:

(b)....

(1)

(A) **repealed** / /2017 [ALL DRAINAGES ON THE KODIAK ROAD ZONE FLOWING INTO CHINIAK BAY, EXCLUDING THE BUSKIN RIVER DRAINAGE AND KALSIN POND, UPSTREAM FROM THE CHINIAK HIGHWAY ARE CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING FOR SALMON FROM AUGUST 1 – SEPTEMBER 15, EXCEPT THAT THE AMERICAN AND OLDS RIVERS ARE OPEN TO SPORT FISHING FOR KING SALMON FROM JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31];

...

(X) in all fresh and salt waters within the Kodiak Road Zone, from September 16 – December 31, the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is one fish, except that in the following stocked waters the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is two fish:

(i) Monashka Creek and Pillar Creek;

(ii) Mission Beach: all waters between ADF&G regulatory markers at Shahafka Cove;

(iii) Mill Bay: all waters between ADF&G regulatory markers;

(iv) Monashka Bay: all waters west of a line from Termination Point to Miller Point.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations aimed at conserving Kodiak Road Zone coho salmon runs while maintaining opportunity for anglers were established in 1996. Recent declining trends in road zone coho salmon escapements and increased sport harvests indicate that revised measures are necessary to sustain yields and stabilize escapements. Although historical records of coho salmon migration timing show that about 50% of the run occurs by mid-September, the upriver closed waters from August 1 – September 15 in road zone drainages without lakes (13 total) have provided an inadequate buffer for coho salmon escapements, since nearly all fish migrating inriver during the temporary closure period remain susceptible to harvest when those waters are re-opened. Substituting the current closed waters restriction with a bag limit reduction from 2 to 1 coho salmon midway through the runs will more effectively conserve inriver escapements while maintaining angling opportunity for the entire seasonal duration of the sport fishery. The only other salmon species affected by repeal of the August 1 – September 15 upriver closure is pink salmon. There is little sport angler interest in harvesting pink salmon as shown by the department’s Statewide Harvest Survey and historically large escapements of pink salmon in Kodiak road zone streams.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F16-116)

PROPOSAL 67 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. Decrease the rockfish sport fishery bag and possession limits in Chiniak Bay and Marmot Bay, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(b)....

(X) in the waters of Chiniak Bay and Marmot Bay, west of a line from Cape Chiniak to Pillar Cape and east of a line from Head Point on Afognak Island (57° 59.67' N. lat., 152° 46.75' W. long.) to Dolphin Point (57° 59.15' N. lat., 152° 43.40' W. long.) on Whale Island and from Bird Point (57° 55.30' N. lat., 152° 47.50' W. long.) on Whale Island to Inner Point (57° 54.05' N. lat., 152° 47.75' W. long.) on Kodiak Island,

(A) the bag limit for rockfish is three fish per day and six in possession, of which only two fish per day and four in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish, and only one fish per day and two in possession may be yelloweye rockfish; no size limit;

(B) charter vessel operators and crewmembers may not retain rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Recent saltwater logbook catch statistics for chartered sport fishing vessels and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department)

Statewide Harvest Survey estimates of total rockfish harvests show a steady trend of increasing exploitation of pelagic (black, dark, and dusky) rockfish in Kodiak Area waters, particularly near the city of Kodiak in Chiniak and Marmot bays. Between 2008 and 2014 the total rockfish sport harvest approximately doubled from 15,596 to 29,733 fish. A reduction of the rockfish bag limit from 10 fish to 5 fish in 2011 has failed to stabilize the sport harvest of these long lived species. Black rockfish have a known maximum age of 56 years, and may have as many as 40 age classes within a single population. Limited stock assessment tools include charter guide logbooks, the Statewide Harvest Survey and department surveys. These tools are being used to develop an estimate of abundance and productivity of local rockfish populations. While these assessment tools are being developed to provide a biological based total allowable catch for rockfish, a more conservative bag limit will level the current upward harvest trend and help ensure the long term sustainability of the resource, while maintaining angler opportunity to harvest rockfish.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F16-117)

PROPOSAL 68 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. Close the Buskin River drainage, from lake outlet to Bridge #2, to sport fishing April 20–June 1, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022.(b) (I) All moving waters of Buskin Drainage from lake outlet to Bridge #2 closed to sport fishing April 20-June 1st.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like to address incidental and intentional catching of spawning steelhead/rainbow trout on the Buskin River Drainage. No one knows how many steelhead are actually in this system, there is little to no known information on abundance of this fish population. It is a unique resource that should be managed very conservatively in conjunction with the statewide sustainable trout abundance policy 5 AAC 75.222.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (EF-F16-027)

PROPOSAL 69 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. Allow only single hook lures in Kodiak fresh waters, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022.(a)(15) In Kodiak Area freshwaters, only single hook lures/hooks/ flies may be used.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like to address the use of treble hooks versus single hooks on gear used in Kodiak Management Area freshwaters. This is an issue of importance because it is directly related to mortality rates on sport caught salmon and trout. The lure manufacturing companies like Blue Fox that makes Pixies and Vibrax lures are already providing a single hook in their lure packages anyway and ultimately encouraging it w. Numerous hooking mortality studies show that treble hooks have a correspondingly higher rate of

mortality on sport caught fish, and no lower rate of fish lost when hooked. Ultimately a ban on treble hooks in fresh water would result in a similar amount of fish caught and harvested and more fish caught and released alive and well, benefitting both man and fish.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (EF-F16-028)

PROPOSAL 70 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area. Prohibit use of bait in fresh waters of Kodiak Archipelago from October 1- August 15, as follows:

5 ACC 64.022.(a) (14) Use of bait prohibited in all freshwaters of Kodiak Archipelago from October 1-August 15

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like to address the issue of bait use in Kodiak freshwaters during salmon and steelhead season. Numerous hooking mortality studies show bait use to be a crucial factor in fish increased fish mortality . This is important because wild King salmon stocks on all Kodiak drainages are a stock of ongoing concern and are they highly responsive to bait. No known steelhead population on Kodiak has more than 8,000 steelhead while most systems have fewer than 500. These fish are also highly responsive to bait, especially during Coho fishing season. In the name of conservation -minded management and in accordance with statewide sustainable trout abundance policy, bait use should be strongly considered in managing of freshwater fish species.

PROPOSED BY: Stig Yngve (EF-F16-029)
